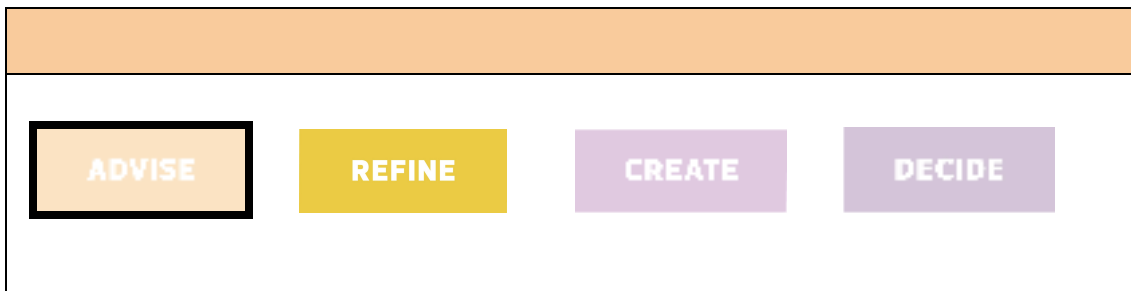

Spring 2017 What We Heard Report Glengarry District Park Master Plan

| **SHARE** YOUR VOICE
SHAPE OUR CITY

Edmonton





OVERVIEW

Edmonton's mature neighbourhoods are great places to live and have many treasures including District Activity Parks. These parks serve several neighbourhoods in the larger area and are important for health, wellness and quality of life. They are part of a city-wide park system and support a wide variety of facilities, programs and open space activities. Glengarry Park has been identified as a priority for renewal to update park infrastructure and park amenities to meet community needs.

The Master Plan process identifies a Public Engagement Plan to engage community and stakeholders. Some themes that will guide these conversations include; access and circulation, sport activities, recreation and play activities, arts, culture and celebration and environmental sustainability.

Public engagement was held in the spring of 2017 so that citizens could provide feedback on preliminary concept ideas and provide advice on current and future use of the park. The information gathered contributed to the creation of one preliminary concept plan. This was the second round of engagement for the project.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Engagement was done in the Spring of 2017 as the second round of engagement for Glengarry District Park Master Plan.

Archbishop O'Leary and St. Cecilia Junior High School Administration were invited to a workshop at the City of Edmonton to review and provide feedback on the preliminary concept idea. Sportsfield user groups and local community leagues were also invited to a workshop to provide feedback on the concept idea. Finally, to get a perspective from the students on site, the preliminary concept ideas were presented to a class at St. Cecilia Junior High School and at a pop up event held at Archbishop O'Leary High School.

We heard that there are issues with parking on site and that a wetland, amphitheatre and an event space were not supported. We heard that there is a desire for more shelters and community gathering spaces for picnics. We also heard that existing site amenities could be improved and that there is a desire for more pathways and trees. There is also an opportunity to accommodate dogs on site and add amenities for skateboarding, biking and basketball.

The information gathered during this round of engagement helped to create a preliminary concept plan for the site. The preliminary concept plan was presented at the third round of engagement in the fall and was then refined and included in the final master plan report.

HOW WE ENGAGED

Public engagement was held to advise the vision for the park and to offer suggestions on elements to be included in the concept plan for the park.

In the fall of 2016, an open house was held and a survey conducted to understand how people use the park space and how they wanted to use the space in the future. That information was given to a design consultant that created two preliminary concept ideas. Those preliminary concept ideas were presented during this phase of engagement to encourage discussion about what the park could look like. For more information please see the [Fall 2016 What We Heard Report](#).

School administration from St. Cecilia Junior High School and Archbishop O'Leary Junior High School were invited to a workshop on April 26, 2017 at the City of Edmonton office. Representatives from Archbishop O'Leary High School attended. The preliminary concept ideas were presented and they were asked how their students currently use the site, issues on site and how the park could be redeveloped to fit the needs of the school and students.

A workshop was planned at Glengarry Community League on April 26, 2017. Invitations were sent to Killarney Community League, Glengarry Community League and on site sportsfield user groups. The intent was to discuss both Glengarry District Park and Queen Elizabeth School Park at that workshop as they are located in such close proximity to each other.

The workshop was attended by representatives from Glengarry Community League. Those participants reviewed the preliminary concept ideas and provided feedback. Participants shared information on the history of the site, how they see the site being used, issues on site and how they would like to see the park developed.

On May 24, 2017 a pop up event was held at Archbishop O'Leary High School over the lunch hour. The preliminary concept ideas were presented to students and feedback was collected on how the plans could be updated to fit the needs of park users. Students and staff participated in this event.

On May 25, 2017, a session was held at St. Cecilia Junior High School. School administration arranged the session with students from grades 7, 8 and 9. The preliminary concept ideas were presented to students and feedback was collected on how the plans could be updated to fit the needs of park users.

WHAT WE HEARD

During a number of in person stakeholder meetings with school administration, students and community members, we received the following feedback on the plan for the park:

- There are issues with parking
- There is a desire for additional amenities like basketball, skateboarding and biking
- There is a desire for community gathering spaces and shelters
- The event space and amphitheater were not supported
- The wetland was not supported
- There is a desire for public washroom access on site
- There was a mixed response to the proposed fitness stations
- Additional amenities like lighting, seatings and garbage cans are desired
- Existing amenities like the playground, spray park and tennis courts should be updated
- Pedestrian circulation could be improved

AS A RESULT, WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THE PROJECT?

Based on citizen feedback, the preliminary concept ideas were merged and updated to create one preliminary concept plan.

Some suggestions that were included:

- The proposed wetland was removed
- The proposed amphitheater was removed
- The current configuration of the playground was preserved
- A fenced off-leash dog park was added
- Shelters were added
- A mountain bike skills park was added, there may be an opportunity to use this for winter activities
- A skateboard park was added
- The proposed trail connection to the south west of the running track was removed to better accommodate the ball diamond and soccer field
- Opportunities to increase on site parking were identified
- Basketball courts were added
- A seating and gathering space was added near the St. Cecilia Junior High School

Details such as lighting, the number of waste receptacles, the types of surfaces for pathways, and playground surfacing will be explored in the design phase.

Some suggestions that were not included:

- A washroom facility - this is not within the scope of this project. In the event that the Leisure Centre or the Arena are renewed or expanded, a washroom facility has been noted in the master plan for future consideration.
- Food trucks and green shacks are examples of on site programming that could be explored separately from the master planning process
- Suggestions for facility renovation or removal are outside of the scope of the project
- An artificial turf facility is not being considered as part of this project - the City has developed an overall [Approach to Community Recreation Facility Planning](#) which addresses how planning for new fields will be done in Edmonton moving forward.
- Crosswalks and pedestrian connections to the neighbourhood - these are outside park boundaries and are not included in the scope of work for this project. Instead, these features will be flagged for future neighbourhood and road renewal projects.

NEXT STEPS

Feedback from public engagement contributed to the creation of a preliminary concept plan. That preliminary concept plan was presented to the public in November 2017 to see if it fit the needs of the community. Following that round of engagement, the concept plan was finalized and included in the master plan.

In 2018, funding was allocated to complete preliminary design for Glengarry District Park. This work is planned for 2020. There will be opportunities for the public to contribute to the design.

For further information about the project, please visit the website:

edmonton.ca/glengarrydistrictpark

Thank you for participating in sharing your voice and shaping our city.

For more information on City of Edmonton public engagement, please visit www.edmonton.ca/publicengagement