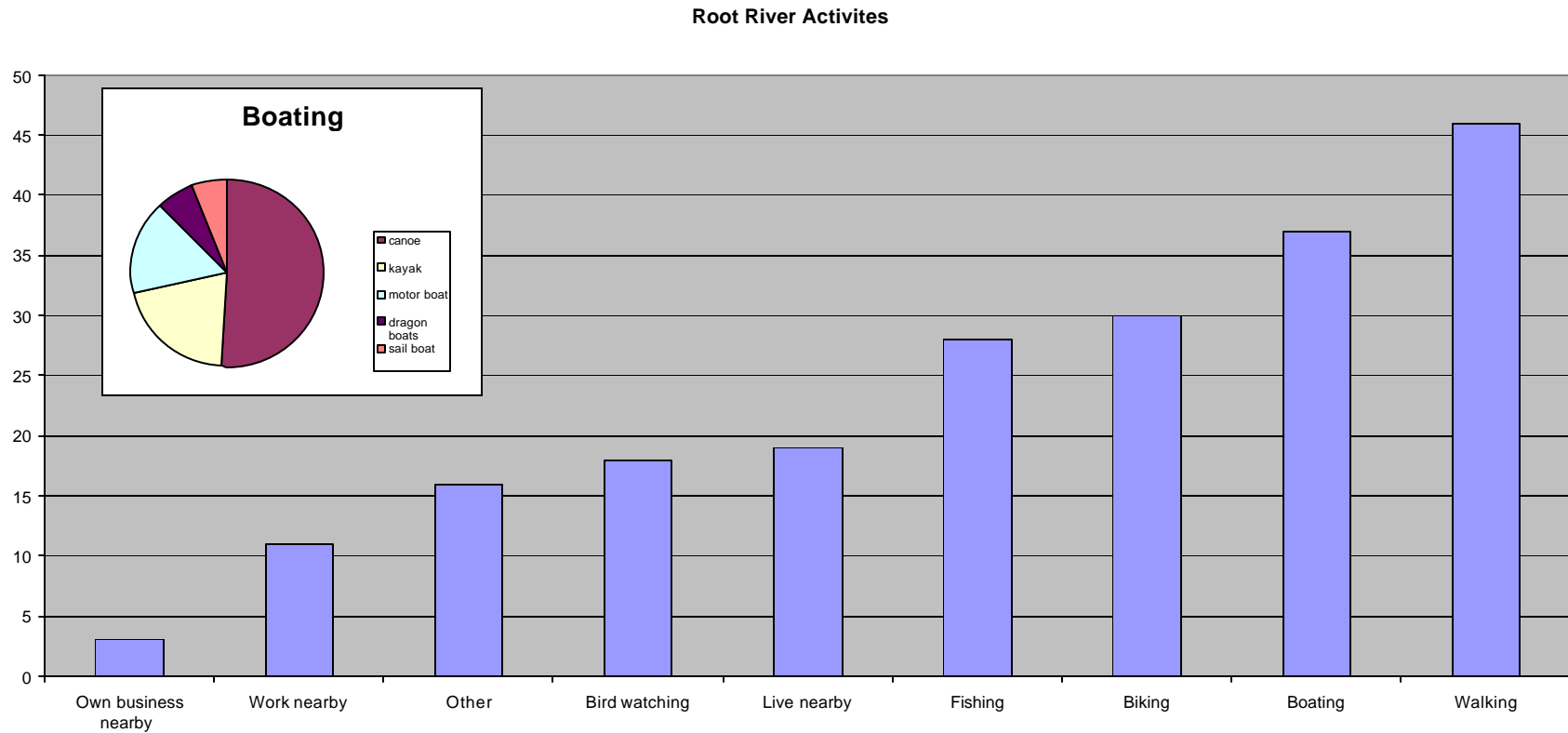


2007 Root River Survey Results
83 Respondents

Question One: What activities/experiences have you had in or along the river?



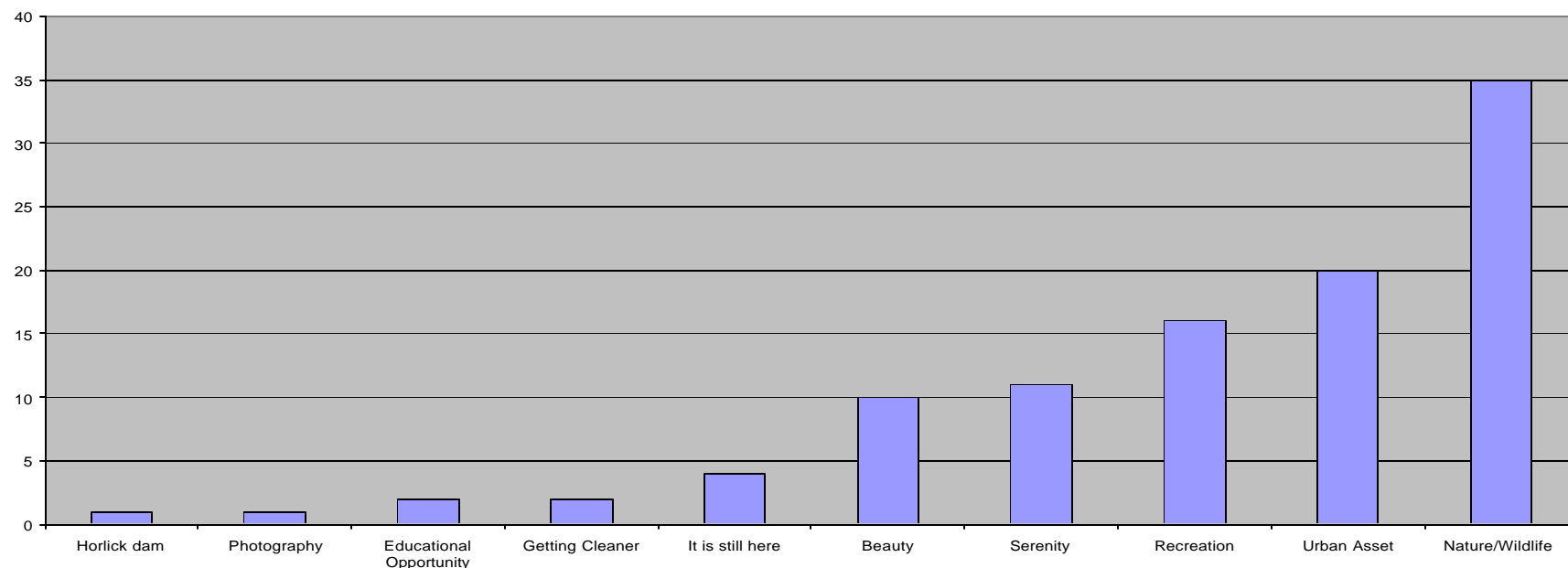
Notes from those that checked other or added a comment:

- Drive by the river
- Past member/President of Root River Restoration
- Grew up near the river
- Crab fishing as a kid, for bait
- Sitting by the river
- Former sail boat owner that docked on the river
- Friends that live on the river
- Kayak dog park to lake, canoe Hwy 31 to lake, sail boat, Azarian to lake
- Ice skating, X-country skiing, paintball on the ice
- Former Rotarian involved with dragon boats on the river

2007 Root River Survey Results

Question Two: What do you love about the Root River?

What I love about the Root River



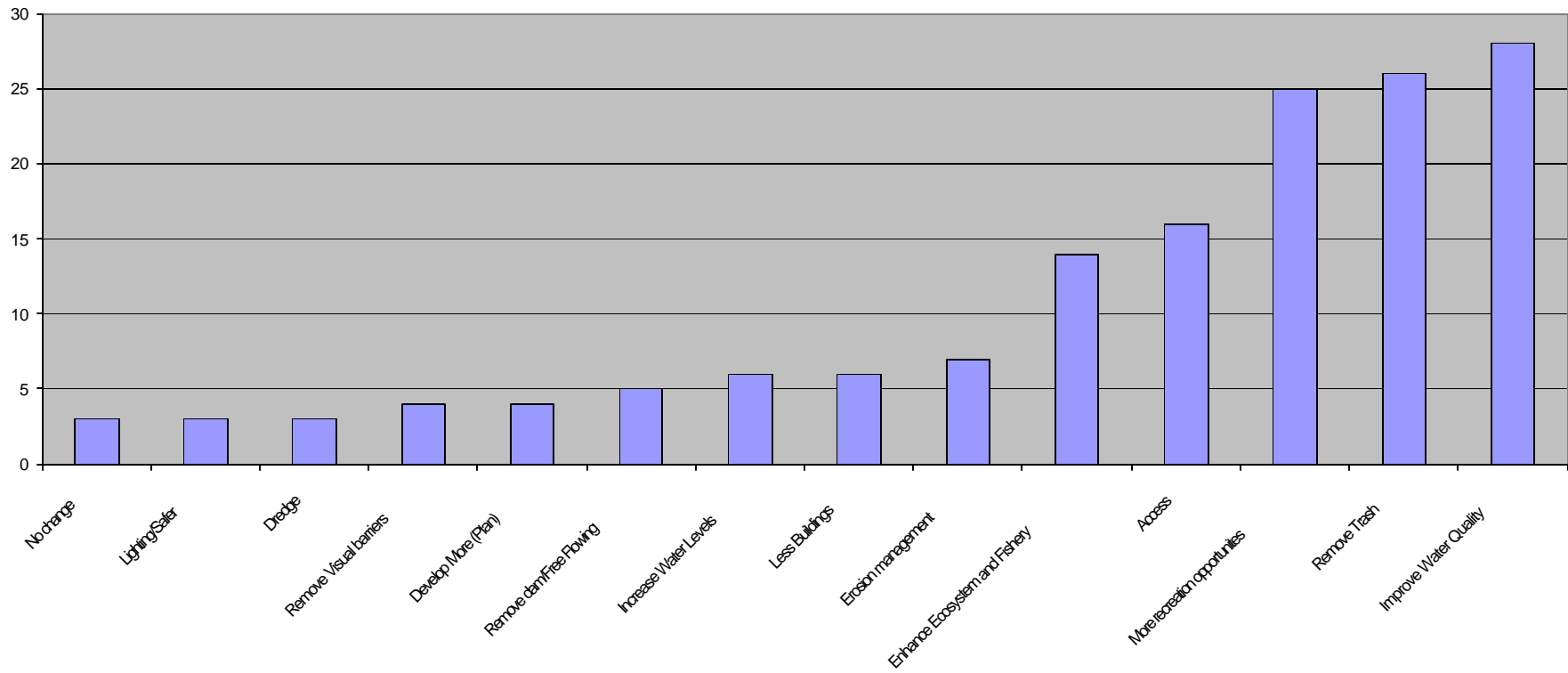
A sample of responses

- The "wildness", seeing the birds and animals
- Gentle, wild, meanders, shallow
- I like the greenery around the river
- A natural resource that can be shared by everyone in a sustainable fashion
- It helps to identify our city.
- Natural resource, beauty to compliment the urban environment
- Oasis in the middle of the city
- Root River goes through heart of Racine
- It is a nearby recreation resource and wildlife refuge
- It is fun to boat on
- I love riding my bike along the bike path
- I like the opportunities it offers for various recreational activities as well as photographic opportunities.
- Parks and bike paths are a gem, close to home, safe place to bike to work-off of city streets
- Good place to fish and sit and watch birds and relax.
- The salmon trap. I have sent several people from Illinois to see it this spring
- Serenity, the sounds of the river flowing-peacefulness
- Beauty, the natural beauty
- The sound and the fact that it is here
- The quiet and the green space
- How each time I visit it is growing cleaner
- I love that it (the river) is still here
- That is it a river!
- It's history
- It runs throughout most of Racine-many opportunities for different schools to experience it.
- Living near water is important to me
- Racine Horlick Dam

2007 Root River Survey Results

Question Three: How would you like to see the river changed?

Changes to the River



A Selection of Question Three Responses:

Improve Water Quality and Remove Trash

- Anything that would make the water cleaner
- Improvement in water quality-most visible to me is turbidity, is this from runoff?
- Cleaned up, both of debris and water quality
- Cleaner, more frequented by citizens
- Keep it clean and natural
- Kept clean and public
- I would like to see if the area around the river can be cleaned up
- Clean up trash below the dam
- Clean up! No fertilizer flowing in, garbage out.

Recreation

- Continuous, safe, walking and riding path
- Walking paths with benches.
- Places to rent boats/kayaks.
- Better crosswalks, more signs, and fewer paths on streets for bike path, seating area and concessions along bike path
- More public outings, canoe hiking, biking paths
- Room for paddlers
- Canoe Rental Service
- Events along the river, concerts, fishing
- Increase opportunities for all to experience

Access

- Great access, i.e. walkways perhaps
- Add access, walkways, paths, etc.
- More accessible recreationally for more people
- More public access and use
- More entry places
- Non-motorized river access

Enhance Ecosystem and Fishery

- Remove invasive species, ask adopt-a river groups to help
- I would like to see more gardens and parks around it
- Restored to natural setting as much as possible
- Remove invasive species; reduce upstream storm water flow, by installing things like rain gardens
- Use the natural beauty to enhance it
- Continue to support Steelhead facility

Erosion Management

- Shoreline management to control erosion and protect natural setting and control runoff

- Buffering lands to protect/increase the water quality which will also provide increased opportunities for recreation.
- More aquatic plants, more buffering
- Help stop erosion around the river, pollution, increasing fish populations at least as long as it is healthy for the river
- I am a riparian nut, wishing to protect and restore the pristine nature of all rivers and streams

Fewer Buildings and Remove Visual Barriers

- It should be maintained as spot of the wilds. When I look up from the water, I should see as few buildings as possible.
- Remove some of the impinging homes and industry
- Less building along it
- Balance between vegetative buffer and viewing the river
- Remove visual barriers
- Continue to increase access to its shores for viewing
- What I don't want to see if condos all over the river banks.

Water Levels

- Return to its natural flow, protected from all types of pollution and not over used
- More water flowing in so as to be able to navigate it, that's up to nature I guess
- To be at proper level. Fallen trees removed
- Reporting on levels to plan trips down from Island Park
- Restore a more consistent water level and flow rate, which was lost with the wetlands buffering action (impossible dream)

Remove Dam

- I would like to see the dam taken out and to see the river more clear like it historically was.

Developed with a plan

- Developed more with overall plan yet keep it as natural as possible.
- Promoted.
- Restaurants with outdoor seating.
- It could be cleaner, developed more and promoted

Lighting/safer

- Safer
- Perhaps, lighting around the bridges

No Change

- No changes Not changed, no development that takes away from (the river)
- Seems fine as it is

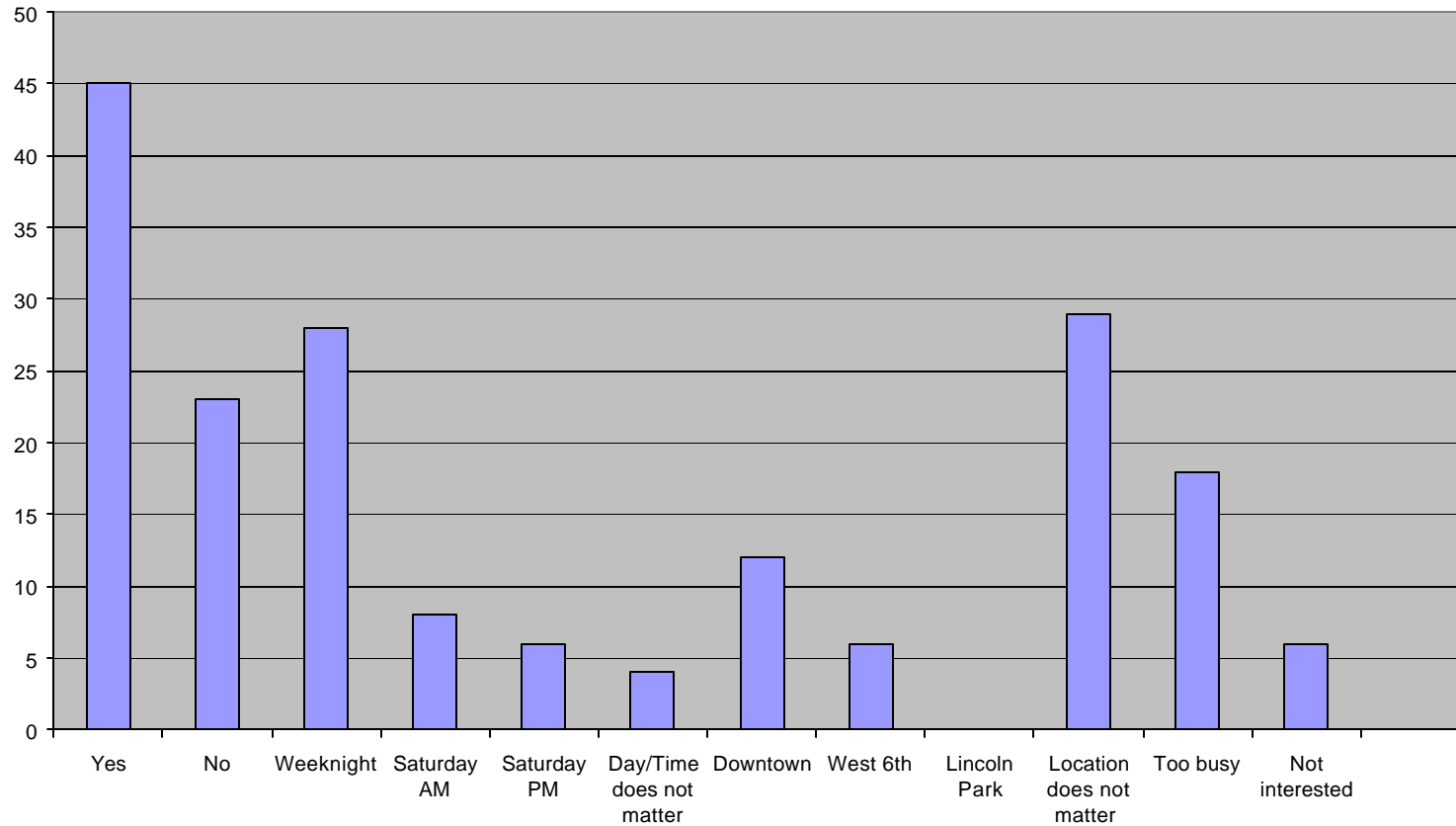
This chart summarizes the top comments made in written surveys and during three Root River Conversations in 2007

River Activities	Love About the River	Changes to the River	Restricting Use of the River	Connect River and Downtown	Parks
Walking/hiking	Nature/Wildlife	Improve water quality	Safety concerns (real and perceived)	River walk	Balance riparian vegetation and river views
Boating	Urban Asset	Remove trash	Access points	Access points, stairs, etc.	Pursue a new park at Belle Harbor
Biking	Recreation	More recreational opportunities and events	Water quality and cleanliness	Riverfront development guidelines	Fulfill Jens Jensen's design of Island Park
Fishing	Serenity/Beauty	Increase access, including ADA	Lack of water depth	Riverfront events and activities	More boat launches and better signage
Bird watching		Enhance ecosystem and fishery	Lack of signage	Image and amenities: Appearance, parking, restrooms	Access point to the river at Quarry Park
		Increase signage and safety		Improve retaining wall	Teach fishing at the steelhead facility and Horlick dam
				Water Street as a focal point	

Root River Survey Results

Question Four: Interested in attending meetings (Yes or No), what day and time of day is best (Weeknight, Saturday am or pm, or does not matter), which location is best (Downtown, West 6th, Lincoln Park, or does not matter), and if not interested in attending meetings why not (too busy, not interested in meetings, other)

Meeting Choices



Notes from those that answered other or had comments:

- Involved in other things
- I'm already overcommitted but am working with Leadership Racine and my group is doing an environmental project
- Just overwhelmed with not having enough time!
- Too selfish-most of the improvements mean more access and a park-not-wild management strategy