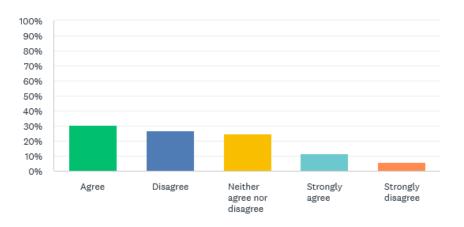
2023 Cultural District Survey Results MARCH, 23 2023 Compiled by Suzanne LoManto Director of RiverCulture

# Q.2

## PESKEOMPSKUT PARK

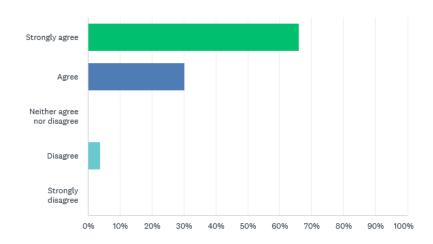
We have some REDO money (not Cultural District money) to work on a few more projects at Peskeompskut Park. Should we release an RFP (Request for Proposal) for a new sculpture? The award would be about \$10,000.



# Q.3

## SATURDAY FOOT TRAFFIC

The Great Falls Farmer's Market in moving to Saturdays! Do you support the idea of funding a family entertainment series to boost the Saturday market, brunch scene and downtown retail? The series would be co-sponsored with Montague Public Libraries. Cultural District cost would be about \$1200.



Q.4 MURAL LOCATION Where would you like to see a new mural in the Turners Falls Cultural District?

It would be nice to see a mural reflecting the history of the town, or maybe a few murals of the different historical perspectives but I'm not too sure where such should go. Also, murals are a hit or miss proposition - best when they cover eye-sores but generally do not attract visitors. They are popular as a quick fix but often badly rendered.

78 3rd St.

Old water tower off of canal— Large!!! So that you can see it from afar.

We've been trying to get a mural going on the First St side of the Unity Park Community Garden shed! Food City Plaza on both the outer walkway area and in the entryway to Food City itself. A ton of resident food traffic and maybe it would be incentive to clean that area up a bit.

Retaining walls on bike path. The one as you go under the Gill Montague bridge or the one retaining the area that was just cleared near the pedestrian bridge over the canal near the discovery center. Or on the side of Buckingham Rabbits building that you can see when stopped at the 3rd st intersection coming from the bridge. Or other place that would be more focal to drivers etc. Open to anything!

I dislike the weird alley mural in TF. If there was a nice mural, it would be nice anywhere.

Sides of old creamery bldg...unless it's finally slated for demo.

Someplace central that would be visible to new visitors coming to the farmer's market, loot, shea, etc for the first time.

Shea Theater

On the Turners Falls - Gill bridge abutment, along the walking trail.

Library

Across from the Former Ferren Care Center & in front of the vacant building by the Discovery Center, since both are entrances to the CD.

Maybe next to Shea where the path goes down?

How about on the side of St Kaz facing the Carnegie?

**Discovery Center** 

On the asphalt on Avenue A - it's the biggest untapped "canvas" we have!

By the Discovery Center. We need a theme related to indigenous history—Pecumtuck life past and present

There is space on the side of the Gill-Turners Bridge that faces the Great Hall of the Discovery Center. It is right next to the bike path near where the foot bridge is. There is also empty wall space on the two

buildings that are on the west side of the 3rd St. parking lot. Another cool spot could be the side of the building next to Spinner Park. Yet another spot: The side of the cutlery building that faces the parking lot that is across from the 3rd Street Community Garden.

on the Railroad Salvage building

No strong preference, but visible from Avenue A

Love murals, but I'm not downtown at the moment, so can't picture what's available.

Cee Cee Chinese Restaurant wall on 2nd Street.

Along the wall behind the great falls discovery center on the bike/canal trail

I feel strongly that the site where the delapidated former Cumberland Farms building sits be utilized, instead of being a useless and unsightly relict. It is better to spend more money there, than in the undersused parking lot on Canal and Third Street, where a sculpture was vandalized. I live at Keith aprtments and know that the area near the Discovery Center in the public's "eye" as a magnetic destination. This is not true for the area on 3rd and Canal. No matter how it might be embellished, it is out of view. Its energy (feng shui) does not have the magnetism the former Cumberland spot has - even if the whole building were raised. The vibe of the geology is different. I cannot think of another spot in the village that is more magnetic than this one.

Would love to see murals on the Turners/Gill bridge on all sides that the bike path follows...where there has lately just been graffiti.

Avenue A from Discovery Center to Carnegie Library

I'm not a big fan of the murals. I don't see how the advantage to a mural. I don't see them as inclusive to the entire town. I would prefer the money be spent on something that is more inclusive.

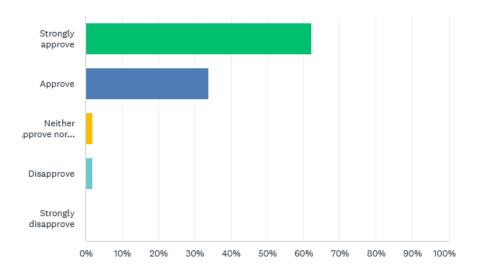
Avenue A

No opinion, anywhere seems fine

The Survival Center has a very ugly front. It would be lovely to see that with a mural. Also, the side of the Cutlery block coming int to town from the east would make a great presentation. It would be well to reflect diversity and to work with the mural people in Springfield...Maybe the new alley park by Loot could use mural? I hope the large mural across from the pizza house will not be destroyed, it is very unique

#### Q.5 SUMMER PARK SERIES

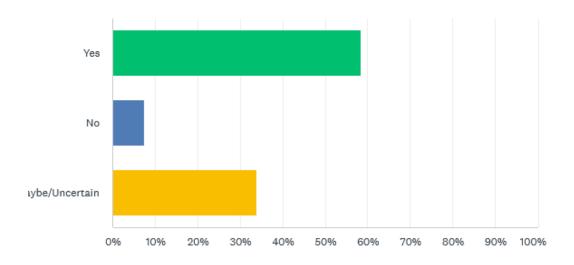
Are you in favor of contributing \$7000 from the Turners Falls Cultural District Grant funds to support live music and other performances in the Cultural District between May-September.

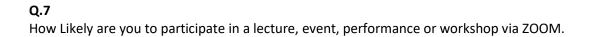


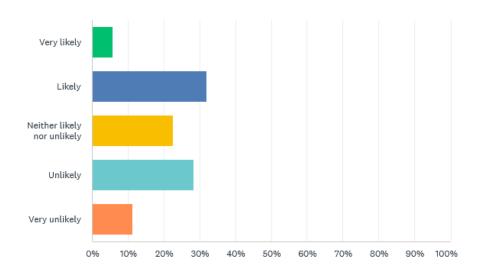
## Q.6

#### ENCUMBERING CULTURAL DISTRICT FUNDS

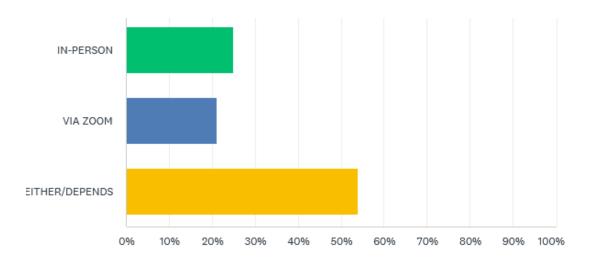
The Mass Cultural Council will allow us to save some money for a future project, as long as the funds are 'encumbered." Are you in favor of encumbering \$6,000 to be used as part of a 1:1 grant match. If successful, we would be set-up for a large mural project in early 2024

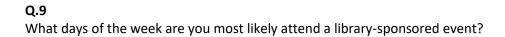


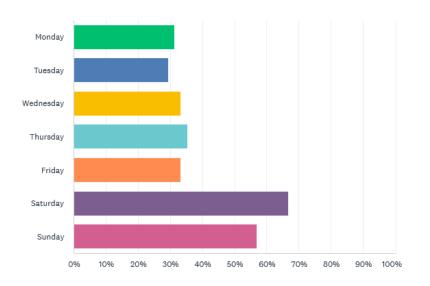




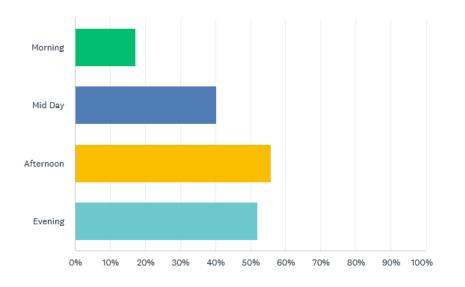








## **Q. 10** What times of the week are you most likely attend a library sponsored event?



# Q.11 SUMMER MOVIES

What G, PG, PG 13 Movies would you like to see this summer?

Easy Rider Back to the Future, or maybe something black and white like King Kong Night at the museum 2 My Neighbor Totoro, Jurassic Park, The Iron Giant, One Hundred and One Dalmatians, The Little Prince, Little Women (1994), Home Alone

Not sure how far back we're going so I'll go for 20 years or older... Movie Recs: Spirited Away (or any other Miyazaki movie), Babe, Young Frankenstein, The Parent Trap, Muppet Treasure Island (or any Muppet movie), Singin' in the Rain, Ferris Bueller, Princess Bride, Star Wars: A New Hope, Bill & Teds Excellent Adventure...

I don't do outdoor movies. I get eaten alive by mosquitos. Any Miasaki animated films

My Neighbor Totoro Mary poppins Almost Famous I would see some kind of monthly theme & more vendor options The animated version of Mulan The Princess Bride **Desperately Seeking Susan** Star Wars, Jaws Field of Dreams! Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade, The Incredibles 2, Anne of Green Gables! Mean Girls Hocus pocus. Spirited away. Mulan old version. Back to the future Animated movie! Pixar? Disney? Forrest Gump, NeverEnding Story, Goonies, Star Wars movies, Goonies Studio Ghibli marathon, Princess Bride, Danny Kaye musicals... Really any How far back is throwback? Moana, Kung Fu panda, Labyrinth Action Movie Up, Ratatouille Patch Adams Spirited Away, kung fu panda, top gun, Sandlot Gremlins A comedy. Anything that will provoke laughter. ghostbusters, bill and ted....good 80's movies

I'd like to see those Back to the Future flicks again, of Ferris Bueller's Day Off etc

#### Q.12 PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS FOR THE GREAT FALLS DISCOVERY CENTER

I'd like to see something related to labor and factory work

oooh. I would love to but nothing comes to mind at the moment.

I like the adult focused science programs better than the children's ones. I also really enjoyed the presentation by the Montague Historical Society.

#### Geology programs

Love to know more about the history down towards the Farren Care Center area, and the bike route down towards that end of town.

Artifacts

Mill history

Poetry

Mushroom identification/foraging and edible foraging. Gardening, permaculture. Historical photo exhibits.

Programming for kids at 12:30 pm on school half days!

1) Creating "art" with (cleaned up) trash collected from the River Clean Up Day. 2) Foster partnership with Youth from the Brick House, that gives them access to reate events under the mentorship of adults to EXPRESS THEIR VISION of their future in Turners Falls. We must give children and teens a Voice, let them participate in THEIR TOWN. give them a sense of belonging here, that they count, and that adults value their ideas, visions and dreams.

more nature walks and explorations of natural resources in Turners.

Honor native people by discussing the importance of the falls as a fishery, and by frankly discussing the atrocities of Captain Turner

more industrial history. river history

## Q.13

FEEDBACK FOR THE GREAT FALLS DISCOVERY CENTER I love the Discovery Center

Would love to have the gift shop open more often

It is a wonderful asset.

Feel fortunate to have it as a resource in Turners.

A gem; we're lucky to have it.

It is a beautiful space, it would be fun to have more evening events throughout the year. Music, art shows, lectures.

I love all the activities of late even though I haven't been able to stop by. The rural America photo

exhibition and any collaboration with indigenous orgs are great things to see. I've been really excited by the things you've been doing, thank you!

#### Wonderful facility

Add a gift shop for selling locally inspired goods. This would help earn income for the center while supporting local artists.

The discovery center is great! I love the discovery center :)

We love the Discovery Center ALOT!

Awesome dioramas!

It is a beautiful space, it would be fun to have more evening events throughout the year. Music, art shows, lectures.

#### Love you.

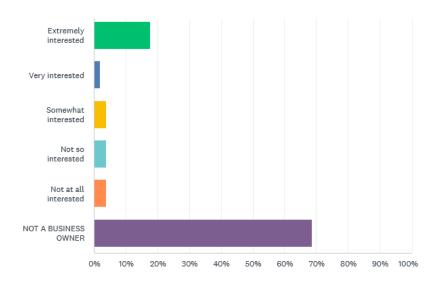
I value the Discovery Center's physical existence, the staff, the opportunities they provide as cultural center for people near and far. However, I and residents of the area, would welcome that DCR express interest in the issue of whether or not to re-license the Northfield Pumping Station, In a hushed voice, they wish that DCR were not silent on that matter. The Doscovery Center is considered "window dressing" for DCR: The agancy, paid by tax\$, does not educate the public about its ways to "manage" the State forests of MA - which belong to the people. The Protection of State Forests are legislatively, and now morally DCR's mandate. Scientist worldwide have warned that all logging must end NOW. The Discovery Center should show case that MA and New England forests are one contiguous carbon sink. Its role in "Climate Control" is AS crucial as the Amazon. To assure that River Culture will not become extinct by the "Sixth Extinction", Local Culture and Local Nature must be perceived as inseparable by government agencies and their public institutions.

It's lovely

such a gem

## Q.14

How interested are you in having your business participate in this year's fall festival, October 21.



Q.15Would you like to help plan this year's festival?13 yes. 44 skip

# Q.16 YOUR FAVORITE EVENTS LAST YEAR

Pumpkin fest, Movie in park Farmers market Unity Park events Car show/shaved ice

Fun Fest, Great Falls Fest, Unity Park Makers Fest

My favorite events in Turners Falls were (1) the Tundi opera company's performance at the park, and (2) the plays that used to be given at the Shea.

Unity Festival and Makers Market Pocumtuck Homelands Festival Home Body Antenna Cloud Farm Music Walk

Craft fair at unity park, the homelands festival, the big free concert at unity park

Great falls festival

Pumpkin fest

Would you like to help organize this year's fall festival? I was the Special Events Coordinating for both Guitar Center (1999-2005) & Taylor Guitars (2005-2008). Part of the Beacon Playground Fundraising Committee, Parking Capitan Green River Music Festival 2008-2011. Riverside Blues & BBQ artist relations

New to Turners- very excited about these initiatives. Used to travel down from VT for pumpkin fest precovid.

I'm afraid I missed most of the activities last summer! I LOVED seeing Rubblebucket at Unity whenever that was!

**Pumpkin Festival** 

Summer 2022, movie nights, Montague Community Band concerts.

Soap Box Derby, Pumpkinfest, Community Band at the Park, movies at the park

Pocumtuck Homelands Festivel

Antenna Cloud Farm Music Walk!

Do it Now, The Pocumtuck Homelands Festival

Musica Franklin Fun Fest Antenna Cloud Farm Music Walk Music Walk XY Duo, Music Walk Kaoru Wantanabe, Music Walk Matan Rubinstein, Music Walk Lily- Rakia/David Brule Pocumtuck Homelands Festival Christmas in "July" fireworks, 6th Annual Migrations Festival, Great Falls Festival

Barbes in the Woods, Antenna Cloud Farm music, Montague soap box derby races

Antenna cloud music walk, live music at peskeomskut park, shea away, cinemastorm

All music events, especially outdoors, and the Friends of GFDC coffeehouse series.

Music Walk Matan Rubinstein (of course !! :)P) Music Walk Kaoru Wantanabe Great Falls Festival Musica Franklin

Musica Franklin fest, all farmers markets, free music anywhere, library party, anything without vendors

I had not one favorite event, but liked all I attended, and their great diversity. I value how they were organized, behind the scene seemingly. I am very grateful to all who have given time to each event.

Molly e unity park fest, dj overtime at Nice, soap box derby,

Great Falls Festival Unity Festival and Makers Market Unity Park Festival Jimmy Just Quit Christmas in July Fireworks Midnight madness—the thing around Christmas where stores stay open

summer concerts were awesome

#### Q17

#### **OTHER COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS**

\*\*I'm in favor of moving the Farmers Market to Saturday but I STRONGLY BELIEVE it should be combined with a FLEA MARKET! Greenfield already has a nice Saturday Farmers Market but there are NO flea markets in the immediate area. People are now driving down to Hadley to go to a flea market and I think it would be a bigger draw than the farmers mrkt alone. They could run concurrently and the flea mrkt foot traffic would help support the farmers mrkt. \*\* I am not in favor of any big changes to Peskeomscott Park because I think it should be considered as a location for a new library. A new sculpture would be wonderful to have as part of a new library. ALSO.. The outcropping of rock in the park is amazing and should be highlighted as should the meaning Peskeomscott. Thanks.

Sculpture is the way to go for Turners - durable, public art that says something about place and history - this is the best bang for the town's buck. Sculpture placed throughout the downtown - creating a sculpture walk folks can follow - and the spinner is a really beautiful artistic model to emulate. Think of telling a cohesive story with a certain unity to the aesthetic message. :) Thank you for letting me express more than my two cents and thank you for asking.

A gazebo that lights up at night and is decorated for the holidays at Peskeompskut Park would add a lot of charm, more trashcans (especially along Ave A) and/or a community trash pickup day a few times a year would help keep the town tidier

Looking forward to this season! Perhaps this can be part of whatever Pumpkinfest turns out to be but I would love to see a food-centered community event like a picnic or cookout or something like that.

Luv how vibrant this all makes the community. Thanks for all you do.

I'm in Montague Center & at a bust time in my life with health challenges, and I have reduced ability to attend things right now, but I follow along via the newsletter. You folks are awesome and make me want to keep living in Montague. Thanks again.

I would like more live music being booked at The Shea.

Something we've noticed is that 1.) the entire town seems to be closed on Mondays. Can't really influence businesses to have Monday hours, but with our days off being Sunday/Monday it's hard to enjoy the community during winter when most things are closed Mondays. 2.) so many awesome family

orientated events and things for teens etc. wondering if there is any movement to more adultorientated events. Perhaps an art walk or similar? Again, have only lived here for winter season. Very excited for summer and to check out the farmers market, community garden (still need to find out how to see if there are lots available) and the waterfront unity park area.

Thanks for all that you do!

t would be great to diversify the kinds of art we see in town creating opportunities for installation art, sound art, video, performance, etc. along with murals and sculpture. It would also be great to see a more broad range of music for future music series to include music from different cultures and genres: cumbia, balkan, salsa, jazz, experimental, etc. Thank you!

I was really disappointed there was no Word Festival this year.

This is so very exciting and very impressive. Go, Great Falls!!!

Let's work together (GFDC, RiverCulture, Libraries, Farmer's Market) to make Saturday morning programming work well for all (GFDC currently does Saturday a.m. programming occasionally in the summer). Let's coordinate on Arbor Day events! Can the Friday night movies and the Friends Coffeehouse (always the 2nd Friday of the month except in July) be on different nights?

Re: Pumpkin Fest--I think it grew too big and commercial. I would LOVE for the festival to go back to its earlier roots. I remember when it was much smaller, the carved candle lit jack-o-lanterns lined the center of Avenue A as the main event and there was one stage near the Shea set up and a haunted house in the Shea and minimal tabling along the Ave. It was so chill and fun and the pumpkins were so beautiful. It kind of turned into a stressful carnival atmosphere and lost its magic (in my opinion). I would love to see more outdoor music/events near the skate park in the summer. I would also love a monthly disco roller skate party on the basketball court near the skate park. With a DJ! :) Thanks for all that you do!

Hi Suzanne: Three Things I like to comment on: # 2 I voted no for commissioning ONE sculpture, but suggest creating one, or three cemtn platforms where sculptures are installed (bolted) with sculptures on loan. This creates exposure to many artists over time and changing installations, each one from 3 to more months. Outdoor sculpture exhibits Attract Artists AND the PUBLIC. I know so from expereince, helping a sculpture friend, who shows his works this way, in competitions, "calls for sculptures" Prizes are paid to selected artists that cover their expenses of bringing works and insurance. The cost to the town in this scenario is less, paid over time with each event. For example \$ 1000 to an artist as reward to install. loan their work. it s win win. ~~~~~ Turners / Great Falls is a creative MAKER TOWN since it exists. Hitching on to that history, an event that features the creativity of the past, present and the future: LOOT is Turners Falls LANDMARK for this: There one finds locally made things old, new, repurposed.... Loot is a destination for out-of towners. As a maker of new things, made with repurposed materials, I want to show these things here where I make them. An event that features the products of other local creatives who combine and repurpose materials innovatively. Nina's bicycle tire bags ar a prime example. Turners is dubbed "trash rich", with fantastic finds at the Salvation Army, rescued stuff from dumpsters, side walks, and secret private and industrial stashes.... I am presently transforming 4 chairs that were abandoned on Canal and 4th Street. They will be used in window displays on Ave A. I weave rag-rug with re-purposed textiles. and painted a seconf hand door for a public art installation at the '22 Garlic Fest.~ Other local Creaives make great "stuff" by recycling things. An Oakland-based organization and the book the "STORY of STUFF" are fueling this proposal, and use of same name for the event. I hope to start with them a "movement" ,,, Turners could be the First to host "The Story of Stuff". I would be in the summer and not replace the Pumpkin Fall Fair. It could howver be a town-wide event, like a walking tour from the space below Town Hall past stores to Pesceompscut Park. It could include

the knowll near the cumberland site. It could coincide with the first or second Sculpture-on-loan installation. Thank you for considering.

I loved the music festival at Unity Park in 2021. And I think it is great how the bandshell is being used so much now. I would like to see some rocking chairs at a downtown park, to encourage people to rock and talk with each other. So soothing. Also, several bike racks at various places would be great.