



What We Heard Report

Medicine Hill / Paskapoo Slopes Park Plan

Phase 1 Public Engagement: Discover

October 3, 2025

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Executive Summary

The City of Calgary is creating the Medicine Hill / Paskapoo Slopes Park Plan, which will guide how we can protect, improve, and celebrate this valued park space over the next decade and beyond. This report summarizes the feedback received during Phase 1, which took place from June 16 – July 21, 2025.

Feedback

Feedback gathered during Phase 1 engagement provided the project team with deeper insights into the community's priorities for this park space. Feedback focused on the project's four guiding pillars: Nature, Culture, Education and Together and asked for participants' values and priorities to ensure future actions aligned with their vision for how this park space should be realized. This feedback will be one of several inputs shaping the park plan, together with best practices, research, input from Indigenous Nations and the Buddhist community, perspectives from special interest groups, City bylaws and Council-approved policies, and grounded in a thorough analysis of the site and its existing conditions.

Tactics

Three open houses and two pop-ups were held at locations within the park and in surrounding communities, providing opportunities for participants to speak directly with the project team, ask questions, and share their perspectives.



Themes

The feedback collected during this phase of engagement emphasized the importance of Medicine Hill / Paskapoo Slopes for all users as a place to connect with nature within the city. The following are the top five themes that emerged throughout the engagement:

- **Preserve the natural character of the area:** Ensuring the area remains wild and undeveloped, with strong opposition to housing or commercial development in and around the area.
- **Importance of natural area recreation:** The importance of the site for a range of low-impact recreational activities, including mountain biking, hiking and running.
- **Care and accountability for the park:** The importance of care and accountability in managing the park space for users, stewards, and The City.
- **Trail management:** Sustainable trail management and maintenance, including thoughtful design, and connections to the broader network.
- **Wildlife and ecosystem protection:** Protecting wildlife, habitats, and sensitive ecosystems while preserving biodiversity and water sources.

The answers from the closed-ended questions largely reiterated what we heard in the open-ended feedback. In addition, closed-ended results highlighted specific priorities that did not appear as strongly in the open-ended themes, such as preserving archaeological areas and providing various opportunities to learn about the park's history, ecology, and archaeology.

Tensions

Across all themes, participants expressed a range of perspectives that revealed some tensions in priorities for the future of the park. There was a concern among participants that the creation of a park plan would lead to increased usership. Many felt no changes were needed and emphasized the importance of leaving the area wild and undeveloped. Others supported only minimal interventions, such as maintaining trails, adding limited signage or restoring ecologically sensitive areas, so long as the park's natural character is preserved. In contrast, some participants suggested more extensive changes, including new infrastructure and amenities, formalized trail networks, or designated areas for different recreational uses. Balancing these perspectives will be an important consideration as planning moves forward.



7,044 online visitors



1,103 online contributions



648 in person participants

Project Background

The Medicine Hill / Paskapoo Slopes Park project is an opportunity to protect land of cultural, archaeological, and ecological significance while creating a place of connection, learning, and reflection for all who visit. The park plan will guide how we can protect, improve, and celebrate this valued park space over the next decade and beyond. As Calgary and the surrounding communities continue to grow, the City has recognized both the need to safeguard these valued resources and the opportunity to shape a park that fosters connection and education for generations to come.

Phase 1 of this project was guided by four pillars:

- **Nature:** The site has a mix of foothill ecologies and habitats that showcase Calgary's unique regional character.
- **Culture & Archaeology:** The site has a significant relationship with ongoing cultural understandings and practices. It also contains one of the richest concentrations of archaeological sites in Calgary, with cultural materials dating back thousands of years.
- **Education:** On-site education offers the opportunity to engage a broader audience and deepen public understanding of Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes' significance.
- **Together:** Together, we can shape a regional park that reflects shared values and collective stewardship.



Engagement Overview

The following section provides an overview of the project, and the objectives, strategy, and timeline for the engagement process.

Public Engagement Objectives

The public plays a vital role in shaping the future of Medicine Hill / Paskapoo Slopes Park by actively contributing ideas, feedback, and local knowledge throughout the planning process. Through meaningful dialogue with the public, the project team gains a better understanding of the values and priorities of various communities to incorporate into the direction of the Medicine Hill / Paskapoo Slopes Park Plan.

Public input is collected, where appropriate, and considered along with other factors (such as cost, environmental impact, technical limitations, and long-range plans/goals) before decisions are made. Because of its open and accessible nature, engagement is virtually never positioned as the sole source of input into whether The City should do something but helps to ensure City decision-makers have access to a range of ideas and feedback. This feedback is not statistically representative of all Calgarians, and therefore in this report, participants will be referred to as participants or respondents and not Calgarians.

Objectives for Engaging with Interest Holders

As part of the project, our project team conducted a series of in-person meetings with key interest holders. These interest holders were identified as groups or individuals with specific knowledge of, or a connection to, the site, whether related to environmental, cultural, historical, or recreational interests. These conversations have been invaluable in sharing knowledge, understanding current site opportunities and constraints, identifying other interest holders, and advancing our public engagement process. We look forward

to continuing these conversations with our key interest holders throughout the duration of the project.

Strategy

Phase 1 engagement focused on understanding the values and priorities of the community. This phase emphasized meaningful dialogue with park users and nearby residents to explore how the park is used today, what is working well, what could be improved, and what should be prioritized in the plan. Engagement activities were designed to capture diverse viewpoints from people with different connections to the area, including nearby residents, recreational users, cultural communities, and environmental stewards.

To ensure broad participation and meaningful input, multiple opportunities were provided, including three open houses and two pop-ups at the park and in nearby communities, and an online survey hosted on The City's Engage portal. By engaging with a wide range of perspectives, this phase aimed to identify shared priorities, address concerns, and inform a vision for the park that balances education, recreation, historical and cultural significance, and ecological protection.

Truth and Reconciliation

Medicine Hill / Paskapoo Slopes (*Aiss ka pooma, Pagaspu, Piskapoo*) is a place of deep cultural, spiritual, and historical importance for Indigenous Nations with long-standing ties to the land. As we plan for the future of the park, the project team is working closely with Treaty 7 Nations and the Métis Nation of Alberta Regions 5 & 6 on an ongoing basis to better understand the cultural importance of the site, how it's used today, and their vision for its future.

Timeline	Milestone
June – July, 2025	Phase 1 engagement: Values and Priorities
October, 2025	What We Heard Report for Phase 1 published.
Winter 2026	Phase 2 engagement: Presentation of the What We Did Report from Phase 1 and feedback on early concept designs.
Winter – Spring, 2026	What We Heard Report and What We Did Report for Phase 2 published.
Spring – Summer, 2026	Phase 3 engagement: Presentation and feedback on preferred park design.
Summer 2026	What We Heard Report and What We Did Report for Phase 3 published.

Table 1 Project Timeline

Communication and advertising

To promote engagement opportunities and build awareness for the Phase 1 Engagement period starting June 16, 2025, we implemented a variety of communication and marketing tactics, including:

- Mailing out 18,000 postcards to residents in the communities of Patterson Heights, Coach Hill, West Springs, Cougar Ridge, Bowness, Greenwood, Green Briar and Trinity Hills.
- Installing ten bold signs on major roadways throughout the project area during the six-week engagement period.
- Displaying informative signage along popular trails at Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes.

- Placing three sounding boards with detailed project information at three park entrances.
- Deploying a six-week social media campaign on Facebook, Instagram and Next Door to inform and invite community members to participate in engagement activities.
- Handing out 400 informative project postcards to Calgarians at community events to further drive engagement.

Audience and methodology

Below is an overview of the tactics used for this phase of engagement, as well as participation numbers for each.

Audience and Tactic	Date	Participation number
Online portal page	June 16 – July 21, 2025	823
Open house: West Calgary Farmer's Market	June 18, 2025	87
Open house: Paskapoo Slopes Parking Lot	June 28, 2025	68
Pop-up: West Spring Stampede Breakfast	July 5, 2025	272
Pop-up: Bowness Stampede Breakfast	July 5, 2025	144
Open house: Cougar Ridge Pond	July 19, 2025	77

Table 2 Tactics and participation

What We Heard

Questions asked during Phase 1 engagement focused on the following key areas.

- Current park use
- Priorities and values relating to Nature; Culture; Education; and Together

The main engagement page with the complete list of questions asked is located at www.engage.calgary.ca/Medicine-Hill.

What We Asked

During Phase 1 engagement, participants were asked to share their feedback on the future of Medicine Hill / Paskapoo Slopes to help guide planning and decision-making for the park. For each of the four project pillars, participants were presented with a list of potential actions and asked to select their top five priorities. They were also invited to respond to open-ended questions to share ideas, highlight what they value most about the area, identify priorities and concerns, and suggest ways to balance ecological protection, education, recreation, and the cultural and historical significance of the site.

The following section summarizes the feedback received from in-person events, the online survey, the social map and the visioning tool. The complete set of responses has been shared with the project team to inform concept designs for Phase 2.

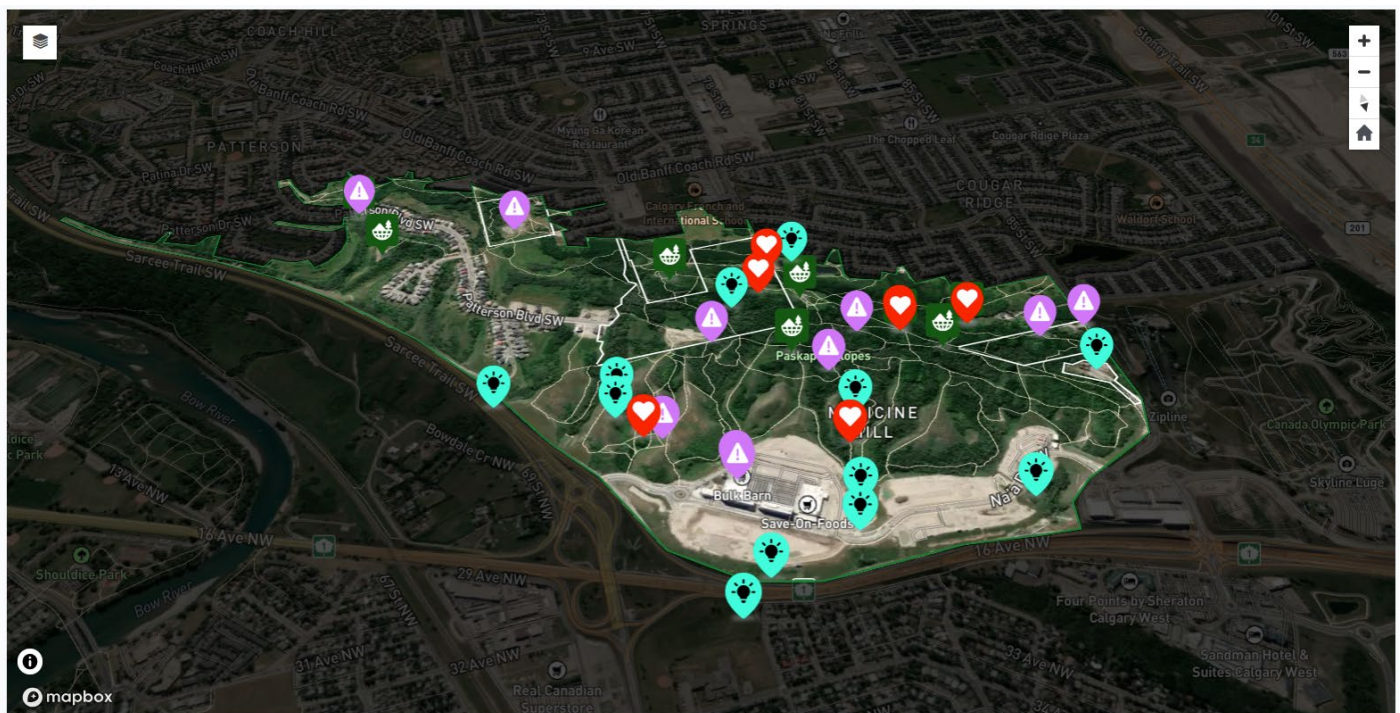


Image 1 Snapshot of the map pin activity

How do you get to Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes?

Most participants reported getting to Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes by walking/running, cycling, or driving. A smaller number of people use public transit, other methods, or Access Calgary.

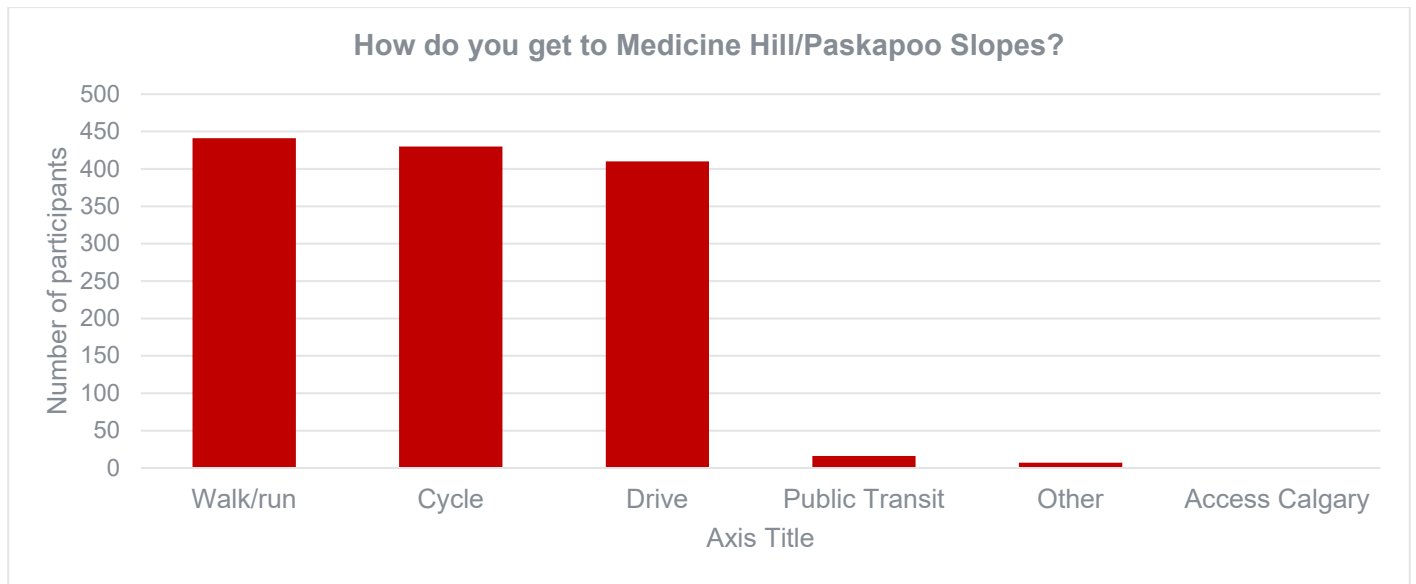


Figure 1 How do you get to Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes?

How often do you visit Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes?

Most participants visit Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes on a regular basis, with weekly visitors making up the largest group, followed by those who come a couple times a month or occasionally. Others visit daily, a few times a year, while a few reported never visiting.

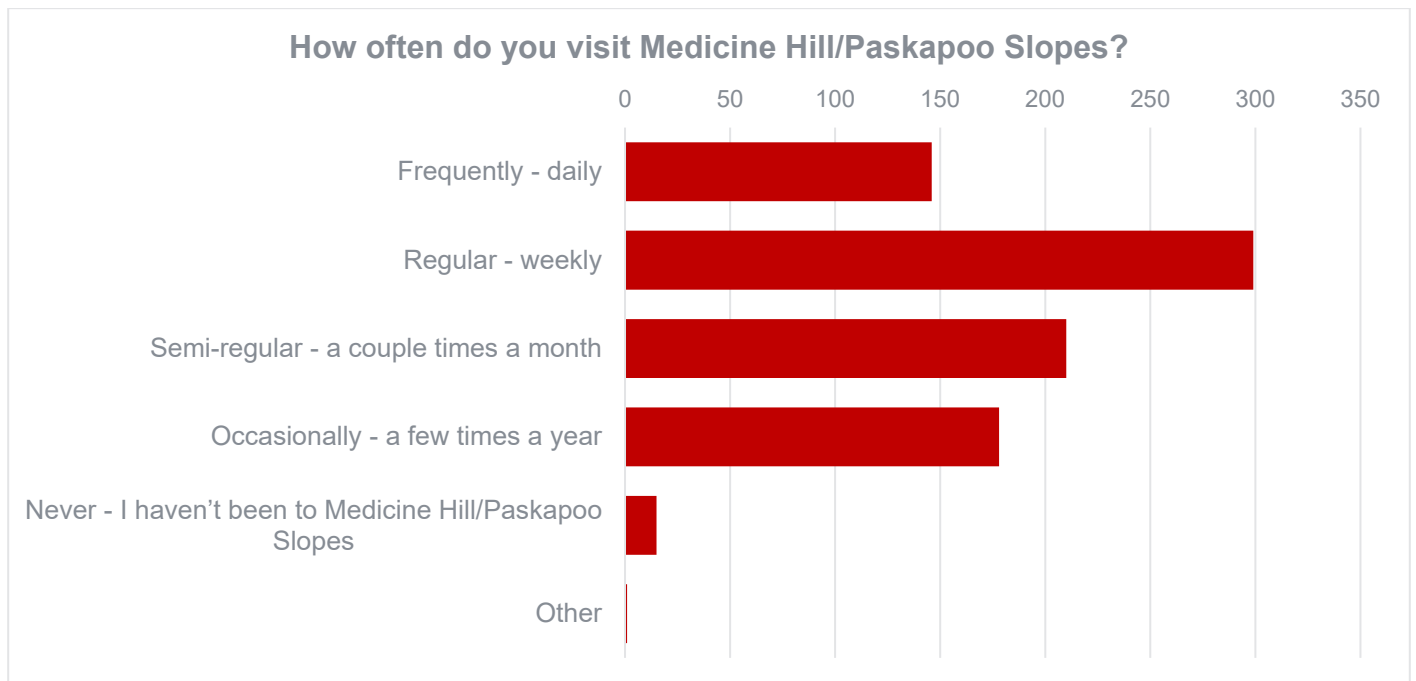


Figure 2 How often do you visit?

How long do you typically spend in the area?

Most participants reported spending between one and two hours at Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes, with many also staying for 30 minutes to an hour or two to three hours. Only a small number indicated spending less than 30 minutes or more than three hours in the park.

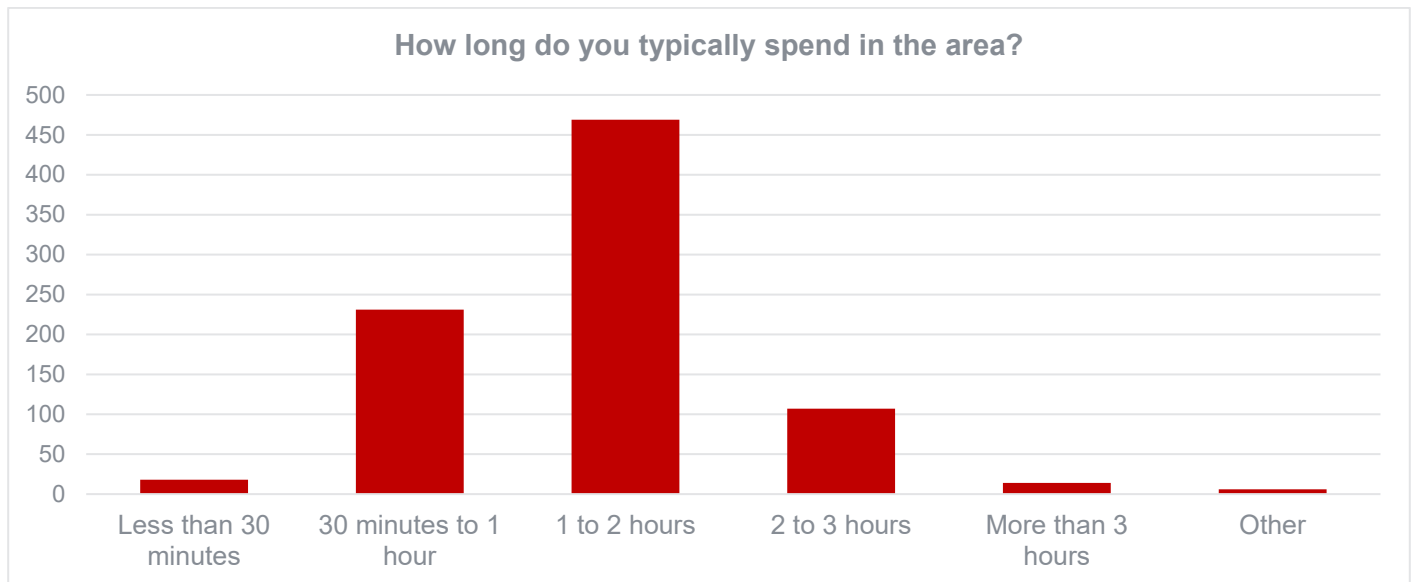


Figure 3 How long do you spend there?

As a visitor of Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes, which of the following best describes you and/or a member of your family?

The majority of respondents described themselves as recreational visitors. Smaller groups identified as participants in organized recreation or nature groups, those involved in spiritual or cultural ceremonies, neighbouring businesses, or selected other.

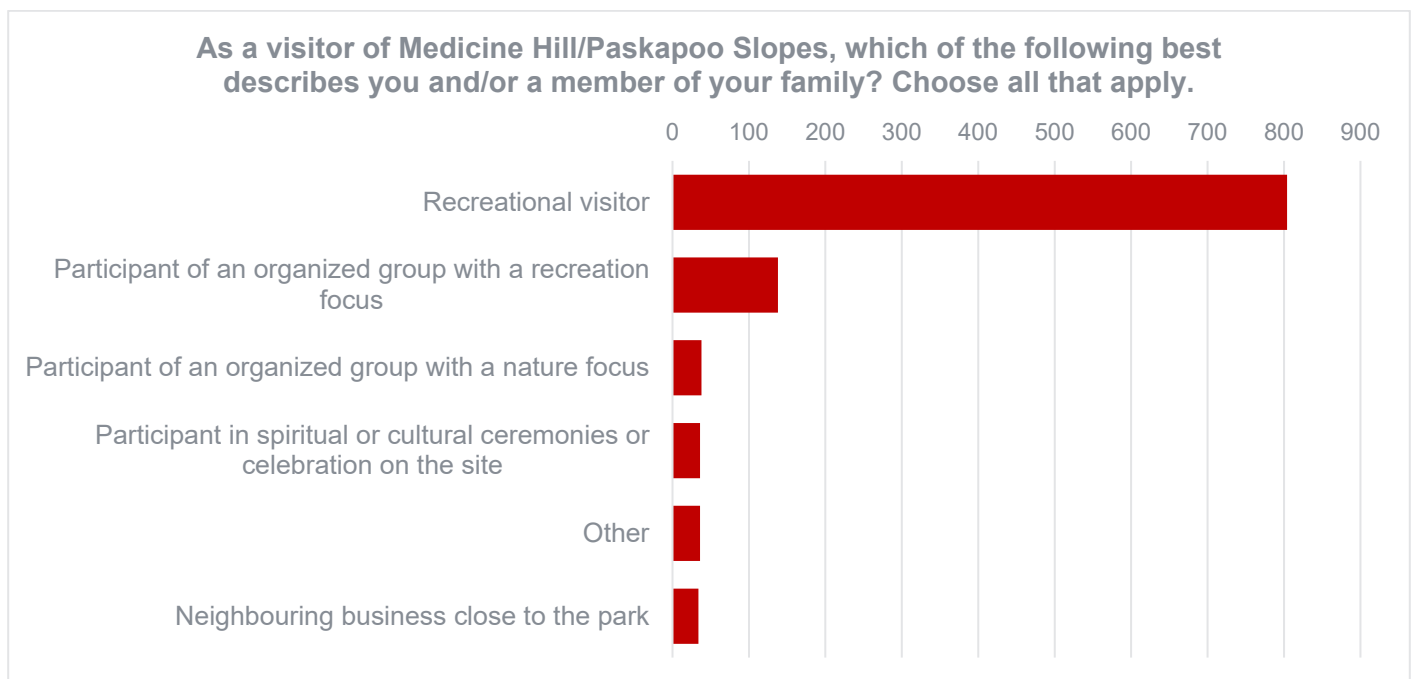


Figure 4 Which best describes you?

What do you appreciate most about the current Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes site?

When asked what they most appreciate about Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes, participants top five choices highlighted the park's natural character and sense of escape, with access to green space and the feeling of a genuinely wild area being the most valued aspects. Many also emphasized the opportunities for recreation and biking, as well as the scenic views and diversity of trails.

Please note: The survey initially asked participants to select five actions. Based on public feedback, it was updated to allow participants to select up to five actions.



Figure 5 What do you appreciate most?

What barriers, if any, have you encountered when accessing the site?

Participants top five choices identified the most common barriers they experience included the lack of washrooms, clear signage/wayfinding, seasonal challenges such as snow, ice, mud, and slippery trails, and challenges accessing the park.

Additional barriers were raised in the “Other” category, covering a wide range of operational and user-specific concerns. Participants emphasized they experienced no barriers or felt no changes were needed. Among those who did note challenges, common themes included navigation issues such as poor conditions of trails and bridges or unclear trail information. Others raised concerns about development in the area and an increase in the number of users and conflicts between different user groups.

Please note: The survey initially asked participants to select five actions. Based on public feedback, it was updated to allow participants to select up to five actions.

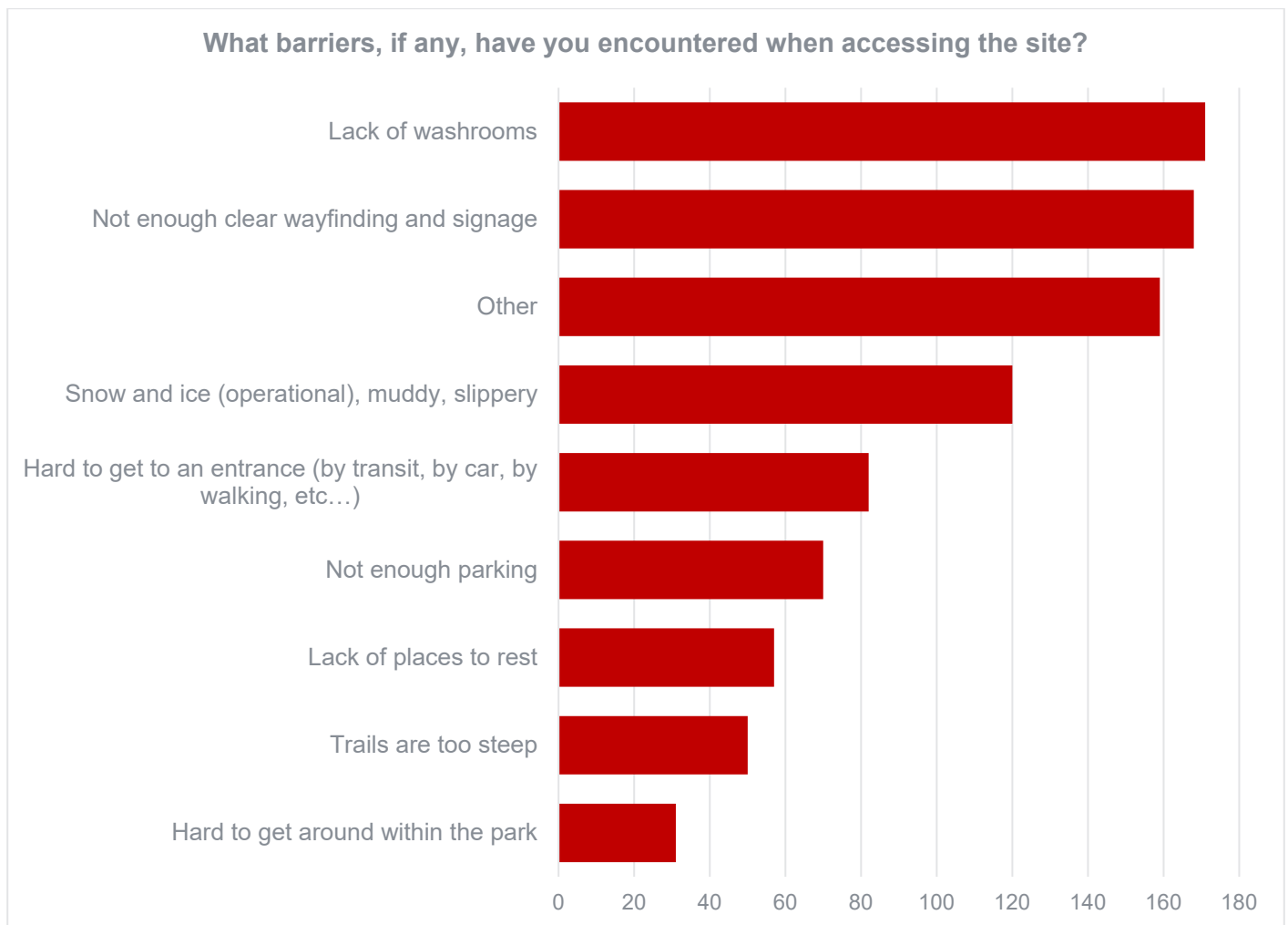


Figure 6 What barriers have you encountered?

Nature

What types of stewardship actions would you most support to help maintain and restore the park's natural environment?

Participants top five stewardship actions expressed strong support for actions focused on protecting wildlife and the natural environment, restoring trails and slopes with high erosion, and removing invasive species. There was also strong support for actions to protect water quality and plant native vegetation.

Please note: The survey initially asked participants to select five actions. Based on public feedback, it was updated to allow participants to select up to five actions.

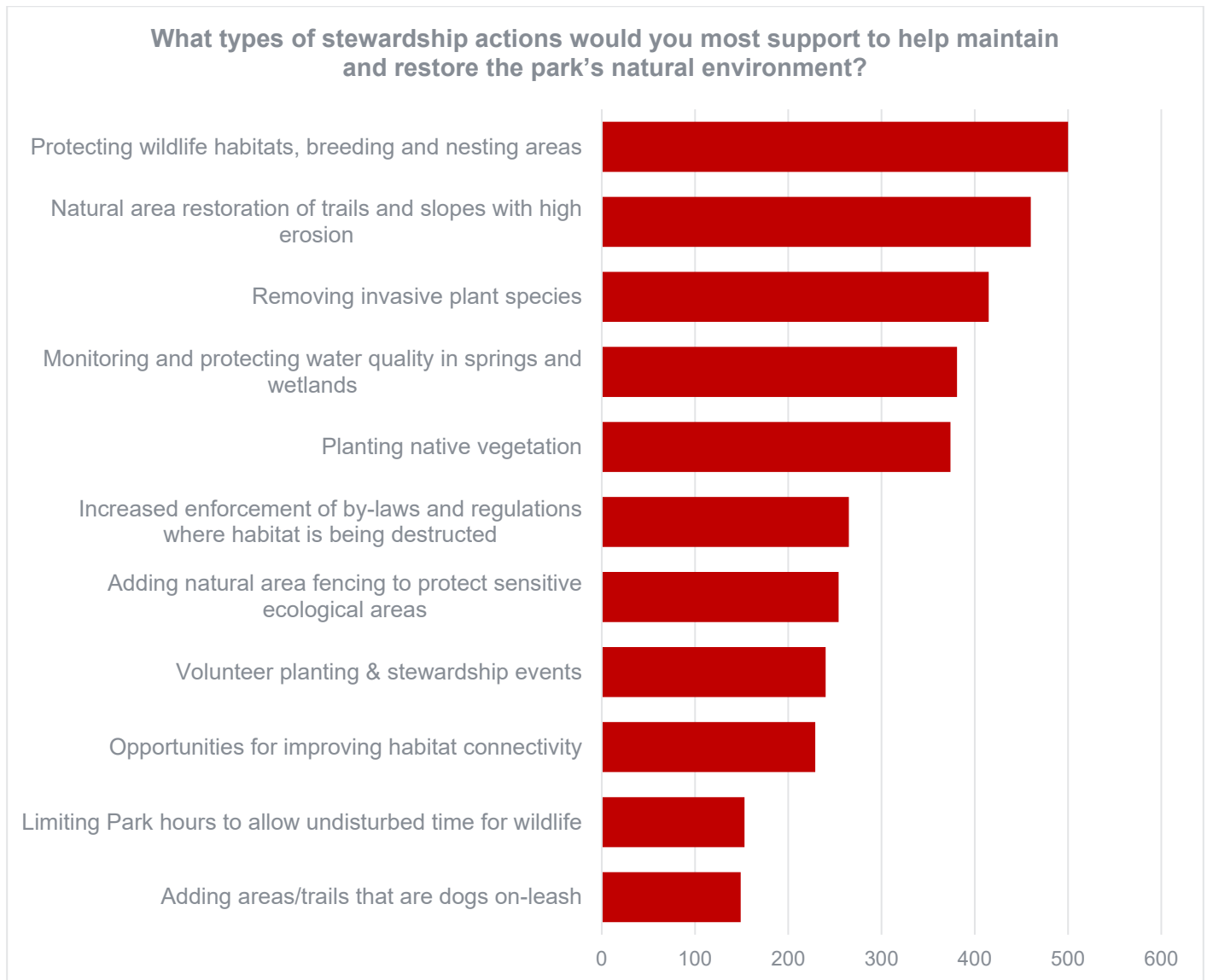


Figure 7 Stewardship Actions

Culture

How would you like to learn about the cultural significance and history of Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes?

Participants top five selections indicated strong support for story signs along trails, programs for schools and youth groups, interactive displays, online resources or virtual tours, and using meaningful materials and design elements in the landscape.

Please note: The survey initially asked participants to select five actions. Based on public feedback, it was updated to allow participants to select up to five actions.

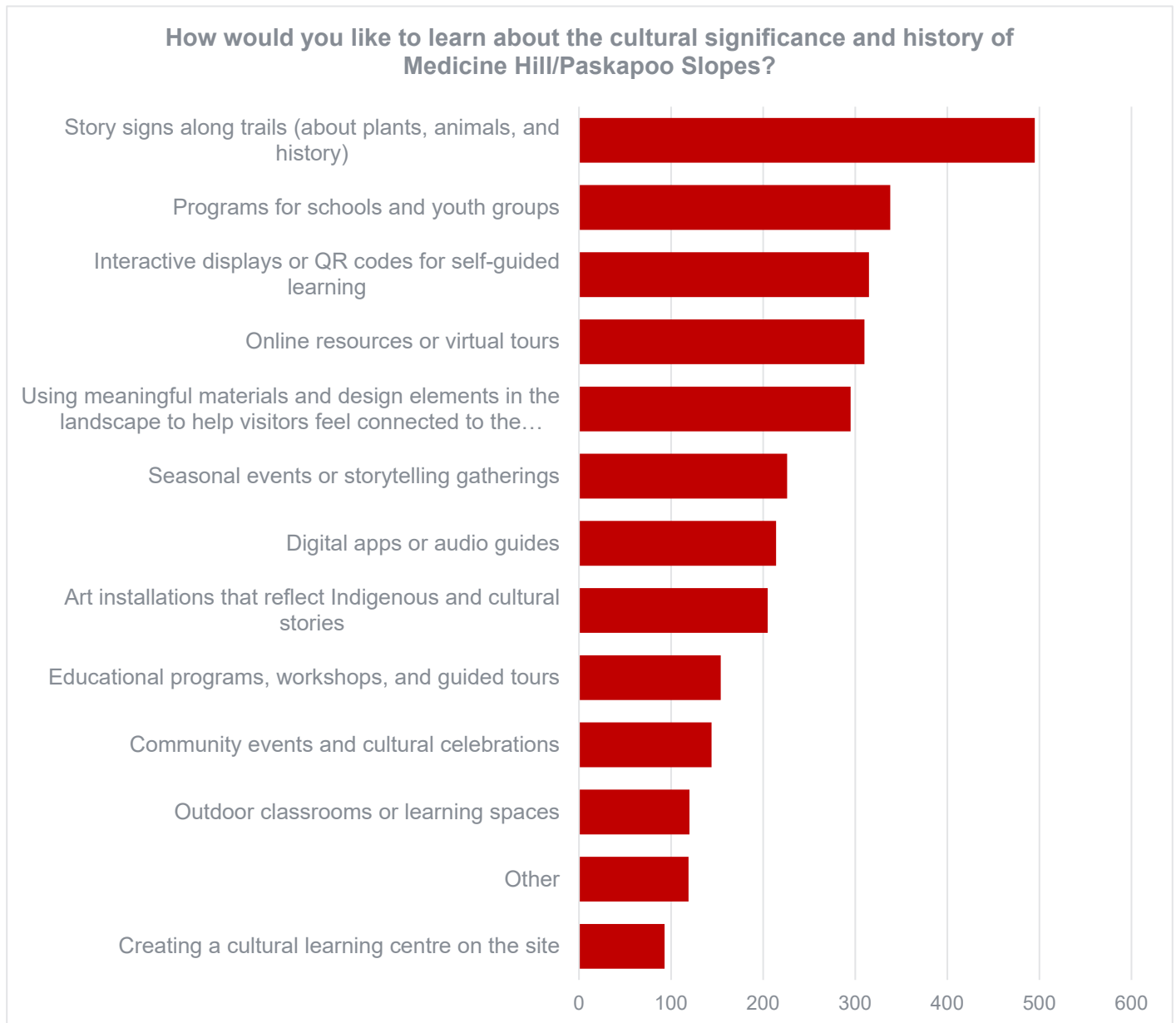


Figure 8 Learning about cultural significance

Education

What are you most interested in learning about?

Participants top five selections expressed their interest to learn about the park's natural history, including geological features, local plant and animal species, the site's archaeology and Indigenous connections and history.

Please note: The survey initially asked participants to select three actions. Based on public feedback, it was updated to allow participants to select up to three actions.

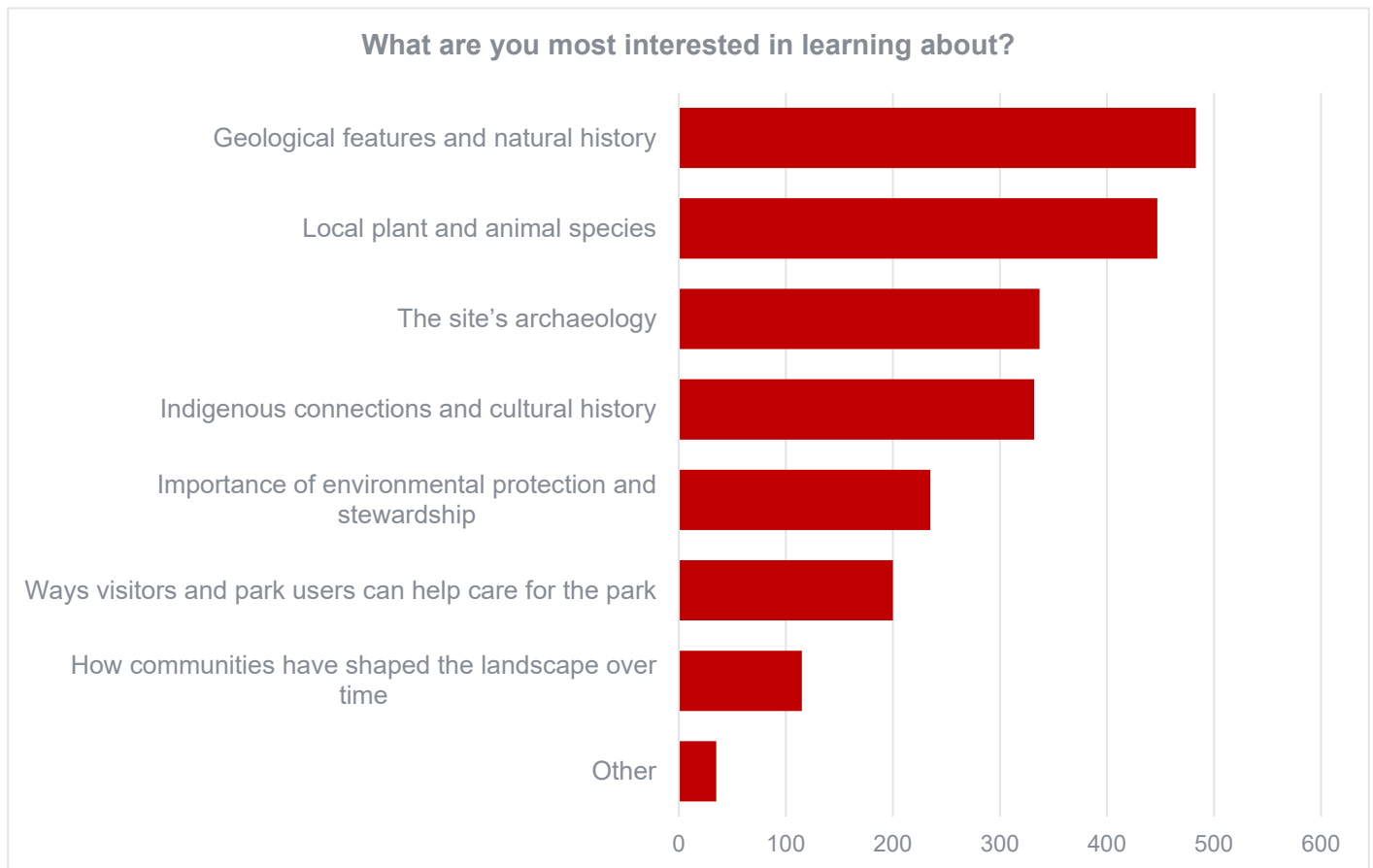


Figure 9 Interested in Learning

Together

Which values do you think are most important for shaping the future of Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes Regional Park?

The top five selections by participants expressed that supporting low-impact recreation such as hiking, walking, biking, and nature observation was important in shaping the future of the park. Other valued priorities included protecting sensitive ecological areas, encouraging stewardship and care for the land, and protecting archaeological areas.

Please note: The survey initially asked participants to select five actions. Based on public feedback, it was updated to allow participants to select up to five actions.

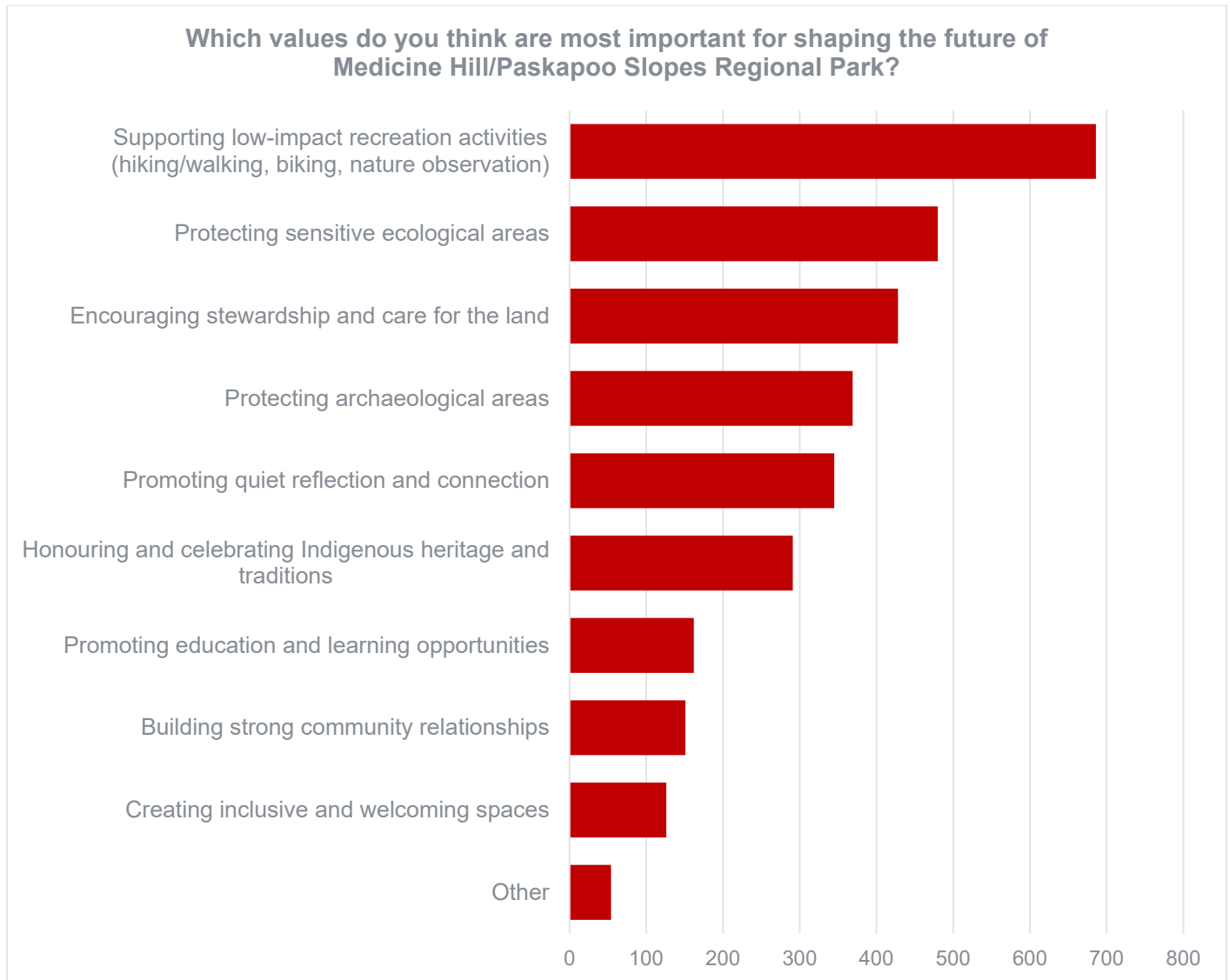


Figure 10 Values for shaping the future

Summary of Open-ended Questions and Key Themes

The following open-ended questions were included in the online survey and at in-person events to gather participants' perspectives on the future of Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes.

1. What ideas or suggestions do you have for protecting and caring for the natural environment of Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes as more people start visiting the park?
2. How can the cultural importance of this site be reflected in the future design and experience of the park?
3. What ideas or suggestions do you have on how the park can help people learn about its natural and cultural history?
4. What does a welcoming and inclusive park space look like to you?
5. Is there anything else you'd like us to know about the Medicine Hill/Paskapoo Slopes site?

Across these questions, the feedback received was highly consistent, with similar themes emerging throughout. To avoid repetition and provide a clearer picture of the results, the themes have been consolidated and are presented together in this section.

Preserve the natural character of the area

Participants emphasized the importance of preserving the natural character of Medicine Hill / Paskapoo Slopes and maintaining the area as wild and undeveloped, expressing strong support for keeping the park in its current state with a smaller number of calls to leave the park alone. They emphasized their appreciation for the site because it is a wild, natural space that allows them to connect with nature and experience peace and quiet in the city. Many suggested limiting development and minimizing human impact, expressing opposition to both past and future residential and commercial development, avoiding additional infrastructure such as paved pathways, parking lots, fences, tables, or washrooms, and purchasing private land to protect the area.

Verbatim Comments

"Paskapoo Slopes is a hidden, Narnia-like escape, its mystery and ruggedness make it magical. Protect it with a 'less is more' approach..."

"I love having a 'wild' area in the city, for people to get out and clear their minds by walking or biking... It's such a beautiful and close recreational area. Please don't let the excessive building encroach on this area. I don't think I it

needs a lot of maintenance, maybe a monthly visit to check on the area. There are local volunteers who do trail maintenance."

"Don't add picnic or rest areas, as this will attract too many people that already have other places to go (eg Bowness park is overrun with picnickers). Don't make the parking areas any bigger. Otherwise leave it as natural as it currently is so we can continue to enjoy it for hiking, biking, etc. Please don't overdevelop this natural area!"

Importance of natural area recreation

Participants emphasized the importance of the site for a range of recreational activities, including mountain biking, walking, running, snowshoeing and more. Many supported continuing these opportunities by preserving existing trails, improving the network and adding new features. At the same time, some respondents raised concerns around conflicts between users, safety and speed, and increased erosion as a result of recreational activities.

Verbatim Comments

"Please continue to support the area as a natural space for walking and mountain biking showshoeing and fat biking in the winter. Calgary is known as an outdoor recreation paradise but paving over spaces destroys the natural appeal"

"Unregulated mountain bikers cause the greatest habitat damage in this area. Limiting mountain

bikers to main trails and strict enforcement to prevent rampage of the hill. A well designed, low density peaceful nature walk within the park system for varying fitness level, with quiet rest areas along the path would offer a great experience for the visitors.”

“Multi-model recreation will be an central way that people connect to and use the park. This includes both high physical activity modes like mountain biking and trail running. But also quieter activities such as hiking and bird watching. Secondly there are a lot of families in this part of calgary. Including shorter "high interest" trails along the streams with bridges and rocks to clamber on will be highly valuable.”

Care and accountability for the park

Participants highlighted the importance of care and accountability in managing the park space. Many suggested stronger enforcement and user management action, including addressing illegal activities, enforcing bylaws, regulating trail use (e.g., e-bikes, unpermitted mountain biking, and trail building), and implementing user controls such as limited park hours or fees. Participants also emphasized stewardship and community involvement, including promoting park education, encouraging responsible use, supporting volunteerism and community-led events to care for and maintain the park, and partnering with organizations such as CMBA and COP. Cleanliness and waste management were also noted, with recommendations to install garbage bins, remove litter, and remove old structures.

Verbatim Comments

“Please partner with Calgary mountain Bike alliance who can support sustainable trail building and maintenance for bike trails”

“Preserve the park space and launch education methods to encourage visitor stewardship of the land Simple rules to enter like packing out your own garbage, staying on established trails. No off leash dogs & picking up poop...”

“As a local resident in Cougar Ridge, I would love volunteer opportunities to help with trail maintenance, habitat protection, removing invasive species, etc.”

Trail management and design

Participants provided a range of suggestions for managing trails at Medicine Hill and Paskapoo Slopes. Many emphasized thoughtful trail design, including mapping the trail network, designating trails for specific uses, and connecting the park to the city’s broader trail system. They also highlighted the importance of maintaining trails sustainably, such as keeping them natural, narrow, and surrounded by vegetation, rehabilitating existing trails to address erosion, drainage issues, and overgrowth. A smaller number of participants expressed a desire for upgrading and widening some pathways for accessibility and building bridges or walkways where needed. Some participants also recommended limiting the creation of new trails to reduce environmental impact.

Verbatim Comments

“There are trails that are already experiencing significant erosion. I would like to see some trail maintenance/re-routing to remedy that without losing the natural feel of the trails (ie keeping them hand built instead of machine built, not gravel)”

“Thoughtful trail layout and watercourse crossings. Most people will follow designated trails if they exist. Signage to educate...”

“The current natural protection works. The forested areas are so dense that it is too difficult for people to stray from the paths already created in this area. Additional human intervention, trying to ‘clear’ paths will only make it easier to disrupt the nature. The way these paths are, narrow and along thick vegetation, make it hard for people to disrupt the forested areas.”

Wildlife and ecosystem protection

Participants emphasized the protection of wildlife and the broader ecosystem at the site. Key

suggestions included prioritizing wildlife preservation through maintaining and enhancing wildlife corridors and nesting areas. Restoring and preserving habitats, restricting access to sensitive areas, and encouraging users not to go off trail were common suggestions to address issues such as erosion and climate change. Respondents also highlighted the importance of preserving biodiversity and native vegetation, managing invasive species, and protecting water sources.

Verbatim Comments

“Ensure that the plants and animals are protected by limiting access to various areas”

“I would just like to prioritization of biodiversity, and restoration of damaged areas.”

“I think native vegetation planting and removing invasive plants would be perfect. Checking out places of erosion would be nice too”

Signage

Participants provided suggestions regarding the use of signage at Medicine Hill / Paskapoo Slopes. Many highlighted the importance of signage, including wayfinding and trail markers, educational signs on Indigenous history, stewardship, ecological significance and wildlife, as well as behavioral signs promoting respectful trail use and adherence to access restrictions. A smaller number of respondents preferred minimal or no signage, or suggested specific locations for placement, such as at access points to the park and trail heads.

Verbatim Comments

“Lots of signage and learning opportunities, information about initiatives that protect the natural environment in the area, information to learn about Indigenous significant areas”

“Signage is very important. Perhaps inclusion of Website / QR-Codes to First Nations commentary regarding this area and/or other similar areas. QR-Codes could also link to websites providing more detail as to the area's flora and fauna...”

“Personally I feel that informational signs will take away from the natural feel of the park. I think it should be limited to a sign at the parking lot or one small interpretive trail, or kept as an online resource”

Infrastructure and amenities

Suggestions for additional infrastructure included adding amenities such as washrooms, picnic areas, and seating, installing barriers or fencing to manage trails and park areas, and creating or designating parking areas to support park access and use. However, some responses emphasized that infrastructure and amenities should be developed thoughtfully taking into consideration the wild, natural state of the area.

Verbatim Comments

“Pathways of crushed gravel vs asphalt. Benches and info QR signs. Minimal eye sores. Washroom only available at parking lots. Animal proof garbage containers. Well designed pathways. (Do not lead to short cuts, etc.)”

“A couple of main trails could be made a bit more accessible for elderly people, including a bench or two along the way. A water fountain and a toilet could be a great addition”

Cultural interpretation

Participants emphasized that the park's design and educational initiatives about the site's cultural significance should be guided by those with existing cultural knowledge and practices. Many highlighted the importance of engaging directly with Indigenous Nations, with initiatives led by Indigenous Peoples. Suggestions included incorporating cultural design elements, such as Indigenous naming or ceremonies. Respondents also noted the value of community gatherings and programs, including guided tours and school trips, to support learning and connection. A smaller number of respondents expressed that cultural interpretation is not needed in the park.

Verbatim Comments

“Closing the park quarterly basis for Indigenous ceremony and land use, forming Indigenous

advisory panels and committees, allowing for Indigenous communities to lead the design and construction of the park.

“Incorporate Indigenous place names, storytelling elements, and languages on signs and interpretive displays. Create spaces for ceremony, reflection, and cultural programming led by Treaty 7 and Métis community members. Design trails and lookouts in consultation with Elders to align with cultural values. Feature art, sculpture, and architecture that honours both Indigenous and Buddhist connections to the site. Ensure co-management roles so cultural stewardship is ongoing and visible...”

“... School field trips, youth volunteer corps. Aboriginal interpreter events and other initiatives to build respect for history”

What people want to learn about the park

Many participants expressed support for educational programming to help visitors learn about the park’s natural and cultural history, through both through online and in-person tactics. Participants highlighted a variety of topics they would like to learn about in the park. These included proper park usage guidelines, the ecological and natural history of the area, the cultural importance of the site, conservation and stewardship practices, the history of the site, including colonial history, and recreational opportunities. A smaller number indicated they were indifferent or disagreed with including education as a focus within the park, emphasizing that the land speaks for itself.

Verbatim comments

“Provide more educational initiatives that teach people how to interact with the park in a way that helps nature and uses humans as stewards in the eco system”

“Info boards or online resources accessible from the park or directly online about the cultural and spiritual history and current status, present natural

history (plant and animal species and geological features), threats and opportunities to all of that”

“Create a learning hub. Employ Elders, archeologists, and geologists to help park users learn about the importance of the site”

Ways to learn about the park

Participants suggested a variety of additional ways to support learning in the park. Popular ideas included educational signage, educational workshops or guided activities, Indigenous-led programming, school trips and youth-focused programs, and guided walks. Other suggestions included using digital tools and creating an interpretive or cultural center to encourage education, highlighting art or other architecture, and offering self-guided cultural interpretation, allowing visitors to engage with the park at their own pace.

Verbatim Comments

“Put up signs and a walking loop, kinda like the bird sanctuary. QR codes to expand more than what the sign has (maybe videos, etc)”

“Create a booklet online to identify plants, and explain the cultural history. Have free guided walks, with small groups. Encourage iNaturalist work in the park”

“Signage and an interpretive center to help people learn and relate that information to their experience on the Paskapoo Slopes. Educational and interpretive walks and seminars on the Slopes with experts or volunteers. This would include classroom visits for students”

Dogs in the park

Participants expressed mixed perspectives on dogs at Medicine Hill / Paskapoo Slopes. Some supported designated off-leash opportunities, emphasizing responsible pet ownership, habitat protection measures, and noting they had not personally experienced problems. Others opposed off-leash use, citing wildlife disturbance, negative encounters, waste, enforcement challenges, and habitat damage. Both groups

stressed the importance of clear trail designations, visible signage and adequate waste facilities to ensure dogs are well managed.

Verbatim Comments

“Limit dog use, they destroy environments and owners do not pick up after them. So many good areas in Calgary destroyed by over-use with dogs and too many offleash areas”

“Please keep the park off leash for dogs. It’s an incredible place for our entire family and community to meet and be in nature together”

“The area must be on-leash only for dogs! I never feel safe being on my bike or hiking when off-leash dogs come running towards me around a blind corner or open space on the trails!”



Next Steps

The project team will review the feedback received and incorporate it into early concept designs for the park which will be shared for public input during Phase 2 engagement in Winter 2026. Engagement will continue with key interest holders, Indigenous Nations and Métis, to help guide the next stages of planning.

A preferred design concept will be brought forward for Phase 3 engagement in Spring-Summer 2026. Alongside this process, a Habitat Management Plan will be developed to ensure ecological protection. The work will conclude with the creation of a Final Master Plan in Summer 2026, which will include a phasing and implementation plan to guide how the project moves forward.



Appendices

Appendix A: Explanation - Verbatim comments and quotes

Verbatim comments and quotes, including all feedback, suggestions, comments and messages that were collected online and in-person through the engagement, in a Verbatim Report. All input has been reviewed and provided to Project Teams to be considered in decision making for the project.

Any personal identifying information has been removed from the verbatim comments presented here. Comments or portions of comments that contain profanity, or that are not in compliance with The [City's Respectful Workplace Policy](#) or [Online Tool Moderation Practice](#), have also been removed from participant submissions.

Wherever possible the remainder of the submissions remains. No other edits to the feedback have been made, and the verbatim comments are as received. As a result, some of the content in this verbatim record may still be considered offensive or distasteful to some readers.

Appendix B: Explanation – Engagement at The City

"Engagement" at The City of Calgary is defined as: Purposeful dialogue between The City and citizens and interest-holders to gather information to influence decision making.

Engagement is:

- **Citizen-centric** - focusing on hearing the needs and voices of both directly impacted and indirectly impacted Calgarians.
- **Accountable** - upholding the commitments that The City makes to Calgarians and other interested and impacted parties by demonstrating that the results and outcomes of the engagement processes are consistent with the approved plans for engagement.
- **Inclusive** - making best efforts to reach, involve and hear from those who are impacted directly or indirectly.
- **Committed** - allocating sufficient time and resources for effective engagement of citizens and interest-holders.
- **Responsive** - acknowledging Calgarian's and other interested and impacted parties' concerns; and
- **Transparent** - providing clear and complete information around decision processes, procedures, and constraints.

The City's commitment to transparent and inclusive engagement processes is outlined in the [Engage Policy \(CS009\)](#).

Appendix E: Explanation – Research versus Engagement

Engagement is a professional discipline that incorporates a variety of methodologies to gather people's opinions and views on specific issues or topics, to provide information for decision making. Engagement often involves two-way dialogues or conversations with the objective of gaining a deeper understanding of the issues.

Unlike Research, Engagement opportunities are inclusive and usually open to all interested parties who would like to have a say about the issue or topic at hand. The outputs of Engagement activities are descriptive and provide a deeper understanding of the views and sentiments of the participants. The nature of these inclusive techniques mean that information collected is directional and, as with qualitative research, cannot be generalized to the larger population.

Engagement at The City of Calgary is defined as purposeful dialogue between The City and interest-holders to gather information to influence decision making. More specifically, the Engage Resource Unit works with project teams at The City to meet project needs and ensure citizens have their say about those projects.

The City has a six-step process for engagement with citizens:

1. Assess the need for engagement.
 2. Develop a plan – determine engagement roadmap and budget.
 3. Tell the story – create content to inform and educate interest-holders.
 4. Raise awareness – promote opportunities for interest-holders to participate.
 5. Connect – open opportunities for interest-holders to provide input.
 6. Report back and evaluate – loop back to share what was heard and what was done with stakeholder input.
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- Engagement is not meant to be a representative sample of interest-holders while quantitative Research methodologies are designed so that the data collected from a randomly selected sample of individuals is considered to be statistically representative of the larger population.
 - Research seeks answers to questions that are important to The City and looks to represent the views of Calgary's population using analytical and statistical methods. Engagement seeks feedback on issues that are important to citizen groups and looks to reflect perspectives of those citizens that are most interested or impacted by City activities.