

Project overview

Munro Park is part of Calgary's Established Area Growth and Change Strategy, focused on enhancing green spaces in evolving communities. Already a well-loved destination, the park has the potential to grow into a vibrant, nature-rich space. Building on recent improvements, the City envisions adding playful amenities and connecting park areas into an inclusive, creative space that celebrates natural beauty and invites year-round enjoyment.

Engagement overview

Phase 3 engagement was open for input online between June 27 – July 11, 2025, with one pop-up engagement session held at the park on June 29, 2025. This was the design reveal phase, where the project team presented the proposed design to the community, shared construction timing/impacts and rationale for the design choice.



Picture taken at Munro Park Pop-up Event, June 29, 2025

Engagement Summary



1756 online visitors



**116 online
contributions**



**65 in person
participants**

Summary of input

The community response to the park project has been largely enthusiastic, with many residents expressing excitement about the thoughtful design and the integration of native plants, pollinator gardens, and urban rewilding. The reuse of artistic elements like the Olympic Plaza gophers and the celebration of local history were especially well received. People are eager to see the park become a vibrant, inclusive space that reflects the character of the neighborhood. At the same time, the project team has taken note of constructive feedback and concerns raised by the community—such as the requests for more shaded areas, lighting, a fenced dog area, and questions around the necessity of certain amenities like a basketball court. The project team have addressed these questions and concerns directly below in the Questions and Answers section. While not all suggestions could be incorporated, it's clear that community voices played a meaningful role in shaping the final vision, and the result is a space that many are proud to see come to life.

What we asked

The final design concept was presented online using hotspot maps indicating where amenities and features would be added and/or upgraded.

Using the visionary activity tool, we asked:

“What do you think of the final design concept?”

A complete set of the comments received can be viewed in the verbatim section at the end of this report.

Descriptions of each feature were provided and included the following details on the portal page:

Amenities Features



Specialized Native Garden Features





Phase 3: Munro Park Improvements

What We Heard

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The Historic Garden: The orange “Centennial Grove” installation by Navagrah Landscape Architecture, previously at Olympic Plaza, will breathe new life into the western side of Munro Park and provide iconic placemaking and activation within a new plaza. Originally inspired by Alberta Aspen groves to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Calgary Parks, the poles will speak to the new Aspen grove at Munro Park. The layout of the orange poles and grasses within the new Munro Park Plaza are based on the exact footprint of a historic garden in that exact location circa 1950s / 60s.

Nature Play Zone: Building on the park’s concept of Urban Rewilding, the nature play zone offers children a respite from urban life and a variety of play options for various ages and abilities within a naturalized environment. Educational opportunities abound as kids can learn about butterflies and other pollinators, as well as a variety of species in the Bioretention Garden.

Urban Rewilding: Discover nature like never before with Urban Rewilding—our bold shift from manicured lawns to vibrant native ecosystems. From endangered Rough Fescue Grasslands to buzzing Pollinator Gardens and Aspen Groves, these spaces invite birds, butterflies, and more. Biodiversity boosts clean air, our health, and connection to nature. These rewilded areas might look a little less “tidy” than traditional parks—but they’re full of life, beauty, and purpose. Get ready for a richer, wilder park experience.

The Colorful Gophers: Get ready for a pop of colour and a dash of mischief! The iconic colourful gophers by designer Kristina Prins, salvaged from Olympic Plaza, are burrowing into their new home right here in the park. These playful little sculptures are full of personality—so keep your eyes peeled... you never know where one might be popping up!

Bioretention Gardens: Think of it as nature’s way of cleaning up after a storm! A bioretention (or rain) garden is a shallow, landscaped area that captures rainwater runoff from streets and rooftops. Instead of rushing into storm drains with pollution, water is filtered by soil and plants, then slowly released into the ground or streams like Nose Creek. These gardens clean water and create habitats for birds, bugs, and butterflies. They’re beautiful, hard-working, and a win for both people and the planet!

Basketball Courts: Whether you’re a seasoned baller or just love shooting hoops with friends, our brand-new 3v3 basketball court is ready for action! Fast-paced, fun, and perfect for players of all ages and skill levels, this court is where teamwork meets friendly competition. Grab your crew, bring your best moves, and let’s make some slam dunks and unforgettable memories right here at Munro Park!

Conversational Seating: Munro Park is getting cozy with new conversational seating—perfect spots designed for friends, neighbors, and new acquaintances to gather, chat, and connect. Whether you’re catching up over coffee or meeting someone new, these comfy setups invite you to slow down, share stories, and make the park feel like your second living room.

New Irrigation System: Munro Park is getting a brand-new irrigation system that’s both smart and sustainable. Designed to keep plants healthy while saving water, this system waters efficiently—only when and where it’s needed. That means lush greenery, vibrant gardens, and happy trees all season long, with less waste. Good for the park, great for the planet

What we heard: Top themes



Support for the project

We received a majority of support for the project, with most contributors excited for and impressed with the final design.

"I love it! It sounds like an area that I can take pride in showing my visiting friends and family."

"Great updates! can't wait to see the improved, nature oriented upgrades! Definitely a charm for the up and coming community."



Urban rewilding and nature

Many contributors commented on the urban rewilding elements of the design.

"I'm all for urban rewilding! Such a great way to bridge conservation and design."

"It's truly stunning. I'm mostly thrilled about the fescue grasslands."



Direct questions and concerns about the design

We received over twenty comments that included a direct question about the design, including why certain features and amenities were chosen over others.

"What percentage of mature trees will remain? What will be reasoning for removing existing trees? Can they be integrated into concept?"

"What happened to the fenced of dog area ????????"

The project received a high volume of direct questions in Phase 3, we responded to each question theme on the portal page and below:

How does the design help to mitigate public safety concerns?

During early engagement, many people said the west side of the park along Edmonton Trail felt unsafe.



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The new design activates this side of the park to make it more welcoming and visible. It will include:

- A 3-on-3 basketball court
- A community plaza
- A salvaged public art feature
- Areas for community gathering

These features will encourage more people to visit from Edmonton Trail, and improve natural neighbourhood watch. We have also allowed for lighting and an off-leash dog area to be added in the future if funding becomes available.

How is the park designed to be inclusive for everybody?

Munro Park will offer many ways to enjoy the space, both active and passive, for people of diverse ages and abilities.

- The existing walking loop and fitness equipment are inclusive.
- The new community plaza seating area is designed to be inclusive.
- The new Nature Play Zone includes an inclusive walking path and activities for different ages and abilities. This space is primarily intended as a unique and immersive natural play experience.

For children with specific accessibility needs, there is a fully inclusive playground 0.7 km west at Tuxedo Park.

Is this genuine/sincere engagement – how did the City listen to the feedback?

Yes. The City has been engaging with the community since 2024, building on earlier feedback from 2014. Full results are available at <https://engage.calgary.ca/munropark>.

From what we heard, the most valued existing features were:

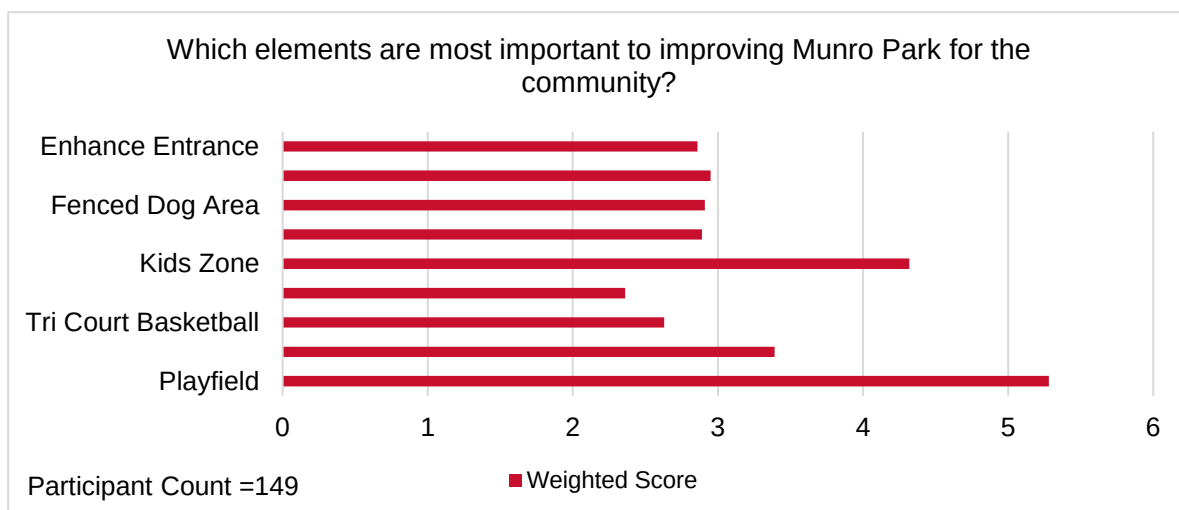


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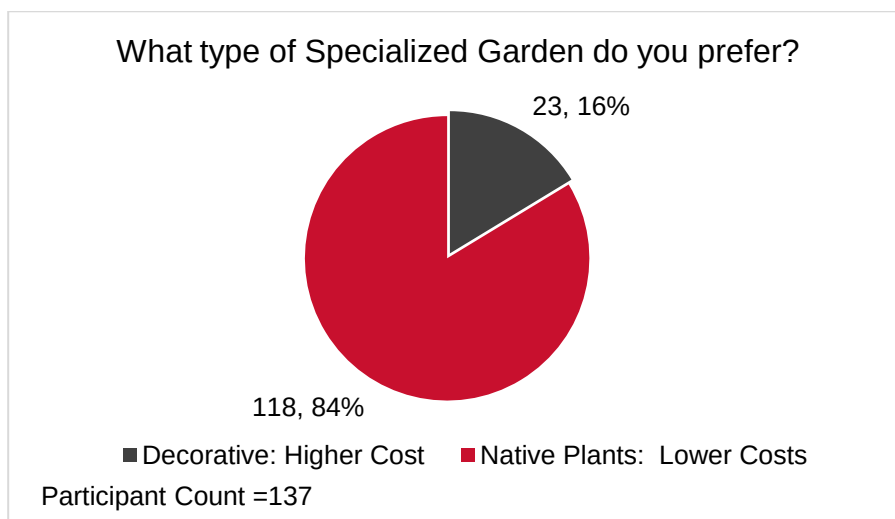
What We Heard
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- The existing playfield
- The existing walking loop
- Existing mature trees
- Existing fitness equipment

We kept all of these. We also added a new Kids' Zone and specialized gardens based on priorities from community feedback. Thank you to those who participated in our public surveys. Please see image below:



The design's "Urban Rewilding" concept came from strong support for native plants that cost less to maintain and support local ecosystems (see image below):



Why are some trees being removed?

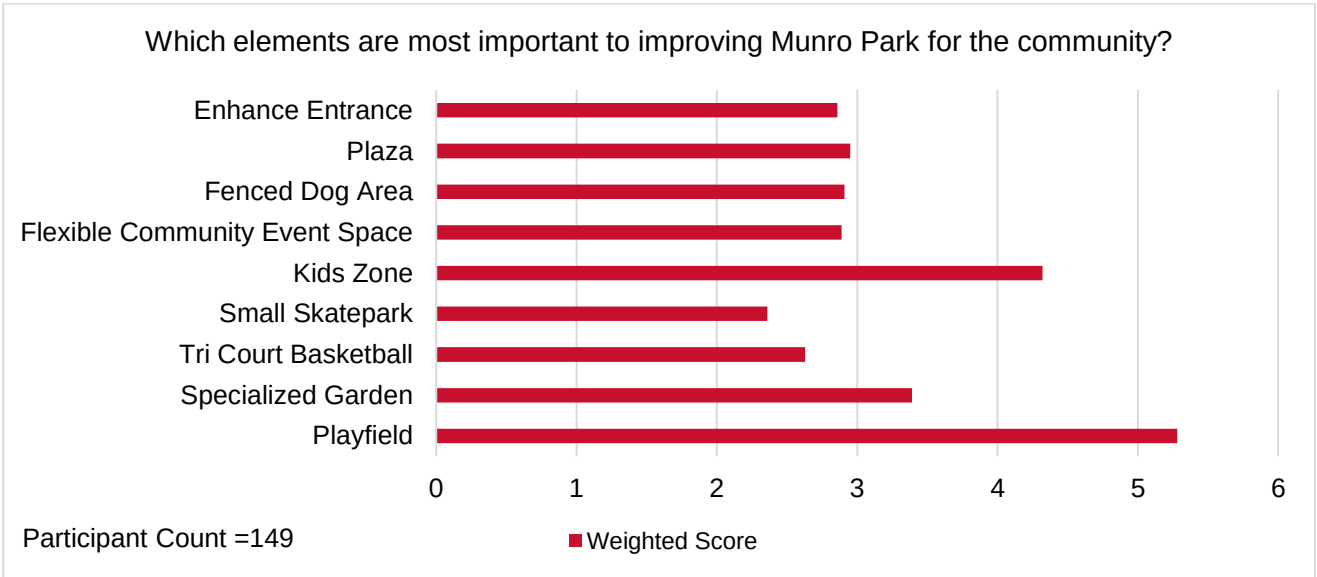
Protecting existing trees is a top priority during the design and construction process at Munro Park. Approximately 75 new trees will be planted as part of the upgrades. After in depth consultation with Urban Forestry subject matter experts, approximately 120 existing trees will remain while only approximately 12 unhealthy shrubs and trees will be removed. A tree protection plan is in place to keep trees safe during construction.

Why was no off-leash dog area, skatepark, skate rink or lighting incorporated into this plan?

Although all considered, based on a range of considerations - including priorities from community feedback, certain design features will need to be reconsidered in future planning phases for Munro Park. We have allowed for future lighting, off-leash dog area and skate rink to be added in the west side of the park if funding becomes available but cannot assure this at this time.

Why add basketball?

The west side of the park needed more activity to improve safety and visibility. A 3-on-3 basketball court, community plaza, and public art will bring more people into this space. This type of basketball court is affordable, spatially efficient, equity inclusive, and will be available for use when other courts are not. Basketball was preferred over a skatepark and other activities in community feedback.



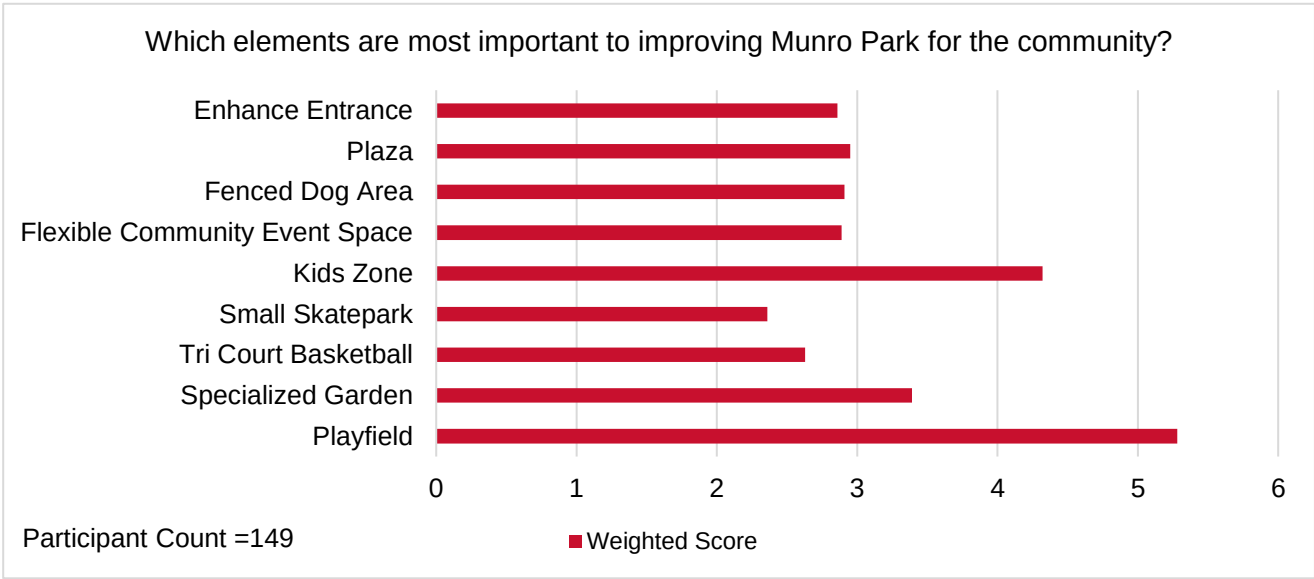


Phase 3: Munro Park Improvements

What We Heard
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Why was the play field kept?

The playfield was the most important element to keep, according to community engagement results (see graphic below).



Why not pickleball/disc golf/skatepark/pump track?

Munro Park is a community park, not a regional park. It doesn't have the parking or washrooms for high-traffic activities.

Pickleball was also ruled out because of noise impacts on nearby homes. Lower traffic, lower noise, and lower cost amenities were chosen instead.

Why wasn't a shade structure included?

A shade structure was considered for the site; however, based on a range of considerations—including priorities identified through community feedback—it was not included in the final design. A structure has been designed for the Nature Play Zone and may be added in the future if funding becomes available but we cannot assure this at this time.

In the meantime, the park will get approximately 75 new trees (on top of the approximately 120 existing trees) to provide more natural shade.

Has this property been evaluated for Historic Resources?



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The land was cross referenced with Alberta Arts, Culture and Status of Women's Listing of Historic Resources (<https://www.alberta.ca/listing-historic-resources>) and there is no Historic Resource Value (HRV) associated with the land. Given the small-scale nature of the project, a formal submission to the province was not required; However, Section 31 of the Historical Resources Act still applies. Should any evidence of human occupation be uncovered during development, work in the area will stop and the province will be contacted to determine next steps.

Munro Park is an inner City, urban park that has undergone different levels of development for the last 80 years. During that time there have been no findings that suggest a significant Indigenous presence on the park lands.

Who will maintain the park?

The contractor will maintain the park for a defined period post construction. Then, City crews will take over. Everyone can help by using garbage bins provided, cleaning up after their dogs, and reporting any issues to 311.

Will the design impact the existing limited parking at the park?

Will the new design increase parking issues? We do not anticipate that the new amenities such as small basketball court, community plaza and new play zone will significantly increase traffic to the park. Low-traffic amenities were chosen specifically to avoid adding strain to parking.

Is the park accessible by public transit?

Yes. There is a bus stop on Edmonton Trail, near 17 Ave NE, along the park's west side. More information is available at <https://www.calgarytransit.com/home.html>.

Next steps

Park improvement construction is planned for Fall 2025 and is subject to construction market scheduling and costs. The park will be closed between 2025 - 2026 and anticipated to re-open 2026.

Nearby park residents will be informed of upcoming construction work prior to commencement and updates will be provided on the project's webpage: www.calgary.ca/parks/munro-park

In collaboration with the community, we will strive to deliver on a vibrant and welcoming space at the heart of a growing community— offering a balance of active and passive recreation, while supporting natural ecosystems.

Verbatim Comments

Verbatim comments presented here include all feedback, suggestions, comments and messages that were collected online and in-person through the engagement described in this report. All input has been reviewed and provided to Project Teams to be considered in decision making for the project.

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

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

What do you think of the final design concept?
A lot of residential development happening in area means more people. This design focused on teens and kids, what about a dog park?
A number of commenters have asked about lighting. It turns out that studies show that more nighttime lighting just attracts more crime.
Add a few larches among the aspens? Aspens should be densely planted. Looks fantastic!
Add more lighting so people don't sleep there.
Alberta Native Plant Rescue Foundation would love to help you obtain all the native plants and grasses for this park from our many rescues.
All the decorative stuffs are a waste of space. Wish there is more installation for workout and exercise and cultivate active environment.
amazing!!
At this point it'd be better if you did nothing at all.
Bad design, didn't listen to anything we asked for in the last sessions.
Brilliant design, I love the implementation of urban rewilding!
Can't wait for this to be built. The City has done an excellent job incorporating feedback
Definitely need lots lighting in the area!
Don't see the point of the playground with the school one across I have kids & would have preferred fenced dog area.
excited about the pollinator gardens!
Fantastic design that has retained what is important to the community and added a freshness to the neighborhood. The art plaza is creative!

Get rid of the soccer field ! The same group of soccer players that don't live in this community use it daily , leave garbage
Gophers! Yay!
Great design! Those renders are amazing and I love the historic garden homage
great mix of amenities... The City needs to start spending more money on parks like this. This is a great example!
Great updates! cant wait to see the improved, nature oriented upgrades! Definitely a charm for the up and coming community.
Great, any chance you'd add a pickleball court?
I don't like it. We should keep more green space not pave a basketball hoop next to an existing basketball court.
I enjoy seeing the pollinator areas and natural play spaces. We don't need more play grounds, we need play spaces in nature
I like it!
I like it!
I like it! I would prefer more interesting topography - like using a berm and landscaping to shield Edmonton Trail vehicle noise.
I like the colourful gophers. We already have no parking with the soccer people why are we trying to get more people without more parking?
I like the emphasis on habitat for nature and butterflies. And the number of trees has increased significantly. Will be beautiful.
I like the overall design concept, but I believe that the public art from Olympic Plaza should be removed from the DESIGN.
I love everything about it. I drive by daily, and have spent time there. I will make a point to stop on my way home now. Great job team!
I love it!
I love it! It sounds like an area that I can take pride in showing my visiting friends and family.
I love the idea of urban rewilding and the nature play area! My family will love to spend time here.
i love the use of native plants and the bioretention gardens!! please make sure the playground is actually suitable for imaginative play
I love this so much! Especially the gophers from Olympic Plaza!!
I love this! Well done to the project team!

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I personally don't like the new plan, we need green grass not turf, there's a school playground right next to the Munro park, we have enough
I really hope you guys put the high voltage power line underground at the same time the park is getting revitalized. That would be smart
I really love that you are going to be incorporating native plants, very good to see!
I think the public art looks too squashed together and should be more spread out - why does some old garden need to be remembered/celebrated
I want the park to be safer for visitors, less drug use. I support defensive architecture to discourage vagrancy.
I was hoping for a fence, currently there is a lot of drug usage, especially along the west side of the park.
I went to the pop-up this past Sunday and really liked the plan. Wondering if the contemplative area might have medicine wheel included?
I would LOVE to see a proper sign and perhaps a bit of a bio on the late Alex Munro, my grandfather. [personally identifying information removed]
I would love to see a small disc golf course integrated into the areas surrounding the sports field.
I'm all for urban rewilding! Such a great way to bridge conservation and design
I'm just curious why the project is out for tender for the construction. Is city looking for public feedback or just checking a box.
I'm so disappointed you did not listen. There's a huge playground already across the street and many asked for a dog park not basketball.
Is this all going to be ruined when Enmax runs their new overhead transmission lines right through this park?
It is beautiful. I just hope residents with disabilities can utilize it safely and that it is close to a bus stop so everyone can go to it.
It looks all nice but really no one has Addressed The homeless that sleep there all spring and summer it needs lights at night waste of mone
It's like they didn't listen to a thing people asked for in the last consultations.
It's a huge oversight to not consider adding a shaded area. There are several playgrounds within a few blocks but no skate parks near by.
It's truly stunning. I'm mostly thrilled about the fescue grasslands.
Keep trees and design in a way tree retention is actually feasible
Lighting and enclosed off leash dog park are what we all wanted, everything else is unnecessary. City is not listening to what residents wan

Long grasses need to be eliminated as they will catch and hold litter and become densely populated with ticks posing a risk to public safety
Looking forward to the finished product! I like how it is turning out. Really hope the that Enmax power line will be buried though...
Looks amazing! I can't wait to see it completed.
Looks fantastic! Something like this would be great at Prince's Island (that playground is rough)
Looks great ! Some lilac bushes would be so pretty !
looks great!
Looks great! A lot of thought went into it. I am glad you decided against an off leash dog area. Dogs on leash will enjoy this new park.
Looks great! I like the pedestrian crossing to the school and that the walking path was retained. Really liked the nature playground
Looks great! Looking forward to the updates. Get the power lines below ground.
Looks great, liking the updates to the park. You can't please everyone, but I think the team did an awesome job
Looks to be a great place. It's a shame the City didn't oppose ENMAX's plan to sterilize it all with 90 ft tall distribution lines.
Love all the amenities, public spaces, and planting. Sod (soccer field) feel at odds with the planting concept, would rather see more plants
Love it!
love it!
Love it!!!
Love it.
Love it. This park should be so much more and now this design turns it into a place you want to hang out.
Love the "Urban Rewilding" concept. Overall looks very good. How will design and construction be compromised by Enmax's HV line project?
Love the reuse of the cute gophers from Olympic Plaza!
Nice work! Great additions of nature & art components & amenities for a wide age-range. More garage capacity & Enmax line buried = my 2cents. *typo apology: garbage capacity... not garage, please no parking.
Ok you are on drugs. This is an Indian burial ground for 320 years it's time to give it back to the indigious people that started this park.

Play area does not look like it considers what children actually play with! Log's should be replaced with a slide and safer climbing structu
Please leave the existing mature trees .
Really poor engagement from the city team. They obviously already had an idea they wanted and were only paying lip service to the community.
Simply phenomenal! I live minutes away and walk by it regularly.
Small basketball will be quieter than initial skatepark planned years ago and a dog park would be noisiest and ruin gardens.
Soccer field is pointless with better ones available by Renfrew Pool. No one asked for basketball, school has it already.
Sounds like a winner. Thank you!
Super disappointed ! This is why Calgary is dropping in desirable places to live. Listen to the community! Basketball ? Wow
Teenagers will love the basketball court. Interesting plaza and nice Aspen grove.
Terrible. Why build a second basketball court across the street from one we already have?
Thank you for keeping the walking loop and soccer field. Nice playground and lots of shade with trees.
Thank you for thinking of nature too.
The basketball court is a mistake. The noise of constant bouncing,, no one wants to live near that, it will decrease property values.
The gophers/Navagrah/"Placemaking" are not needed, as locals love the park already. A simple dog park fence would be much better.
The small basketball court and art plaza near Edmonton trail will bring life to a part of the park that felt dangerous. Any lighting planned
There already isn't enough parking with the people from outside the community using the park. We don't need them coming to play basketball.
There's a big school playground with basketball hoops and everything just across the street, this redesign is not needed
They did a terrible job incorporating feedback. Just an awful design. Why is there a second basketball court when we have one already?
This is amazing work and will be a very excellent park space. It is very clear to see how the city incorporated feedback from the engagement
This is awesome. This park will be really well used by locals nearby, but also act as a destination for surrounding residents.

Phase 3: Munro Park Improvements

What We Heard

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This looks amazing!! Love the nature elements and that some components from Olympic plaza are being recycled.
This looks fantastic, the acknowledgment of the history of the area and city, the addition of important ecosystems and niches are excellent.
Unlike all other commenters, I love it. The neighborhood already has plenty of dog park options. I love the art additions.
We are excited for a nature playground, it will be a unique experience for kids.
We have basketball and playgrounds in other nearby parks. we need a skate park or pump track and every park needs shade.
We were told an enclosed dog park would be included, most of us have dogs. This was on the other plans, what happened to it.
What happened to the fenced of dog area ????????
What percentage of mature trees will remain? What will be reasoning for removing existing trees? Can they be integrated into concept?
Why even ask for feedback if you're just going to ignore everyone anyway?
Why spend money duplicating the basketball court already next door?
Why would you put benches in when we have encampment issues already? And using it as a dumping ground for old public art just to fill space.
Will there be some good, secure bike racks in the park?
Wonderful!! Very excited
Won't be the "biotetention garden" be a breeding ground for mosquitoes?
Would love to see some inclusive playground equipment (wheelchair accessible, communication boards, etc) so all kids can play
Yes! We need our green spaces to be for both humans and nature.
You are always good at making a project happen but where is the money for maintenance??? All these ideas fail when they just turn into weed



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What We Heard

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