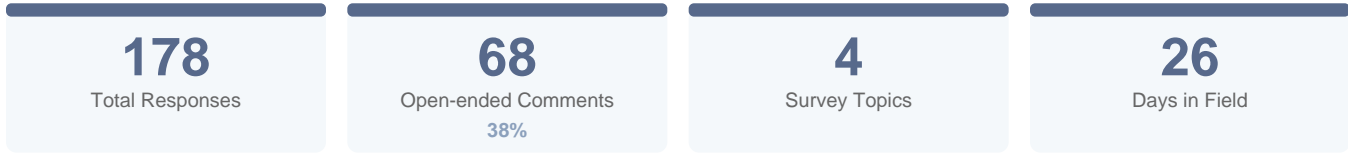


2026 Concerns of Cotuit

Community Survey Results

Survey Period: March 4–30, 2026 · Cotuit-Santuit Civic Association



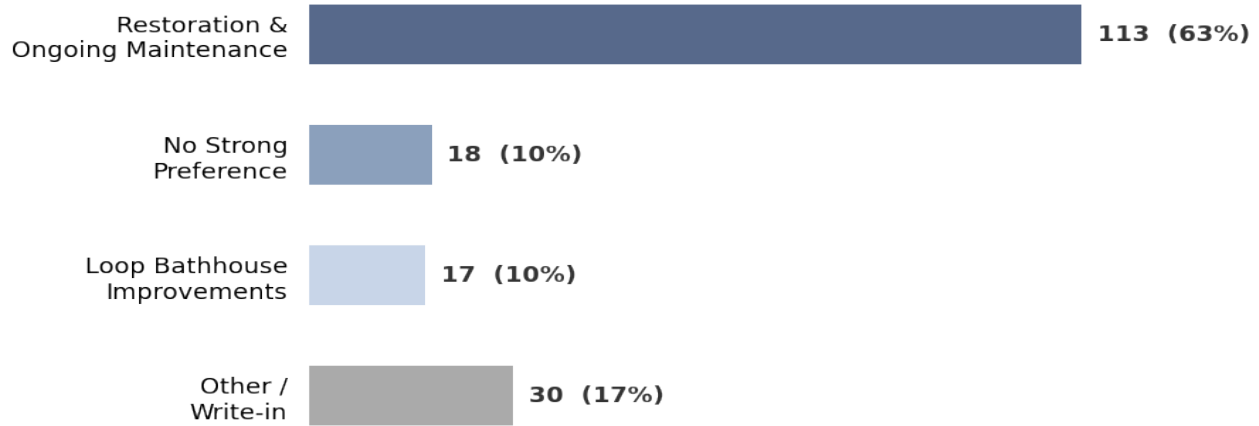
Executive Summary

The 2026 survey drew 178 responses over four weeks, with 62% arriving in the first launch week and a second wave (24%) following a likely reminder. Engagement was strong, with 38% of respondents leaving open-ended comments. Five headline findings follow.

- 1 Beach Restoration is the Overwhelming Priority**
113 of 178 respondents (64%) chose restoration and ongoing maintenance — more than six times higher than the next structured option (Loop Bathhouse, 17).
- 2 The Town Field: Event Parking and Open Space Lead**
61 chose event parking as the primary use; 48 chose maintaining the current state. Together these account for 63% of structured responses.
- 3 Playground Development Is Consistently the Lowest Priority**
Ranked last in both the primary question (14 votes, 8%) and the ranking exercise (50% Low Priority; only 8% High).
- 4 Traffic Safety Is the #1 Free-Text Concern**
~20 of 68 open-ended comments addressed speeding, stop sign compliance, and enforcement — often with frustration that prior surveys produced no visible action.
- 5 Sidewalks, Trees, and Planning Round Out Community Priorities**
Additional themes include pedestrian infrastructure, environmental maintenance, tennis/pickleball court repairs, and calls for a long-term village Master Plan.

Question 1 — Beach Priorities

"Of the following beach-related issues, which should receive the highest priority over the next year?"



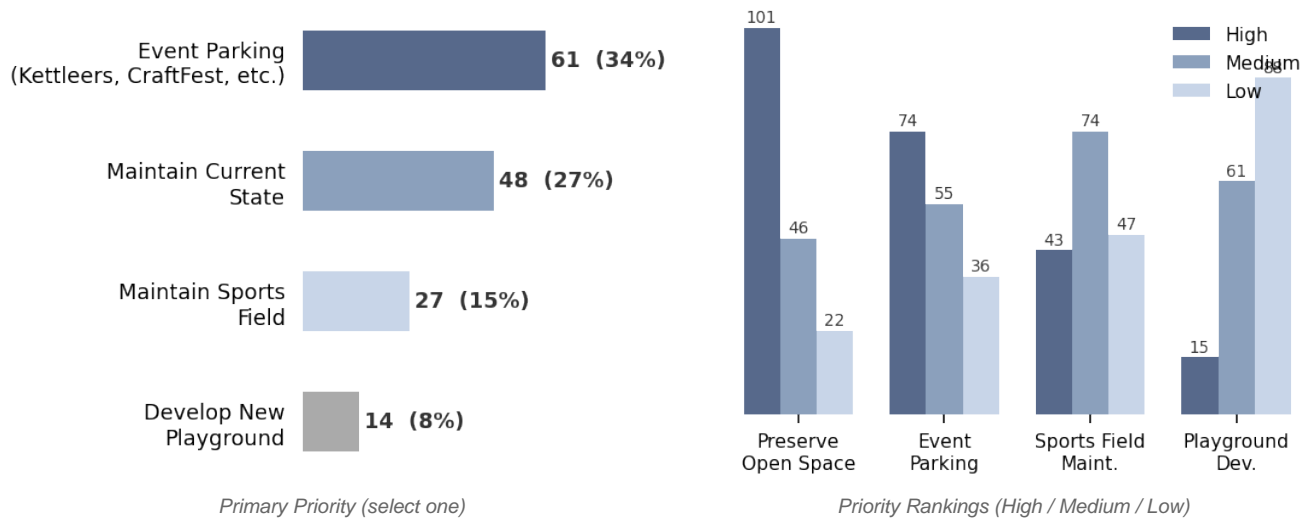
Response	Count	%
Restoration & ongoing maintenance of all Cotuit beaches	113	64%
No strong preference	18	10%
Improvements to the Bathhouse at Loop Beach	17	10%
Write-in / other responses	25	14%
No response	5	3%

Write-in Themes

Theme	Representative Comments
Seaweed & debris	"Loop Beach is a disgrace — either seaweed or rocks." Multiple calls for clearance at Loop and Oregon.
Lifeguard staffing	Non-student lifeguards for August; bathhouse open Memorial Day–Labor Day.
Parking improvements	More parking at Oregon Beach; better access at multiple locations.
Leash enforcement	Off-leash dogs cited as a persistent, unresolved violation.
Amenities	Trash cans at Oregon and Ropes; bench at Ropes Beach.
Stormwater/phragmites	Runoff at Riley's Beach; phragmites mitigation requested.
Beach sticker policy	\$50 cost and year-round requirement questioned by multiple respondents.

Questions 2 & 3 — The Town-Owned Field

"Which of the following should be the primary priority for the Town-owned field?" and "Please rank the following potential priorities from highest to lowest preference."



Key Insight: Preserving open/general-use space earned the strongest consensus — 101 respondents (57%) rated it High Priority, only 22 (12%) Low. Playground development is the inverse: 88 (50%) Low, 15 (8%) High. These findings are consistent across both Q2 and Q3.

Notable Write-in Themes (Town Field)

Theme	Summary
Tennis & Pickleball Courts	Most frequently raised write-in topic. Respondents strongly advocate for repair and refurbishment; courts are far more actively used than the playing field.
Multi-use / Flexible Design	Several urge professional planning before any changes, cautioning against rushed decisions on land described as "too valuable."
Passive Recreation	Calls for picnic tables, benches, and walking areas over organized sports or new construction.
Informal Dog Park	A few respondents flagged unauthorized off-leash use and oppose formalizing it.
General Neglect	Two respondents described the current state as "shameful" and "a disgrace," regardless of preferred future use.

Question 4 — Open-Ended Concerns

"Are there any new ideas or concerns you would like the CSCA to consider?" — **68 of 178 respondents (38%)** provided comments, grouped by theme below.

Theme	~Mentions	Key Points
Traffic Safety & Speeding	~20	Speeding on Main St, Old Oyster Rd, Putnam Ave; stop sign & crosswalk compliance; repeated calls for police enforcement
Sidewalks & Pedestrian Safety	~6	Repairs on Main St; new paths on Old Post Rd, Putnam Ave, Ropes Field; bike path requested
Tennis / Pickleball Courts	~5	Repair and refurbishment strongly requested; actively used and neglected
Environmental & Tree Maintenance	~5	Dead limbs over roads/wires; storm debris; leaf blower noise; gas-powered equipment
Planning & Governance	~5	Master Plan request; Memorial Park updates; Fire District collaboration; housing affordability
Kettleers / Parking Logistics	~3	Signage on Putnam Ave on game days; parking lot policy fairness; potential expansion
Former School Property	~3	Pedestrian access loss; more public input on "Return to Nature"; lighting in future plan
Cell Service	2	Multiple residents requesting improved village coverage
Other	~5	Dog leash enforcement; mooring regs; turkey control; trash/debris; street lights

Spotlight — Traffic Safety: Approximately 20 of 68 comments addressed speeding, stop sign compliance, and pedestrian safety — the single largest open-ended theme. Multiple respondents expressed frustration that prior surveys produced no visible enforcement change. Locations cited: Main St, Old Oyster Rd, Putnam Ave, Main/Putnam intersection. Remedies proposed: 20–25 mph speed limit, traffic calming infrastructure, blinking stop sign lights, and consistent police enforcement.

This summary was prepared by the Cotuit-Santuit Civic Association based on responses to the 2026 Concerns of Cotuit community survey. 178 residents participated between March 4 and March 30, 2026. Write-in responses are summarized thematically and do not represent exhaustive counts. Percentages are calculated against the total survey population (n=178) unless otherwise noted.