



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: November 15, 2012
Contact: Dave Hutch
Contact No.: 604.871.6455
RTS No.: 9797
VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: November 28, 2012

TO: Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment

FROM: General Manager of Community Services in consultation with the General Manager of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: Hastings Park/PNE Master Plan Implementation: Empire Fields, Plateau Park and Greenways - Adoption of Concept Plan

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council adopt the concept plan for Empire Fields, Plateau Park and Greenways in Hastings Park (as shown in Appendix A, B & C) as part of the implementation work on the Hastings Park/PNE Master Plan;
- B. THAT Council instruct staff to proceed to the next phase - construction tender and award - for Empire Fields, Plateau Park and Greenways in Hastings Park with source of funding to be the project budget for Hastings Park Greening (subject to approval of the 2013 Capital Budget).

REPORT SUMMARY

This report seeks Council's approval of the concept plan for Empire Fields, Plateau Park and Greenways in Hastings Park an outcome of the key components of the Hastings Park/PNE Master Plan and the 2012-14 Capital Plan. These new and revitalized park spaces build on the legacy components of the BC Lions temporary stadium at Empire Fields and deliver on key priorities of the Master Plan:

- creation of a destination park, sport and recreation facilities for of all ages and abilities (6.8 ha of new and renewed park space) and;
- significant increase in connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists in and around Hastings Park (3.25 km of new greenways).

The plan for Empire Fields, Plateau Park and Greenways in Hastings Park was developed with extensive stakeholder and community input. With Council approval the project will proceed to construction tender, with project completion expected early 2014.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

In December 2010, Council adopted the Hastings Park/Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) Master Plan. The Plan proposes to transform the Hastings Park/PNE of today into a greener, year-round destination creating:

‘A Fair in a Park’ - a significantly greener and more publicly accessible Hastings Park/PNE which renews Vancouver’s historic annual fair and amusement park, while ensuring economic vitality and long-term sustainability.

In order to achieve this vision, the Master Plan outlines a plan to transform Hastings Park through the expansion of park space and the creation of a safe, connected network of bicycle and pedestrian pathways.

Along with the adoption of the Hastings Park/PNE Master Plan, Council endorsed a number of early implementation priorities designed to deliver on Master Plan objectives of community connections, access to parks and creation of additional park space. The design work for these emerging priorities were approved in the 2011 Capital Budget and the funding for the implementation of the Empire Fields, Plateau Park and Greenways in Hastings Park was contemplated in the 2012-14 Capital Plan.

Council approved the Connection to New Brighton Park/Creekway Park in June of 2012. The project is currently out for construction tender. The Park Board approved the concept plan for Empire Fields, Plateau Park and Greenways in Hastings Park on October 1, 2012.

CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager approves the recommendation of this report. The implementation of Empire Fields, Plateau Park and Greenways in Hastings Park is a key component of a high priority project for the City - the greening and transformation of Hastings Park into a new destination urban park. The plan for Empire Fields, Plateau Park and Greenways in Hastings Park deliver significantly on City and Park Board’s sustainability and accessibility priorities. These include the Greenest City Action Plan’s “Green Transportation and “Access to Nature” goals and the Park Board’s “Leader in Greening” and “Parks and Recreation for All” strategic directions.

REPORT

Background/Context

The purpose of this report is to seek Council’s approval of the concept plan for Empire Fields, the Plateau Park and new greenways in Hastings Park. This will allow the project to proceed to tender and construction completed in 2014. These new and

revitalized park spaces have been designed to support the priorities outlined in the Hastings Park/PNE Master Plan, which was adopted by Council in 2010.

With the adoption of the Master Plan in 2010, Council directed staff to proceed with a number of implementation priorities. These included:

- Reinstatement of Empire Fields;
- Development of new park space
- Implementation of the first segment of the day-lighted stream connection to New Brighton; and
- Implementation of park-wide pedestrian and bicycle pathways (greenways).

These priorities were chosen to reflect community priorities of park connections for pedestrians and cyclists and increased park space within Hastings Park. These improvements also leverage the opportunities presented with the remaining legacy synthetic turf and lighting masts from the temporary stadium.

Strategic Analysis *

Design work for Empire Fields, Plateau Park and Greenways in Hastings Park began in late 2011. The project was led by the Hastings Park/PNE planning group in collaboration with a consultant team, Engineering Services, Park Board and PNE staff. Initial opportunities and constraints were developed through a detailed site analysis and preliminary program developed through referencing public consultation work from the 2009/2010 Master Plan. Public consultation events occurred at each of the project phases outlined below.

- 1) Research, Assessment and Information Gathering
- 2) Schematic Design and Options
- 3) Finalized Concept

The project team was advised by a cross departmental Technical Committee that included Park Board Development, and Operations staff as well as PNE Technical Services staff. The project also received guidance from the a senior staff Steering Committee, which includes in its membership the General Manager of the Park Board and the CEO of the PNE. The Park Board staff role on the project is to ensure the design and construction meet City of Vancouver Park Board standards for park design and development.

Public Consultation

A Hastings Park Open Space Advisory Group (OSAG) was established to provide on-going stakeholder input into the open space projects being implemented as a result of the Hastings Park/PNE Master Plan. The OSAG was comprised of a broad range of on-site, community, and city-wide representatives who have experience or a specific interest in the initial park developments. More detailed information on the OSAG can be found in the Consultation Summary in Appendix E.

The OSAG met six times over the project duration to review and provide feedback on park design and public engagement plans for the Hastings Park projects. A number of other focused stakeholder workshops were also held with individuals presenting

specific sports or pursuits. These workshops assisted in providing detailed input into the design of the fields and Plateau Park spaces addressing specific needs.

In addition to the OSAG's input, a broader community engagement program was implemented over a nine month period from October 2011 to June 2012. This engagement focused around three open houses, following the three project phases. More detailed information on the community engagement can be found in Appendix E.

Based on the feedback from the October 2011 Open House, refined concept plans were shared at the open house in February 2012. A number of comments received resulted in plan modifications to better accommodate proposed uses, players, spectators, and operations. It was also decided, based on feedback received that softball use was to be eliminated as the size requirements of a diamond (300 foot outfield) are not compatible with the proposed field configuration, in addition to the softball player preference for a natural grass playing surface.

The direction to remove the softball diamond is supported by The Vancouver Field Sport Federation and Vancouver Sport Network who are enthusiastic about the redevelopment of these fields as a field sport tournament destination in the City.

The final concept plans were shown at the June 2012 open house and at a final OSAG meeting in June and was supported by the majority of respondents. Approximately 200 people attended the October Open House, 150 attended the February Open House, and 50 attended the June Open House. All open houses responded with a high level of support with an average of 75-80% in favor of the concepts and designs. A full description of the public consultation process and outcomes can be found in Appendix E.

Empire Field History

The Empire Fields (named for Empire Stadium built here for the 1954 British Empire and Commonwealth Games), are located in the southeast corner of Hastings Park just east of Playland. Empire Stadium was home to the BC Lions of the Canadian Football League from 1954 to 1982 and hosted the Grey Cup seven times. Empire was also home to the Vancouver Whitecaps during the 1970's and early 1980's. The stadium was demolished in the early 1990's and converted to a parking lot. In 2001 the site was converted by the Park Board to two soccer fields overlaid with two softball diamonds and a gravel running track for community use. In 2004, a new field house was built.

Through 2009 to 2011, due to the reconstruction of the BC Place stadium, a temporary stadium for the BC Lions and Vancouver Whitecaps was constructed here, through a City, Park Board and PavCo Agreement. Upon removal of the stadium, the high masts for field lights, the synthetic turf playing field, and various site improvements related to the temporary stadium remained as legacy items for incorporation into the new community sports field plan.

Project Description

The remaining football field at Empire has been incorporated into a new field layout that will accommodate two full size soccer fields, with additional field markings for junior soccer and ultimate fields. A central access aisle between the two fields, complete with power and water services, has space for festivals, temporary tents, and

tournaments. Locations for goal and equipment storage, player seating, and emergency access are included a synthetic turf warm up area and permanent spectator seating for 400 people are also provided.

An accessible, rubber surface, 550m four lane recreational jogging path encircles Empire Fields. Surrounding the perimeter of the jogging path is a segregated bicycle and pedestrian pathway providing convenient and safe connections around the new park space and beyond. The existing parking lot on Hastings Street that accommodates up to 75 cars will be improved with vehicular connections to Hastings Street. The existing field house and washrooms have been integrated into the new plan.

The Leaside Tunnel, a DIY skatepark in the southeast corner of the Empire Fields site, is considered in this plan. Tunnel activities are planned to extend outward into the park. Pedestrians are welcomed through the tunnel via an improved accessible connection to the south, optimizing the use of this grade-separate crossing of Hastings Street providing safe access for residents living south of Hastings Street. The Vancouver Skateboard Coalition has provided input to staff on this connection and improvements to the skatepark entrance.

The recommended concept plan for Empire Fields is attached as Appendix A.

The Plateau Sports Park

The Plateau Sports Park is the name given to the area located between Empire Fields and the wooden coaster in Playland. This area sits on a plateau west of Empire Fields approximately 4.5m above field level. The concept plan for The Plateau Sports Park focuses on play, fun, movement, participation, gender/age equity and lifetime fitness, with flexibility built into the plan to make it resilient and adaptable to changing uses.

The sport and passive use content of The Plateau Sports Park compliments the Empire Fields with four distinct zones (north to south): the Kid's Zone; the Rec Room; the Beach; and Sport Courts. These four zones are connected with a continuous sculptural element. This linear element plays upon the character of the adjacent historical wooden coaster in Playland forming a sculptural edge that transforms from seating to gateway to climbable element.

Kid's Zone

The Play Zone is a series of accessible play spaces woven together with small scale pathways. Toddler swings, water and sand play equipment in an enclosed area comprises the pre-school play area. Seating for care-givers is in close proximity. A small bicycle pump track for runner bikes compliments this area. For older children there are climbing nets, hill slides and landforms to provide a diversity of more challenging play experiences. The children's zone location and content are of particular interest for Vancouver Heights residents who indicated strong support for a local neighbourhood park and playground.

Rec Room

This area has a youth and adult movement focus supported by a variety of activities requested by those that participated in the engagement process. These activities include ping pong tables, built features for parkour (urban acrobatic pursuit) and outdoor acrobatics, and outdoor fitness equipment for adults and seniors to

complement athletic training and exercise at Empire Fields. The Rec Room is surfaced with a resilient and accessible material that is suitable for dance, yoga, boot camps and other fitness activities. The Rec Room presents an opportunity to support growing areas of recreation not currently provided for in the Park Board system.

The Beach

A large contained sand area suitable for up to 4 beach volleyball courts is provided for in this area. Feedback from the consultation process indicated the area would be also popular for the emerging sports of sand soccer and parkour.

Sports Courts

The Sports Courts zone has an enclosed multi-use paved surface for basketball, mini-soccer or ball hockey. The Vancouver Homeless Street Soccer League also expressed interest in the sports courts and lining for street soccer will be provided.

Bicycle Pump Track

Located at the north end of Empire Fields, a bicycle pump track for beginner and intermediate users has been designed to take full advantage of this sloped location. Trees, rocks and logs form inviting edges and spaces that create viewing opportunities around the track.

The details for these zones will be approved by operational and risk management staff. Construction of the Plateau may need to be phased, with phasing dependent upon pricing of final construction tenders received. The Kid's Zone and Sports Courts were indicated as high priorities for participants of the project consultation process.

The final proposed concept plan for The Plateau Sports Park is attached as Appendix B.

Greenways

A network of pedestrian and bicycle pathways are proposed to be overlaid on Hastings Park as part of this phase of construction. These greenways will connect local neighbourhoods to new park spaces and the waterfront at New Brighton Park. New greenways in the vicinity of Empire Field will be constructed in a permanent configuration. These greenways will link to the connection to New Brighton Park via Creekway Park (working title), currently out for construction tender. Permanent greenways will be constructed as green corridors with trees, landscaping and separated pathways (walking/biking).

Connections through Hastings Park in areas where the final park configuration takes place in future phases will be achieved by using existing park roads and parking areas. Separation from vehicles will be achieved through the use of planted barriers and paint markings. Way-finding signage and mapping will enhance the usability and convenience of the new greenway system. A total of 3.25 km of new pathways are planned for this phase of construction. Examples of the new signage are located in Appendix D.

It is anticipated that the new greenways in Hastings Park will be a highly used recreational amenity but will also fulfill a gap in the City's transportation cycling network as a result of the connections to existing City bikeways.

The configuration and implementation of Hastings Park greenways was highly supported by respondents to survey questionnaires.

The final proposed concept plan for park greenways is attached as Appendix C.

Implementation

Construction documents for this project are currently being prepared. Tender for construction will be let February 2013 and it is anticipated that construction would begin April 2013 with completion in early 2014.

Implications/Related Issues/Risk (if applicable)

Financial *

Capital

Council approved \$610,000 in the 2011 Capital Budget for the design of the project (\$350,000 Empire Fields Reinstatement; \$80,000 Plateau Sports Park and; \$180,000 Internal Trails & Park Connections) and a total of \$302,000 has been spent to date to prepare the concept plan and construction documents for this project. The balance will be required to complete the detail design and tender documents.

Combining the \$0.3 million unspent Capital Budget from 2011 and an additional \$8.1 million from the 2012-14 Capital Plan, total funding available for this project is \$8.4 million. Subject to 2013 Capital Budget approval on December 11, 2012, \$3 million will be available in 2013 and the rest in 2014. Because the project will be constructed by a contractor, the actual costs for park construction will only be known through the tendering and award process anticipated to be completed in early 2013. Staff and the design consultant have reviewed the scope of work and typical unit costs and believe that the funding available is sufficient to complete the identified scope of work. As with all construction projects, contingencies have been factored into the budget. If current funding proves to be insufficient, staff will reduce the scope of work and/or defer certain items.

Operating

The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation will be responsible for approximately \$35,000 per year in operation and maintenance costs for Empire Fields including lighting and the existing field house. Revenue from Field bookings is estimated to be \$110,000 per year, a portion of the booking fees will be transferred to the artificial turf replacement reserve for future replacement of the artificial turf. The PNE, who also maintain the Sanctuary and Italian Garden at Hastings Park, will operate and maintain the balance of the new park spaces and greenways as proposed in this report (jogging path, Plateau Sports Park, greenways, parking area and associated landscaping) at an estimated cost of \$128,000 per year. As with other park areas of the site maintained by the PNE, revenues generated from programming these areas will be retained by the PNE to be allocated to park care costs. Revenue and Expenses as noted above will be reviewed as part of the normal operating budget process of both organizations.

This arrangement is consistent with the previous iteration of Empire Fields although the expanded park space of the Plateau Park on the former parking lot and the new

greenway system will mean increased operating costs for the PNE. PNE and Park Board Operations staff has been closely involved throughout the development of the concept plan.

Environmental

Greening of Hastings Park is identified as a high priority action item for 2011-14 in the City's 2020 Greenest City Action Plan. The specific deliverables of 3.25km of new bicycle and pedestrian pathways, 6.8 ha of new and renewed park space and a park program focused on a diversity of active and passive recreation and sport, directly support the Greenest City Action Plan's "Green transportation and "Access to Nature" goals and the Park Board's "Leader in Greening" and "Parks and Recreation for All" strategic directions.

CONCLUSION

The final proposed concept plan for Empire Fields, Plateau Park and Greenways in Hastings Park was developed with significant input from both local and city-wide residents. The finalized concept is highly supported by residents and stakeholders. The inclusive plan leverages the legacy components of the PavCo temporary stadium and sensitively combines a diverse, multi-generational park program with separated bicycle and pedestrian facilities that provide safe and convenient access across Hastings Park and to New Brighton Park.

The implementation of this project will be a significant outcome of the Hastings Park/PNE Master Plan and will deliver on community and City priorities of new park space and improving pedestrian and bicycle access to parks.

Staff are recommending the adoption of the concept plan for Empire Fields, Plateau Park and Greenways for construction in 2013 (completion early 2014) pending construction tender and award process consistent with the City's' Procurement policy.

* * * * *



Empire Fields: Looking North West from Hastings St. & Cassiar St.



Bike Skills Area

- Pump tracks tailored for beginner and intermediate levels
- Designed with inviting spaces that create viewing opportunities

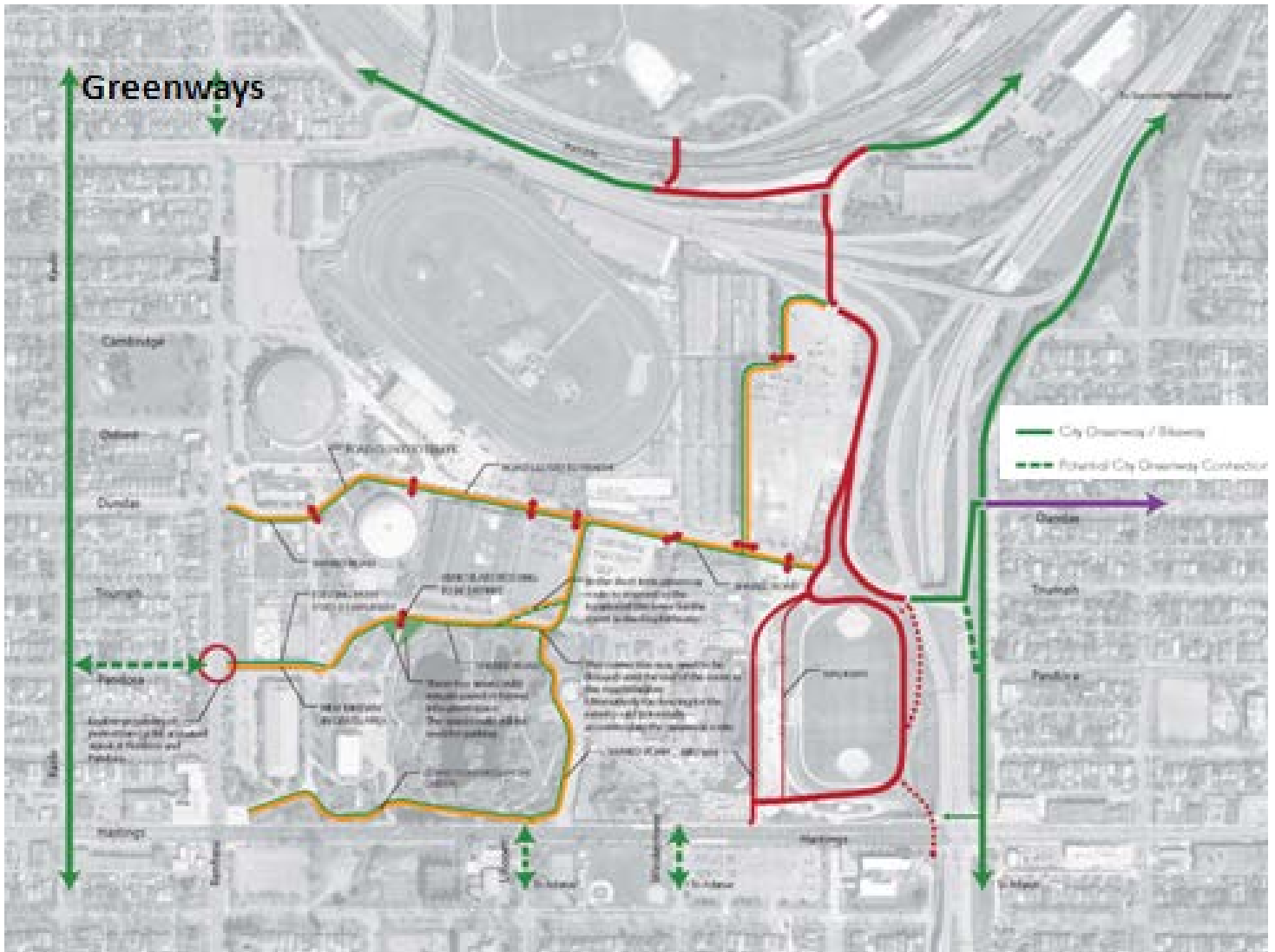


Leaside

- Tunnel activities will extend outward to the limit of existing retaining walls
- A controlled pedestrian path connects the greenway to the tunnel through a landscaped area
- An area for additional DIY stunt features is created.



Empire Fields and Plateau Sports Park: Plan View



Greenway System Through Hastings Park + Connections to Citywide Greenways



Hastings Park Wayfinding System:
Map Case

Pedestrian/Cyclist Greenway
Directional Signage



HASTINGS PARK

Hastings Park/PNE Master Plan Implementation

Empire Fields,
Plateau Sports Park
+ Greenways

Consultation Summary
2011/12



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1.0 Overview

In December 2010, the Hastings Park/PNE Master Plan was approved by City Council. Along with the approval of the Master Plan, City Council endorsed a number of initial projects that addressed community priorities of creating additional park space and improving access to Hastings Park. These included reinstating Empire Field and developing plans for the Hastings Park greenways, the Plateau Sports Park, Creekway Park and a connection to New Brighton Park. This report outlines the community engagement and resulting feedback for the design of Empire Fields, the Plateau Sports Park and new greenways in Hastings Park.

From October 2011 to June 2012 a number of public consultation events were held to gather input and feedback in the various stages of design development. This consultation report outlines the process, methodology and results of this community engagement effort.

2.0 Methodology

The community engagement for Empire Fields, Plateau Sport and Greenways was focused around three different stakeholder groups to ensure both broad and detailed catchment of feedback and input:

1. Broader community consultation sessions
2. Open Space Advisory Group (OSAG)
3. Focus Stakeholder Consultation

These groups and their engagement are described in detail below.

Consultation with these groups was integrated into a three phase project plan:

1. Research Assessment and Information Gathering
2. Schematic Design and Options Phase
3. Finalized Concept

Details of each phase are outlined below:

Phase 1: Research, Assessment and Information Gathering:

The focus of this phase was to develop a base of knowledge that will establish the basis for the design program and concept for Empire Field, the Plateau Sports Park and the design and routing of the Greenway system. This included the following:

- Sharing the results of the initial survey and assessment, communicating opportunities and constraints
- Communicating the design and programming strategy/guiding principles
- Listening and information gathering

Phase 2: Schematic Design and Options Phase

Based on the feedback from Phase 1, schematic concept options were developed and the programming for Empire Field, the Plateau Sports Park and the Greenway system was confirmed. This included the following:

- Communicating schematic design options
- Gathering feedback and input to inform a selection of options and refinements
- Preliminary Park Lighting Strategy was prepared and included in the public consultation at this phase.

Phase 3: Finalized Concept

Based on the detailed feedback from Phase 2, the program was finalized and designs were refined and detailed. Public consultation tasks included the following:

- Sharing finalized program and detailed concept plans and implementation next steps.
- Concepts were finalized and feedback and input on the details of the various concepts

2.1 Broader Community Consultation Sessions:

Corresponding with the three phases outlined above, three broader community consultation sessions were implemented to gather input on the design of new park spaces in Hastings Park.

These community consultation sessions were kicked off with an open house followed up with on-line open house materials and a survey questionnaire hosted on vancouver.ca that was maintained for approximately two weeks after each open house. Each open house assisted in furthering the design process to a more detailed level through input and comments gathered through the questionnaires.

Approximately 400 local residents participated in the Open Houses and a total of 184 surveys from the broader community consultation sessions were submitted. A summary of the questionnaire responses for October 2011, February 2012, and June 2012 is presented on pages 10 - 28.

Date	Time	Location
Wednesday, October 26, 2011	1:00 - 9:00 pm	Pacific Coliseum
Wednesday, February 22, 2012	1:00 - 9:00 pm	Pacific Coliseum
Saturday, June 16, 2012	11:00 - 5:00 pm	Laughing Bean Café 2695 East Hastings Street

Broader Community Consultation Notification

Notice of opportunities to participate in the three open houses and online materials and questionnaires was broad and included the following:

Email

- More than 800 members of the Hastings Park distribution list were emailed to invite or remind them of upcoming open houses
- Emails sent to approximately 25 city staff and consultants involved in all stages of design development

Posters/Flyers

- Over 100 posters were placed along Hastings St, in community centres, public and private institutions (libraries, banks) within the Hastings Sunrise neighbourhood, notifying of the open houses and offering ways of providing input
- Over 1500 flyers were distributed to elementary schools notifying of the open houses and offering ways of providing input. Flyers were translated into Chinese and distributed.

Social Media

- The City of Vancouver's corporate communications posted notifications on Facebook and Twitter notifying of the open houses and offering ways of providing input

Newspaper

- Advertisements were placed in the Courier newspaper and on community event pages notifying of the open houses and offering ways of providing input

Website

- Consultation information, including opportunities to participate and provide feedback was on the landing page of the Hastings Park website for the duration of the consultation. The surveys were posted on-line for two weeks following the open houses
- Details of the designs, including the open house schedule were posted online at www.vancouver.ca/hastingspark

Open House 1: October 26, 2011

This open house focused on guiding principles and initial program elements of Empire Fields. Illustrated were circulation patterns for greenway options and recreational opportunities identified for the Plateau Sports Park. Four panels out of the 15 total related to Empire Fields, Plateau Sports Park and Empire Fields.

The Empire Field plans displayed a conceptual field layout, identified potential zones for warm up areas, storage, and spectator areas. The Plateau Sports Park illustrated different sports and play options. The Greenways panels showed circulation patterns through and around Hastings Park.

How was feedback used?

Consultation feedback was considered, along with technical information to refine the conceptual design before the completion of the next stage of more developed design.

Key Results:

130 questionnaires were returned showing very high support for a casual running path (85%) and synthetic turf soccer fields (80%), children's play area (86%), adult exercise equipment (80%) and resilient surfaces (72%). Detailed survey responses can be found on pages 11-29 of the appendix.

Open House 2: February, 22, 2012

The purpose of this open house was to present a more developed concept plan for Empire Fields, Plateau Sports Park and Greenways based on the feedback from October's open house.

In response to the October comments regarding park priorities and best use of synthetic turf layouts, softball and field hockey were removed from Empire Field turf markings and field programming. It was determined that soccer and ultimate had the best fit to the site, longest seasons and would attract the most users. Due to layout constrictions and user group preferences for natural turf, softball was suggested to be located on another park site.

Following October's survey, the following recreational/play options received highest support and these were included on the February concept plans for Empire Fields and Plateau Sports Park:

- Innovative play area close to Empire Fields with good
- Sightlines for children 2 to 5 yrs old
- Play area for children 6 - 12 yrs old
- Dirt jumps and mountain bike skills area for beginner
- to intermediate level
- Basketball courts
- Beach volleyball area
- Areas with a resilient surface to support a variety of activities including ping pong tables, workouts, yoga, boot camps, cross-fit groups, tai chi and dancing
- Adult playground that could include bars, rings and ropes course and that could accommodate slack lines and Parkour activities as a layered use
- Outdoor fitness equipment for adults and seniors.

How was feedback used?

Consultation feedback was considered, along with technical information to refine the developed design before the completion of the next stage of the finalized concept plans.

Key Results

49 survey responses were completed and submitted. In response to greenway connections and priorities presented in October, consultation results showed highest support for the following guidelines:

- Installing temporary sections of greenway before permanent park elements are in place to provide continuity at all times
- Separating pedestrian and cyclist uses
- Widening greenway dimensions over the standard widths in busy areas and where additional space is available.

Open House 3: June 16, 2012

The purpose of the third and final open house was to gather input on the detail concepts for the Plateau Sports Park and to share any last thoughts on the finalized concepts for Empire Fields and the proposed greenways in Hastings Park.

Comments from this workshop were largely favourable and provided feedback in terms of prioritizing activities within the Plateau Sports Park should it require phasing. Highest priority was given to the children's play space, second to the hard surface sports court and third to the adult exercise area.

How was feedback used?

Consultation feedback was considered, along with technical information to refine the developed design before the completion of the finalized concept plans.

Key Results

22 surveys were completed and submitted showing largely favourable support on all elements in the final concept plan, especially the resilient sports court (77%), the children's playground (72%), and the outdoor adult exercise area (72%).

2.2 Open Space Advisory Group.

In order to provide on-going detailed feedback on the design process and public consultation materials, an Open Space Advisory Group (OSAG) was established to provide on-going stakeholder input into the open space projects being implemented as a result of the Hastings Park/PNE Master Plan. The role of OSAG was to review and advise on the open space implementation projects in Hastings Park. This review was executed with consideration of the Park Board's and the City of Vancouver's strategic goals and objectives.

The OSAG was comprised of a broad range of on-site, community, and city-wide representatives who have experience or a specific interest in the initial park developments. Representation included the following group or interest areas:

- Circus West
- Cycling and walking (commuting or leisure)
- Hastings Park Conservancy
- Leaside Tunnel users
- Pacific National Exhibition
- Residents from Hastings/Sunrise Neighbourhood
- Vancouver Field Sports Federation
- Vancouver Sports Network
- Youth

Over the project's duration, the OSAG met 8 times to review park design and public engagement plans for Empire Fields, Plateau Sports Park and Greenways in Hastings Park. The OSAG's input augmented public feedback from the open houses and provided key input to the project team throughout design development.

Table 1: 2011/2012 OSAG Meetings

<i>Date</i>	<i>Meeting Type</i>	<i>Agenda items</i>
May 18, 2011	OSAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions • Roles and Responsibilities of OSAG • Project overview • park walk-about
September 7, 2011	OSAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing Conditions • Site overview • Opportunities and constraints • Group Workshop
October 1, 2011	OSAG Local Precedent Tour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parkour demonstration at Andy Livingston Park • Sports fields at Andy Livingston Park • Vanier Park - Dirt Jumps • Confederation Park - sports facility • Mountain Air Park • Town Centre Park • Cameron Recreational Centre
October 13, 2011	OSAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Open House #1 Materials • Empire/Plateau/Greenway Schematics

November 28, 2011	OSAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from Open House #1 • Layout of Program Ideas • Preferred Street Connections to existing greenways
February 8, 2012	OSAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Open House #2 Materials • Concept Plans • Specific feedback on Empire/Plateau plans and Greenways routing
April 18, 2012	OSAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Open House #2 results • Public art introduction • Update on Active Park Space stakeholders workshop
June 4, 2012	OSAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Finalized Plans • Overview of Open House #3 materials • Final meeting

2.3 Focused Stakeholder Consultation:

Upon completion of the initial design layout, specialists from the various sports included on site were sought out for the more detailed consultation on the design and programed elements for Empire Fields and the Plateau Sports Park. These stakeholders included youth groups, Park Board programmers, Vancouver Sports Network (VSN), Vancouver Field Sport Federation (VFSF), Urban Rec, More Sports, BC Volleyball Association, TFC Volleyball and individual stakeholders representing inline skating, skateboarding, Parkour, mountain biking, dirt jumping and circus arts. Below is a list of the focused stakeholder consultation events that took place.

Table 2: 2011/2012 Stakeholder Group Meetings

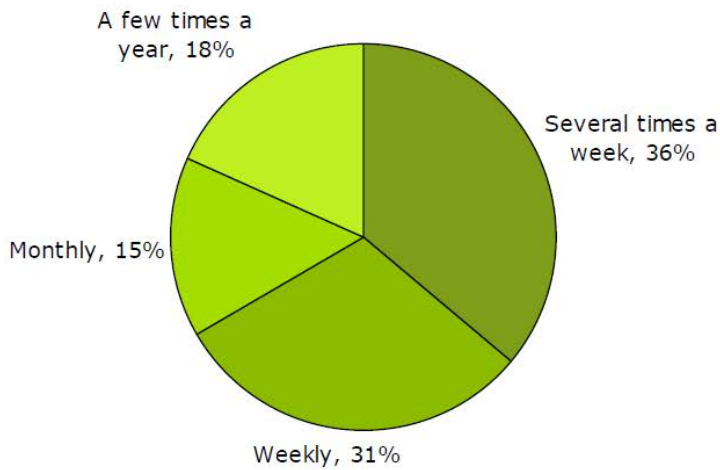
<i>Date</i>	<i>Meeting Type</i>	<i>Attendees</i>
September 15	Project Introduction - Empire Fields programming	VSN, VFSF
September 15, 2011	Project Introduction	Park Board Programmers, Urban Rec
October 20, 2011	Empire Fields /Plateau Sports Park Programming	Urban Rec
November 3, 2011	Youth	Templeton Senior Secondary School students
November 4, 2011	Youth	Hastings Community Centre

		Youth
November 10, 2011	Youth	Kiwassa Neighbourhood House Youth
February 2, 2012	Sports Field Layout Program	VSN, VFSF
April 16, 2012	Active Park Space Stakeholder Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VSN • VFSF • Urban Rec • More Sports • BC Volleyball Assoc. • TFC Volleyball • Inline skating representative • Skateboarding representative • Parkour representative • Mountain biking representative • Dirt jumping representative
April 30, 2012	Soccer	B.C. Soccer Association, VSN, VFSF
May 8, 2012	Mountain Bike/Dirt Jump Design Session	Dirt Jump/Mtn Bike user groups
July 16, 2012	Circus Arts Design Session	Circus Arts user group

Open Houses: Overview of Results October 26, 2011

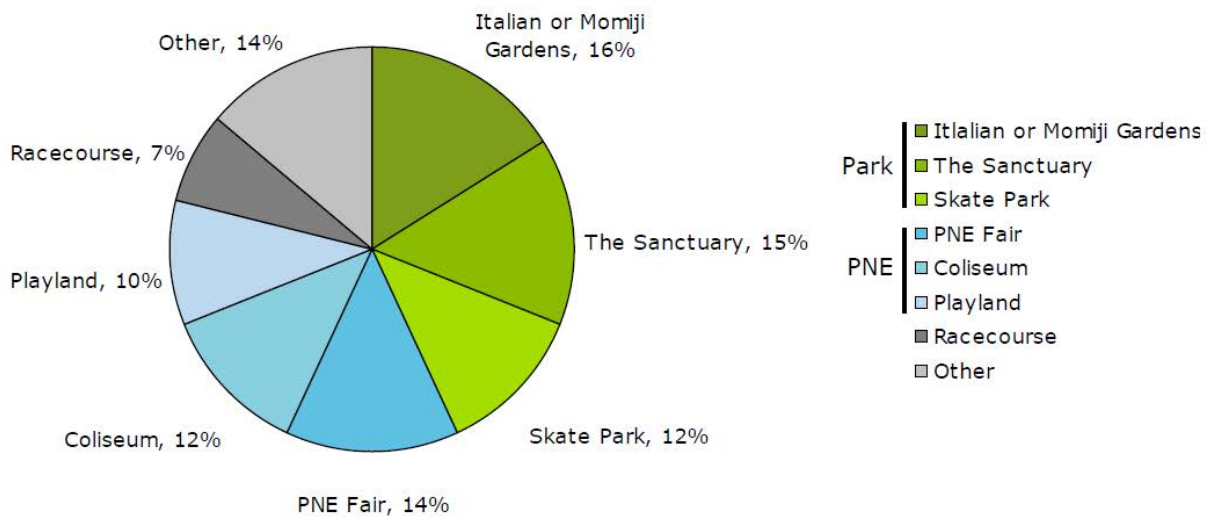
Frequency of visit to Hastings Park

How often do you visit Hastings Park?



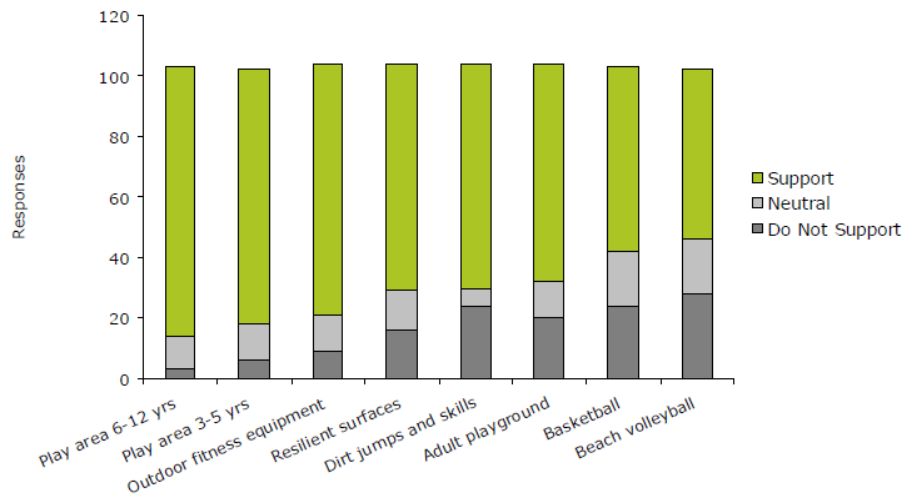
Reason for Visit to Hastings Park

What do you do when you are in Hastings Park?



Plateau Sports Park

Question 3: What activities do you support in the Plateau Sports Park?

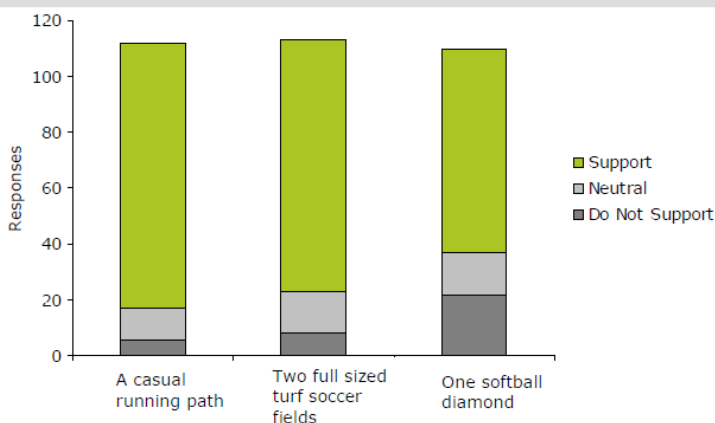


The other most common ideas listed for the Plateau Sports Park were:

- Add another skatepark
- Dirt jumps (not wooden ramps)
- Multi-use surface for BMX, skateboard, rollerblading etc.
- Picnic area
- Covered area for tai chi, yoga, ping pong, dance, etc.
- Amenities: spectator seating, benches for people watching, lights, sound barriers, and grass areas

Empire Field

Question 1: Indicate your support for each of the following at Empire Fields: 2 full size turf soccer turf; one softball diamond; and a casual running path?

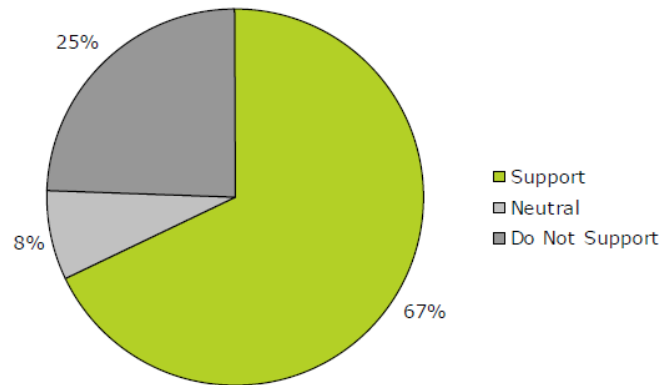


The other most common ideas listed for Empire Field were:

- Casual play areas with priority for public access/play
- Community events – concerts, festivals, sports days, farmer’s markets
- Keep Leaside a skatepark and/or extend it into the park
- Real grass, not turf
- Amenities: picnic tables, spectator seating, green noise barriers, washrooms, equipment storage, lights for jogging path, and BBQ area

Greenways Within the Park

Question 5: Do you support the proposed routing of the greenways through Hastings Park (see red arrows indicated on the map below)?

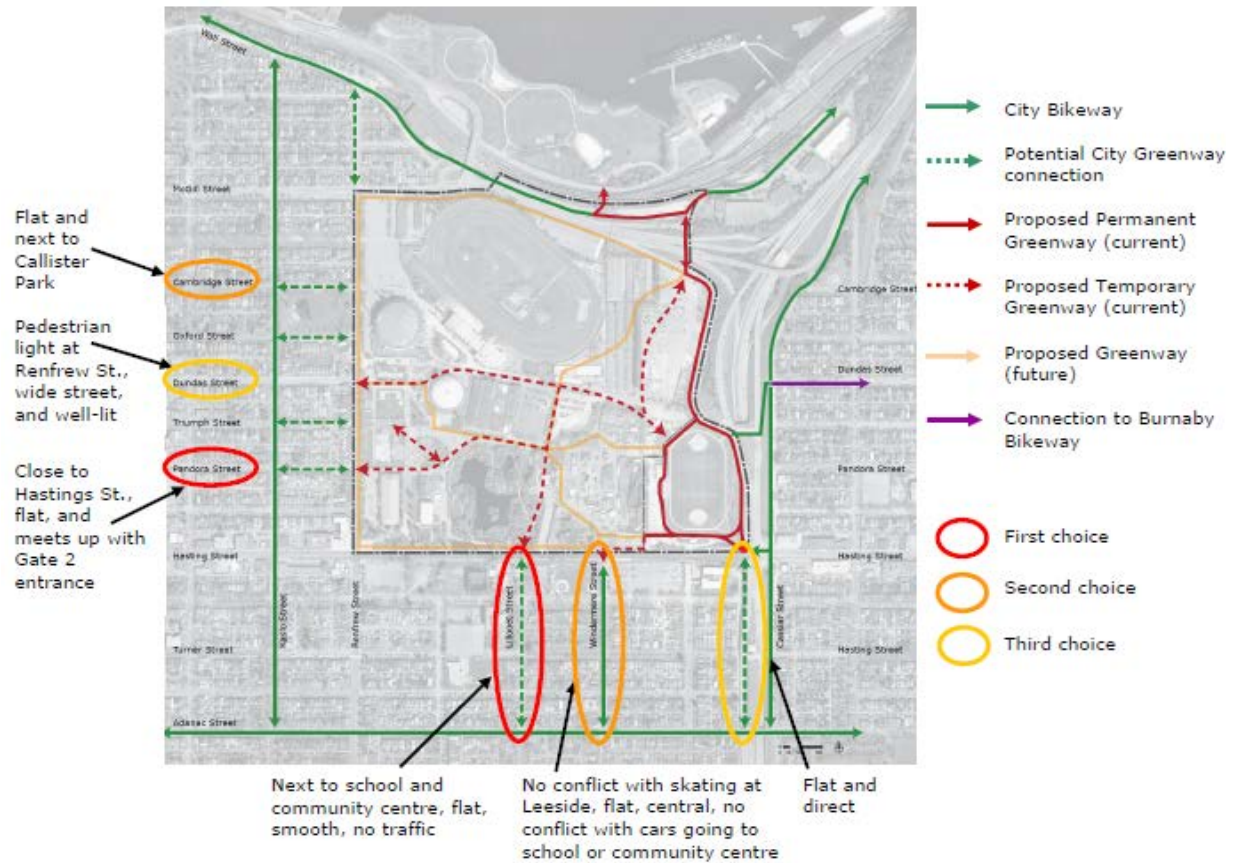


General comments:

- Create a diagonal bike path from Hastings and Renfrew into the park
- Improve connection under and east of Iron Worker's Memorial Bridge
- The further north of Hasting Street the east-west bicycle connection is, the less likely commuters will use it
- Include bike path down Renfrew St. in this phase

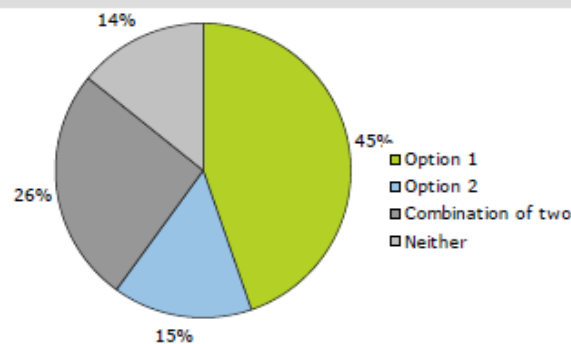
Connections to Adjacent City Bikeways

Question 6: What streets should connect the park's greenways to the city's current bikeways?



Creekway Park: Option 1 or Option 2

Question 7: Which of the concept options for Creekway Park do you prefer?



Option 1

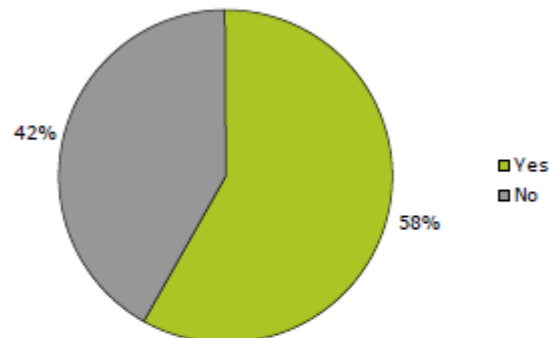
- Fluid, attractive, engaging, and interesting
- More natural, park-like
- Better surveillance of parking lot
- Farther from power lines

Option 2

- Better for commuter cyclists
- Better sightlines
- Path buffered from tracks
- More connected green space (path crosses less)

Parking Lot in Creekway Park

Question 8: Do you think a parking lot in Creekway Park is necessary?



Yes

- Not enough parking in area
- Pool in New Brighton Park makes it a city-wide destination

No

- There is already enough parking in the area
- Creekway is small enough
- Encourage cycling and walking
- Not an efficient land use if parking only needed 2 months/yr
- Follow City's transportation priorities
- Needed for people with children or disabilities

Other Ideas for Creekway Park

Question 9: What other ideas or concerns do you have for Creekway Park?

- Noise reduction and safety
- Native vegetation or edible landscape
- Better park name
- Relocate power lines to north or southern edges of Creekway Park

Additional Comments

Question 10: What additional comments do you have?

- Keep Leaside
- Improve safety throughout the park e.g. lighting, bike routes, etc.
- Overpass to New Brighton Park
- Off leash dog area

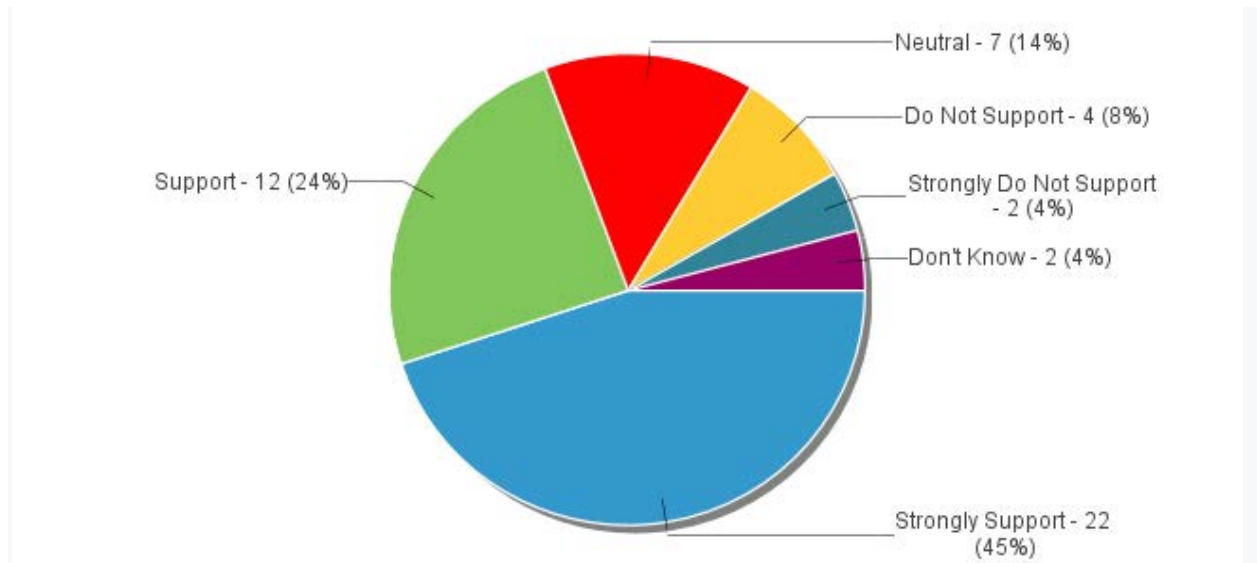
Consultation Summary - Open House February 22, 2012

Q1. Panels 5 - 6: Empire Fields

Empire Field would consist of the following sports amenities: two full sized synthetic turf fields (65m x 105m) with markings for U12 - U12 soccer and ultimate. Further study and consultation has indicated that softball is not suitable at this location. The two fields are surrounded by a synthetic surface running track approximately 580m in length. Also included in this plan:

- Warm-up area (18m x 105m) at the south end of the two fields
- Existing fieldhouse and washrooms
- Area for storage facilities
- Area for spectators

Do you: Strongly Support, Support, Neutral, Do not support, Strongly do not support, Neutral?



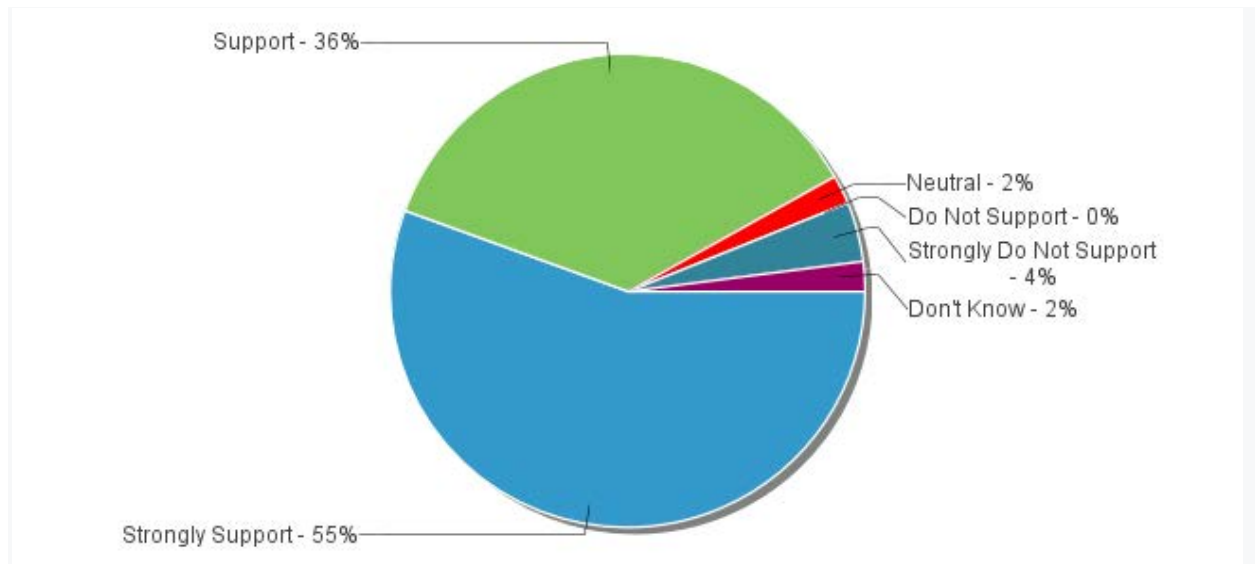
Comments:

- Provide a variety of sport activities for different ages.
- It's good to put Empire Field to good use after having the Whitecaps/Lions.
- Need a berm/vegetation to block noise from Hastings.
- What about a green grass field accessible to families at one end or even beach ball courts?
- Keep washrooms open so other park users can access them outside of game times.
- I like the idea of the running track, which will attract locals like myself to walk/run - be active.

Q2. Panel 7: Empire Fields - Walking and Cycling

A series of walking and cycling trails are proposed on and around Empire Fields as illustrated on Panel 7.

Do you: Strongly Support, Support, Neutral, Do not support, Strongly do not support, Neutral?



- Good way to support healthy physical activity with enjoying green areas - especially such a large area in the city.
- I use the PNE to cycle in now - the update will allow for more pleasant cycling in park.
- This will benefit the community to have a safe and convenient access to utilize this facility.
- More exercise opportunities for aging population makes sense.
- I want good connections to New Brighton Park, greenways and Vancouver Heights and safety for pedestrians, bikes, etc.
- Good neighbourhood concept.

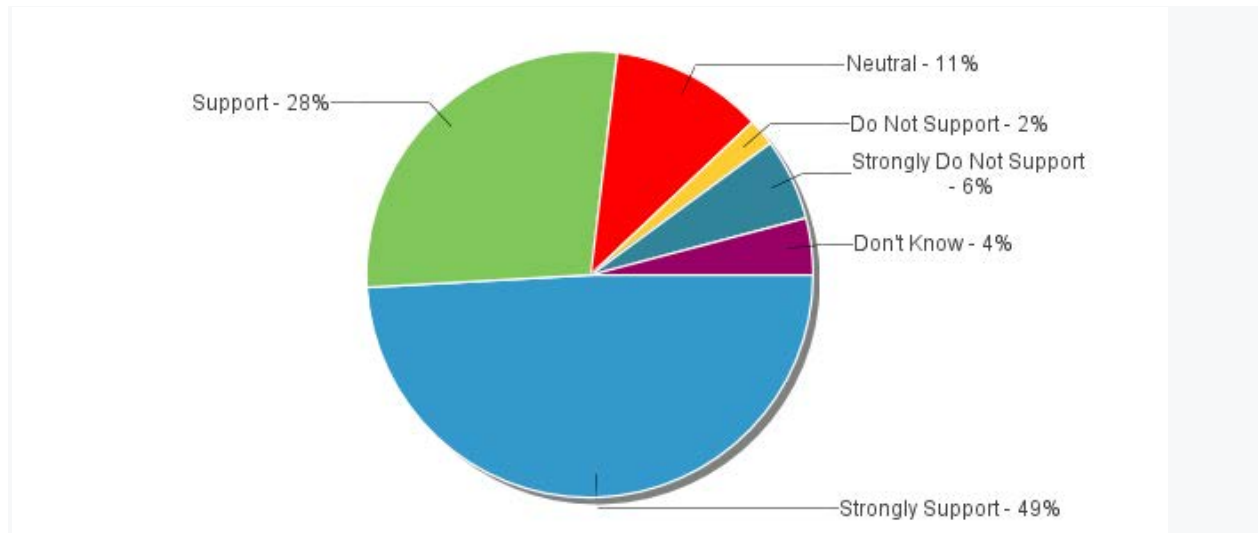
Q3. Panels 8 - 9 - 10: Active Park Spaces - Plateau Sports Park/Dirt Jumps/Leeside

Unique sports destinations providing a diversity of activities and catering to all age groups. The following activities have been included in this initial plan:

- 1) Grass courts: accommodating 3 volleyball courts, bocce, picnics and games
- 2) Multi-sport court: accommodating four half-court basketball courts, ball hockey, and mini soccer
- 3) Resilient surface court: accommodating tai chi, dancing, yoga, boot camps, ping pong and outdoor gym equipment
- 4) Children's playground with innovative play areas for ages 5 years and under
- 5) Children's playground with innovative play areas for ages 5 years and over
- 6) Mountain bike dirt jump park for beginner and intermediate skill levels

7) Leaside Tunnel: expansion outside tunnel to north for skateboarding and pedestrian connection through tunnel.

Do you: Strongly Support, Support, Neutral, Do not support, Strongly do not support, Neutral?



Comments:

1) Grass court

- Good.
- How does a grass court support volleyball? Picnic area is a great idea but will tables be provided?
- If it's real grass.
- Yes.
- Valuable.
- Beach volleyball.

2) Hard surface multi-sport court

- Good.
- Good for the neighbourhood - something for everyone.
- Yes - current basketball area is used.
- If it is not dominated by adult basketball.

3) Resilient surface court

- Good for the neighbourhood - something for everyone.
- No.
- Good.
- Valuable.

4) Children's playground ages 5 years & under

- Good.
- Good for the neighbourhood - something for everyone.
- Support.
- Valuable.
- Make smaller - too large now.

5) Children's playground ages 5 years & over

- Good.
- Support.
- Very good.
- Yes.
- Do not support
- Make smaller

6) Mountain bike dirt jump park

- Bike park (not just mountain bike).
- There is already one of these just over the bridge.
- A natural fit for community and skatepark.
- Yes! But it shouldn't just be mountain bikes - also needs to be BMX. Please do not build northshore skinny wooden features. No one actually uses these. Build jump and pump tracks.
- It's starting to look like an afterthought. Make sure you work with the Vancouver Dirt Jump Coalition to design this area & ensure proper maintenance
- Partially covered for all weather play.
- Strongly disagree.

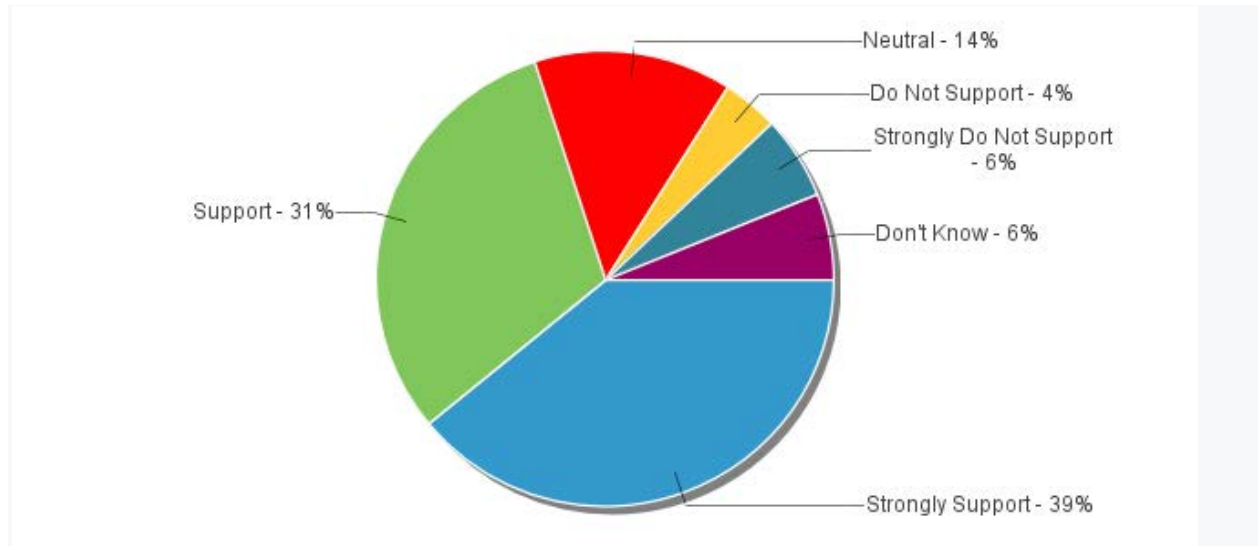
7) Expansion to Leaside and skateboard area

- Good.
- Keep Leaside a D.I.Y. skatepark.
- Must be well maintained and well lit. .
- Leave it how it is; allow art to flow out instead of expansion.
- Valuable.
- Not a good idea.

Q4. Panel 11: Greenways

Panel 11 describes both the temporary and permanent greenways proposed for Hastings Park and the connection to New Brighton.

Do you: Strongly Support, Support, Neutral, Do not support, Strongly do not support, Neutral?



Comments:

- Historic signage along walkways provide interest points and appreciation for the park usage.
- Full support of connection to New Brighton Park.
- As you transition to permanent, please maximize safe and ecological pathways shielded from Hastings Street and consider an overpass at Windermere or Lillooet.
- Great. Please use native species.
- Must invest what's needed in making McGill underpass appealing and perceived as safe. To draw people to New Brighton, it's worth spending on lighting and public art to transform this space.
- A safe pedestrian access between the two area will greatly enhance and prompt their use.
- This community has wanted this connection to New Brighton for years.

Consultation Summary - Open House June 16, 2012

Panel 8: Empire Fields

Panel 8 shows the detailed concept detail for Empire Fields (including two synthetic turf fields, a running track, a warm up area, existing field house and washrooms, plus areas for spectators and storage) has been finalized through the input of the 2 previous open houses and stakeholder meetings. Are there any detailed thoughts or comments on these finalized plans?

Are there any detailed thoughts or comments on these finalized plans?

Panel 8: Empire Fields |

#	Response
1.	make plans to expand the field house in the long term
2.	it looks well thought out for families. The running track is such a great addition to the fields.
3.	It is my understanding from attending the open house that high school football lines will not be on one of the fields. That is very disappointing when 3 local high school teams not 5 minutes from the empire and who have a history of playing at empire site from 1971-1990 and in 2010.It is just a simple addition of some lines and a set of posts put on the soccer nets.
4.	I am really excited to know that there will be tracks and paths nearby that I can rollerskate on. These plans look amazing.
5.	Will there be a concession operated out of the field house? will there be food carts in the area providing snacks/etc. Will the change areas/washrooms be improved?
6.	The field appears quite a bit smaller than it was before. The lights appear to be much too tall, and would be better located at a height below the highway level so as not to disturb the neighbours to the east.
7.	Have some kind of covered area, even if it's an overhang off the field house, will be a popular spot when it's raining and you're watching a soccer game. I'm still concerned about how the parking will be handled. It should be for Empire Fields users, not Playland.
8.	Great idea
15.	The plan is comprehensive, quite wonderful I think, -you have considered almost everything imaginable. However, key for me is to get access to Empire Fields soon, -I hate to see my beautiful neighbourhood park continue to be an industrial zone. I had hoped that after the professional sports teams had their way, the rest of us would get back what was taken away from us, but sad to learn that it will still be at least a year. This is after so many years of seeing Empire stadium become an inaccessible, ugly industrial eyesore.
16.	Please include football lines on one of the fields!

Panel 7: Greenways

Panel 7 shows the layout of the greenways through and surrounding Empire Fields and has been finalized through the input of the 2 open houses and stakeholder meetings.

Are there any detailed thoughts or comments on these finalized plans?

Panel 7: Greenways |

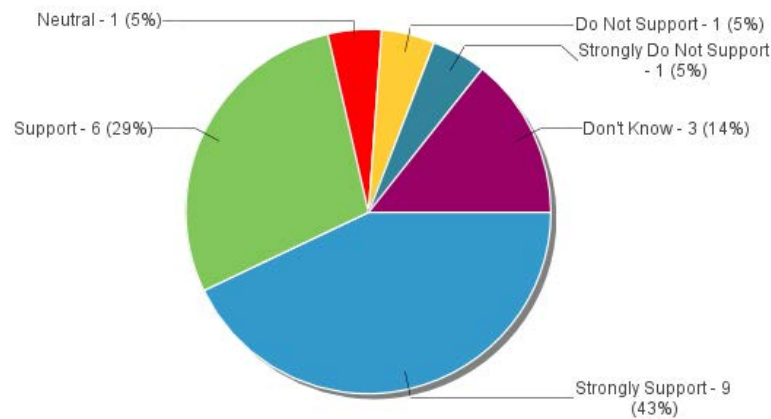
#	Response
1.	great work!
3.	good
4.	There should be a pedestrian walkway through the Leaside Tunnel. This avoids the necessity of having to cross dangerous Hastings Street when coming from the south. It is not clear if this is in the plan.
6.	I think that the concept and consultation went well on this. It would be difficult to satisfy all the possible interests, but I think the diversity now being offered is going to make this space very well used.
7.	really good
9.	As a cyclist, I often find that the City makes great routes between areas, such as intersections, which help make travel safer. However it is key for safety that well marked routes at continue into and through intersections, which is of course, where the danger lies for cyclists and pedestrians. Therefore, I hope that planning for Hastings Park pathways includes well marked routes into and out of the Park, thinking that all the ways into the Park are across busy streets. Carefully considered cycling and walking access points, versus priority given to automobile access is also a priority for me.

Question 3. Kids Park Features

Panels 9-11 show Plateau Sports Park and the different opportunities for play, sport recreation and fun within six different areas. These include the Kids Park, Rec Room, Beach, Sport Court, Bike Skills Park, and Leaside. Please indicate your level of support for the following areas of the Plateau Sports Park.

3. Kids Park features:

- a. Pump Track
- b. Pre-school Play Area
- c. Slide Zone
- d. Hills and Valleys

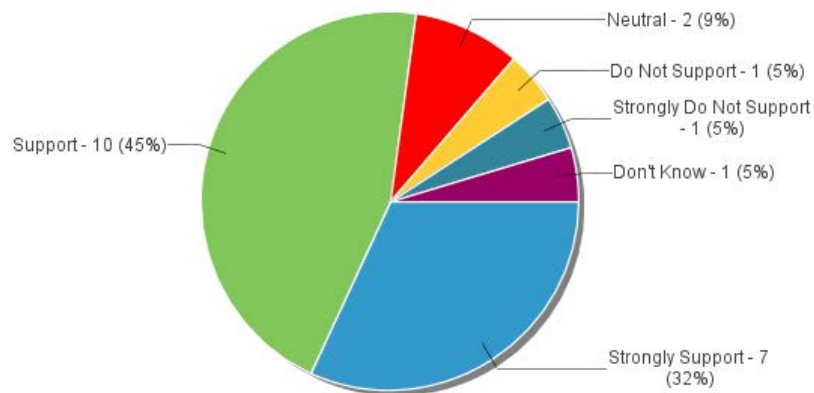


Please share your thoughts on why you support/do not support the features described in the Kids Park.

#3	Response
1.	the east side is full of families, who can use these facilities. Some east side rec programs have been a Godsend for families, especially afterschool and weekends.
2.	great mixed use
3.	I think the choice of location for these park features is poor. It's in an isolated area if there are no games going on in the field. It's not an area I would feel comfortable sending my 12 and 14 yr. old kids to play with their friends.
4.	I think all four features will be very well-used by the community. I like the seating on the feature wall. I hope that there will be picnic table/snack eating space with the equipment provided. I was hoping that there would be some kind of gate/enclosure to prevent preschoolers from running out into the bike lanes, but I am unclear how this separation will be accomplished.
6.	I think this gives quite a bit of area for free play, and makes use of the sloped area nicely.
7.	So many playgrounds for kids, not many for adults.
9.	love the bike skills area

Question 4. Rec Room

Adult playground with resilient surface for parkour, yoga, dance, bootcamps, crossfit, circus arts, ping-pong tables, adult fitness equipment, and exercise bars.



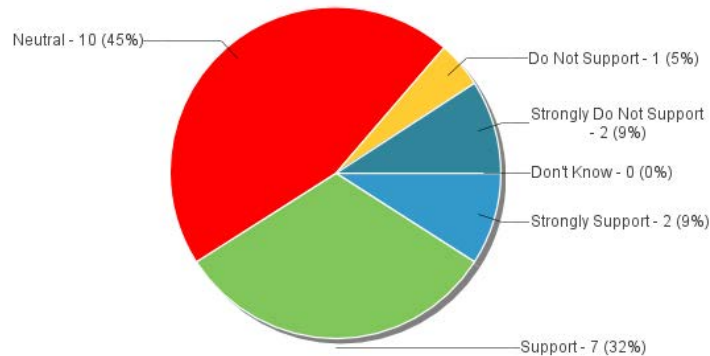
Please share your thoughts on why you support/do not support the features described in the Rec Room.

#4 Response

1. This is good. It is often the adults who are sadly left out when it comes to this sort of thing, yet they pay for all the facilities through taxes and support.
2. again great concept
3. I think this is an innovative and forward-thinking mixed-use space.
4. I see the public in the West end enjoying these type of activities on just plain grass space. (ie., Cooper's Park, and all the other green park spaces along the bike route North of False Creek. If the areas were more green they would be less defined and more people might be encouraged to use the space more imaginatively.
5. It's great to have an area that can be animated and well used without necessarily being programed. I think this area will encourage different fitness options for walk bys or people waiting for the soccer tournaments to finish..
6. Love the idea of outdoor fitness equipment for adults. I saw many parks in China with this equipment and many adults taking advantage of it. But please, make it fun! Kids shouldn't get all the playgrounds.
7. this is great to get adults out in the park

Question 5. Beach

Sand courts for beach volleyball, beach soccer, sand castles and beach badminton.

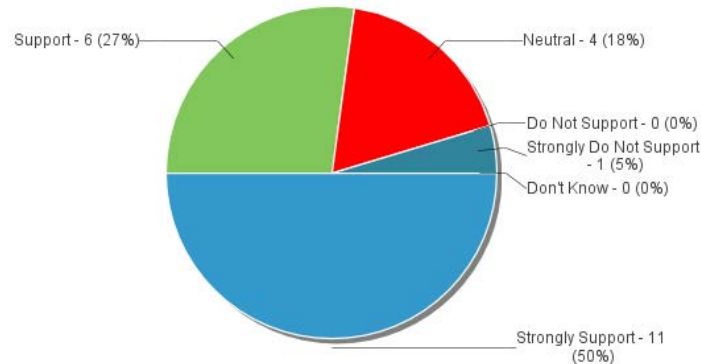


Please share your thoughts on why you support/do not support the features described in the Beach.

#5	Response
1.	wow
2.	I feel that sand soils too quickly in an urban environment, and that it will collect a great deal of waste from nearby wildlife/pets.
3.	I'm a physically active person but none of these activities interest me.
4.	I am not clear on how this space will be used/shared. Is there really that much demand for beach volleyball/soccer/badminton out there? Why the sand? Usually sand castles are not possible without some kind of accessible water feature. Has this been thought through?
6.	I see so many areas of the city with volleyball courts. I understand that it's popular, but I don't think this is the best place for it. I see school fields taken over on weekends for this.
7.	like the idea of sand
8.	Same as above, but more strongly, -the beach is the beach -go play there, say at New Brighton?

Question 6. Sports Court

Hard surface for basketball, ball hockey, soccer, and other sports and games.

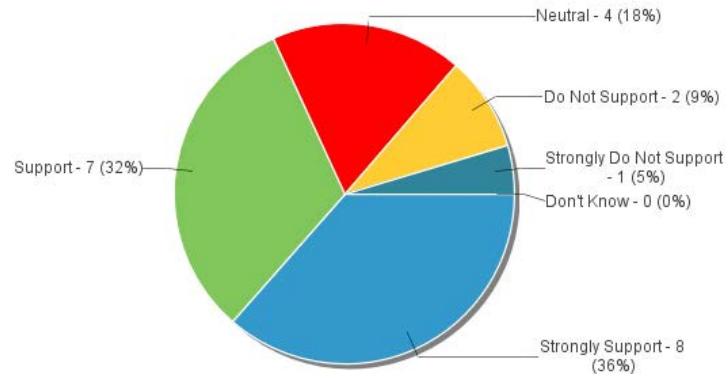


Please share your thoughts on why you support/do not support the features described in the Sports Court.

#6	Response
1.	Great idea.
2.	Can't they play these games on the turf? or grass?There are basketball courts etc across the street, near the baseball field.
3.	I think there is a shortage of this in the city, and the hard surface allows for play no matter what the weather is. Good choice..
4.	great
5.	Yes, a simple play area, easily maintained, multi purpose that will see a lot of use through the years, not a passing phase of popularity that will be under-utilised in the near future. Take a look at the bocce courts in the Italian Gardens as an example of good intentions, but not realised no one uses it. The bocce area idea probably came from the community, but sadly it was a waste of sand.

Question 7. Bike Skills Park

A beginner to intermediate bike park with hills, a pump track for riders of all ages.

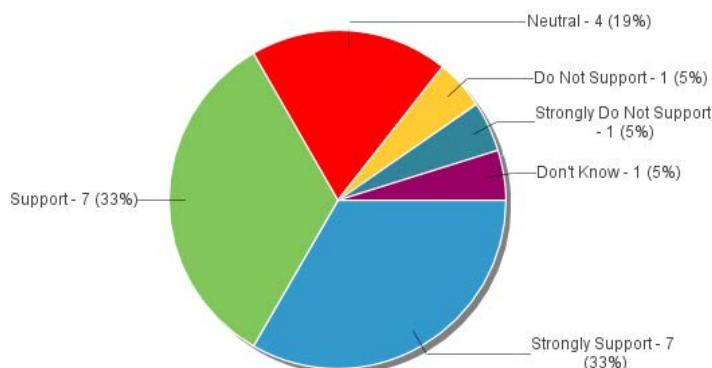


Please share your thoughts on why you support/do not support the features described in the Bike Skills Area.

#7 Response
1. we need more of these facilities in the city
2. Many riders young and old will enjoy developing their riding skills here.
3. Most kids go to the North Shore, and there is too much concrete proposed for this side of the park, given that there is already a skateboard park @ Leaside and also one on the West side of the park.
4. I think that the whole bicycling aspect of the park, with the perimeter trail and connection to Trans Canada and greenways will work well if properly signed.
5. super idea
6. same as above, -note that the skateboard park near Renfrew is by far the most active area of anything built in recent years. I support something along these lines, -don't really know what a pump track is though.

Question 8. Leaside

Improved pedestrian connections around and through the Leaside Tunnel Additional space for stunt features on the north end of the tunnel.

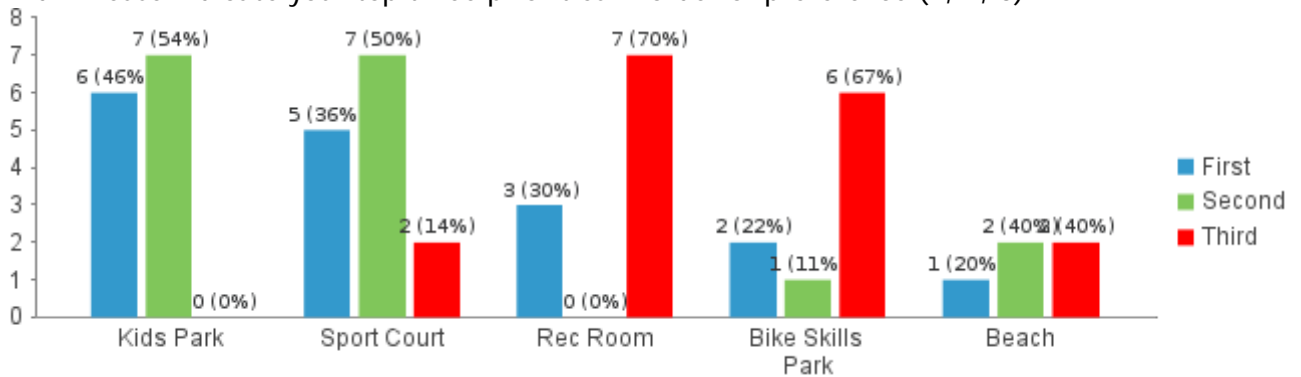


Please share your thoughts on why you support/do not support the features described Leaside.

#8	Response
1.	improving connectivity through this space is very important for pedestrians and cyclists
2.	please clean it up
3.	That whole area looks like a waste land. I jog through there and it not pleasant. I would love to see the next phase of day lighting the creak happen quickly and all the natural spaces that are supposed to go along with it.
4.	I support this as long as there is pedestrian access through the tunnel from the south. It makes sense from a safety point of view to make use of the tunnel to access Hastings Park.
5.	Glad to hear of the improved pedestrian connections. Hope the space feels clean/well-lit/secure.
6.	Leave Leaside alone, please. It is a memorial to a beloved son from the neighbourhood and the many friends he had continue to take care of it without adding a lot more clutter.
7.	Should be safe to cross through. Needs to be improved..
8.	make sure it is lit 24 hrs
9.	yes, so people won't have to go over the Hastings intersection, too noisy and slow, the tunnel is much more appealing. -the priority ranking of the question below is why I feel that there are too many features here, so my priority, if it has not been clear so far, is to get the fields open to the public as fast as possible, and to stop doing construction in Hastings Park as soon as possible so it is not a construction area anymore!

Priority Ranking

Construction of the Plateau Sports Park may need to be phased depending on final design and construction costs. If construction had to be phased, what would you build first, second and third. Please indicate your top three priorities in order of preference (1, 2, 3)



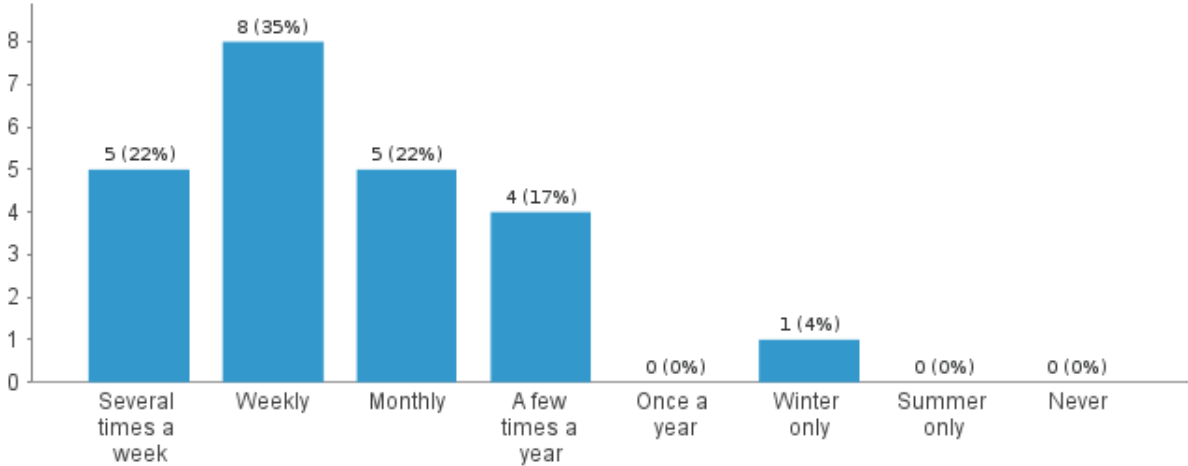
Panel 12: Signage and Identity

Panel 12 shows the proposed new signage for Hastings Park. Please share your thoughts or comments on the proposed new signage.

#9 Response
1. It's fine and looks pretty much mainstream.
2. please move the statue of bannister and landy back to the site
3. Looks good, I like the colours.
6. All the signage is the same, some faded out green colour. More thought should go into this.
7. also have a couple park maps

Tell us about yourself:

How often do you visit Hastings Park?



What do you do when you are in Hastings Park? Choose all that apply.

