

Calgary



Discovery Ridge Dam Safety Project

What We Heard Report

June 2026



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Project background

The Discovery Ridge dam is an earthfill structure that retains water in a pond. The pond, or trap low, collects water from a groundwater spring and local surface runoff. The dam was constructed in the 1950s for agricultural purposes. When the community was developed in the early 2000s, the dam and pond remained. Water from the pond flows under Discovery Ridge Boulevard, through Griffith Woods Park and into the Elbow River. No stormwater pipes discharge into the pond.

Following provincial regulatory changes in recent years and as part of The City's Pond Maintenance and Dam Safety Programs, engineering and condition assessments were completed on the dam. The Dam Safety Review, completed in 2024, outlined several deficiencies with the dam. We took action to address critical deficiency by lowering the pond's water level in Spring 2024.

The City explored long-term options and has since made the decision to remove the dam based on risks to public safety. That said, this is a valuable natural park space and it will be reimaged with community input in mind.

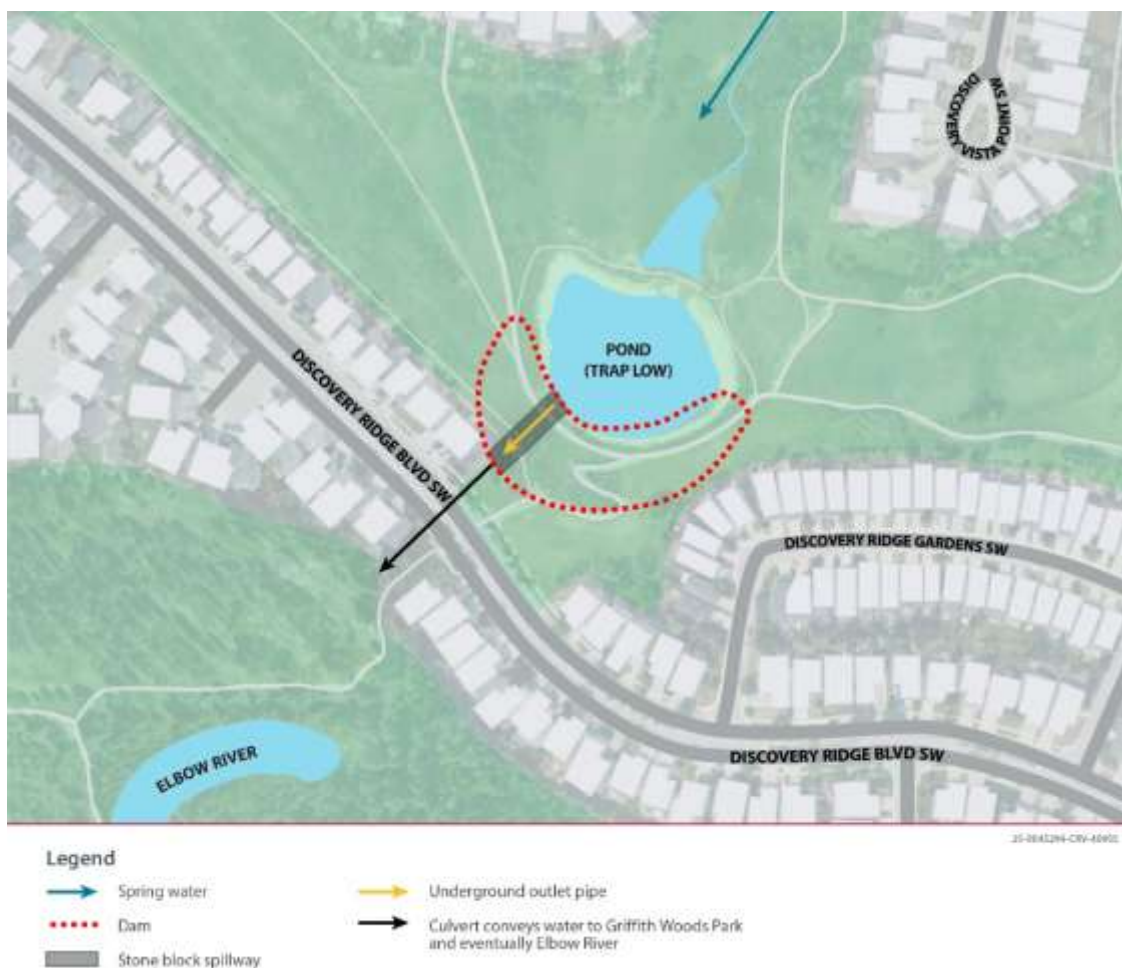


Image shows existing conditions.



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Project vision

The objective of this project is to address the dam safety risk while restoring natural habitat and ensuring the community continues to have a space to enjoy. The project is currently in the conceptual design phase. Two concepts have been developed: a natural channel and a wetland system. Larger bodies of water are not feasible because the dam must be removed. Both concepts allow water to flow naturally through the area while meeting the project's technical requirements.

Engagement objectives

This section of the report summarizes the strategies used to inform and engage the public. Public engagement for this project had two primary objectives:

- Build community awareness of why this project is important and share the vision for the future of the park space.
- Capture a range of community perspectives through online and in-person opportunities for sharing feedback.

Engagement sought to collect feedback on how people used the space and the most important site elements to them, as well as gathering feedback on two proposed concepts. The two concepts proposed were a Ravine concept and a Wetland concept.

The project team also encouraged participants to upload any other inspiring ideas they might have from similar spaces.

Engagement overview

Public engagement ran between May 4 and May 25, 2026. The project used the engagement website and an in-person event to gather feedback and answer questions from the public.

Online: The online [Discovery Ridge Dam Safety Project](#) engagement portal page, in combination with the [project page](#), gave an overview of the project and the background. It explained outcomes and concepts being proposed. It also contained details on previous information sessions that had been held by The City in 2025 and 2026. The site provided an opportunity for participants to select from a variety of options on how they use the space, what the most important site elements were, their preferences and suggestions for the two proposed concepts: Ravine and Wetland and preference for the area at the bottom of the slope. It also allowed users to upload their own inspiring ideas, or ideas from similar spaces.

The online portal received 964 visits, during which 284 contributions were left.

In-Person: An in-person event was held on May 13 at Ambrose University. 27 people attended and were asked questions, providing over 100 unique comments.



May 13 In-Person Engagement (photo provided by Dr. Stephen Jeans).



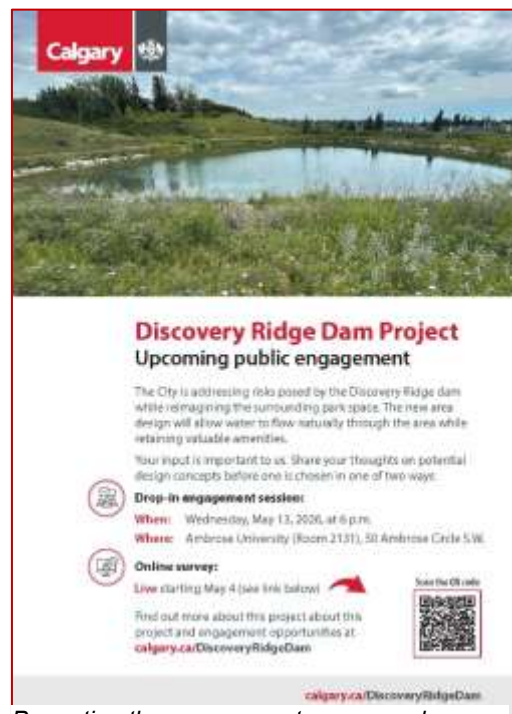
May 13 In-Person Engagement (photo provided by Dr. Stephen Jeans).

Communications overview

Communications to encourage engagement participation took place leading up to and during the online engagement period. New sandwich boards with QR codes linking to the Engage portal were placed around the park space, providing users with a chance to immediately take the survey while it was top of mind. A postcard was also developed to promote the drop-in engagement session and the online survey. It was delivered to 1100 households in Discovery Ridge. A bold sign promoting engagement was placed near the entrance to the community from April 30 to May 25.

An invitation was also sent concurrently to those subscribed to the project's email list (established at previous events and with online signups), approximately 105 people with an 80% open rate.

Prior to the engagement period, City representatives also met with the Discovery Ridge Community Association and Homeowner's Association to discuss the project. These organizations also spread the word about engagement activities to their audiences.



Promoting the engagement survey and session. Above: postcard. Below: Bold sign.

What we asked and what we heard

The following section summarizes what we asked and what we heard. It outlines the types of questions posed and is intended only to illustrate the distribution of responses; it should not be interpreted as a voting mechanism. The comments and responses reflect a wide range of perspectives. The feedback illustrated that people use the space primarily for walking, resting and biking. The stone spillway, creek, trees and viewpoints are all viewed as being quite important to participants.

Overall, common themes that arose from the open-ended questions were an appreciation for the natural appearance of concepts, a focus on the importance of pathways and walkability, the importance of a water feature in the area and the appreciation of the site as an important habitat for animals and plants.

From the open-ended feedback, there were comments in all sections indicating that people would like more information on the impacts of any changes on hydrology, animal habitats and insect and weed management. There was also a large number who did not understand the need to remove the pond, indicating that there was a desire to understand exactly why it could not be kept, repaired or rebuilt in a sustainable manner.



Feedback from the Ravine concept:

Feedback on the Ravine concept did not reveal any dominant themes across responses. While one of the most noted perspectives was an overall dislike of the design, several respondents with more specific views highlighted several positive aspects to the design, including:

- An appreciation for the natural appearance of the design
- Positive feedback regarding the inclusion of the water feature (stream)
- Perceptions that it would help restore the area to historic conditions
- Favourable comments relating to the views, pathways and walkability

Suggestions for improving the Ravine concept included:

- Adding vegetation, be it trees or shrubbery
- Enhancing the water feature on the site
- Integrating into the design some type of pool or pond
- Improving the potential habitat, especially for birds and waterfowl
- Recreation and amenity recommendations

Feedback from the Wetlands concept:

Feedback on the wetlands concept was significantly more positive, with many comments highlighting:

- An appreciation of the potential for improved habitats for animals and plants
- Supportive of the water feature (wetland pond)
- Positive feedback regarding the aesthetic, natural appearance and similarity to current condition

A smaller number of comments indicated explicit sentiment towards the concept that consisted of a mix of comments that either:

- Preferred the Wetland concept over the Ravine concept
- Or did not like the Wetland concept

Suggestions for improving the Wetlands concept included:

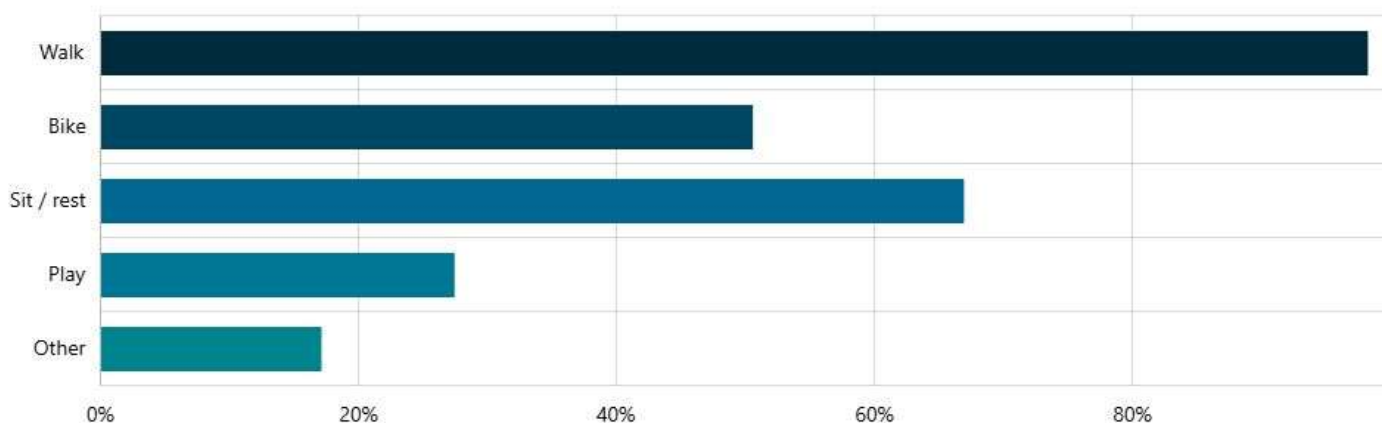
- Adding vegetation, be it trees or shrubbery
- Enhancing the water feature on the site
- Maintenance and risk management
- Recreation and amenity recommendations
- Improving the potential habitat, especially for birds and waterfowl

Questions we asked (Online)

We have summarized the main themes that were most prevalent in the comments received for each question asked. The comments displayed are verbatim responses provided by participants. For the sample comments shown below, in some cases, only the applicable excerpt of a comment that spoke to a particular theme was utilized. A comprehensive list of all verbatim comments in their entirety is included in the “Verbatim comments” section.

Question #1: How do you use this space? Select all that apply.

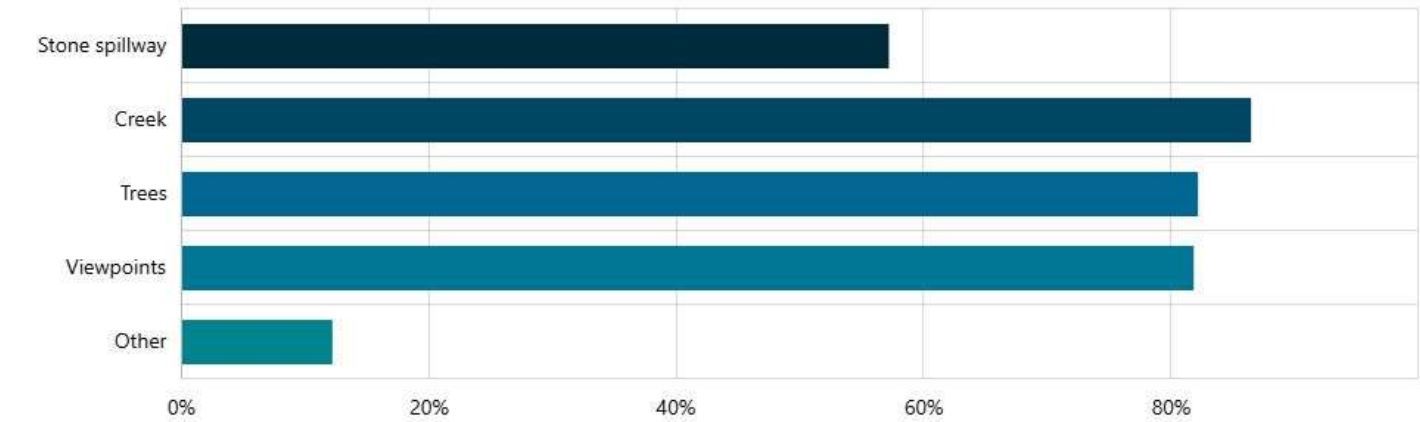
- Walk
- Bike
- Sit/rest
- Play
- Other



For those who selected “Other”, the primary focus was on passive enjoyment of nature including activities such as birdwatching, observing wildlife (deer, waterfowl etc.) and an appreciation of the scenery. There were also comments regarding light recreation such as dog walking, kids play and exploration.

Question 2: Which of the elements of the existing space, aside from the pond, are most important to you? Select all that apply.

Stone Spillway	Creek	Trees	Viewpoints
			
Other			



Those who selected “Other” focused on protecting and maintaining wildlife habitats, with some indicating this should be done by preserving a pond on site. Many participants believe the current pond or wetland serves as a core feature and have concerns about losing it. Other comments mentioned the importance of pathways and connections to the neighbourhood, as well as amenities like benches and scenery.

Question 3: What do you like about the Ravine concept?

Ravine concept: This concept creates a continuous path for the groundwater spring to flow through the natural area. This concept aligns to the historic conditions before the dam was built and when the groundwater spring flowed directly to the Elbow River. Pathway connections are retained with new alignments.



Image illustrates the Ravine Concept plan view



Image illustrates Ravine Concept perspective view

Theme	Summary	Sample comment
Major themes		
Natural appearance	- Preserve a natural, green appearance with minimal change - Support natural water flow and historic conditions - Keep the space organic, not man-made - Maintain views and blend with surroundings	<i>“Retains some of the natural feel of the area.”</i> <i>“More green space. Simple and seems like nature created it, not ‘man-made’”</i> <i>“Retains the views of (moving) water and natural grasslands”</i>
Some dislike the design	- Explicit rejection; many say “nothing” or dislike the concept entirely - Seen as empty, boring, or lacking value compared to the current pond	<i>“Nothing. It ruins the whole area and doesn’t consider the birds and wildlife. That pond is/was home to many animals and fish”</i> <i>“I do not like it. It takes away the character of part of the community and</i>

	Concerns about loss of wildlife habitat and community character	<i>will severely effect wildlife and biodiversity</i> <i>"I don't like it"</i>
Appreciate water feature	- Strong preference for retaining visible, flowing water (stream/creek) as a key feature - Value placed on sensory and visual benefits (sound, movement, views of water) - Desire to maintain or maximize water presence, though some feel it's a downgrade from the pond	<i>"It blends in with the current landscape which I like. It would be nice to have a small stream flow though the area."</i> <i>"I love the idea of it being a natural-esque water feature down the hill."</i> <i>"Allows more green space for people to explore, allows better interaction with the creek and represents the historic flow."</i>
Pathways and walkability	- Participants like that paths are kept and connected better across the site - It still feels easy and pleasant to walk through, with views along the way - New links (like bridges and slope connections) improve access between areas	<i>"I appreciate the added pathways linking the ridge to the lower section. The City approved this development as a walkable community."</i> <i>"I like that the existing pathways are there and a bridge. Still want it to be walkable and scenic with wildlife areas"</i> <i>"paved path, bridge, connecting pathways."</i>
Restoration to historic conditions	- Support for returning the site to its original, pre-development condition - Emphasis on restoring historic water flow and natural drainage patterns	<i>"Reestablishes historic conditions and natural drainage"</i> <i>"Follows the natural condition before the dam was built."</i> <i>"Aligns to historic conditions"</i>
Great views	Strong focus on keeping and protecting existing views across the site	<i>"the "viewing node" and open space plus addition of new pathways."</i>

	Preference for open, unobstructed sightlines with nothing blocking views	<i>"Natural look, good views"</i> <i>"I like it especially view"</i>
Other recurring themes	- Like the open spaces - Would prefer to keep pond - Like or dislike the aesthetic - Like the bridge and benches	
Other comments	- Feel project is unclear or have further questions - Think Ravine has wildlife potential - Think Ravine may be safer - Like Ravine's simplicity - Feel it has better mosquito mitigation - Feel it has poor value for cost	

Question 4: What could improve the Ravine concept?

Theme	Summary	Sample comment
Major themes		
Added vegetation	- Strong desire for more trees throughout, especially along the creek and ravine - Emphasis on native vegetation and natural planting to support wildlife - Interest in shrubs, wildflowers and diverse planting to improve habitat and visual appeal	<i>"More trees in the ravine would improve the look and feel."</i> <i>"...retaining and reestablishing native, natural environment."</i> <i>"More trees and wildflowers."</i>
Enhancing the water feature	- Strong preference for keeping or adding a pond to support birds, fish and wildlife - Desire for more water overall, including larger bodies, deeper pools and wider streams	<i>"Must have significant pools of water - even if smaller than the existing pond...."</i> <i>"I would like to see the stream be a little wider to allow for small ponds of water."</i>

Preservation or integration of pond or pools	• Strong preference to keep or restore the existing pond, seen as a defining feature • Ponds are valued for supporting wildlife (birds, fish, biodiversity) • Concern that without pooling water, wildlife will disappear	<i>“Don’t build it. Improve the infrastructure for the pond. better but it’s not a pond”</i> <i>“There must be a large enough pond to support the biodiversity using it and maintain an integral part of Discoverys character and appeal.”</i>
Physical design refinements	• Strong focus on better path design (paved vs. dirt) to reduce erosion and improve access • Requests for refined layout elements like bridges, viewpoints, seating and flatter usable areas • Interest in more natural shaping (meandering creek, wider sections, better placement of features)	<i>“Why have a bridge so close to the bottom path? That makes no sense, put the bridge up higher...”</i> <i>“...Provide an asphalt connection to the upper trail leading back to Discovery Ridge Hill. This is the most heavily use trail in the area.”</i> <i>“Wider with foot bridges”</i>
Recreation or amenity requests	• Strong interest in more seating and social spaces (benches, picnic areas, viewpoints) • Requests for family-friendly amenities, like play areas, natural playground elements and tobogganing space • Recurring asks for off-leash dog space and other community-use amenities	<i>“Put useful sitting areas near the ravine. “</i> <i>“Add it a few areas that kids can play in and adults can sit and supervise/enjoy the view in the summer. Can we have an area where we can toboggan in the winter as this would be perfect for that”</i> <i>“Fence off a section to be designated as an official off-leash dog park for DR?”</i>
Habitat improvements	• Strong focus on supporting wildlife habitat, especially for birds, fish and amphibians	<i>“Increase the amount of water for wildlife and birds...”</i>

	• Calls for more water features (ponds, pooling areas) to sustain biodiversity • Concern that the current concept reduces habitat quality and could drive wildlife away	<i>“A few large boulders for birds to perch on and for small mammals to use for hunting and viewing.”</i> <i>“Consideration to existing water fowl & fish”</i>
Other themes	• Feel project is unclear or have further questions • Have nothing to add or left comments covered in other areas • Mitigation and risk mitigation (weeds and hydrology) • Landscaping requests	

Question 5: What do you like about the Wetland concept?

Wetland concept: This concept allows for water to pool as the groundwater spring flows through the natural area. The shallow pooling may encourage plant and animal species to take residence in the small wetlands. Pathway connections are retained with new alignments.



Image illustrates the Wetland Concept plan view



Image illustrates Ravine Concept perspective view

Theme	Summary	Sample comment
Major themes		
Wetlands retain or have potential for habitats	- Seen as keeping water on site, which is viewed as helping maintain habitat for birds, amphibians and other wildlife - Provides familiar habitat conditions, especially for waterfowl used to ponds and wetlands - Creates layered, natural ecosystems (pools, marshes, vegetation) that better support wildlife overall	<i>“Retains wetland habitat for the numerous birds and others that use”</i> <i>“It might make it more attractive for the waterfowl to remain in the neighbourhood (we note a lot of geese and ducks coming and going from the current pond)”</i> <i>“Looks a better fit for the area and the wildlife that it sustains. Including birds, deer, insects, coyotes and aquatic life...”</i>

Appreciate the water feature	• People like that the design keeps water as a visible feature, rather than removing it entirely • Preference for multiple water elements (ponds, pools, wetlands) that feel closer to the existing pond • Feel water adds interest, movement and something to gather around in the area	<i>“Looks much nicer with more water. It will attract more aquatic species which is great.”</i> <i>“Potential for more biodiversity. Incorporates both a stream/creek and a wetland.”</i> <i>“The wetland concept is aesthetic as a natural environment. It will attract more flora and fauna variety than a simple stream and is capable of cleaning water before it enters the Elbow as well as absorbing water level fluctuations.”</i>
Some prefer the design	• Preference for the wetland option as better than the ravine, even if not perfect • Seen as more interesting and visually appealing, with more going on in the landscape • Favoured because it keeps water and habitat, which the ravine option lacks • For some, it's the top or default choice, even among those who still prefer keeping the pond	<i>“I like this concept more because it creates more habitat for plants and animals.”</i> <i>“I like the idea of having a wetland concept that will support the wildlife...”</i> <i>“Some semblance of the water still remains so prefer this option”</i>
Some dislike the design	• Some say they don't like anything about the design • Seen as ugly, swampy, or messy, with concerns it will look like a bog or “puddles” • Frequent worries about mosquitoes, bugs and stagnant water • Some feel it's a clear downgrade from the existing pond	<i>“Don't like it, would create more bugs in the area”</i> <i>“I don't like this concept. Would prefer the ravine or stream concept. This wetland has too much opportunity for pooling water and associated wildlife. Already enough wetland concept in the Griffith's Woods park space.”</i>

		<i>"I don't like anything about it. It's worse than the ravine concept."</i>
Like the aesthetic and natural design	- Some find it more visually interesting and engaging than a simple ravine - Appreciated for its natural look and form	<i>"Area for wildlife, there's water and it's more aesthetically pleasing than the ravine."</i> <i>"I prefer this! This looks very appealing and calm."</i>
Feel it better reflects the current status	- Seen as closer to what's there today, keeping a similar look and feel - Appreciated for retaining water, so it doesn't feel like a complete change - Helps support existing wildlife, rather than disrupting current patterns	<i>"It allows for the wildlife that already use the area"</i> <i>"Similar to existing pond, possibilities for animals to be present"</i> <i>"Better reflects the current amenity value/characteristics."</i>
Other recurring themes	- Feel project is unclear or have further questions - Dislike the aesthetic - Want the pond to stay - Are concerned about increased mosquitos	
Other comments	- Weed management - Lacking trees - Great views - Pathways and walkability - Maintenance / risks	

Question 6: What could improve the Wetland concept?

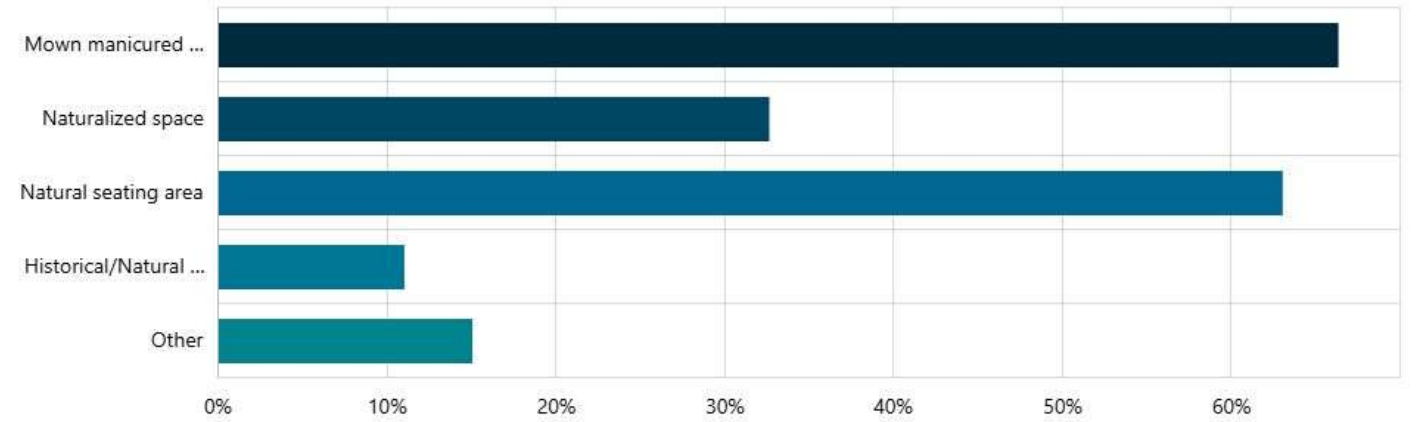
Theme	Summary	Sample comment
Major themes		
Added vegetation	Strong call for more trees throughout, both for shade and to attract birds and wildlife	<i>"Planting of more trees (native to area)"</i>

	• Preference for native planting (trees, shrubs, wildflowers) to keep a natural look • Some want better placement and maintenance, including replacing dead growth and managing invasive plants	<i>"More trees and shrubs in the plan please."</i> <i>"Maybe a few trees could be planted to attract more birds to the area."</i>
Enhancement of water feature	• A push for larger, deeper ponds and pooling areas, not small or shallow features • Desire for more water overall, with bigger wetlands that feel substantial and usable • Interest in connected water features (series of ponds, meandering streams, etc.) • Concerns that current designs are too small, may dry out, or won't support wildlife long-term	<i>"Larger ponds - these will be dry and mucky in the summer. This will turn them into an eyesore and also not be suitable for habitat with current size."</i> <i>"Ensure small pools are large enough to attract water fowl."</i> <i>"Increase amount of water in wetland concept"</i>
Maintenance and risk mitigation	• Concern that it will turn into a swampy, buggy area, especially with mosquitoes and stagnant water • Worries about ongoing maintenance, including weeds, invasive species and the space becoming overgrown or messy • Questions about water management and risk, including flooding, ice buildup and water quality	<i>"Too much opportunity for mosquitoes"</i> <i>"More complex to execute, possibly more fragile and more difficult to maintain."</i> <i>"We have many beavers in the area. Is there a risk that beavers will cause this area to flood?..."</i>
Recreation and amenity requests	• Strong interest in more seating and gathering spaces (benches, viewpoints, picnic-style areas) • Requests for walkability features like bridges,	<i>"...Add a few more benches or natural seating areas for people to rest and enjoy the area."</i>

	boardwalks and improved pathways Recurring asks for multi-use features, like dog areas, fishing spots and possible interaction with the water	<i>"Add a few more features, sandstone boulders along a wall or two, benches along creek"</i> <i>"Making it off leash dog park"</i>
Some prefer a pond over a wetland	- Preference to keep the existing pond, with many wanting no change at all - Seen as a proven, functional feature, especially for wildlife and water management - Some suggest upgrading or reinforcing the dam rather than replacing it - Wetland options are often viewed as a downgrade, especially compared to the current pond's depth and usability	<i>"Nothing. Pond should remain as is"</i> <i>"Why not look at strengthening /changing the dam to remove the risk and keep the water body as suggested with >1.5 safety factor."</i> <i>"Leave the current structure. The pond is functional for animals and for fire hazards."</i>
Other themes	- Feel project is unclear or have further questions - Pathways and access - Have nothing to add or left comments covered in other areas - Physical design refinements - Landscaping requests	

Question 7: At the bottom of the slope, the grass is currently a mown manicured space. In the new space, what would you like to see in this area?

Mown manicured space for open play (current condition)	Naturalized space (example: Ideas include a pollinator garden, meadow, grassland)	Natural seating area	Historical/Natural Interpretive signage
			
Other			



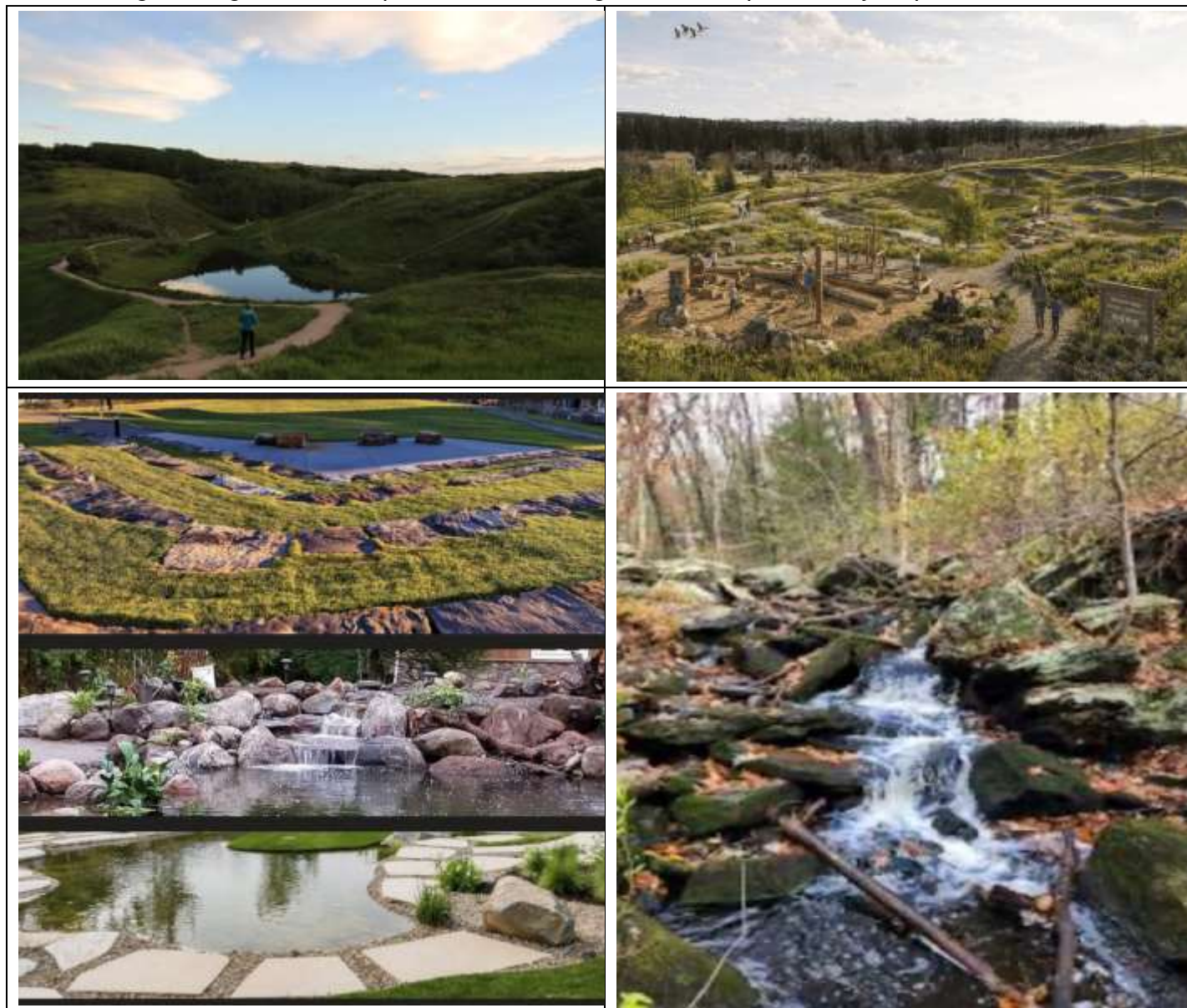
For those who selected “Other”, the primary focus was keeping it as a flexible, open space by potentially improving but not fully redesigning the area. Enhancements could include a mown or partly mown area for informal play and activities that preserve sightlines and safety. There could also be natural enhancements such as trees, meadow edges and small natural seating areas, preferably along the edges.

There was opposition to overdevelopment, including things such as playgrounds, structures or excessive

signage. There were also requests for off-leash areas as well as better weed maintenance and winter use for sledding.

Question 8: Have you seen any inspiring ideas from other similar spaces that you think would be good for The City to consider for this project? Please upload an image

The following 11 images are a sample from the 31 images that were provided by respondents online:



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Drop a note here for ideas:

In addition to uploading photos, respondents submitted comments or full documents detailing ideas and enhancements they’d like to see. From these notes a few themes arose:

- Participants expressed a desire to keep the pond or implement some version of pond or pooling water. The existing pond is seen as the heart of the space, important for wildlife and something the community has had for decades
- There’s a desire to keep the area feeling natural, low-key and not overdesigned. Participants note being wary of signage, large built features, or anything that makes it feel less like a quiet nature spot.
- Many comments highlighted the need for simple, practical amenities including benches, pathways, or small natural play features.

Questions we asked (In-person)

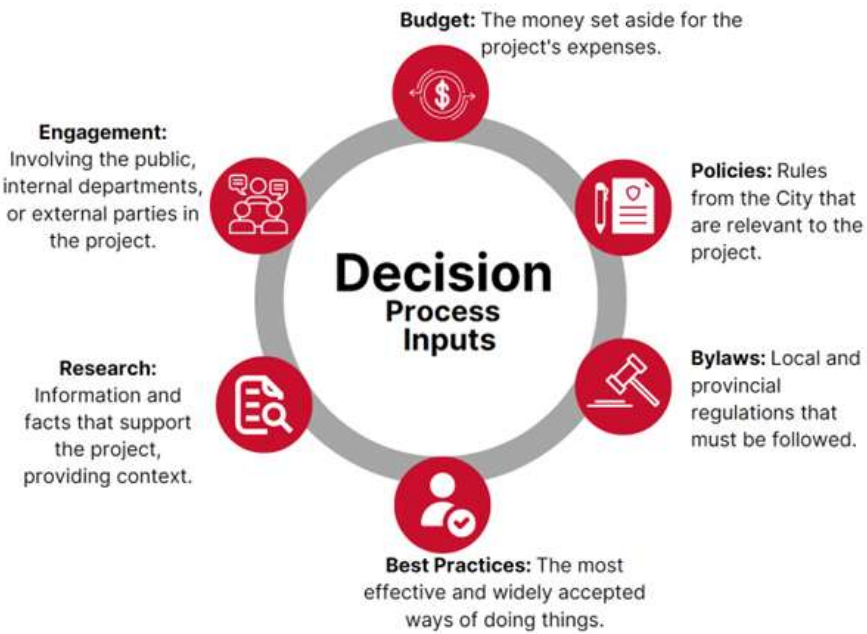
During the Ambrose University event, participants were asked to leave feedback that more broadly covered general thoughts on the slope design, as well as any additional comments when provided with all the above materials.

Any additional comments:

Theme	Sample comments
Biodiversity management / protection	<i>“wetland concept - I like the idea of an island area surrounded by wetland. It would be a protected area for birds to nest”</i> <i>“extremely important to keep a wetland concept as it's an important habitat for birds.”</i>

Management and maintenance matters	<i>“would like grassland that does not require as much maintenance, want basic”</i> <i>“city needs to make sure any paved paths are maintained current paths are a tripped hazard”</i>
Concerns about construction impacts / project execution	<i>“How is construction going to be managed? Where will the materials be stored? Where will the equipment be kept?”</i> <i>“Also, it is important to not block stream flow during construction. Stream into GWP dried up occasionally when pumps were running”</i>
Other comments: • Environmental impact • Signage, safety concerns • Supporting and opposing a potential off-leash dog park • Consider impact of decision (on wetland) • Site layout • Low profile, non-destination area • Clear timelines and communication • Useful sitting areas (unlike current benches), potentially retaining or re-using rocks	

Next steps



The project team is reviewing the feedback received through engagement. Public engagement will be used in addition to other considerations such as best practices, research, bylaws, policies and budget to finalize a design that we will proceed with in the next phase.

Verbatim

The verbatim comments presented here include all feedback, suggestions, comments and messages collected online and in person through the engagement activities described in this report. All input has been reviewed and shared with the project team for consideration in project decision-making.

Any personal identifying information has been removed from the verbatim comments presented here.

Comments, or portions of comments, that contain profanity or do not comply with the [City's Respectful Workplace Policy](#) or [Online Tool Moderation Practice](#) have also been removed from participant submissions. Wherever possible, the remainder of each submission has been retained. No other edits have been made to the feedback and the verbatim comments are presented as received. As a result, some content in this record may still be considered offensive or distressing to some readers.

Question 1: How do you use this space? Select all that apply (Other)

- Tobogganing
- Enjoy viewpoints, wildlife, birds, watch sunset
- remote control watercraft
- Run
- Just enjoy the view of it.
- Bird watching
- take pictures, watch waterfowls and other animals,
- Kids play with water. Throw rocks. Watch birds.
- Nature, watching specifically all the migratory birds that are in the pond
- birdwatching (mainly water birds)
- Wheelchair
- Enjoy observing wildlife and particularly the geese that frequent the pond.
- Run
- Off leash
- Well regarded/well used community/visitor area. Enjoy watching wildlife in/out of existing pond water. Sit east side take in water & mountain views (would like to see natural seating view areas (eg. rocks) oriented hilltop Eastside looking west to take advantage of elevated ridge view from this area. More seating places here please.
- Photography and bird watch
- enjoy the pond with my children and dog, watch ducks and deer
- Observe wildlife that frequents the area - geese, ducks, other waterfowl and migratory birds, deer, coyotes
- Viewing from my backyard on the ridge above the pond
- I live below it and enjoy watching the wildlife
- as a pump track (in my dreams)

- dog walking
- Walk dog
- Explore around the pond watching for wildlife and fish for trout stocked by Mr. Griffith
- Bird spotting
- Photography
- bird watch waterfowl, songbirds, birds of prey, shorebirds, forest birds and migratory birds
- Bird watch
- Live at [number removed], house adjacent to space
- Watch the Fire Department train on water rescues.
- Socializing
- Enjoy the wildlife (geese, moose, deer, coyote) watch sunset, people used to fish,
- Look at it (Direct views from our home just across the blvd)
- Explore and walk the natural access paths down to the upper part of the incoming stream.
- Birdwatch
- Create art
- Tobogganing
- I've enjoyed watching geese, ducks, swans, songbirds, fish, muskrats and beavers. Also, deer, coyotes and moose drinking the water
- Take pictures
- Bird watch
- Live on the street below, so impact our view? Flood risk
- pray
- Our kids play soccer, baseball and badminton in greenspace. We view the stars, full moon, meteor showers and the northern lights. Kids toboggan on smaller hills.
- Bird watching
- Let the kids practice casting their fishing rods
- I go through there and look at the birds that use the pond regularly
- My house is directly below it.
- Watching the waterfowl on the pond and the wildlife.

Question 2: Which of the elements of the existing space, aside from the pond, are most important to you? Select all that apply: (Other)

- Pond, cascading water features at minimum 30-40% of space
- Pond, benches, pathways
- Grass, flowers, insects, birds and animals.
- No weeds or overgrown bushes
- Wetland area for wildlife
- The pond.
- Plant life encouraging wildlife



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- Animal habitat
- I believe the dam mitigates sound from the ring road from reaching Discovery Ridge Blvd and would like as much barrier to noise to remain.
- The serenity of the area and being close to natural nature as well as the sound of tumbling water.
- Would like to retain/possibly attract more wildlife to this area. There is also a lot of non-compliance to pet leash rules in this space (maybe signage/enforcement would help)?
- Ensuring flow of water into Griffiths Woods
- open water, pond, habitat for fish and birds
- Support wildlife typically in this location (e.g., aquatic including frogs, birds including migratory geese, mammals)
- We live at [personal information removed]. We need whatever path system that goes into place to remain 80-100ft from the east side of our home for privacy purposes. The proposed path is FAR to close to our home.
- The dozens of daily waterfowl take offs and landings will be lost due to losing them. Truly magical watching them strategize about how to take off and land in variable weather conditions.
- Keep the old spawning grounds for trout
- Chatting with fellow residents
- The paved paths
- a water source and or breeding ground for waterfowl, songbirds, birds of prey, shorebirds, forest birds and migratory birds
- My house, no one has said [language removed] to me about this, even though my house is (most) affected. Should I be worried? How long will this take? How much construction will I have to endure? I get the need, but I also wouldn't mind a little communication. I've asked and received nothing intelligent in response.
- The "Stone Spillway" is not truly a spillway, it was designed as decorative, not a functional spillway.
- Paved and dirt paths connecting parts of the neighborhood, tobogganing hill
- Benches in locations that offer a view and are not buried in the overgrown willows. Pathways to walk and
- cycle on. Wildlife- the birds' moose, etc
- If you remove the pond, make the space usable for a play area for kids.
- Maintain a proper habitat for wildlife
- The wildlife that uses it
- Both paved and non-paved paths
- The birds in the pond
- Birds
- Pond for birds and other animals
- The birds and nature who live here
- Would like all of these items as we love what we currently have and don't want to lose them. It's tough to see the pond go along with all the birds that use the pond daily.
- Protecting habitat for wildlife and having accessible pathway through the space

Question 3: What do you like about the ravine concept?

- Maintains green space
- not as nice as what is there now... kind of ordinary
- Nothing
- Nothing
- This returns the area to what it originally was including a concrete path down the slope, sitting area and trees. Stream path reinforcement.
- Open ciewd
- Nothing
- Nothing. It feels empty and depressing. Not at all like what we have currently as a community asset.
- Simple and clean
- Not really sure i like it
- Looks safer wrt children. Maintains view and natural settings.
- That's it's historic
- There are no weeds overgrown.
- Nothing
- nothing
- Ravine concept too limited
- I like it aligning with the natural form, which I hope would be sustainable long term. I also like the view and keeping the pathways present.
- Nothing
- I prefer the wetlands concept below.
- Nothing. Keep the pond.
- Peaceful looking. Love the sound of the running water.
- Views and maintains current path.
- Nothing in particular
- Nothing
- Seems fine
- Nothing. Leave the dam alone. Do not change things. This all looks like a giant waste of money that will create more problems closer to homes, solving nothing and wasting money.
- Pathway connections are retained with new alignments.
- The ravine concept takes the area back to the historic pre-development era, but that is no longer the situation for this location. This is a developed community and I believe the constructed wetland, as set out below, would be a better fit here.
- View
- I don't like this concept
- Pleasant place to walk - gentle, scenic slope.
- Peaceful

- It's cheap
- Seems very natural and would let the water flow in a contained space
- retaining the natural environment.
- I like the whole thing. It seems more natural to me.
- I like that the pathways are retained. Also, like that the water will still flow down to the river.
- Designated area for the water, not just a swampy mosquito area
- Each of the features cited in the description
- Looks good. Where are the trees?
- I'm not a fan. Having water in that area was a more calming feature and attracted wildlife
- That it aligns with the natural flow
- Natural look, good views
- I do not like it.
- Nothing
- Natural, geomechanically stable, cost effective to maintain, Safe
- Retains some of the natural feel of the area.
- Seems natural
- This reminds me of what natural areas in Calgary were like when they were actually untouched. Feels very prairie and foothills.
- Removes future flooding concerns
- There is nothing to like about the ravine concept and that you eliminated a spot for wildlife to nest and rest and feed
- its natural aspect and having running water. However, is a huge step back compared to the current pond landscape
- Not much
- nice views, open area
- It's green and walk friendly
- Historically similar
- It restores the area to its natural state
- More green space. Simple and seems like nature created it, not "man-made"
- Natural
- It's boring. Does not provide much to look at.
- Nothing
- Follows the natural condition before the dam was built.
- Visible rapid moving water flow.
- This is fine, like wetland concept more
- It would seem not to create mosquito habitats.
- New pathway
- Clean and simple
- More land to enjoy
- I like it especially view

- This is my second choice. I like the idea, but we already have a ravine in our neighbourhood
- Reestablishes historic conditions and natural drainage
- Undisturbed landscape
- It's lovely, however is grassfire a risk?
- ability to water a loop around the ravine
- It looks natural.
- I think that it might be safer. I also like the potential to design it as a stream for fish to spawn.
- Follows natural water flow. Keeps a water feature.
- Naturalizing is a great target, but difficult to mimic. The rendering looks very sterile. Hard to imagine that the original condition was absent from trees.
- I might be able to see more now from below as a wheelchair user.
- nice view from the resting benches and enjoying free time.
- Prefer this option given that it returns the area to its original form.
- It's absolutely awful. The whole area has been destroyed for no good reason.
- Wonder if there was an increase in water flow for whatever reason, where it would go with some of these designs (retention pond for overflow)? Will check previous meeting documents for answers.
- maintaining park area and walking pathways
- Bridge and pathways - but otherwise this seems to be featureless. It totally lacks character or value.
- It's simple and looks ok.
- Ensure stream flows through to supply water into Griffith Woods
- Retains the views of (moving) water and natural grasslands
- I don't really like the ravine concept. I prefer the pond, particularly for the wildlife - birds
- Faster flow of water preventing mosquitos breeding
- It blends in with the current landscape which I like. It would be nice to have a small stream flow though the area.
- nothing
- Maintains existing pathways
- I appreciate the added pathways linking the ridge to the lower section. The City approved this development as
- a walkable community.
- Looks like greenery is trying to be kept.
- Maintaining water flow into the creek
- I appreciate the inclusion of water.
- Simplicity and lowest cost.
- That we have some flowing water
- The ravine concept is aesthetically pleasing and retains a natural environment.
- Aligns to historic conditions
- Clean look, visible stream
- A flowing stream is optimal. Having a wetland space only supports mosquito breeding ground.
- Keeps it large as a natural space

- Most natural to a stream. This would keep it looking the most natural as a stream.
- I don't love it - too plain, & I would imagine it isn't going to support wildlife much.
- It's a natural water course.
- Simpler concept, probably less that can go wrong. Restoration to the natural state.
- we have enough natural space like this - let's make this useful where we add a pump track that is embedded, has solar and truly shows how we can modernize nature + future.
- Natural setting with viewpoints
- It seems natural to me
- Natural
- Bring this year-round brook back to its original state before the dam was built
- It keeps the area in its most natural state
- Not a lot - whose idea was this to ruin what we have and why on earth would you want to do this?
- seems like less of an issue for area maintenance
- While it's clean looking, it's not a pond which is a major attraction to the area for people and wildlife
- Nothing at all seems like a cheap way to do as little as possible. It's ugly and useless to the community.
- Not sure I like it
- I like the fact that the existing pathways are there and a bridge. Still want it to be walkable and scenic with wildlife areas
- Nothing looks barren and empty
- Nothing
- In keeping with historical pathways of water flow to the Elbow River
- Retaining existing pathways.
- I don't like this concept
- It would still look very green and natural
- Green space, natural
- I would like to keep as much water as possible
- water safety during winter.
- Restores natural flow
- This looks good but I believe the constructed wetland would be a better use for the environment, thanks for sharing the information to this point.
- naturalistic, minimal change, straightforward.
- Depends on the construction timeline
- Nothing
- Not much, losing an opportunity
- I like the moving water, seems like lots of green space to use
- Nothing.
- Simple
- That it aligns with historic conditions and maintains the pathway connections
- park like, natural vegetation
- Might be less disruption to the community from construction.

- the benches, the bridge, the potential for wildlife
- I like that it has a lot of space to play or have a picnic
- Views are retained. Path system is similar,
- Nothing. More area to maintain for landscaping.
- It looks nice in concept.
- Looks like a pretty great opportunity for a lot of free play for kids, making little dams, catching frogs etc.
- Clean, open, less bugs
- Not much
- I love the idea of it being a natural-sequel water feature down the hill.
- Looks like a nice spot to hang out, but there is less to look at and feels less natural
- the "viewing node" and open space plus addition to new pathways.
- Do not really like this plan.
- More usable green space for children
- Looks open and clean. Less breeding ground for mosquitos than wetland concept?
- I don't like the concept. I prefer ponds. The pond is a visual centerpiece of the community, enhancing the natural beauty of the neighborhood and contributing to a pleasant, welcoming environment for residents.
- Nothing. It is boring and bare compared to what was there with the pond. The existing willows to the west WILL invade this space and it will become the same as the slope is to the west
- I prefer having a pond there. It helps make up for some of the natural wetlands we have encroached on.
- Nothing.
- Nothing
- Nothing. It's better than the wetland concept, but marginally.
- Kind of boring
- Not a fan of this concept
- Nothing
- Not much
- I like the fact that it looks natural; it blends in with the landscape. I like that it addresses safety issues.
- Still allows for wildlife use
- Pretty boring.
- I would like a lake for the birds
- Bridge
- More space to use
- That keeps all the greenery and nothing too high to block the views.
- Choice Number 2
- I like returning the land to what it once was- a ravine/wetland area.
- Not much
- I do not like it. It takes away the character of part of the community and will severely effect wildlife and biodiversity
- Walking paths, bridge, viewpoint
- That there is still water flow that animals can follow



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- I like the view and that there will be more land to walk on
- I love the pond and do not want a change. The pond creates a lovely, beautiful space for discovery ridge residents and other surrounding neighborhoods to go for a beautiful walk around a body of water.
- I don't like it
- Open green space
- Like this idea
- Natural path, view
- Beautiful element in our community that is enjoyed daily. Part of the history
- I do NOT like the ravine concept and think it's ridiculous to remove the beautiful pond. The reflection of the sky in the evenings is stunning and losing this is quite sad.
- It looks very natural.
- The grassy area is nice, more trees would bring more birds
- Pathways being kept and added. The are being redone with a bridge need refresh as overgrown with weeds and not attractive at all.
- view
- Natural
- I think however it is possible - to have the finished project look as natural and original as possible,
- It's still natural, there is still water flow, I like the bridge, there are benches to sit on.
- Nothing. It ruins the whole area and doesn't consider birds and wildlife. That pond is/was home to many animals and fish
- Nothing. Pond should remain as is
- paved path, bridge, connecting pathways.
- Looks natural
- It's fine.
- Preserves flow of water
- Nice to see the water in the stream and open area that will hopefully have some vegetation / trees.
- Like that it looks more natural
- Nothing, the existing pond provides a wetland for birds. The study is flawed that requires it's removal, arbitrarily increasing the catchment area based on a hole under the fence. This design will fail to collect any water and increase risk of flooding
- Nothing really. The area needs the pond for all of the migratory birds and wildlife that come here every year.
- Nothing! It is plain, there is no space for the birds and nature.
- Like two viewpoints. Like the increased dirt path on the hillside
- Nothing
- Nothing excerpts possibly a nice-looking bridge
- I like the pond. It isn't a hazard. Leave it as is. Homes were built 20 years ago and there wasn't an issue.
- Natural- historical restoration
- not bad
- Allows more green space for people to explore, allows better interaction with

the creek and represents the historic flow.

Question 4: What could improve the ravine concept?

- Perhaps a smaller natural water feature
- Something more
- Wetland concept
- Trees and natural landscaping. There MUST be a paved path, or stairs build to allow people a place to walk up and down the slope. At present there is an increasingly wide dirt path that's being overused and allowing serious erosion.
- Useful space for social and human use. Looks like a place that if not maintained will be overrun by invasive species and rode to
- This is a non-design. Cheapest, most offensive option fails to consider my feedback from community.
- Must have significant pools of water - even if smaller than the existing pond. Suggest reinforcing or building up the south and west slopes (to avoid risk of flooding and meet slope stability requirements. Add some trees and rocks or benches.
- Park benches
- Be more natural, wildlife friendly.
- It looks like a dog park so anything
- More trees or scrubs
- Keep it in a pond.
- A pond
- make it not a ravine
- Add additional amenity value and greater opportunities to interact with the stream/water.
- I value paved pathways for my use in the neighbourhood, so I would potentially appreciate more paved rather than granular trails.
- A pond for ducks birds' fish etc
- A wetland for wildlife which is consistent with other areas in Discovery Ridge.
- Keep the pond.
- Wider with foot bridges
- Potentially destruction of wildlife habitat.
- A pond fir wildlife!
- Leave the dam. As the climate warms, fire is more of an issue. The dam is a source of water to fight a fire. If anything, enlarge the reservoir. I find it hard to believe it is endangering houses below. If it isn't broke don't fix it (78yrs).
- Nothing of note
- Leave the dam as is. make no changes at all, except maybe supporting the current dam, if it becomes an immediate, complete (< 1 year, 100% probability) failure risk.
- Make it more inviting ... rocks for kids to climb on, a few natural playground items, like radio park, a bark park,



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- some adult outdoor workout
- equipment
- Increase the amount of water for wildlife and birds. Increase amount of water in ravine concepts.
- More wetlands and trees
- More trees.
- It completely changes the landscape view of a community. How will the city mitigate ice damming and proper freeze/thaw drainage. How will the city offset property value decreases for those in the area. How will the city mitigate weeds and thistle ingress.
- Having a few deeper ponds to encourage birds to use the water scape.
- chip path, not pavement. retaining and reestablishing native, natural environment.
- Trees
- Making some seating areas would be nice.
- Add a flat area and playground with benches for seating.
- More shrubs to encourage wildlife.
- Not sufficiently educated to respond
- More trees or bushes
- Adding a small body of water that would not create the risk you're concerned about
- Natural pathway through the ravine
- Add wetlands and trees
- A Pond for Wildlife, a seating area, Maintained pathways
- Blending well with the type of plants, wildlife habitat and privacy of residents in nearby houses.
- Put useful sitting areas near the ravine.
- Seating
- Add several stands of trees to attract birds and wildlife.
- I would eliminate this idea 100% altogether
- having larger water areas for waterfowl, adding some trees and improve shadowing, adding a waterfall, adding wildflower gardens and more pathways (dirt ones to look more natural)
- This looks sad, if the ravine is so small there should be better landscaping
- More water
- Natural look - wandering creek
- Add it a few areas that kids can play in and adults can sit and supervise/enjoy the view in the summer. Can we have an area where we can toboggan in the winter as this would be perfect for that
- Trees
- The aesthetics surrounding the ravine. It looks very plain from the perspective view.
- Trees, areas where water pools
- See above
- This design looks like it would funnel traffic noise from the ring road directly down through the ravine to the neighborhood on Discovery Ridge Blvd., which is a major concern.
- Way to lke easily to Westhill's
- Some trees and plants would be nice



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- More trees shrubs
- Planting natural trees would be nice
- Lacks natural design elements to encourage use of space.
- Slow the flow
- bridge over the stream of water
- Make it off leash dog park
- To design it as a spawning channel more thought needs to go into cover and protected space so that birds of prey don't clean out the creek. Spawning channels need to be designed properly and maintained (cleaned, logs replaced, ensure cover is intact etc
- If it is possible to meander the creek as shown, some indigenous tree species (aspen, willow, some evergreen) would help.
- It looks the bridge is wheelchair accessible. Are the wetland ponds (east or west lookout)?
- to set in order sites of the pond and strengthen it and keep water level like it is now.
- Leave the pond as it is. It has **STOOD THE TEST OF TIME** and doesn't need nanny intervention. The City should take its responsibility seriously and clean up the weeds as they have committed to do over and over but have not.
- Bring back the pond
- With either concept would like to see lookout/bridge at the top of the hill because I've seen some people unable to go down the steep hill (south of existing pond) to access the western paved pathway and both concepts have no connector path/bridge at top
- more native vegetation
- Seems minimalist. Need trees, water, features that are actually valued by the community. Honestly this seems pathetic by comparison to the community features you are insisting on removing (against the will of the community). It feels wrong. Do better.
- It's very plain looking and we used to have a bartered pond until the beavers and lack of maintenance so something that is visually more appealing to residents and wildlife. More colorful plants to attract bees/birds.
- Turn it into wetlands (the next option) to encourage plant and animal species to recolonize the area and provide additional natural filtration of the water before it enters the river
- It would be nice to have as many viewpoints with benches as possible where residents could sit and enjoy the stream and view.
- trees, water - what's shown is pretty desolate and minimal. Aside from the bridge, I'm shocked this is what is considered a "design"
- Do not add new pathways, especially near homes! There is nothing to prevent this area becoming overgrown by weeds/willows. Views & creek are far inferior to existing features. Creek will dry out & space overrun with off leash dogs (already an issue)
- Does not address the responses for questions 1 and 2. Separately, it does not address the existing drainage at the pathway exiting from Discovery Ridge Heights SW. I understand the pond is part of the approved water mgmt. plan provided by the developer.
- It would be nice to have more of a pond, or a space for dogs to be off leash.

- The path is too close to our home in all of these concepts.
- Has possible flooding downstream been considered? I am concerned that this will become an area where people will allow their dogs to run off leash. It's very open. Perhaps some trees serve as a wind break? It's underwhelming.
- Some trees and shrubs along ravine and area. A few large boulders for birds to perch on and for small mammals to use for hunting and viewing.
- There is a lack of natural trees and shrubs. Additional pathways would be beneficial as well.
- The ravine concept is susceptible to water fluctuations in that it is less capable of handling sudden or extreme fluctuations without risks. It is also less likely to attract aquatic flora and fauna.
- Trees
- Remove the new dirt pathway and keep it as natural green/play space.
- Could add some bends/curves in the ravine concept to have the stream more meandering.
- I would like to see the stream be a little wider to allow for small ponds of water. Plant trees for birds to replace those the beaver took out. Add a few more benches or natural seating areas for people to rest and enjoy the area.
- The land here is limited for the community, if we're going to remove a beautiful waterscape, make the area useful for residents and add something children / kids can use so the area remains desired and not just another walking path.
- Keep natural. Not a children's playground
- Have a biologist review the modified brook bed to assure spawning grounds exist for trout
- Perhaps a few deciduous trees
- The pond
- Don't build it. Improve the infrastructure for the pond. Better but it's not a pond
- Build a skate park bowl in the pond, it's 10x more utility than a stupid ravine
- A pond for wildlife
- It would be nice to have more than just the stream for the birds, including geese, to come and rest there.
- How do you ensure this does not become overrun with invasive thistle like what is currently happening in other open areas?
- A larger body of water that would support local wildlife
- Adding a pond for the fish & wildlife
- Some more shrubs and trees are natural to the area
- Allowing a pond area for birds.
- Needs the bridge and some other attractive looking elements so it doesn't look like an afterthought
- Not sure
- Wider stream for maximum water retention and flow
- more trees
- More trees
- I would really like to see a number of trees added around the creek bank to provide habitat and shade for water cooling and creek protection.
- A discussion with the planner



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- Give us back our dam
- Keep the pond.
- more trees, possible pathways
- More trees. It is hard to really understand what this would look like because what is a hilly area seems to be flat from this view.
- Perspective from bottom seems odd as it's along the road. Somewhere further away from the road might be nice.
- Nothing
- There is no pooling of water and so the birds that currently use the space will disappear
- It removes a nice lake/pond and now you have a bare area that is no good for any ducks or birds.
- Why is the bridge so close to the bottom of the path? That makes no sense, putting the bridge up higher. The premise of taking out the existing dam is for safety related to high flow periods. Where is the factor of safety on
- this concept for flooding?
- Small pooling areas to slow the flow of water and offer other environments.
- It would need much more maintenance to prevent the new grass area from devolving into simply thistles.
- Bigger ravine? Worried about thistles
- Making green areas that are kept up for picnics or frisbee or benches to enjoy the views
- The problem is it destroys existing habitat for ducks, geese and beavers
- Fence off a section to be designated as an official off-leash dog park for DR?
- Not doing it the options given for the restoration project have not truly considered the feedback from the community, especially from those who would like to still see a pond feature.
- Addition of trees, water pools
- Maintaining the dam and the beautiful pond it has created
- Larger bodies of water so we can hear the flow.
- A pond
- Its boring. No trees or shrubs. Hilly, so you can't use it for playing. Probably will turn into a giant mud pit. It's not beautiful. Will be dry and parched after one summer. No wildlife will come here.
- Tree planted along the creek.
- Trees, rocks, waterfall, babbling brook, pond areas
- Consideration to existing waterfowl & fish
- I like the wetland concept below better because there is a marker in the landscape (the ponds) and this will benefit the birds.
- Please keep the waterfall!
- A Laje for the birds
- Some benches and tables for rest
- Not enough water, uglier, needs more trees
- larger area for birds
- Retaining a path or walkway to access the ravine
- There must be a large enough pond to support the biodiversity using it and maintain an integral part

of Discovery's character and appeal.

- Would the be considered that the ravine would prevent deer from moving through the area
- More trees
- Any types of fishpond
- More walkways to make use of increased walkable space by the stream
- It will essentially be a stream. There will be many bugs that will spawn there. This is a bad idea
- Keep the pond as it is
- Walking paths
- Good pathway- paved
- About 100-200 feet wide and keep it as a pond.
- More trees in the ravine would improve the look and feel.
- More trees for more birds, larger creeks so new ones don't overflow
- Planting more trees (native to area)
- leave as is- the pond
- Some benches and pathways - a natural area to enjoy the quiet and views.
- Nothing that I can think of.
- Put it back the way it was for over 50 years. The city has destroyed it.
- Leave the existing pond as is
- More trees
- Pooling area
- I would prefer to keep the pond.
- Should include some form of pond to attract ducks and geese.
- More trees. Could a small spillway be created that we could then flood from the stream and skate on in the winter? Add a swimming hole?
- More trees
- Plant some vegetation and trees throughout the ravine. Provide an asphalt connection to the upper trail leading
- back to Discovery Ridge Hill. This is the most heavily use trail in the area.
- More standing trees along creek
- Addition of a pond for birds and other wildlife
- Allowing a natural pond to supply the needs of the flora and fauna and wildlife that calls that spot home.
- A natural play space, some kind of water pond, trees
- Not doing it and leaving the pond
- Essential to have large ponds for birds. CRITICAL!
- Higher water level and just reinforce the sides of the pond for possible erosion.
- Improve the new pathway east of ravine to asphalt to connect to upper pathways and direct foot traffic (keep them on the trail). Dirt trails just erode and shift based on preferred routes. Improve accessibility between upper and lower trails (wheelchair)
- it looks very boring
- a few more clusters of trees



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- More trees and wildflowers.

Question 5: What do you like about the wetland concept?

- Maintains green space
- That's better giving it somewhat of a more natural feel
- Slightly better
- See document
- Perhaps frogs could live there. It would also serve as a mosquito breeding facility. Bad idea.
- It is closer to what it looks like now
- More likely to support biodiversity
- More water
- That there's more water, but I don't like the swampy look or likelihood of this drying up or becoming overgrown (like the creek and wetland area across the street).
- We have enough wetlands in Griffith woods, this should be different
- Maintaining critical wetland ecosystems
- Plants, animals, existing walkways
- Much more interesting to look at
- Animal and bird watching
- More interesting
- That it supports animal and plant growth
- No overgrown weeds
- Some semblance of the water still remains so prefer this option
- Keeps natural elements
- More area for geese and ducks
- Encouraging wildlife conservation and continued natural beauty of the area
- MORE NATURAL
- it's not a ravine
- Better reflects the current amenity value/characteristics.
- I like the idea of trying to encourage the diversity of species living in the area.
- Very favorable to this idea to attract waterfowl and other wildlife.
- Nothing. Keep the pond.
- Boring
- View, maintaining pathways and possibility for wildlife
- Nothing, it looks no different to the other concept except a puddle
- Nothing. The reservoir allows a buffer for control of the water to flow downhill. Canmore put in a dam at the top of Cougar Creek to control water flow downhill and decrease excessive erosion.
- I prefer the concept that would attract or retain waterfowl.
- Nothing. Leave the dam there.
- The shallow pooling may encourage plant and animal species to take residence in the small wetlands.

- I prefer constructed wetlands over the stream as it will allow runoff from surrounding areas to be filtered before entering the downhill area and the Elbow River. Also, the ponds will attract wildlife and birds which add to the diversity of the area.
- View & Water space for wildlife
- Provides wetland for wildlife and opportunity to be near the water for people
- Still has water.
- Interesting and natural looking feature
- Not much
- I like wildlife elements. With the exception and extreme concern about increased mosquitoes
- Areas for animals and birds to utilize water. Bench for sitting
- All the different pockets of water
- A good place for wildlife (birds etc)
- I like that there will be a small pond there as it's nice to see this type of water feature.
- Nothing
- This is my preferred concept.
- Not my preferred choice
- Would encourage/facilitate plant growth and animal use in the area
- I like this option better. Wetland provides more visual interest and fits more into the natural setting in the forest
- Will provide more diversity for animals.
- I do like this concept better and it would differ from the existing ravine areas of Discovery
- It's pretty
- Keeps a focus on trying to preserve the animal species environment that has formed over the years
- Inviting environment for water animals
- Looks better than the ravine - it's a more interesting landscape
- This allows more waterfowl to exist in the area.
- More appealing, replaces a wetland pond with wetland.
- Maintains some habitat for wildlife.
- Ponds
- I don't like wetland concept. We already have too much water in a community with a high water-table. I look forward to concepts that minimize the accumulation of water.
- More water than the ravine concept.
- Seems to be boggy - not a fan
- I prefer this! This looks very appealing and calm.
- More natural landscaping
- I like the idea of having a wetland concept that will support wildlife. If you think about it, we've imposed on them not the other way around.
- the additional water areas, however still a great step back from the current pond condition.
- Seems like there might be more animals than the other options
- Similar to existing pond, possibilities for animals to be present

- More hills. Possibly of wildlife
- Possibility to draw wildlife
- It allows for the wildlife that already use the area
- Same as ravine comment
- Natural
- It would be more attractive to birds and ducks
- Nothing
- I like small ponds.
- Pooled water good for wildlife
- The animals that will hopefully come back
- Subject to no increase in mosquitos, I prefer the wetland concept because it seems to have more hills to block ring road noise and provides more habitat for birds and waterfowl.
- That wetlands are important in our community
- Plant and animals
- Water is always amazing.
- Love this more as will attract more bird's waterfowl
- This is my first choice. I like the idea of a bridge feature
- Greater support for the wetland concept. Provides wetland habitat to enhance biodiversity within the design. Encourages better use of the space.
- Vegetation improvement
- Encourages more wildlife/ vegetation
- invites more wildlife
- The water flowing
- I like the wetland concept as it would be more natural. But it too needs to be maintained. From what I have seen so far, the city will let Willis take over and they will quickly inhabit the channel and could prevent the use of the area for fish spawning.
- Keeps a water feature. Attracts bird species.
- Seems more likely to mimic the original terrain.
- Could invite various bird species to photograph.
- nothing
- More natural and fits better into the surroundings
- The fact that it provides a habitat for nature is excellent.
- A horrible mess.
- The opportunity for wildlife to make it their home.
- Like wetland concept with new large 20 x 20 foot wood/stone rock seating viewing platform as gathering space for community overlooking water space looking towards the mountains. The only other ridge top park recently
- morphed into commercial soccer...
- I like this concept more because it creates more habitat for plants and animals.
- Nothing. Seems a pretty desolate and poor attempt at a "design". Would you want to live near a swampy

puddle network?

- Looks a better fit for the area and the wildlife that it sustains. Including birds, deer, insects, coyotes and aquatic life. Our seniors in our community walk this pathway in all seasons so it should not be a priority for bikes.
- Increased opportunities for wildlife and aquatic life. Ensure flow through of water down into Woods
- Enables more plant and animal life to live and thrive in the area, compared to the ravine concept. Makes it a more interesting area visually than a ravine with a small stream
- There could be birds that use it
- Different viewing areas
- This is also nice, but I like the stream concept a little better.
- Marginally better - only because there's some water but pretty ugly overall. Expect it to be overgrown in 1-2 years.
- More potential for water to collect, but rendering is ugly and will get overgrown quickly by weeds/willows. It's ugly and likely to smell just like in the woods immediately across the boulevard. Does not replace space with features of equal value.
- It better addresses my responses for questions 1 and 2. Would benefit having more trees and riparian species planted. The pond before the beaver damming issue hosted considerable wildlife.
- More water will help keep wildlife in the area.
- I like the inclusion of ponds.
- Everything. This plan will allow birds mammals and some waterfowl to utilize.
- It has more wetlands for the birds and animals that frequent the area.
- The wetland concept is aesthetically a natural environment. It will attract more flora and fauna variety than a simple stream and is capable of cleaning water before it enters the Elbow as well as absorbing water level fluctuations.
- Birds! (This option is far better)
- Shallow pooling will be nice
- I don't like this concept. Would prefer the ravine or stream concept. This wetland has too many opportunities for pooling water and is associated with wildlife. Already enough wetland concept in the Griffith's Woods park space.
- Pooling to support wildlife
- Retains more of a water feature and may attract more animal species.
- Possibly attractive to a wider variety of wildlife.
- This is my preferred choice.
- I'm itchy from the mosquitoes
- Not really, I think it being swampy and a place mosquitoes would love to multiply
- Ducks and geese will come
- Not a good concept. See future problems with freezing up
- Will hopefully attract more animals.
- It gives slightly more area for wetland birds and critters
- Not a lot - whose idea was this to ruin what we have and why on earth would you want to do this?

- Not a whole lot
- Nothing. It's going to create a mess, require substantial regular maintenance and be a breeding ground for mosquitos.
- Maintains some amphibian habitat
- I like that there are still larger pools of water that birds and wildlife can use
- A place for the fish & wildlife to be rehomed after pond destruction
- Natural setting for wildlife
- Would encourage wildlife to return with removal of the pond
- Ponds are not large enough for birds, especially geese.
- Encouraging wildlife to remain
- I don't
- Wildlife and birds
- Appeal to birds and animals. Seems to use more of the space.
- Love the Wetland concept
- Encourages biodiversity
- As we are moving to the second stage of human made habitat (Pond first human change on the landscape) I think this is an ideal solution. As per above I would recommend adding numerous trees and shrubs to create habitat and cooling features.
- I guess more wetlands is environmentally responsible
- Depends on the construction timeline
- The best of bad options
- Better
- I love this! I think it will satisfy many residents' concerns for wildlife and still offer a space of refuge for the ducks, geese, water source for wildlife etc.
- Nothing.
- Wildlife Habitat
- The opportunity to encourage plant and animal species and also maintain pathway connections
- nothing
- Seems to take the contour of the landscape into account.
- bench, bridge, variety
- I think it looks good and would have a lot of biodiversity
- Potential for more biodiversity. Incorporates both a stream/creek and a wetland.
- Natural
- at least there are some water bodies for native ducks and birds.
- I don't like anything about it. It's worse than the ravine concept.
- The offset of potential new habitats for benthic invertebrates, plants and animals.
- Don't like it, would create more bugs in the area
- More in keeping with the existing area
- I like the nice natural look of it and the idea of more wildlife.
- I like that it may be very comfortable for wildlife. I like that it will be biodiverse

- It might make it more attractive for the waterfowl to remain in the neighbourhood (we note a lot of geese and ducks coming and going from the current pond)
- Still have a place for nature and animals
- Allows ducks, geese and beavers to retain their natural habitat
- Potentially more and better habitat for birds and other wildlife
- I don't like the concept.
- The pools, the more undulating landscape
- I prefer it to the ravine concept, but would rather see the dam kept in place.
- Nothing.
- The hope that animals will have an area of water
- This is even worse than the ravine.
- I like this. Is more interesting.
- Like the creek staircasing down the slope
- There are some pooling water areas
- Better than ravine
- I like that there is a marker in the landscape (the little ponds) and that the water birds hopefully will spend time there. I love that there is a viewing node.
- Same as above
- I like there being water featured somewhere on the plan
- Area for wildlife, there's water and it's more aesthetically pleasing than the ravine.
- More water
- Seems more eco-friendly for birds and fish
- Looks more natural
- I like that animals and plants can be there.
- Number 1 choice - more habitat for insects and small animals.
- I like the idea of allowing the water to pool. This would have happened naturally before the dam.
- I like that more plants and animals might be able to use the wetland. It encourages more native species to grow and live there.
- Could host varied wildlife
- The pond is not acceptable deep or lush enough and the use of the term MAY is inflammatory legal language to remove responsibility and guarantees. It's insulting.
- I want to encourage wildlife in the area.
- Some water still remaining, a bit more visual aesthetic
- That it allows for plants and animals to reside
- Home for plant and animal Species
- It will cause an outburst of bugs. I want the pond to stay.
- I don't like it
- Natural
- Not a fan of
- It's a natural way to let water flow

- Not a lot - I worry this would just be a boggy area that breeds mosquitoes
- Nothing; it looks unsightly.
- The wetlands for birds. The grassy area.
- Like the idea of allowing wetlands for wildlife as long as not increasing flood risk with heavy rains. As above, Pathways being kept and added. The are being redone with a bridge are in need of refresh as overgrown with
- weeds and not attractive at all.
- I like that it's natural, I like the pools and the possibility of plant and species attraction, I like the bridge, I like the benches, it looks like a spot I would stay and enjoy on a walk. I prefer the wetlands concept to the ravine concept.
- Nothing. Pond should remain as is
- Closer to pond look.
- More wetlands are better.
- More water accumulation to attract wildlife
- Looks much nicer with more water. It will attract more aquatic species which is great.
- Possibly more wild life, still would like to see more indigenous plantings and trees
- More waterways than ravine concept.
- I prefer the ravine concept.
- Like this one more
- I assume it will just breed mosquitoes. The current design is much better
- It's perfect
- Creates habitats and looks more interesting to walk around and enjoy
- It's better than the ravine concept.
- Like this option much better. Hopefully with seven marshlands the ducks & geese will still land in this area. Geese
- Its still isn't close to the beautiful pond we have now and I still don't like it as an option
- Space for birds
- I don't like it.
- Retains wetland habitat for the numerous birds and others that use
- keeps with more of what is currently there so wildlife have the water they are use to
- concerned that we may breed a lot of bugs in those shallow ponds
- Nothing, this would breed mosquitos and look unsightly.

Question 6: What could improve the wetland concept?

- Insect issues?
- Not sure
- See document
- There must be a pathway or stairs built down the slope to connect the upper pathway, which needs improvement and paving with the lower pathway. There's too much erosion from people and bikes going

up and down the hill.

- How can kids and people explore it and that it doesn't become a toilet for dogs
- More water. What is shown will dry up every summer. Nothing about it is aesthetically or ecologically equivalent to what's there now
- Same as above - deeper pools of water so there's a connected series of ponds. City should be looking to minimize impact on community not wipe out what we have
- Be more natural and wildlife friendly.
- If the wetland part could be made a bit bigger. Less dog park looking and pos replacement for the wetlands we lost to stoney trail
- Additional features
- More trees or scrubs
- brings mosquitos and pests. keep it a pond.
- Add series of connected cascading (sound) semi-permanent ponds. Stones/rocks/timber for edge treatment/seating. Grasses/vegetation of diff textures/colours-habitat for birds and beneficial insects. Multiple Seating/viewing areas at diff elevations.
- I would worry about how much maintenance this would require to keep it looking nice, I would not want a gross wetland to be present in several decades.
- An architectural bridge would be a highlight in the neighbourhood.
- Keep the pond.
- Not having it
- A proper pool of water where water dwelling creatures can live
- Not putting it in. Increase maintenance on existing dam, less disruption and cost. Add reinforcement to bottom of dam if necessary to decrease slope sliding.
- Too much opportunity for mosquitoes
- Leave the dam there. Stop wasting our money.
- More interpretive walking board walk, a sitting area (deck) to enjoy the space and for classes to come and observe, learn, listen, sketch
- Perhaps a larger viewing node - 2nd bench - on the east side - see cyclist in the rendering above.
- Increase amount of water in wetland concept
- The concept picture looks like water flowing like a puddle through the grass. Make the waterways more like a stream you see in Griffith Woods.
- Shrubs and trees
- Community is concerned about marsh. Ice damming and erosion risk is a concern. How do you guarantee the marshes don't just get eroded and look terrible in a few years. The existing dam walls are very visible and a constant reminder of what used to be.
- Planting a few native bushes and trees for birds to take shelter after having a drink or bath
- No ideas
- More seating areas.
- Shrimp be and native plantings.
- Insufficient knowledge to respond



Discovery Ridge Dam Safety

What We Heard Report

June 2026

- Slightly more trees on the edges of the area
- Better plan on beavers migrating there.
- Benches for rest and viewing
- another viewing node to the other side
- Add trees
- Ensure safety of wildlife
- Bigger Ponds
- To have no wetland.
- More sitting/viewing areas near the wetland.
- Drainage which kind of defeats the purpose
- Add some stands of trees. Maybe have a point or two where kids/people could get close to the water.
- I would make the wet lines bigger offering more abundance space for a more diverse selection of wildlife
- to come and eat, nest, bunk down for the night
- add pathways, adding some trees, improve the view of the mountains, ensure safety for kids, add waterfall, wildflower gardens and ensure it will be maintainable to have a similar aspect even after many years and that is not becoming an unusable area.
- Needs trees, landscaping, rocks, shrubs, something
- Natural look is priority
- Same as ravine comment
- Adding native shrubs and wildflowers
- More aesthetically pleasing.
- Trees and wild flowers
- N/A
- Ensure no increased likelihood of mosquitoes from wetland. Ensure design prevents any increase in ring road noise from entering the space or funneling down to Discovery Ridge Blvd. More hills to block noise pollution.
- More water and more paths.
- More viewpoints or natural design features to encourage use of area/reuse spillway rocks within design.
- Nice little ponds
- appearance
- Making it off leash dog park
- A well designed wetland is hard to do. But it could serve as habitat for some animals. This could be a problem is domestic dogs are disturbing nesting birds and defecating in places where their owners don't pick up because of access.
- This area will likely be overgrown with vegetation and become unsightly
- Work with a naturalist group to get assistance in bio-habitat.
- Wetland bushes, trees.
- no idea.
- More visible natural water to keep the original pond visual.
- Leave it as it is as already stated.

- Wonder somewhat about safety - the 'island' in the centre may attract some people to cross the water to gather on the middle 'island' space, however, I still prefer this design of the two. More wetland plants? Large north dualuse lookout platform/bridge
- Naturalized native plants
- Much more (deeper) water features, trees. Consider the people living here and think about how to minimize your impact, not wipe it out and leave a swampy, grassy field behind. It's criminal that you would think this is acceptable as a comparable feature.
- A walkable path around the pond. We have birdwatchers and photographers in our neighbourhood who love to see all and sit quietly viewing the varied wildlife the pond supports. This area was intended for walking/sitting not bikes that scare off birds etc
- Add some natural shrubs and a few trees and remove all the existing old deadwood and shrubbery that currently makes it look messy
- More open water so birds can overwinter. At present a lot of waterfowl fly in for the night at dusk
- Maybe a few trees could be planted to attract more birds to the area.
- Trees, bigger pool of water - surely that can be accommodated without high risk to slope stability.
- Bigger space to collect water, space for birds to land, dogs to swim, kids to fish or skip rocks. Intersperse with some trees for shade and deer habitat.
- I recommend a pathway encircling the wetland. For example, this area is heavily used by seniors in winter for fresh air and exercise as ULS clears the snow and icing.
- Again would be nice to have some sort of space for dogs.
- The path is too close to our home in all of these concepts.
- We have many beavers in the area. Is there a risk that beavers will cause this area to flood? It's underwhelming compared to what was there previously.
- Some trees and shrubs and a few large boulders for birds to perch on and mammals to use for hunting and viewing the area.
- More trees and shrubs in the plan please.
- Add trees to reduce evaporative loss.
- Trees, bigger ponds, bridge features
- Remove the new dirt pathway and keep it as natural green/play space.
- Prefer not to have this concept incorporated. Enough of this wetland concept across the road in Griffith Wood's.
- Plant trees for shade and for the birds. Add a few more benches or natural seating areas for people to rest and enjoy the area.
- Has to be designed so that water will remain present in the various ponds. Needs to have some water flow to prevent mosquitoes.
- More complex to execute, possibly more fragile and more difficult to maintain.
- Ensure small pools are large enough to attract water fowl.
- What about an island where the new ravine wraps around a pump track with picnic tables + eating area and new playground
- Do not create this wetland. Work on the KISS principle and bring back the Bubbling brook

the existed before homesteads

- Seating are
- The pond being reinstated
- Add more water
- Fire whomever thought it was a good idea. They are obviously financially short sighted.
- Larger ponds - these will be dry and mucky in the summer. This will turn them into and eyesore and also not be suitable for habitat with current size.
- Don't love that the whole storm water is gone. Would like larger areas of water for the wildlife and even kids to try fishing in and stock with fish if possible
- How do you ensure this does not become overrun with invasive thistle like what is currently happening in other open areas?
- Add a pond
- Increase in size
- Larger pond areas.
- Images show lack of trees, I do not support removal any trees
- I don't think it will look manicured enough
- Not sure
- Have the bodies of water large enough to minimize plant growth that could eventually overtake area
- More trees
- Add trees.
- Discussion with the planner
- Give us back our dam
- Add a few more features, sandstone boulders along a wall or two, benches along creek
- bridges and pathways would be soooo amazing if possible
- I worry about the usability of this due to bugs. In the evening the forrest is almost unusable due to mosquitos breeding in the stagnant water. I worry making a wetland would make this area too buggy to use as well
- Keep the pond.
- remove it except for a narrow narrow stream
- More trees. A better explanation of what the "wetland" would really be like. Right now the plan view looks like a stream with a round island in the middle.
- I don't know how much water would flow through here if it's diverted instead of one stream. If it becomes standing water mosquito haven that seems less appealing. Bottom view perspective seems odd as it's right along the road.
- Nothing
- Worry about stagnant water and resulting smells
- Why not look at strengthening/changing the dam to remove the risk and keep the water body as suggested with >1.5 safety factor.
- What are the concessions against mosquitos and weeds? Also, how will you control flooding? How is this different, if it's retaining water, than the current dam concerns. It's probably worse because at least

the dam has 78 years of proven safety.

- A boardwalk with a viewpoint/benches. I'd have concerns about an increase in insects, or what an eyesore it could become without proper reclamation and monitoring post- construction.
- Bad idea
- Keep the pond
- I'm quite worried it would devolve into a swampish mosquito haven.
- I'm worried it could become swampy and a home for mosquitoes
- Natural plants but unkept to contain the thistles which are out of hand currently
- Making it accessible to the existing animal population
- Nothing. It's not nice.
- Trees planted at appropriate locations
- A pond in the middle just like there is now.
- Larger bodies of water so we can hear the flow.
- A pond
- Pave it over and put in a playground at this rate. This is completely unusable, will invite mosquitos and bugs and will turn into a giant unusable mud pit
- Plant some trees
- More trees, bridge over the creek
- At least one larger pooling water area, trees, hardscaping, places to sit, water area where current waterfall is to sit and hear water
- Conservation given for existing waterfowl & fish
- A lake for the birds
- Worried about water getting dirty easily and incubating mosquitos
- Trees
- larger area for birds
- Without disturbing the natural flow of the water, create a pathway for the residents.
- Ensuring that it is filled with native plants and make it more natural looking.
- Stepping stone path
- A proper depth and size of pond.
- Clear demarcation of walkable area
- Keep the pond. Bad idea changing it.
- Leaving the pond as it is
- Walking paths
- Make a proper pond.
- A different concept.
- More trees !! More birds
- Planting of more trees (native to area)
- I can't think of anything at this time.
- Nothing. Pond should remain as is
- Larger pooling areas

- Keep the pond.
- More water needed. This just looks like a split stream.
- More trees and walking trails. The natural seating area should be up here, not down below. What about a very small swimming hole? The water is very clean.
- Looks like a swamp... Bugs? Provide an asphalt connection to the upper trail leading back to Discovery Ridge Hill. This is the most heavily use trail in the area.
- Add a pond for birds and other wildlife
- Let nature be nature and stop messing with it.
- Benches to sit on to enjoy the birds etc and ponds
- Bigger ponds, trees, natural play area
- Make the wetlands a bit larger
- Leave the space alone. We went from talking about stocking the pond with fish to it now being destroyed. Leave it alone.
- Space for birds is far too small!
- Leave the current structure. The pond is functional for animals and for fire hazards.
- Connect pathways with asphalt not dirt
- add some trees around here and there to give it more character
- maybe one slightly larger 'pond' but not marshy - like a mini lake where the ducks/geese can go but deep enough not breed bugs

Question 7: At the bottom of the slope, the grass is currently a mown manicured space. In the new space, what would you like to see in this area? Select all that apply.

- Space to sit by water if waterfall is removed.
- A place for natural sitting, but also open manicured to allow kids to continue and people a space to play.
- Why would you not leave this area as is? No one is asking to lose or change what we have. It's used often for kids to play ball, throw a frisbee, etc. Don't take that away by putting up obstacles.
- Off leash area for dogs
- Please keep it a pond.
- Considering the amount of dogs being walked in the area would be great to have an off leash dog park there
- With added playground in manicured green space
- Place to sit by the water
- The mowed and manicured area should be expanded to reduce the invasive species. The existing utility corridor zoning is literally over run with invasive.
- Definitely NO signage. Rocks encourage dogs to pee on them so makes sitting on the rocks unsavoury. Wild grasses encourage Allergies
- It would be nice to have a natural space with some off lease designated space. The community has a large dog population so an offense would be appreciated.
- Off leash dog area

- Definitely not the historical signs. They attract graffiti and are not part of the natural landscape. Signs would be a mistake - especially large signs. Please do not do this.
- Mowed and manicured??? Does the City know how to do this because they have not for the past number of years since taking it back from the NDHA.
- Rock seating along the boulevard for rest stop and naturalized space. No / limited use of signs please.
- Part of the area gets quite massaged in spring so anything that helps maintain a natural environment. There are lots of places for play in our neighbourhood and woods so this should be kept as a quiet natural spot as much as possible so we can walk and enjoy without high levels of noise disturbing the wildlife. Connecting the path from the top of the pond to lower area would be great. People have created their own walkable parts as unfortunately this was missed in the original design for a walkable area. Please also keep in mind that it's the DR Homeowners Ass. that should be consulted regarding all landscaping and roads as we are represented and sold them accountable at our meetings. (We pay approx \$400 here) The DR community association is a \$25 fee and is entertainment only and should NOT be deciding for the community as they do not consult us or advocate on our behalf. The DR homeowners group do a great job with landscaping and involving the community, hopefully you can work with them in maintaining the area once completed. Our pond is an eyesore due to lack of care and as we look at it everyday and live above it, it would be great to see it return to the natural beauty it once was. Please keep as much as possible to our natural design. This area was meant for wildlife, cut grass and bushes for birds, not for attracting more outside traffic that is already causing congestion into our wood entrances with piles of cars all along the street, idling etc. With our community only one road in and out we need to keep our space for wildlife, it's why we live here.
- Please keep the existing land use - the stones in the natural seating area option would just be used by dogs to mark their passing by and the signage option is just plain ugly and result in an area that is little used by the community
- 1-2 Picnic tables and benches with, shaded by large trees (on periphery)
- I prefer the City working with the DRHA (Homeowners Assoc) create an integrated landscape mgmt. plan. City maintenance of the existing waterfall and pathway along the berm is well below the standard of the community.
- A space for off leash dogs here would be much better use than any of these other options.
- What about an island where the new ravine wraps around a pump track with picnic tables + eating area and new playground
- There are a lot of dogs in this community and many people walk their dogs off leash so it would make perfect sense to have an off leash area. Please, no more signs. We have a problem with too much signage already in this neighbourhood. Signs get vandalized and weathered.
- Create a much needed off leash area
- ONE sign, minimal cement
- Turn the entire area into a fenced community dog park operated by the DRCA
- Think! We support investing in the space and making it more safe, usable and attractive for the people who live here. That said, this natural waterway/space sits within a quiet residential area and should remain scaled to serve the immediate neighbourhood—not function as a broader destination. Design choices that increase traffic, parking demand, or extended use would fundamentally change the character

of the area and impact safety, noise levels and day-to-day livability for surrounding homeowners. There's an opportunity to do this well by focusing on thoughtful, community-oriented improvements—natural landscaping, simple pathways, seating, safety improvements and low-impact amenities—without introducing features that draw significant non-local traffic. In short, yes, enhance what's here, but keep it aligned with why people chose to live in this neighbourhood in the first place.

- A combination of trees and shrub beds, similar to that in other green spaces in the area (see the path behind Discovery Ridge Rise, SW)
- I would like it be left as it is.
- Leave the open space. Having that section manicured allows for safety sight lines as well as a place for kids to play. It makes me feel very unsafe to walk that path in the areas where I cannot be seen. This manicured space is also a benefit of barrier between invasive plants and manicured yards for the adjacent homeowners
- Maybe a playground or flat field for a grass volleyball court for kids to make use of it And then a slope to above so it can be a safe sledding hill. Discovery Ridge doesn't have a designated sledding hill.
- Benches. Use rocks from waterfall to bars cape natural areas to sit around wetland area. Mown grass but no formal play space. I'd like to see a sign or something where the pond. Dam used to be and something about the history of the area (Griffith family)
- The dead bushes can go ...
- I space for tobogganing. No sidewalk at the bottom of part of the hill
- Clean up the paths, remove all the thistles and overgrowth and update the landscaping
- Please not metal structures!!! Will be vandalized and are ugly!!!!!!!
- This is a popular sledding hill for the kids. The other sledding area is much more dangerous. Important to preserve sledding hill. Would be nice if the "hole" in the area was filled in for play or seating
- skating area in the winter?
- People use this space for badminton and playing catch. The last thing we need is signs and long unkept grass.
- A mix of lawn as kid go sledding here and a natural seating area may be off to one side
- Benches with backs not just rocks and there needs to be a space to sit by the water. I absolutely do not want a play space there! Big no!
- Kids use this space to play, please leave it as is.

Question 8: Have you seen any inspiring ideas from other similar spaces that you think would be good for The City to consider for this project? Please upload an image or make a note here.

- Thank you for engaging our community on design. This is a marked improvement in engagement from past (bear safety and bins).
- Just leave the pond alone. Cleanup the weeds and reinforce the current structure. There is no danger. The pond has survived massive rain storms and no flooding.
- It is critical there be a large pond of some kind suitable for geese and ducks. This has been a natural habitat for them since the 50's. There should be some trees, not just on open prairie with a stream.

Deer go through and like the trees. Loser to the top of the paved pathway, so I'd like to see more of that.

- Love the rock seating in the area by DR BLvd. Concerned if this grass area is left natural that it will be left unkept and just increase the thistle and invasive plants. A low clover and more natural grass could be added to the area but still keep maintained by our community landscaping team.
- Retain the pond. It is so important for wildlife given the long period that birds and other wildlife have used this space.
- We are VERY concerned with how close the path is to our home @ [personal information removed] The path nearly touches our back fence. Please move the path further from our yard and add some trees in between for some privacy. The prox. of the pthwy to our home will be a neg. and effect the resale value. The greenspace currently manicured gets a lot of use by families playing sports Please leave it manicured
- Maybe som of the area could be a small off leash dog park.
- The existing pond is best. \$400 for library. \$800mm for arena. \$1.5mm Blue Ring. The city has enough money for a dam
- The city needs to stay out of it. Let the area stay a nature reserve. Deets, fox, moose, rabbits, beavers, geese and ducks use this spot.
- I often see kids playing in the open space and so would like to see that be the priority.
- Please please not metal historical structures. They are unattractive, unnatural, can be vandalized with paint. Do not ruin our natural area with man made structures. Keep it natural.
- I see kids playing catch and passing a soccer ball in this little grassy area. It's wonderful that kids use the space and are outside being active! (In the lower grassy area)
- Do not get rid of the pond. Keep the area how it is.
- The lower section is currently full of weeds so I would like to see whatever is done is better cared for or lower maintenance so it not just full of unsightly weeds.
- No specific ideas, but the ravine concept looks great. Hoping to keep this area as a resting space for people and wild creatures, as well as a beautiful and special touch to our community.
- A lake for the birds is important to maintain the ecosystem. The rock work can go but the lake should be maintained
- Have provisions been considered for the eventual arrival of Beavers?
- Wouldn't the lower are be kept the same simply to save tax dollars? It's fine! Keep as is. Please do not put up big signs - what a waste.
- I think the natural seating area could also have some kind of artwork. I remember the Elbow Island Park carved stones near the little creek crossing, which perfectly blend in the environment but that gift the visitor with such a beautiful message if you pay attention. Something that blends in but also makes the visitor think and be present would be wonderful.
- I've lived in Discovery Ridge for over 20 years and love the amount of walking paths throughout the community. This area should be returned to a state that is natural and that limits the amount of attention required to maintain it other than safety and garbage collection point for folks that use it.
- Limited characters. :(Past renderings included more meandering stream. Stones from the spillway repurposed. Some tree stands and natural shrubbery areas which will provide habitat. I've not seen people playing where your pictures show. But it would be nice to have a smaller natural seating area nearer to the sidewalk - see picture attached. Happy to discuss. Peter Sziraky - NDHA Landscape Dir
- Nice looking arched bridge over stream with a small waterfall or pond to sit and listen to the water. The existing bench near the waterfall is used frequently. Save the fish in the pond!

- Some nice trails and pathways with benches. Maybe a natural style playground. Add a grass volleyball court.
- Do not cause harm to biodiversity! If certain homeowners are potentially affected by the fear of water damage that is something that everybody in Discovery Ridge is aware of when they buy here and for each person to mitigate, knowing that we buy in a land area with a high water map.
- While updates to codes and bylaws may be appropriate for future developments, it seems reasonable to consider whether existing, functional and well-maintained structures like this could be “grandfathered,” as is commonly done with other regulatory changes.
- What are the actual public safety issues that would mean this dam should change. How many issues have there been.
- I am concerned about the current local animals that use the dam for their habitat. People live in Discovery because they want to be in touch with nature. Destroying a habitat makes no sense and is against the spirit of the community.
- I would love it if we could keep as many open areas as possible, for various activities such as passing a frisbee, running with a dog, etc. I will miss the pond and the waterfall very much.
- The existing pond is a beautiful part of our community, please don't remove it.
- I'd love to see a natural materials playground and seating area similar to the one in Ralph Klein Park or Confederation Park.
- Use rocks and boulders to create different elevations of shallow pools and a babbling brook” effect
- do not jump into removing the pond. It is a highlight for kids to see ducks and birds swimming. It is wonderful, peaceful place to go sit by the pond/water. it will be a shame to see it go. It has not been an issue for ever and proven itself to be safe. Make some modifications to remove the risk, but maintain the pond and turn it into a lake with some fish
- I think the whole project is a waste of taxpayer money and has been forced by those in City Administration who just want a project to build. There is no immediate risk to the public, especially now that the water outlet/level has been lowered. 78 years this dam has been here and yet unapplicable guidelines (intended for Oil and Gas Industry) have been applied for justification. This is wrong.
- I live facing the green space at the bottom and I'd like to keep it as manicured. It gets used so often with baseball, tobogganing, spike ball, biking down the hill not the path. It's a wonderful space. It wouldn't be the same if it was naturalized or had signage. Also the addition of the path way along the bottom beside those three sets of trees would just eat into that space.
- The area that has currently taken over by the city (the switchback path going down the hill from the pond) has been completely overtaken by invasive species to Alberta including thistle. I would like to see this area better managed by the city so that these species are not allowed to run rampant
- Thank you for this survey. I don't have any mockups but I do know that some residents have ideas that are positive. My kids and our family use the area at the bottom of the slope almost daily year round for sledding, playing catch, soccer, baseball etc. It's a hot spot for activity for many families and I know that a lot of us would appreciate this area being maintained as it currently is or rocks
- This is an opportunity to utilize a very special space, if you have seen the sunken garden in Victoria you can understand the potential, even being less grand. This pond is the cog between various trails and could easily serve as a meeting/rest space, surrounded by trees, sandstones boulders with cotoneaster, natural grasses and aspens. [personal information removed], discovery resident [personal information removed]

- We want a dam. You made the decision to eliminate the dam behind closed doors and now let us have some level of input to a couple of [profanity removed] alternatives . That is not consultation or playing fair. We should have had input into the dam decision
- Keep it simple. See my comments above. I'm at [personal information removed]. I live here. Every day of my life. I appreciate what you're doing. Motivated to do it right.
- The pond in our community is a unique feature that not only attracts buyers to the community but also performs a function beyond just aesthetics. The pond is a water source and or breeding ground for all bird types. We have been paying higher taxes because of this water feature. There are ways to maintain the pond with a stabilized shoreline that meets current codes. I have uploaded a few images.
- I like the natural outdoor space that have seating areas and like logs for kids to play and jump on. Like a low agility area for dogs and kids to play on
- I think turning the entire area into anything functional for the community is the only sensible option. A skate park or a fully fenced dog park make the most sense to me.
- I will miss the pond. Hope to retain the waterfall or some derivative of it. Benches and "natural" seating would help appearance once the lovely main water feature has been removed.
- With a warming world and heat sinks created by cement, asphalt, rock and mowed grass I think the wetland with multi canopy trees (Mixed forest) near the water edge would be great. Create habitat for animals and birds. We already have a great people park with fields, playgrounds, rink and courts. Let's take this amazing opportunity to naturalize this space completely. Thanks for consulting.
- I don't understand why on earth you're looking to change what is already here
- Keep the bubbling brook as it was before land was developed. Reestablish the ecosystem where trout spawned in the fall where they still do below the boulevard
- We need to make the space fit the rest of the space of Discovery. Let's keep it natural, keep cost low to maintain. We have lived here for over 20 years. There are not a lot of children here in the summertime. Families go on trips, go camping and visit relatives. So the outdoor classroom and signage ideas would be the WORST way to go.
- There are so many dogs in Discovery Ridge I am just wondering if there is an opportunity for an off leash dog park. Many owners use the woods as an off leash area because there isn't another alternative.
- This community is already world class, Calgary could invest a bit more into it and make it contend as one of the best communities in the country / desirable to live in.
- It is critical that the plan includes years of monitoring and maintenance to ensure that the site does not become overrun with weeds, clogged with silt, etc. Also please minimize disruptions to the creek's flow into Griffith Woods. I would be interested in assisting. I have lived nearby for 20 years and am eager to see the project succeed. [personal information removed]
- I don't accept the need to destroy the manmade pond especially since the water level has been lowered.
- The open space near Discovery Ridge is often used by families to either visit or play. This space should remain a mowed space.
- My preference would be to have the ravine concept with incorporation of rocks. There is currently rocks below the storm pad. Incorporating those types of ideas into the ravine concept would be preferred and would be less dramatic change. Would strongly prefer NOT to have the wetlands concept, as that could increase nuisance wildlife (i.e. mosquitos) for our houses close to this area.
- Please consider improving the slope close to the waterfall- it has been completely neglected and overrun with weeds in the past few years.

Also, many children from the community use the mowed green space to play during the year. Please leave space for them to continue.

- Natural seating area and some outdoor exercise equipment that work in summer and winter.
- Overall, the paths planned that run right next to our property line ([personal information removed]) are FAR to close to maintain our privacy.
- The Discovery Ridge Homeowners Assoc (DRHA) exists to manage and to maintain landscaping that includes pathway snow removal. To carry out this mandate, the DRHA collects an annual fee from every homeowner. I understand the City, for liability reasons, retains control over specific areas within the community. Hence, I re-iterate my comment for question 7.
- Two options for the main (S-UN) space is insufficient. Would like to see more consideration of other options that would allow for a down-sized pond (lowering risk but maintaining the character, original habitat for local flora/fauna). This is what the community wants and is not being heard or responded to in a meaningful way. The proposed options are too similar to what exists in the park.
- Why can we only upload one photo? There are many similar examples of small pond-like structures like this in Carburn Park, Fish Creek Park, Nose Hill Park and others around the city. To insist on removing the equivalent from DR without consideration for what SIMILAR structures could be accommodated is frankly unconscionable. Residents here do not want an unmaintained marsh or tiny creek.
- As above, it is essential that whatever concept is selected there continues to be consistent flow of water under the Discovery Ridge BLVD to ensure constant flow into the Griffith's woods on the other side of the BLVD. Without this the watercourse in the Woods is massively impacted including trout/fish habitat [including spawning grounds] and in turn birdlife/ wildlife as well as woods aesthetic
- seen some ideas from others that don't live near the pond which we do, they want to include picnic tables etc which can be at the park across at the shops. The area should be kept as a wildlife sanctuary as was the purpose & reason we bought & have lived in this community since day 1. should be kept for wildlife. As proud dog owners we have NO wish for an off leash area/park as it will be abused.
- I would like to see design options that include some kind of pond, whether that's a smaller, shallower version, a series of linked (deep) pools - surely there are designs that would allow for this and not compromise slope stability. There is lots of space to accommodate - don't just take a prominent feature of our community and think it's acceptable to replace it with nothing, or a grass field
- The pond is a key component of discovery ridge and removing it will lessen my enjoyment of our community
- Recognize that we are not a "naturalized" community, but one with a mix of manicured areas and natural areas. With human activity, we also need to recognize that "leaving things be" (which seems to be a Calgary Parks policy) is not suitable. We need to manage more and ignore less.
- We need an off leash dog parks. Clearwater is getting upgraded to a day use area.
- Add path across top ridge elevation east to west connecting 2 paved pathways, for mobility-challenged people not need to go down steep elevation to travel east/west). Encourage wildlife to visit space. Remove 4x week commercially-used soccer field/nets from other ridge top playground park, gives ridge top users 1 other open quiet useable park option besides pond area/keep soccer bottom hill only.
- keep it natural, natural seating, perhaps natural playground features, climbing walls for kids. keep it nature and family friendly. please, not a lot of signage and human-made structures.
- Regain as many low flammable trees as possible that will absorb sound from the ring road. Consider fire risk and what would reduce it for the community. This is an opportunity to build in ways to reduce that risk and have water points that could be used to extinguish fire

- I strongly oppose the historical signs. They would be a non-natural eyesore in a natural environment. They would also age (become dated and weather) terribly and be an attractant for graffiti and vandalism.
- Don't do anything, leave it the way it is.
- Can we evaluate having tiered ponds of 4-6 foot depth that reduces risk category and still maintains a moving water system without a marsh or wetland. What is city's plan to avoid ice damming and ice formation. What is City's plan to offset property value changes. Why are only one of 5 options evaluated in the risk report being put forward for consideration by the community.
- This shouldn't be an area that encourages people to ride through on their bikes - especially if it's wetlands. And there will need to be strong education and signage about off-leash dogs. A lot of the off-leash problems in DR are residents. But I think this will be lovely. The pond is nice but I prefer closer to what was actually here before agriculture/residential developments.
- It would be a great place for a dog park as this is much needed in our community
- The cost of maintenance vs the usage over the year is important. You don't want to build something with a high maintenance cost that is used just during the 2 months of Summer. I think a rain garden would be very appropriate.
- Please consider limiting disruption to wildlife....they are already at risk.
- Please ensure that the newly designed space is properly maintained and cared for. The current space has many dead shrubs that are overgrown by weeds. The pavement on the pathway system needs improved care as there are plants breaking through in numerous places.
- It's very unfortunate that after 20+ years this pond has suddenly become a risk and can't be modified. We've survived 2 floods and that pond was not an issue.
- I can see beavers causing issues in the proposed wetlands.
- Priorities for the designs are: 1) sound mitigation of ring road, 2) safe for at least 1 in 500 (not 1 in 100) flood event, 3) do not create mosquito habitat, which would harm residents' enjoyment of their property and this space, 4) preserve habitat for current wildlife, 5) no increase of mowed area and 6) more benches.
- A few benches included in the above spaces would be nice.
- If you ignore my comments and do destroy the dam, we need a dog off-leash area in the community. Put it in the area of the dam.
- Discovery Ridge is a beautiful subdivision with incredible scenery. Many residents walk the paths regularly and I have noticed that non-residents come here to walk and picnic. Let's do whatever it takes to retain, maintain and enhance Discovery Ridge!
- Save the fish in the pond, make bridge attractive looking (arched wooden), re use stones from waterfall for seating by waterways, keep area quiet, no playground, enlarge lagoon area somewhat so there is a space large enough for geese to land
- Your photo size limit doesn't even allow for screen shots of photos but there are many nice boardwalks and bridges through wetlands - even what we had before ring road on other side of neighbourhood... and radio park in wetlands
- Keep things as natural as possible. Keep water retention in the ground and no chemicals as the highest priority.
- Many urban park spaces have small connecting pools with rocks and trees around them. Example here is from Ont. Why is this not being considered here. Our community does not want to lose all water from this space and it's an massive overreach to do so. All designs going forward for consideration must include this if you are truly listening to community members.

- We want water, even if it's less area than what's there now. It's ridiculous this hasn't been considered given feedback from citizens. It's despicable that these are the only options being presented. I wouldn't be surprised to see lawsuits coming.
- I believe the space should retain its natural characteristics while also being functional for people. It should serve as a safe place for kids to gather regularly. It's the midpoint. Need to consider repairs the road after construction, due to the heavy hauling. my experience, there are ways to improve current state, such as overflow modifications, ground improvements, flow control and piping.
- Please do not develop this area without addressing the need for a paved pathway or stairway joining the upper and lower walkways. Also pave the upper pathway to join Discovery Ridge Hill. Current use is creating erosion of the slope. Walkways are needed to be created, paved and upgraded.
- Keep it a pond. The current water level is safe and not a hazard. Please do not waste taxpayers money with unnecessary change.

In-person feedback (from event held at Ambrose University)

- Please no interpretive signage, it will be vandalized and weathered.
- Make an off-leash dog park in that area. There are so many dogs and they need space to run.
- Love the idea of a "off-leash area" for dogs.
- Huge No to dog park in the community area next to the boulevard. (I'm a dog owner)
- Ditto, a closer off-leash park would be nice, but this spot is too small (and close to wild grass).
- I agree (no off-leash park).
- Can the rocks in the current "dry waterfall" be used in the new design
- Rock feature is stunning - could we incorporate this?
- Paved pathway preference - need to get from lower level to upper level on pavement.
- Preference no bikes.
- kids wading area on rocks
- Area where current waterfall is and area next to it needs to be under NDHA control. Since the City took control it's turned into an ugly mess
- On existing dam face no maintenance over 2+ years. Did something change legally within certain areas?
- Pathway snow removal
- There are shrubs blocking views of from benches.
- existing electrical feed and old dock. It is near Sarcee, that was used as military training area that the 2013 flood uncovered unexploded ordnance along the Elbow River.
- Neighbours have reported some "weird stuff" found in their yards when excavating.
- Gentle Toboggan hill, ie. Multi-season play area. It's much appreciated to see people using the manicured space regularly.
- no mosquitos
- can't be an amusement park, don't want seating, don't want a destination
- replanted please don't put willows in here
- increase management, need forest, more trees wetland and Ravine, big difference
- Concerns with weeds, who is going to monitor the wetland?
- over run with weeds concerns about wildlife and implications of management



Discovery Ridge Dam Safety

What We Heard Report

June 2026

- Landscape company...HOA who/why made this changed? Manicured preference for the bottom
- Not a fan of the off leash park
- make bottom space more open (no seating)
- Questions about construction impacts, duration, timing etc
- consider sharing information about this pond/spring for brook trout. Either through pamphlet or signs
- Wetland may attract more people activity, new wildlife. Need to be mindful of this.
- what environmental studies are being done?
- How will you protect the waterway that flows into the park? The City KILLED the brook trout there during mitigation
- If putting in wetland - this is a big responsibility. People tend to bring things to wetlands. The City did NOT kill trout, that happened BEFORE mitigation (brought on by people - <redacted due to personally identifying comment>)
- wetland concept - I like the idea of an island area surrounded by wetland. It would be a protected area for birds to nest x2
- concerns: flooding (1:100), noise, keeping it natural (no soccer, no off leash, mosquitos
- I enjoy the upper portion of the creek/spring and would be interested to see that replicated in the lower section
- I appreciate the City's efforts on communicating the needed changes and schedule to move forward with the work.
- Animal management is an important part
- environmental surveys
- parks maintenance needs to be better for the space now and into the future.
- do not create a playground or park in this area! X2
- extremely important for the area to not turn into a big ugly area for weeds (hillside of the dam is like that now, yuck!) x2
- look at the metal bridge in Griffith - keep that stream concept going through the hillside dam area
- create spaces to sit and enjoy the space. Most benches near the pond are currently useless x2
- extremely important to keep a wetland concept as it's an important habitat for birds.
- wetland concept should include an area large enough for geese to land on x2
- city needs to make sure any paved paths are maintained current paths are a tripped hazard x2
- willows at end of conc swale - homeowner sold because of battle cutting them down.
- overflowed onto the switchback in extreme rain a couple of times (2005 maybe), depression fills often on bottom
- user collisions because of bad sightlines from willows
- How is construction going to be managed? Where will the materials be stored? Where will the equipment be kept?
- Area below the dam by waterfall is not a suitable location for equipment parking x2
- Both concepts look good and I don't have a strong preference for either one. My concern is that the project is well executed, so that it doesn't end up weed infested and damaged.
- Also, it is important to not block stream flow during construction. Stream into GWP dried up occasionally

when pumps were running

- I'd like to see an area where the current waterfall is to sit next to the water and hear the water. There is currently a bench next to the water that is used a lot x2
- If the dam were to fail my homeowners insurance would not cover our home. Flooding, dam failure not covered, have also told my neighbours
- please save the fish living in the pond
- construction impacts are a concern.
- pathway proximity to the houses needs to be farther away - busy path and proximity to houses.
- skating would be nice like North Glenmore Park
- lawsuit pending, it is in City bylaw City has to pay to impact my property value
- Is there going to be damage to trees along the creek? (Discovery Vista Point - pine trees 60ft tall).
- perspective from discovery vista point - concerns about what it will look like
- I don't like either concepts, keep the pond
- body of water view is important (property value impacts)
- importance of wildlife presence (moose/deer) and water view
- need more realistic perspective that shows the slope and impact from change in grading
- Geese, swans, birds, moose presence will be gone with change
- maintenance agreement - need clarification (Parks has not done maintenance?)
- parks maintenance is a concern, mosquitos are a concern
- drainage at the bottom will need to be managed with a sump pump
- maintain the green and manicured areas
- hill at bottom for tobogganing
- consider pathway locations, would prefer no path but doesn't like it close to house
- might prefer wetland for interest
- change, people, wildlife, vegetation, maintenance, impact? Be mindful
- would like grassland that does not require as much maintenance, want basic
- city wildlife management (new concept will attract new wildlife) to the wetland (new ecosystem) is the City ready?
- make sure there is connectivity in landscape spaces to Griffith Woods
- make it simple, don't overthink
- during construction, there needs to be a pathway linking the ridge to the woods. It is a walkable community and is actively used x2
- In 2006-2010 the pond supported considerable wildlife (red wing blackbirds, frogs, trout and land animals using it as a watering hole). I would like to see an option that helps wildlife have this resource.
- you don't want herbicide load near wetlands
- Prefer the wetland concept and would recommend a path around the wetland area x2