

Big Marlborough Park Master Plan Project What We Heard Report

SUMMER 2024: PHASE 1 ROUND 1
VALUES AND PRIORITIES

Big Marlborough Park Master Plan

WWHR Phase 1 Round 1
Summer 2024

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Land Acknowledgement

The city of Calgary sits on fertile land where two rivers meet, where Indigenous Peoples have been gathering for thousands of years, sharing knowledge and storytelling, and planning for future generations. The traditional names for this place we know as Calgary are Moh-kins-tsis, Wîchispa Oyade, Otos-kwunee and Guts-ists'i - the land that has given so much to so many.

Calgary is located on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta. This includes the Blackfoot Confederacy, made up of the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations; the Îethka Nakoda Wîcastabi First Nations, comprised of the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations; and the Tsuut'ina First Nation. Calgary is also homeland to the historic Northwest Métis and to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3. We acknowledge all Indigenous urban Calgarians who have made this city their home. Together, their spiritual and practical relationships to the land create rich lessons for our life as a community.



Figure 1: Big Marlborough Park, Summer 2024

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Executive Summary

Project Overview

The Big Marlborough Park Master Plan aims to revitalize the park by enhancing community engagement, social inclusion, and park amenities. The park, established in the 1970s, is an important greenspace in northeast Calgary, surrounded by schools and community facilities. The project addresses the urgent need for updated park facilities to serve the growing and diverse population in the northeast quadrant.

Engagement Process

The engagement process took place from June 15 to July 29, 2024, involving over 400 in-person participants and 1,544 online visitors. Methods included community conversations, park pop-ups, an open house, and online feedback. Collaborations with local organizations and extensive outreach efforts were key components.

Key Themes from Community Feedback

Accessibility: Ensure pathways are accessible for all abilities. Develop inclusive playgrounds. Connect transit stop locations to the park.

Amenities & Infrastructure: Install accessible public washrooms and drinking water stations. Add more seating, picnic tables, shaded areas, and regular maintenance.

Gathering Space: Create inviting areas for family and community gatherings with picnic areas, BBQ grills, and fire pits.

Nature and Relaxation: Enhance the park's natural beauty with more trees, native species, and walking paths.

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Recreational Activities & Facilities: Offer diverse recreational activities, such as spray park, skateboard park, and upgraded sports amenities.

Safety and Security: Improve lighting, signage, and regular maintenance. Increase patrols and surveillance to ensure safety.

Community Priorities

Values and Priorities: Physical exercise, enjoying the outdoors, mental health, social wellbeing, and a sense of community were highly valued.

Sports and Recreation: Walking, dog walking, racquet sports, and cycling were popular activities. There is a desire for more sports fields and amenities and organized events.

Concerns: Lack of washrooms and water, park condition, and safety issues were major concerns. Suggestions included better maintenance, more amenities, and increased security.

Future Vision

Participants envision a park that remains a vibrant, safe, and inclusive space for all community members, with enhanced natural beauty, diverse recreational opportunities, and strong community engagement.

Next Steps

The feedback will guide the development of park concept designs, which will be presented for public feedback in early 2025. The final master plan will be showcased in Summer 2025.

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Project Overview

Big Marlborough Park, established in the 1970s, has remained largely unchanged over the decades. This multi-functional greenspace is situated in the heart of the northeast community of Marlborough Park. The park is surrounded by important community facilities, including the Marlborough Park Community Association, Dr. Gladys McKelvie Egbert School, St. Martha School, and Roland Michener and Cappy Smart Elementary Schools.

The northeast Calgary region is home to a significant population of new Canadians and diverse ethnic groups, making parks and open spaces essential for fostering community connections and supporting newcomers.

As one of Calgary's fastest-growing areas, the northeast faces a shortage of redeveloped regional park facilities to meet the high demand. Many existing features within Big Marlborough Park, including tennis courts, soccer fields, baseball diamonds, playgrounds, and the toboggan hill, are nearing the end of their lifecycle and require updates to better serve the growing population. The Big Marlborough Park project aims to revitalize the park, enhance community engagement, promote social inclusion, and improve park amenities. Identified by the Legacy Parks Program, this project addresses the urgent need to upgrade existing park spaces in the northeast quadrant of our city.

Project Area

Borders:

- North & East: Madigan Drive NE
- West: Maidstone Drive, Madeira Gate, and Madeira Drive NE
- South: 4 Avenue NE

Nearby Roads:

- North: Manora Drive NE
- East: 8 Avenue NE and Maitland Drive NE
- Southeast: Malvern Drive NE

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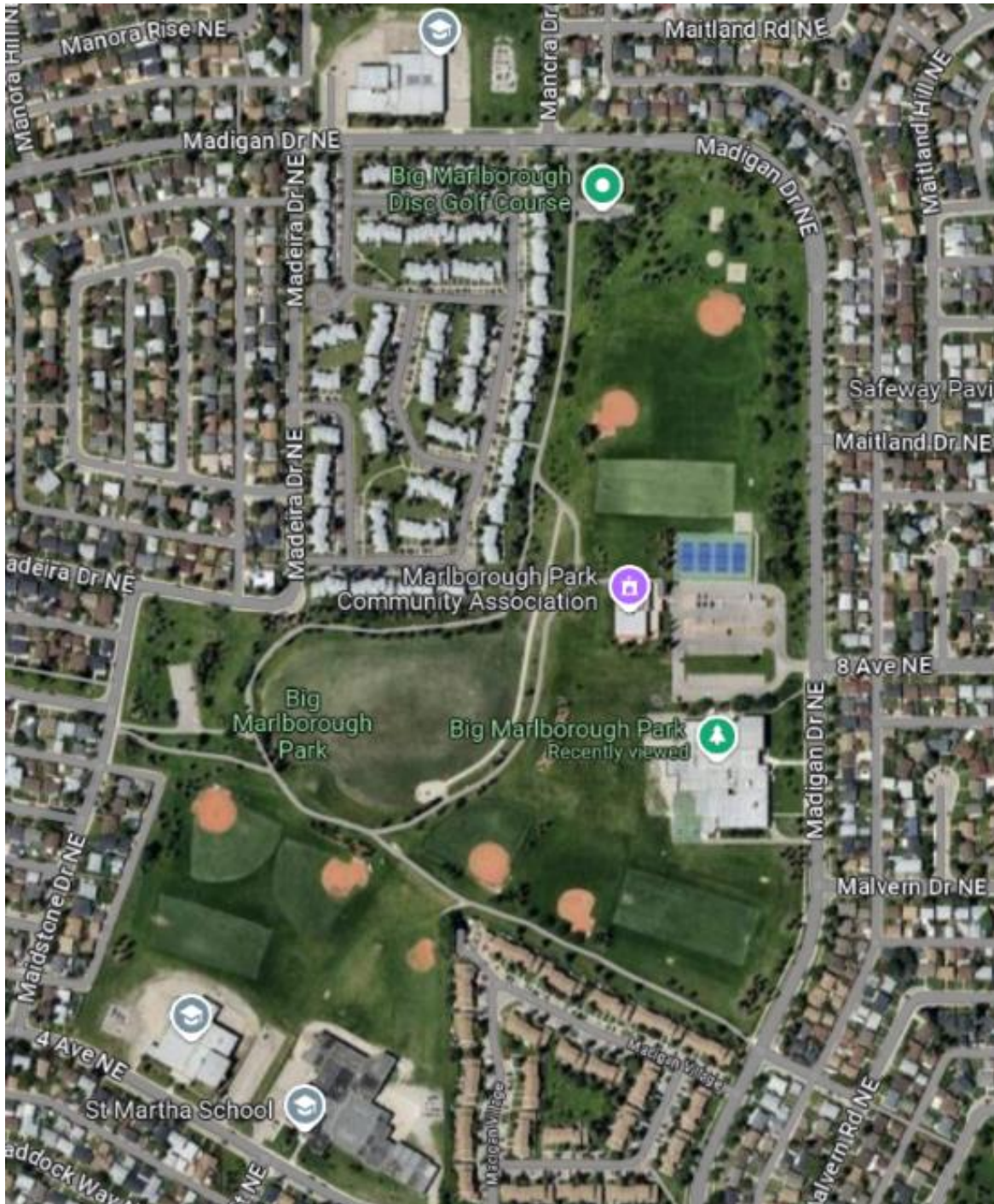


Figure 2: Google map of BMP.

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Project Goals

1. Enhance the park space to better serve the community's needs.
2. Foster a greater sense of community and social inclusion through thoughtful engagement and design.
3. Upgrade and refresh existing amenities to ensure they meet current standards.
4. Align with the Pathway and Bikeway (5A Network) recommendations.
5. Address the northeast quadrant's need for improved and updated park amenities.
6. Improve regional park amenities.

Project Outcomes

Develop a comprehensive master plan to guide the construction and completion of the following:

1. Enhanced park amenities and facilities to better serve the community.
2. Increased community engagement and social inclusion through thoughtful design and programming.
3. A revitalized park that remains relevant, useful, and welcoming for years to come.
4. A phased implementation plan to guide construction.

Engagement Timeline

Summer/Fall 2024: Round 1 (Values and Priorities)

Objective: Active outreach and engagement to understand the community's values, concerns, and priorities for Big Marlborough Park.

Focus Areas:

- Park Usage
- Accessibility and Inclusivity
- Community Events and Programming
- Safety and Security
- Cultural and Historical Significance
- Community Engagement
- Future Vision

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Outcome: This document, the “What We Heard” report, was generated from the insights gathered. These learnings will guide Phase 1, Round 2 of outreach and engagement (Concept and Design).

Winter 2024 - Spring 2025: Round 2 (Concept and Design)

Objective: Gather feedback on the proposed concepts and designs for park enhancements.

Process: Present proposed concepts, incorporating feedback from the first round of engagement.

Outcome: Document outcomes in a public facing “What We Did” report (WWDR).

Summer 2025: Round 3 (Completion and Report Back)

Objective: Present the final park design, known as the master plan, to the community.

Process: Finalize the park design incorporating feedback from the second round of engagement.

Outcome: Showcase the proposed enhancements for Big Marlborough Park.

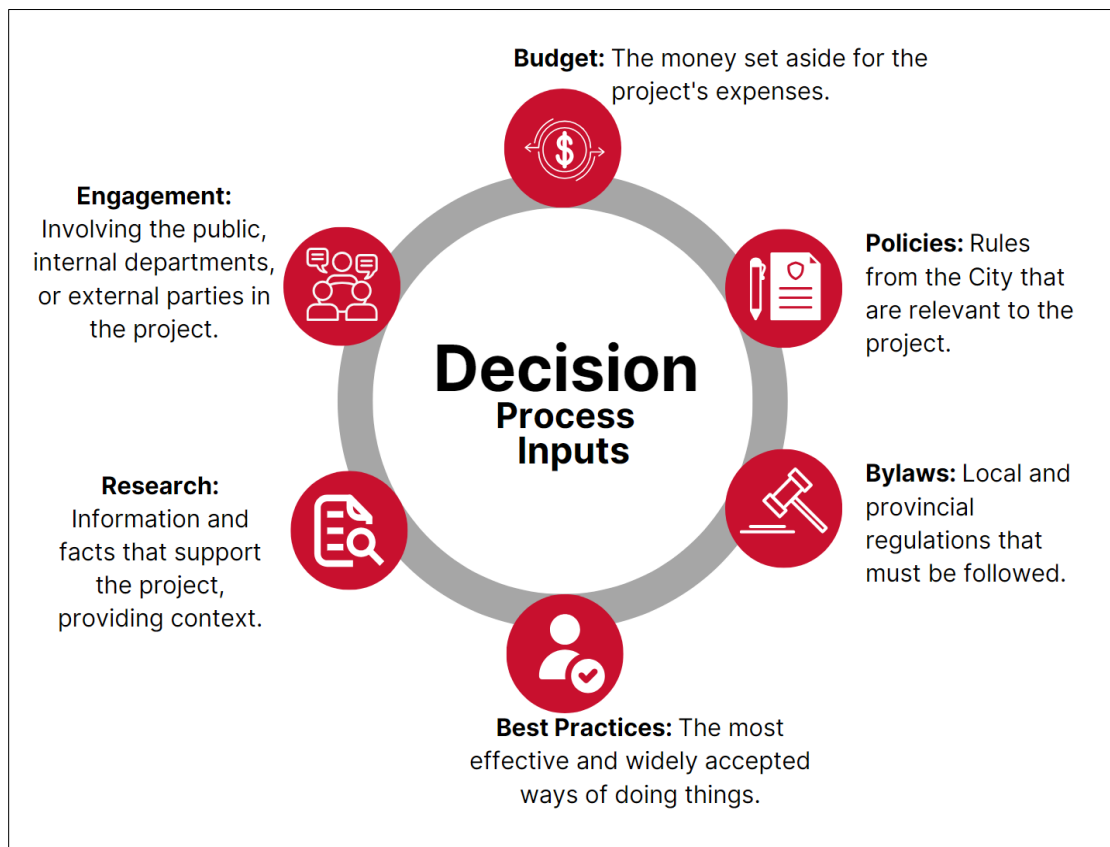


Figure 3: Engagement is one of many inputs in the decision-making process.

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Engagement and Communications Overview

Audience and Methodology

Summer 2024: Community Conversations, Outreach and Engagement.

Outreach and engagement took place during the summer of 2024, beginning with community conversations in May and continuing with public participation from June 15 to July 29.

In-Person Engagement: We connected with over 400 people at eight events, engaging older adults, students, sports groups, park users, and community members.

Online Presence: Our portal page attracted 1,544 unique visitors.

Social Media: The Facebook campaign performed well, achieving a total of 394,681 impressions, and 821 link clicks. Twitter ads achieved just under 30,000 impressions.

Signage: We placed nine bold signs throughout the community (5 km range) to raise awareness and placed informational posters in Big Marlborough Park. A sounding board was placed outside the Marlborough Park Community Association with project updates.

Canada Post Mail Out: We sent out 18,943 postcards inviting residents to participate.

Collaborations: We worked closely with the Marlborough Park Community Association, the Ward 10 Councillor, and ward office staff to maximize our outreach.



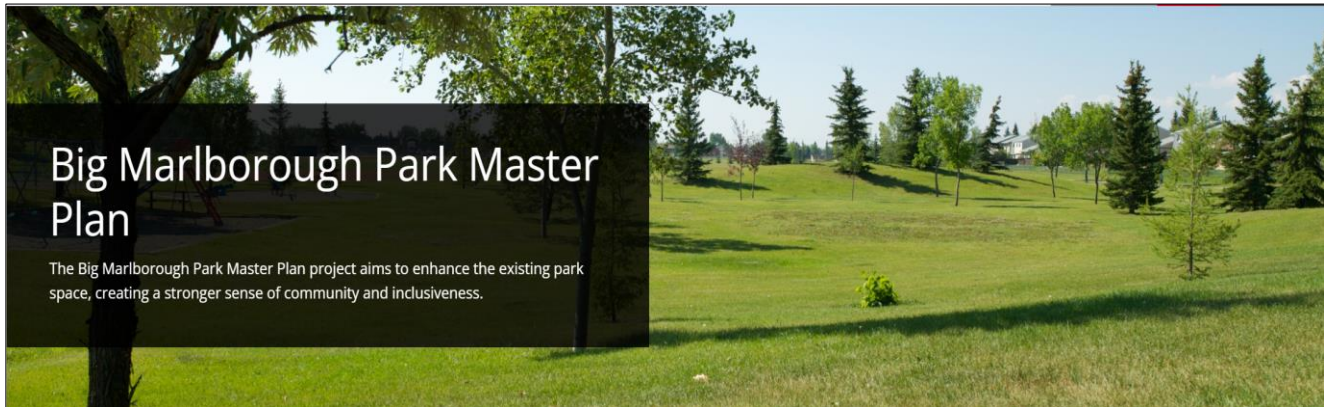
Figure 4: Engage Tent at Open House in the Park



Figure 5: Paper Chain Activity at the Open House in the Park

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Portal Page: As per the graph below. We had 2,746 views, 2,081 visits, 1,544 visitors¹, 764 contributions and 228 contributors².

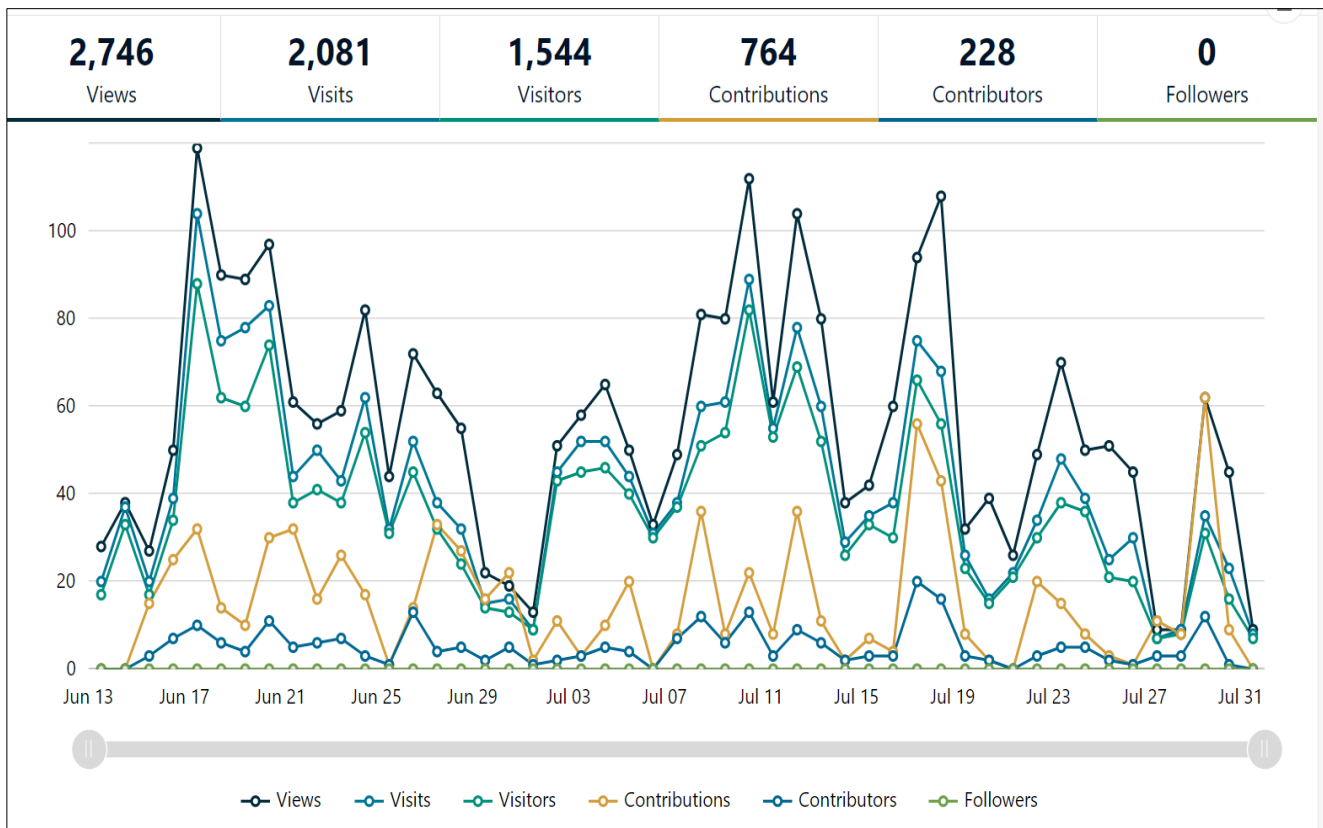


Figure 6: Graph from engage.calgary.ca/BMPmasterplan

¹ number of unique visitors to the portal page

² number of visitors who left feedback

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Participation Numbers - all

Platform/Tactic/Tool	Dates	Numbers
Portal Page https://engage.calgary.ca/BMPmasterplan		
Main	June 15 – July 29, 2024	2,746 views
Family Zone	June 15 – July 29, 2024	137 views 72 PDF downloads
Coffee and Conversations (online)		
Teams meetings (drop-in) from noon – 1 pm	June 18, 22, July 9, 23, 2024	5 participants
Open House in the Park		
Both inside and outside activities	Sat. July 13, 11 am – 3 pm	80 attendees
Park Pop-Ups		
Park Pop-Up 1	Sat., June 22, 11 am – 1 pm	6 participants
Park Pop-Up 2	Thurs., June 27, 11 am – 1 p m	2 participants
Park Pop-Up 3	Wed. July 17, 5 – 7 pm	50 participants
Park Pop-Up 4	Sat. July 27, 1 – 4 pm	15 participants
Collaborations		
Sports Calgary, One Day All Sports	Sat. June 15, 9:15 am -2 pm	30 participants
Cappy Smart School Empathy Walk	Wed. June 19, 8:45 am – 12 pm	180 participants
MPCA Tues Seniors Crib Club	Tues. July 16 1-3 pm	34 participants
Static Displays		
Sounding Board	June 15 - ongoing	1720 ³ views

Table 1 Engagement audience and tactic summary

Communications

High Engagement on Facebook: The posts on June 17 and July 11 had the highest reach and interactions.

Moderate Engagement via Email: The Ward 10 July community e-newsletter had a high open rate but low click-through to the BMP web link.

Community Awareness: Nine bold signs, informational posters in the park and partnerships with local organizations helped raise awareness about the engagement opportunities.

³ Based on 20 views per day between June 15 and September 9, 2024

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General Metrics - Communications

Date	Tool	Numbers
June 17- July 29	Facebook Campaign	394,681 impressions and 821 link clicks
	Twitter Campaign	30,000 impressions
June 17	Facebook post	547 reach, 590 impressions, 14 interactions
June 17	Instagram story	41 views
July 3	Ward 10 July e-newsletter	491 total delivered, 366 opened, 2 BMP web link clicks)
July 11	Facebook post	207 reach, 228 impressions, 7 interactions
July 25	Facebook post	187 reach, 199 impressions, 5 interactions
June 17 – July 29	Web content on Cllr Chabot's City website, under 'Community events & engagement' for all BMP online and in-person events	



Figure 7: Shared Facebook posts

Facebook posts were shared by:

- Andre Chabot, Ward 10 Councillor - The City of Calgary
- Calgary African Community Collective (CACC)
- Greater Forest Lawn Area - Calgary
- Penbrooke Community Watch
- Calgary Immigrant Support Society

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What We Asked

The Big Marlborough Park Master Plan project aims to enhance the park and promote inclusion, community, and accessibility. During our initial public engagement from June 15 to July 29, 2024, we actively sought input from residents to understand their views, concerns and hopes for the park.

To make participation easier, we sectioned our questions according to subject matter. This method allowed residents to focus on the issues that mattered most to them without going through a lengthy questionnaire. The sections are as follows:

Portal Page

The Big Stuff

1. How do you usually get to Big Marlborough Park?
2. How often do you visit Big Marlborough Park?
3. How can we make Big Marlborough Park even better, ensuring it meets the needs of your community?

Values and Priorities

1. What do you value in Big Marlborough Park? Choose all that apply.
2. Thinking about Big Marlborough Park, how important are the following things to you?
3. Is there anything else you'd like us to know about your values and priorities for Big Marlborough Park?

Sports and Recreation

1. Please choose any of the sports or recreational activities you have participated in at the park.
2. Which of these activities do you enjoy the most and why?
3. What sports or recreation options would you like to see or try at Big Marlborough Park?

Concerns

1. Which concerns do you have about Big Marlborough Park? Select all that apply.
2. Would you mind telling us more about your previous answer?
3. Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

Nature

1. What natural features do you think are most important to protect or improve as we develop the park?
2. How can we make the park more supportive of the local plants, wildlife and pollinators?

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Community Events

1. Have you participated or attended in any events at Big Marlborough Park? (e.g. sports, community, markets, educational etc.)
2. What type of events have you attended in Big Marlborough Park?
3. What types of events would you like to see more of?
4. What types of events would you like to see less of?

Your Story

1. What's your fondest memory of Big Marlborough Park (or any other park)?
2. What would make Big Marlborough Park feel like home to you?
3. How can we honor and celebrate cultural diversity within the park?
4. Are there local historical or cultural elements we should include in the park?

Accessibility

1. Do you or any family members experience any of the following? Check all that apply.
2. Have you or any family members encountered any barriers when accessing the park?
3. Would you mind telling us more about your previous answer?
4. Do you have any suggestions on how we can improve accessibility in the park?

Education

1. Which programs would you like to see offered in Big Marlborough Park? (Choose up to 3)
2. Would you mind telling us more about your answer in the previous question?
3. Is there anything else you'd like us to know about educational programming in Big Marlborough Park?

Future Thinking

1. Imagine five years from now. What will be the most important thing to you in Big Marlborough Park? What about 10 years? What about 20?

In-Person

We organized four Park Pop-Ups and one Open House in the Park, where we engaged the community with the following questions:

1. What would you like to see at Big Marlborough Park?
2. What are your concerns about Big Marlborough Park?
3. What do you love about Big Marlborough Park?
4. How do you use Big Marlborough Park?

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What We Heard

The following is an overview of the major themes received from online and in-person activities:

Accessibility: Ensure the park is accessible to people of all abilities. Enhance pathways for wheelchairs, strollers, and other mobility aids. Develop inclusive playgrounds. Optimize transit stop locations for easy park access.

Amenities & Infrastructure: Improve park amenities and infrastructure. Install accessible public washrooms and drinking water stations. Add more seating and picnic tables. Increase shaded areas with trees and shelters. Beautify the park with landscaping. Regularly maintain and upgrade facilities.



Figure 8: Graffiti Wall

Gathering Spaces: Create inviting areas for family and community gatherings. Designate picnic areas with tables and shelters. Install BBQ grills and fire pits. Develop spaces for events like outdoor movie nights and community picnics.

Nature and Relaxation: Enhance the park's natural beauty and relaxation spaces. Plant more trees and introduce native species. Maintain and develop walking paths for outdoor activities.

Recreational Activities & Facilities: Offer diverse recreational activities for all ages. Install spray splash park. Develop a skateboard park. Upgrade sports fields and amenities for sports like tennis, pickleball, basketball, and soccer. Create fitness zones with equipment for all ages.

Safety and Security: Ensure the park is safe and welcoming. Install sufficient lighting, especially along pathways and gathering areas. Place clear signs to guide visitors and promote safety. Regularly clean and maintain the park. Implement designated off-leash areas and enforce leash laws. Increase patrols and surveillance in parking lots. Work with authorities to prevent illegal encampments. Restrict motorized vehicles to designated areas (aka – not in the park).

For a detailed summary of the input that was provided, please see the [Summary of Input](#) section.

For a verbatim listing of all the input that was provided, please see the [Verbatim Responses](#) section.

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Next Steps

- This input will be submitted to the Project Team and Consultants and internal and external subject matter experts for consideration.
- Public participation will be one source of input for the creation of the park concept designs.
- Engagement and outreach will continue throughout the process.
- These concepts will be available for public feedback in early 2025.

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Summary of Input

Portal Page

The Big Stuff

Question 1: How do you usually get to Big Marlborough Park?

108 respondents walk to the park, 69 drive to the park, 7 take some form of ride-share or public transportation, and 7 ride their bikes.

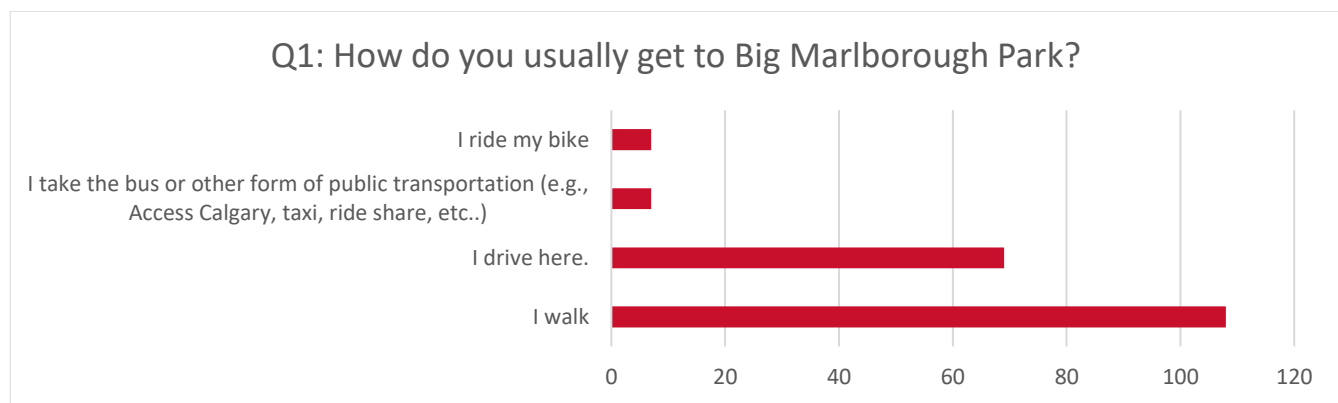


Figure 9: How do you usually get to BMP?

Question 2: How often do you visit Big Marlborough Park?

65 participants visit frequently (daily), 49 visit regularly (weekly), 39 visit occasionally (a few times a year), 28 visit semi-regularly (a few times a year), and 11 are non-users.

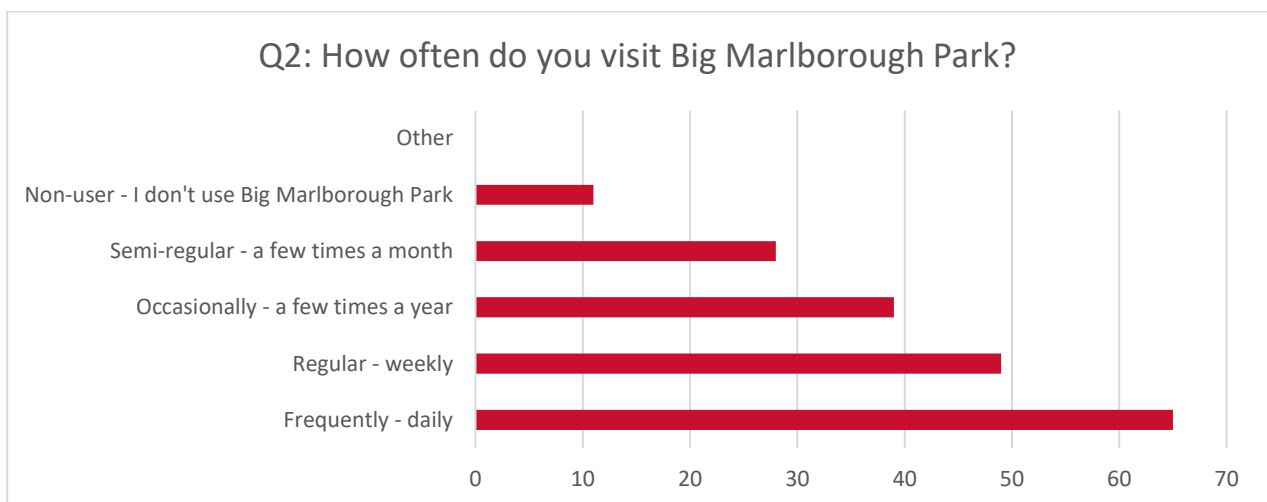


Figure 10: How often do you visit BMP?

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Question 3: How can we make Big Marlborough Park even better, ensuring it meets the needs of your community both now and in the future?

Verbatim

“Inclusive playground structure. More accessible or space covered by the play park. Regular cleaning and maintenance to clear parks of dangerous items (needles, broken bottles, pieces of sharp metal)”.

“Continue to maintain the pathways throughout the year, good lighting, maintained baseball diamonds and soccer fields. Plant more trees/bushes. Establish picnic areas with benches/tables.”

“We walk the paths everyday with our dog. The flower planters and trees are beautiful in the summer. The only recommendation I would make is better lighting around the path it is quite dark at night. Any improvements of the ice rink and toboggan hill is welcomed. More trees and plants.”

Themes

Accessibility: Ensure the park is accessible to people of all abilities with features like ramps, tactile paths, and accessible playgrounds. Improve connections to other communities to make the park more accessible.

Infrastructure: Includes ongoing maintenance of existing amenities.

Nature and Relaxation: Expand green areas for picnics, relaxation, and nature walks. Develop gardens and walking trails to encourage outdoor activities. Use native plants.

Recreational Facilities: Add or upgrade sports fields and amenities for sports like basketball, tennis, and soccer. Create outdoor fitness areas with equipment for all ages.

Safety and Security: Install adequate lighting to ensure safety during evening hours. Increase park patrols and install security cameras to enhance safety.

Youth and Family Activities: Build modern, safe, and engaging playgrounds for children. Designate areas for family activities, including picnic spots and family-friendly events. This includes ideas like a spray/splash park, skateboard park, pump track, intergenerational play and community engagement in the forms of movie nights, and farmers markets.

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Values and Priorities

Question 1: What do you value in Big Marlborough Park? Choose all that apply.

Responses are listed below from the most popular to the least.

1. Physical exercise (e.g., walking, running, cycling, playing sport)
2. Chance to enjoy the outdoors.
3. Mental health and wellness (e.g., mental health break, help reduce stress, meditation)
4. Social wellbeing (e.g., meetups/play with family and friends)
5. Sense of Community
6. Organized sports team or league play, tournaments
7. It's my only outdoor green space (e.g., I don't have a back yard)
8. Learning opportunities (e.g., cultural, historical, ecological)

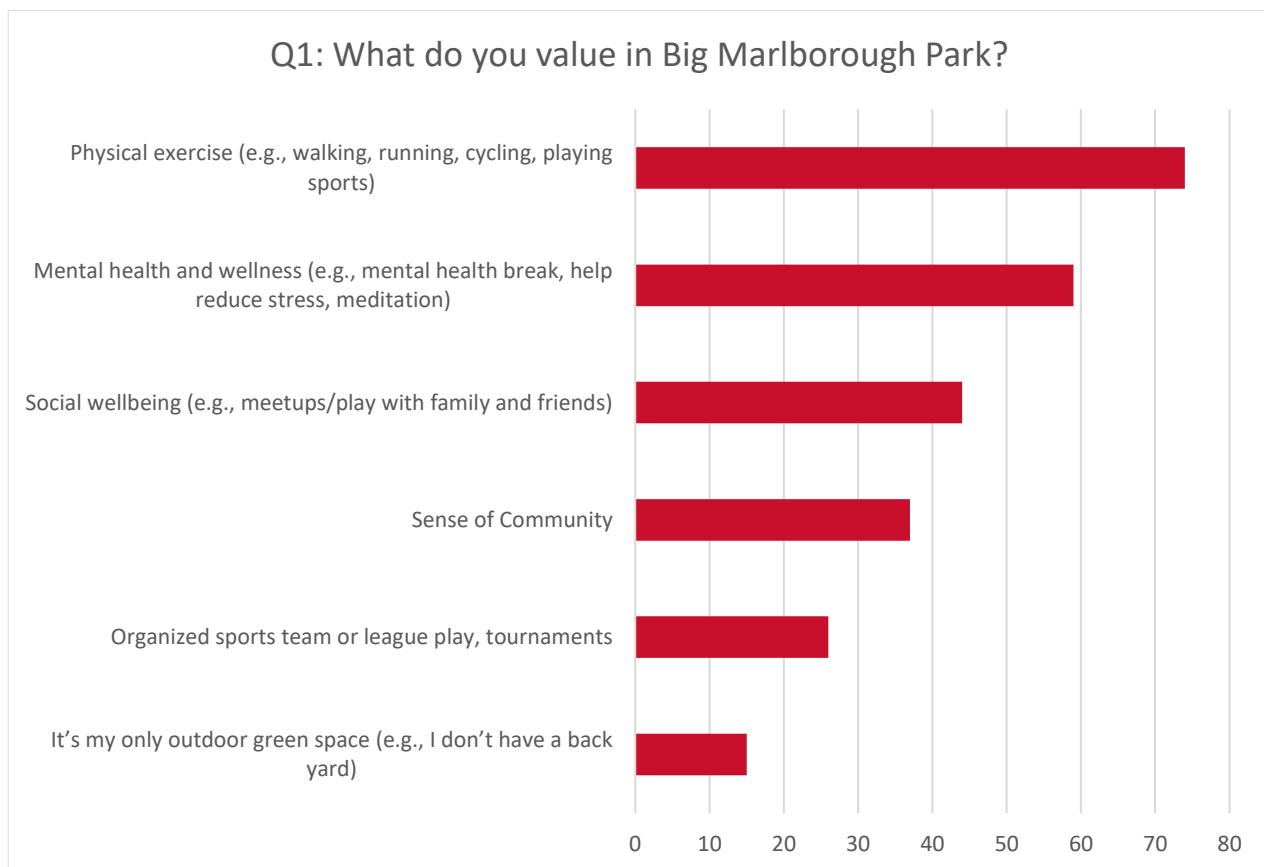


Figure 11: What do you value in Big Marlborough Park?

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Question 2: Thinking about Big Marlborough Park, how important are the following things to you?

Q2: Thinking about Big Marlborough Park, how important are the following things to you?				
Name	Not Important	Little Importance	Somewhat Important	Very Important
Walking and Biking Paths	1	1	16	65
Outdoor Recreation	2	5	20	55
Water Features	14	18	24	26
Community Areas	5	18	34	26
Green spaces	0	8	17	57
Bookable spaces	24	35	12	12
Accessibility	3	3	29	47
Cultural and Education	12	23	26	20
Events and Activities	15	17	33	18
Additional amenities	2	10	17	54
Proximity to Schools & Community Center	12	16	25	28
Quiet & Relaxation Spaces	15	14	23	30

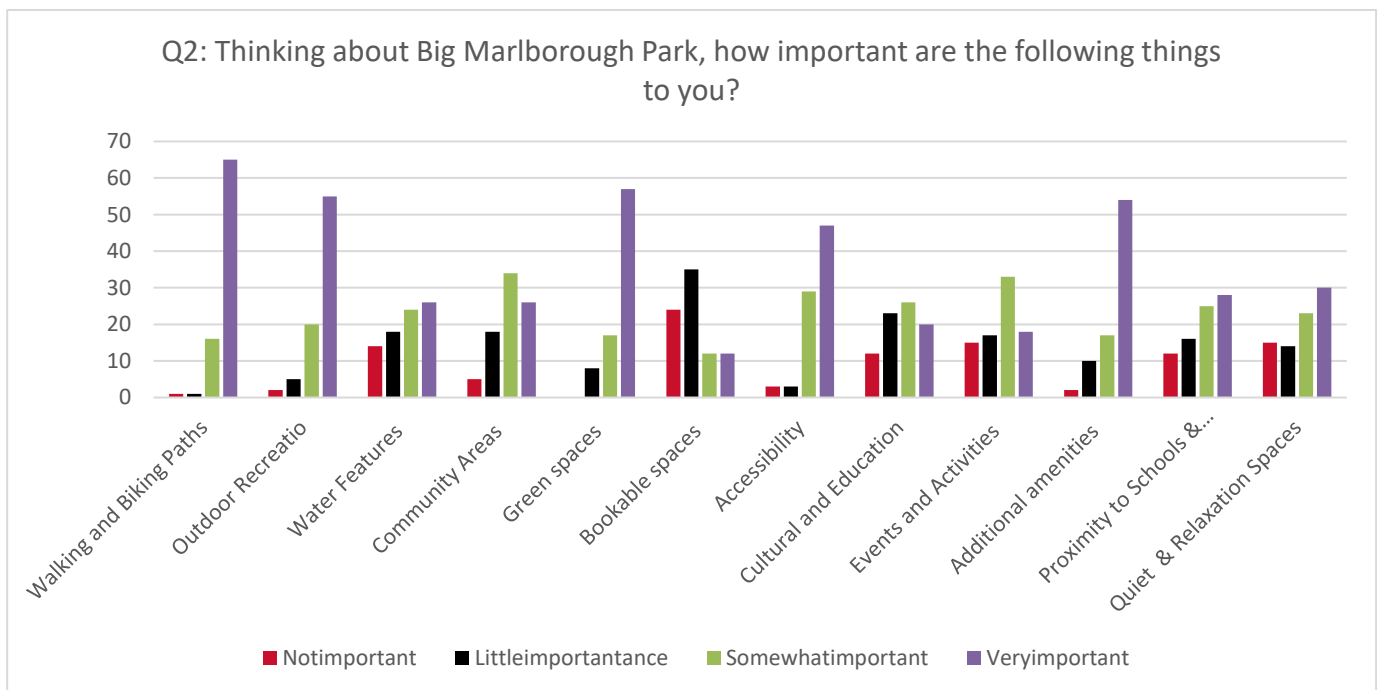


Figure 12: Thinking about Big Marlborough Park, how important are the following things to you?

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Question 3: Is there anything else you'd like us to know about your values and priorities for Big Marlborough Park?

Sentiment analysis: Positive (19), Neutral (6), Mixed (4), Negative (0)

Verbatim

"I love to bring my kids here, but the children's park is very outdated and small. I also struggle with people driving motorized vehicles around the park they drive very fast and have almost children. I would like the place safe and clean."

"Community gardens would be great. Connect seniors and students from the adjoining schools to help each other with the garden plots. There would be a sense of ownership and maybe less vandalism."

Themes

Amenities and Infrastructure: Washrooms, water fountains, seating, picnic tables, shaded areas, and landscaping.

Park Features: Public bathrooms, drinking fountains, water feature, spray/splash park, walking path, skateboard park, bicycle jumps, picnic benches, toboggan hill, skating rink, flower planters, multi-use spaces, eco-friendly garden/art/learning space.

Recreation and Activities: Basketball, outdoor exercise park, soccer, festivals, food trucks, events, music, markets, physical activity, pathways, playground, and spray/splash park.

Community and Usage: Kids, seniors, students, residents, community gardens, adjoining schools, sense of ownership, less vandalism, safe space, and cultural elements.

Maintenance and Improvements: Preserved and maintained, open green space, more trees and flowers, more shaded spaces, more lighting, manicured greenery, and pathways.

Personal Connections: My kids, my family, our home, a huge part of our lives, are the most important reasons.

Concerns and Suggestions: Motorized vehicles, vandalism, no water features, complaints, safety, no shade, more recreation, more entertainment, more time in the park.

Safety: Ensure the park is safe, clean, and well-maintained. Address any safety concerns and provide adequate lighting and security.

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Sports and Recreation

Question 1: Please choose any of the sports or recreational activities you have participated in at the park. Select all that apply.

Responses are listed below from the most popular to the least.

1. Walking
2. Dog walking
3. Racquet sports (e.g. tennis, pickle ball, etc.)
4. Cycling
5. Running / Jogging
6. Soccer
7. Baseball
8. Basketball
9. Meditation /yoga
10. Volleyball

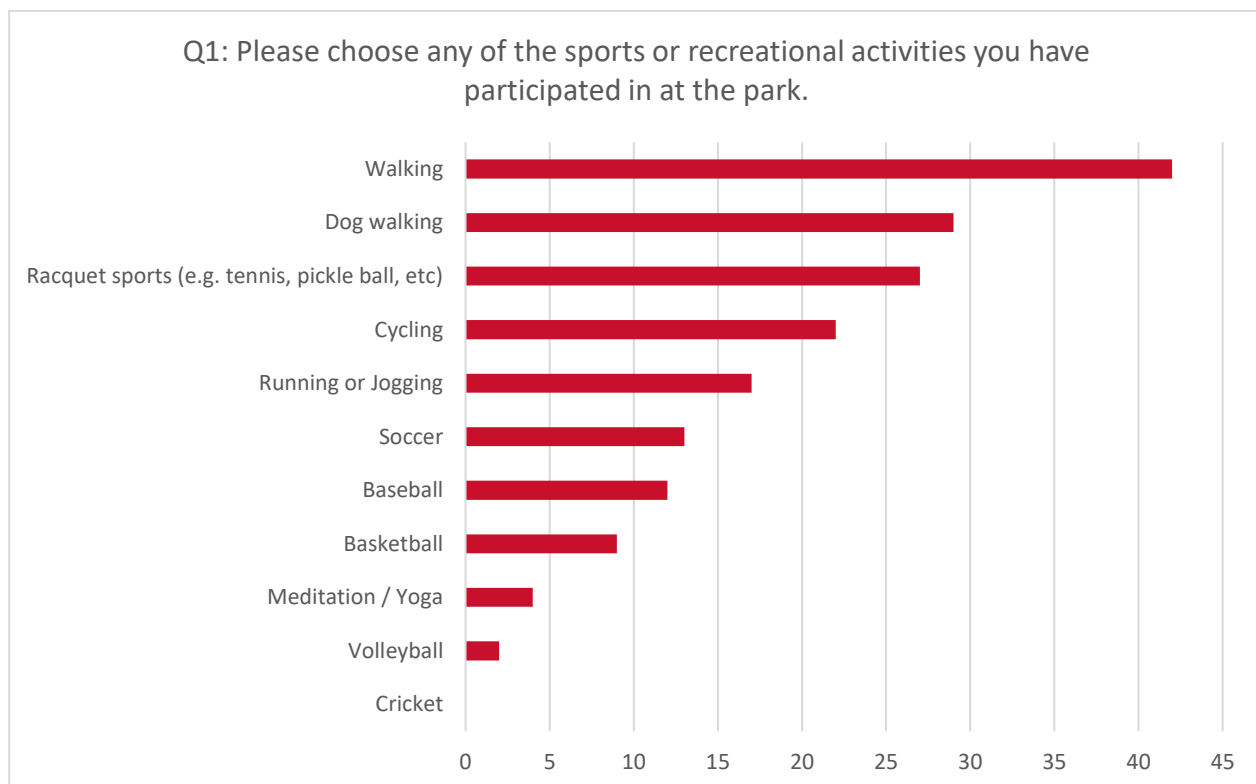


Figure 13: Please choose any of the sports or recreational activities you have participated in at the park.

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Question 2: Which of these activities do you enjoy the most and why?

Sentiment analysis: Neutral (59), Positive (34), Mixed (4), Negative (1)

Themes

Older Adults

- **Summary:** Activities and amenities tailored for older adults.
- **Importance:** Provides a valuable resource for seniors, promoting their physical and mental well-being and fostering community engagement.

Community and Activities

- **Summary:** Includes art classes, yoga, Zumba, dog walking, and more.
- **Importance:** Offers diverse activities that enhance social interaction, cultural enrichment, and physical health, creating a vibrant community atmosphere.

Community/Connecting

- **Summary:** The park as a community hub.
- **Importance:** Facilitates social connections and community building, which are essential for a cohesive and supportive neighbourhood.

Skateboarding and Skateboard park

- **Summary:** Features for all skill levels, including mini half pipes and ollie stations.
- **Importance:** Supports the skateboarding community by offering a safe and engaging environment for practice and recreation.

Tennis and Pickleball

- **Summary:** Courts, clubs, and amenities for tennis and pickleball.
- **Importance:** Promotes physical activity and social interaction through popular sports, catering to a wide range of interests and skill levels.

Walking and Paths

- **Summary:** Paved paths, green spaces, and stroller-friendly areas.
- **Importance:** Encourages walking and outdoor activities, which are accessible and affordable ways to stay active and enjoy nature.

Other

Maintenance and Improvements

- **Summary:** Monitoring, greenery, safety measures.
- **Importance:** Ensures the park remains a safe, clean, and pleasant environment for all users, enhancing the overall experience.

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Personal Connections

- **Summary:** Family-oriented and community involvement.
- **Importance:** Highlights the park's role in family life and personal well-being, making it a cherished part of daily routines and community identity.

Physical and Mental Health

- **Summary:** Promotes active and healthy lifestyles.
- **Importance:** Encourages residents to stay active, which is crucial for maintaining physical health and mental well-being.

Proximity/Accessibility

- **Summary:** Convenient location and easy access.
- **Importance:** Makes it easy for residents to incorporate park visits into their daily lives, supporting regular physical activity and social interaction.

Recreation and Sports

- **Summary:** Facilities for various sports and activities.
- **Importance:** Provides opportunities for physical exercise, skill development, and recreational enjoyment for all ages.

Question 3: What sports or recreation options would you like to see at Big Marlborough Park?

Active Recreation

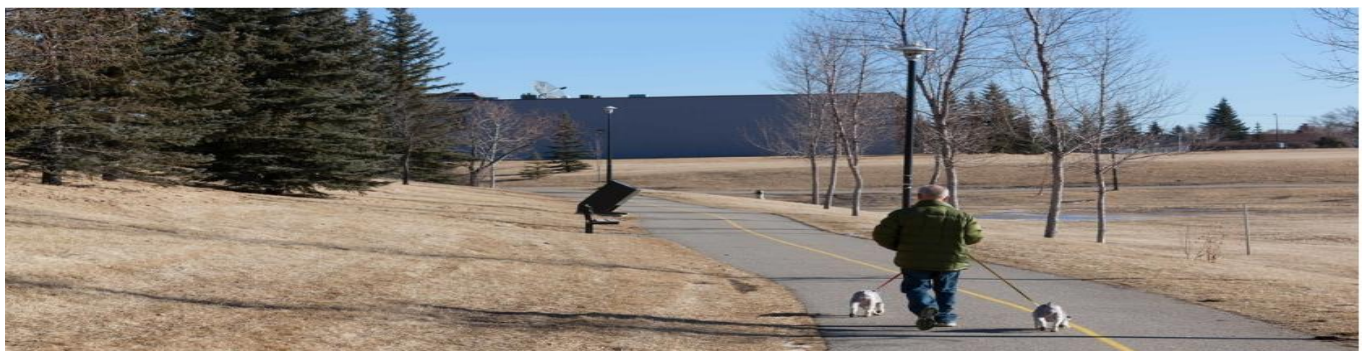
Summary: Permanent amenities or infrastructure.

Examples: Tennis courts, pickleball courts, skateboard park, pump track.

Programmable and Activated Spaces

Summary: Spaces for low-impact exercise and arts programming.

Examples: Yoga, meditation, drama club with public performances, painting classes.



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Concerns

Question 1: Which concerns do you have about Big Marlborough Park? Select all that apply.

Responses are listed below from the most popular to the least.

1. Lack of public amenities (e.g., washrooms, garbage bins/cans/receptacles, etc.)
2. Condition of the park (e.g., garbage, erosion, wear and tear etc.)
3. The park doesn't have the activities I want.
4. Lack of signage (e.g., educational, directional, by-law)
5. Conflict between users
6. Social disorder (e.g., harassment, protests, etc.)
7. I don't have any concerns.
8. Lack of public parking
9. I don't know what I am allowed to do in the park.
10. There are too many people using the park.
11. Lack of transport/I do not have transport.

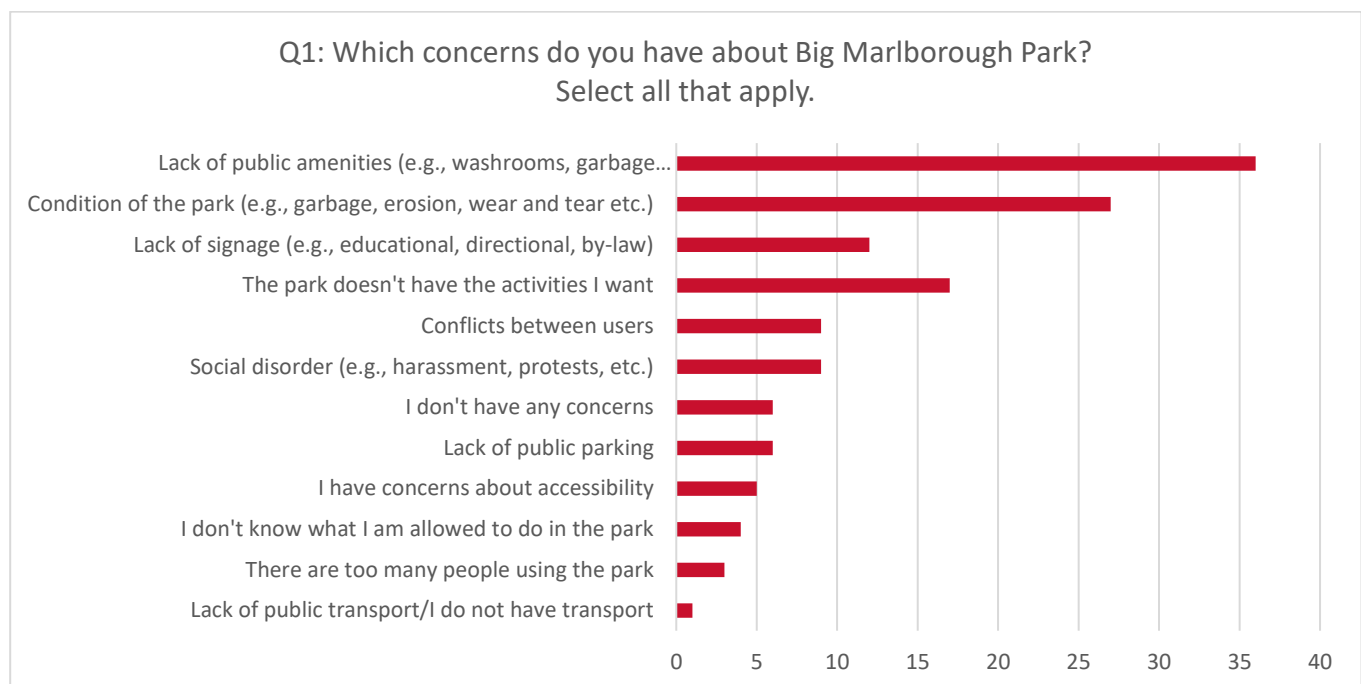


Figure 14: Which concerns do you have about Big Marlborough Park?

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Question 2: Would you mind telling us more about your previous answer?

Sentiment analysis: Negative (14), Neutral (12), Positive (4), Mixed (3)

Themes

Pathways and Green Spaces

- Desire for well-maintained pathways, more trees, benches, shade, and manicured green spaces.

Sports and Recreation

- **Facilities:** Interest in tennis and pickleball courts, skateboard park, bicycle dirt jumps, disc golf, playground, and ice rink.
- **Events:** Requests for tournaments and community events.

Safety and Security

- **Illegal Encampments:** Concerns about safety issues related to illegal encampments.
- **Motorized Vehicles:** Risks posed by high-speed electric scooters and motorized bikes.
- **Safety:** Issues with drug and gang use, noise, and idling cars (parking lots).
- **Off-Leash Dogs:** Problems caused by uncontrolled off-leash dogs.

Amenities and Infrastructure

- **Lack of Amenities:** Need for washrooms and garbage cans. Desire for more benches, shaded areas, and picnic tables.
- **Ongoing Maintenance:** Importance of maintaining pathways and playgrounds. Concerns about the upkeep of sports fields, amenities, and infrastructure.

Question 3: Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

Sentiment analysis: Neutral (18), Negative (6), Positive (6), Mixed (0)

Themes

Amenities and Infrastructure

- **Community Hall:** Increased operating hours from 8-5, with different classes for kids, parents, and community engagement.
- **Playgrounds:** Improved playgrounds for all ages, possibly near schools or community centre, and a spray/splash park.
- **Recreational Facilities:** Bicycle Dirt Jump and Progression Park, skateboard park, tennis courts, pickleball courts, and windbreakers.
- **Public Washrooms and Waste Disposal:** More washrooms, garbage bins and dog waste bag stations. Suggestions for porta-potties near the tennis court.
- **Biking Infrastructure:** Better biking infrastructure and upgrades.

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Community Engagement

- **Visual and Sensory Interest:** Enhancements like art installations, shade structures, and water fountains to make the green space more inviting.
- **Accessibility:** Wheelchair-accessible playgrounds, pathways, gardens, and dog-safe play areas.
- **Comparisons with Other Parks:** Features like surface tables with chess boards, roofs for shade, and trees as parking lot barriers.

Security Concerns

- **Increased Security:** More cameras and police presence to monitor suspicious activities and ensure safety. Includes parking lots as well. Better signage, regular by-law enforcement, and police presence.

Nature

Question 1: What natural features do you think are most important to protect or improve as we develop the park?

Responses are listed below from the most popular to the least.

1. The tree canopy.
2. Pollinator gardens
3. Native plants (drought resistant)
4. Less mowed grass and more naturalized areas to conserve water.
5. Wildlife

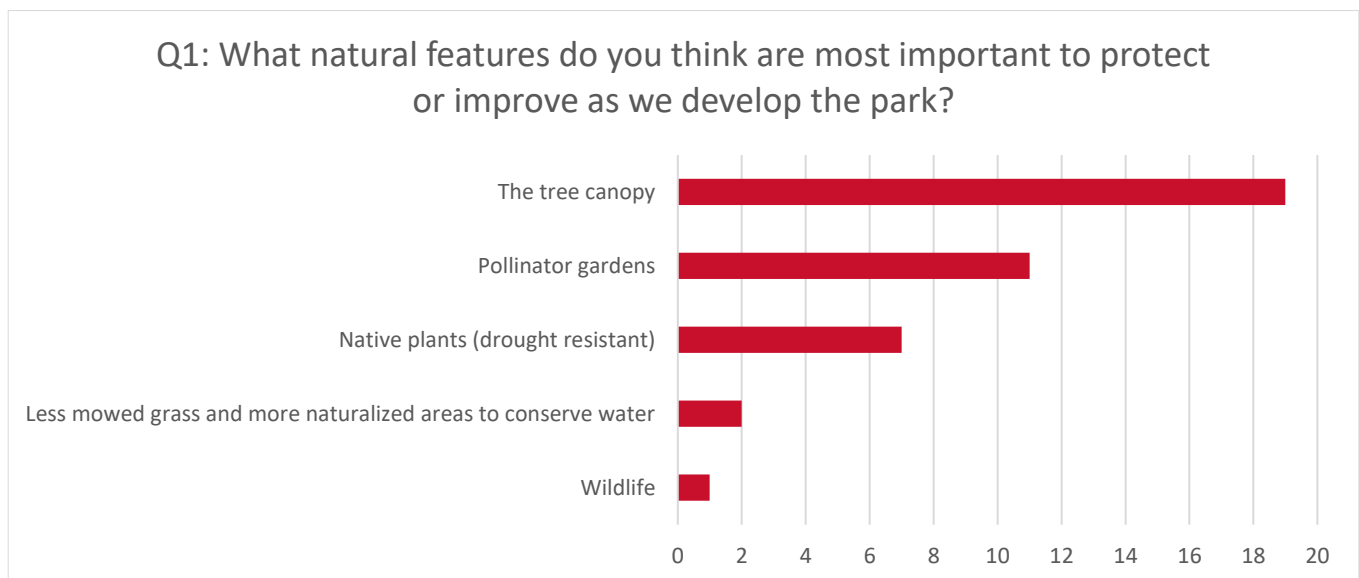


Figure 15: What natural features do you think are most important to protect or improve as we develop the park?

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Question 2: How can we make the park more supportive of the local plants, wildlife and pollinators?

Sentiment analysis: Positive (3), Neutral (16), Negative (2), Mixed (1)

Verbatim

"Invest in a variety of trees to improve the tree canopy. A bunch of Pollinator gardens would be amazing! Which can include native plants but go for all kinds of bright happy flowers that would liven up the overall space as well. And more benches."

"Community gardens both vegetable and flowers and improve the tree canopy around the park."

Themes

Garden Spaces

- **Community Gardens:** Spaces for vegetables and flowers.
- **Native Plants:** Emphasis on planting native species.
- **Natural Gardens:** Wildflower areas to attract butterflies and bees.

Trees and Green Spaces

- **Tree Canopy:** Expanding to improve the environment.
- **Biodiversity:** Introducing diverse tree species.
- **Naturalized Zones:** Creating naturalized areas within the park.

Community and Recreational Areas

- **Community Engagement:** Involving members in gardening and park activities.
- **Recreational Areas:** Enhancing with better paths, gardens, and quiet spaces.
- **Barriers:** Protecting natural areas from recreational zones.

Environmental and Maintenance Concerns

- **Long-Term Vision:** Focusing on resilience to environmental and climate challenges.
- **Maintenance:** Ensuring proper upkeep of green spaces, paths, and gardens.

Community Events

Question 1: Have you participated or attended in any events at Big Marlborough Park? (e.g. sports, community, markets, educational etc.)

Responses are listed below from highest to the lowest.

1. A few here and there (1 – 9)
2. I've never attended a community event at Big Marlborough Park
3. Too many to count! (20 or more)
4. Quite a few! (10 – 2)

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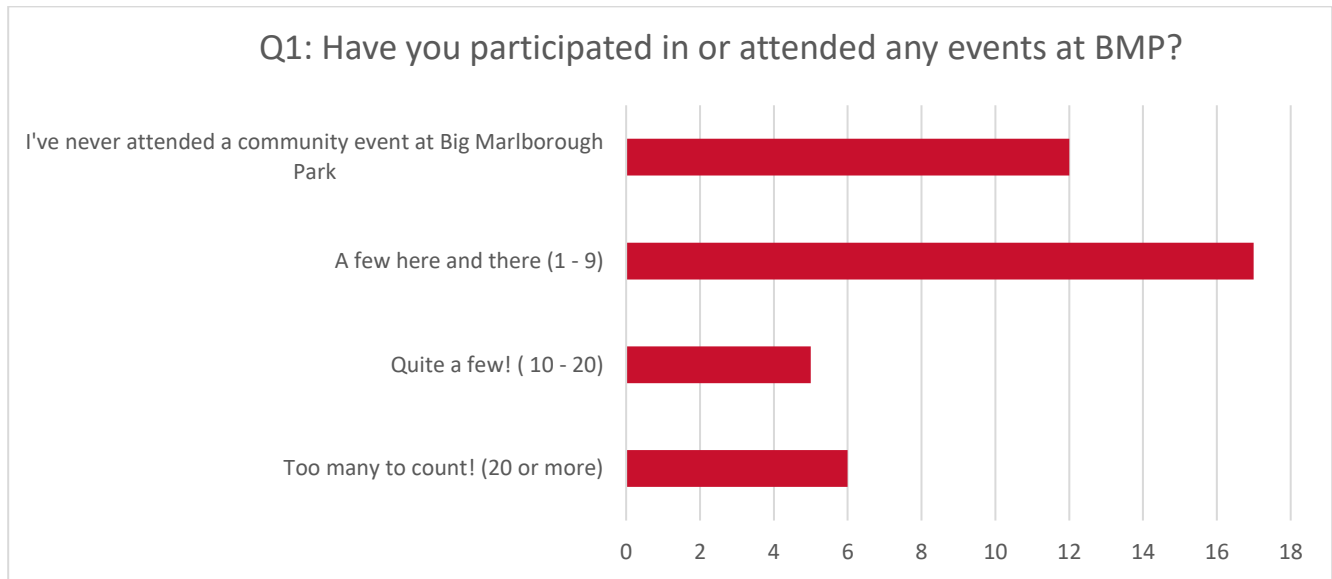


Figure 16: Have you participated in or attended any events at BMP?

Question 2: What type of events have you attended in Big Marlborough Park?

Sentiment analysis: Neutral (28), Negative (1), Mixed (0) Positive (0),

Verbatim

"Softball games, soccer games, jellybean dances, Tai Chi, New Years parties, parades, fireworks, craft fairs, rummage sales, community cleanups, Canada Day BBQ's, pancake breakfasts, summer day camps, picnics, blood donor clinics, babysitter training, Chinese New Year lunches, ran out of room ..."

"Rockets launches, cultural events, soccer and t-ball games, races for schools."

Themes

Markets and Community Events

- Farmers markets, antique shows, and craft fairs.
- Park cleaning and maintenance events.
- Community gatherings with food and cultural celebrations.
- Safety meetings.

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Sports and Recreation

- Baseball, softball, soccer, street hockey, and tennis.
- Summer camps, daycare activities, and programs like Little Kickers and Girl Guides.
- Tai Chi and other fitness activities.

Music and Entertainment

- Concerts, music events, and outdoor movie screenings.
- Social dances for kids and families.

Educational and Volunteer Activities

- Meals on Wheels, blood donor clinics, and safety meetings.
- Youth educational programs like babysitter training.

Special Events

- Kite festivals, star gazing, and seasonal festivals.
- New Year's parties, Canada Day BBQs, and cultural celebrations.

Question 3: What types of events would you like to see more of?

Verbatim

"Concerts, arts and crafts activities, parks and recreation recreation lessons i.e. teach me disc golf, equipment lending libraries. Gardening information classes (from seed to table)"

"More summer camps for kids. Lots of new youth in the arena and new to Canada children that should experience what some of us take for granted. It will help bring them a new sense of community that's starting to lack all over the city"

Themes

Markets and Vendors

- Regular markets with fresh produce, antique and craft fairs.

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Community and Family Activities

- Summer camps, community days, and cultural celebrations.

Sports and Recreation

- Soccer, lawn bowling, mountain bike dirt jumping, and pump track festivals.
- Parks and recreation lessons, disc golf, and equipment lending libraries.

Music and Entertainment

- Concerts, outdoor movie screenings, and various festivals like kite and star gazing events.

Classes and Workshops

- Zumba, yoga, and other fitness classes.
- Lectures, TED talks, gardening classes, and dog training sessions.

Nature and Outdoor Activities

- Community gardening and gardening information classes.

Miscellaneous

- Updates and event information via newsletters and social media.

Question 4: What types of events would you like to see less of?

Sentiment Analysis: Neutral (11), Negative (2), Positive (1), Mixed (0)

Themes

Littering: Specifically, trash left in the parking lot near the tennis courts.

Loud Activities: Events with loud music or fireworks. Any events involving the use of a microphone.

Overcrowded Events: Activities that attract too many strangers.

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Your Story

Question 1: What's your fondest memory of Big Marlborough Park (or any other park)?

Sentiment Analysis: Positive (16), Neutral (16), Negative (0), Mixed (0)

Verbatim

"I have lots of fond memories: My kids playing softball and soccer in summer and skating in the winter. Fireworks in the park for the community anniversary. City of Calgary summer programs for kids at the park. Riding my bike on the pathway. And more."

"[...] a snowy owl swooped over head and disappeared in dark. Magic. [...]!"

"My fondest memories about Big Marlborough Park involve our child growing up - teaching them to ride their bike on the paths, learn to skate on the ice, and roll down the slopes through the leaves."



Figure 17: Skating at BMP

Themes

Family and Childhood Memories

- **Sports Events:** Participating in baseball, softball, soccer, and tennis.
- **Community Celebrations:** Attending fireworks, Christmas lights, fairs, and the 25th anniversary. Also - Canada Day BBQs
- **BMX and Skateboarding:** BMX dirt jumping and skateboarding with family and friends.
- **Family Gatherings:** Spending time with family and friends during various events.

Community and Social Events

- **Community Center Activities:** Engaging in softball leagues and gym classes.
- **Festivals and Fairs:** Enjoying Globalfest fireworks, cultural events, and community fairs.
- **Music and Entertainment:** Listening to live music, movie nights, and festivals.

Physical and Mental Health

- **Walking and Biking:** Evening walks, biking on pathways, and enjoying nature.
- **Dog Walks:** Spending time with dogs in the park.
- **Quiet Reflection:** Finding peace through activities like walking the loop during the pandemic.

Seasonal Activities

- **Winter:** Enjoying the skate rink, toboggan hill, and sledding with children. Also playing hockey!
- **Summer:** Participating in day camps and outdoor activities.

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Question 2: What would make Big Marlborough Park feel like home to you?

Sentiment Analysis: Neutral (32), Positive (26), Mixed (3), Negative (1)

Verbatim

"It does feel like home but I would like more spots to sit in the shade and read a book. Or sit at a bench or table and have coffee with my friends and neighbours. Or take my grandchildren to play in the park and have a picnic."

"Definitely what would feel like home would be flowers to smell and revel in. Plus it seems like all human beings are drawn to water, in some way. A water feature, or even just some water fountains and a bit of a splash area would be so much fun."

Themes

Community and Activities

- **Engaging Spaces:** Skateboard park, playgrounds, and areas for older kids.
- **Programs and Events:** Kids leagues, summer camps, crafts, games, dance lessons, and community events.
- **Sports Facilities:** Tennis courts, Mountain Bike Dirt Jump and Progression Park, Skateboard Park, and UCI Pump Track.

Nature and Environment

- **Plant Diversity:** More trees, gardens, and flower areas.

Amenities and Infrastructure

- **Interactive Spaces:** Fenced dog-safe play areas, calming spaces, and seating.
- **Water Features:** Spray/splash park, water fountains, and other water features.
- **Picnic Areas:** Accessible picnic tables and shaded spots.
- **Facilities:** Improved drainage, more garbage cans, and better parking lots.
- **Community Spaces:** Pathways, sitting areas, and spaces for social activities.

Personal Touches

- **Memories and Traditions:** Celebrating community anniversaries, fireworks, and seasonal events like Christmas fairs.
- **Family and Friends:** Spaces for gatherings, sports, and activities like frisbee golf and outdoor gym classes.

Community Spirit

- **Social Activities:** Encouraging more social activities and amenities to bring families and neighbors together.

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Question 3: How can we honor and celebrate cultural diversity within the park?

Sentiment Analysis: Neutral (10), Positive (5), Negative (0) Mixed (0)

Verbatim

"The stone circle by Egbert School is a nice addition. More awareness of Indigenous and local history of the area should be reflected. The back wall of the community centre is literally a blank canvas. It could be utilized as long as it was cared for."

"I think incorporating elements of design from different cultures around the world would be interesting, for the park benches, light features, a water fountain, even different ways of bringing interest in culture with various aromatic herb plantings."

"Inclusive playground. Indigenous art."

Themes

Cultural Representation

- *Ethnic Backgrounds:* Acknowledge the community's diverse ethnic backgrounds.
- *First Nations:* Include Indigenous art and elements reflecting traditional territories.
- *Inclusive Design:* Incorporate global cultural designs in park features.

Events and Activities

- *Cultural Festivals:* Host festivals with diverse music, games, and food.
- *Markets and Events:* Organize inclusive markets, food trucks, and movie nights.
- *Art and Music:* Feature various art forms, including contributions from local youth.

Visual Elements

- *Flags and Banners:* Display flags or banners representing different cultures.
- *Aromatic Herb Plantings:* Plant herbs reflecting various cultural interests.

Community Involvement

- *Design Team:* Include Indigenous and multicultural representatives.
- *Awareness and History:* Highlight Indigenous and local history through installations.

Inclusive Spaces

- *Playgrounds:* Create inclusive playgrounds for all children.
- *Lighting and Safety:* Enhance lighting to make the park welcoming, especially at night.

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Question 4: Are there local historical or cultural elements we should include in the park?

Sentiment Analysis: Neutral (12), Positive (2), Negative (0), Mixed (0)

Verbatim

"Big Marlborough Park was born in the '70s, so let's celebrate the '70s!! LOL. It would be fun to at least reference some of how Calgary was as a city then and the even better city that it is now."

"Diverse recreational opportunities like Cricket or Petanque might be attractive to people. The local schools may be interested in having their students contribute to cultural elements. If we don't have history now, we should start creating memories."

Themes

Historical Elements

- *Marlborough and Marlborough Park's History:* Highlight the area's original suburban features, including hotels, nightlife, and live music.
- *Skateboarding, BMX, and Mountain Biking:* Showcase the history of these activities in Calgary.
- *Information Boards:* Provide historical information about the area's development.

Cultural Connections

- *Diverse Ethnicities:* Incorporate elements connecting all ethnicities, such as art and gardens.
- *Neighborhood Culture:* Reflect the neighborhood's culture, celebrating its diversity and new generations.

Recreational Opportunities

- *Sports and Activities:* Offer diverse recreational opportunities like cricket, petanque, and other community interests.
- *Local Schools and Students:* Involve local schools and students in creating cultural elements that capture history and memories.

Nature and Art

- *Art and Gardens:* Include artistic elements and gardens representing different cultures.
- *Celebration of Nature:* Celebrate Big Marlborough Park's natural beauty with elements honoring the land, animals, and trees.

Community Spirit

- *Cultural Festivals:* Host events celebrating the neighborhood's culture and history.

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Accessibility

Question 1: Do you or any family members experience any of the following? Check all that apply.

Responses are listed below from highest to the lowest.

- 1. Neurodiversity
- 2. Mobility Concerns
- 3. Hearing Loss
- 4. Vision Loss

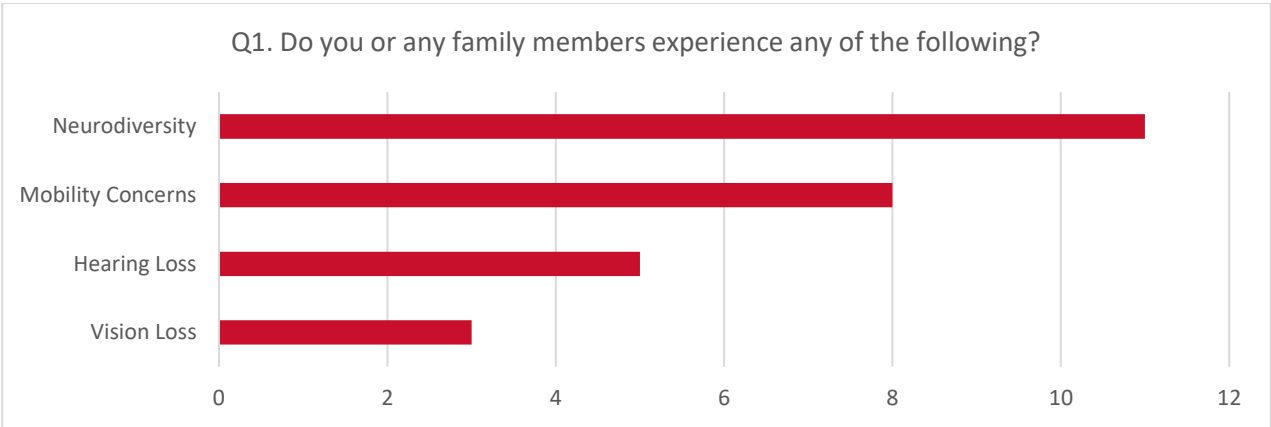


Figure 18: Do you or any family members experience any of the following?



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Question 2: Have you or any family members encountered any barriers when accessing the park?

Responses are listed below from highest to the lowest.

1. Lack of amenities (washrooms, benches, etc.)
2. Safety and Security
3. Pathways and trails
4. Lack of signage and information
5. Language Barriers

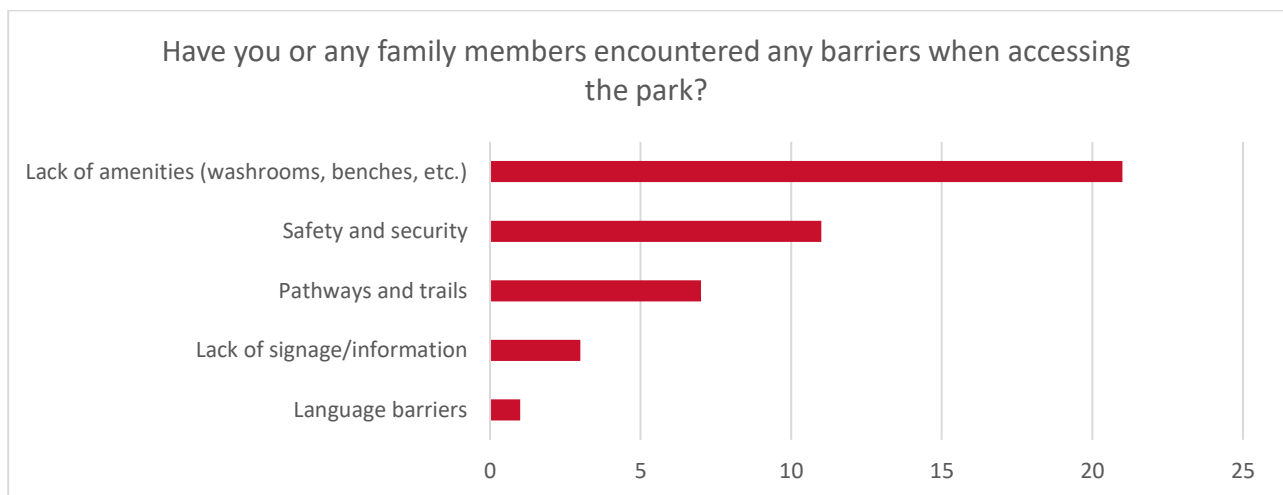


Figure 19: Have you or any family members encountered any barriers when accessing the park?

Question 3: Would you mind telling us more about your previous answer?

Sentiment Analysis: Negative (10), Neutral (5), Mixed (4), Positive (3)

Verbatim

“Pathways are too steep for someone in a wheel chair or using a walker or cane. They ice up terribly in the winter making it unsafe.”

“I grew up in Marlborough park and walked directly through the park and around it daily to get to my school bus route as a kid until my teen years. My disabled sister still lives in the community, and I worry for her safety and opportunities for her inclusion.”

“My son has Down Syndrome and is learning to skateboard. A small 2-3 foot mini ramp would be a perfect learning tool!”

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Themes

Facilities and Infrastructure

- Increase accessible parking spaces.
- Address the lack of permanent washroom facilities.
- Ensure pathways are accessible year-round, especially in winter.
- Install accessible water fountains for summer use.

Safety and Security

- Improve safety in parking lots and areas with suspicious activity.
- Enhance lighting, particularly at night.
- Add more garbage cans to maintain cleanliness.

Inclusivity

- Ensure park accessibility for people with disabilities, including ramps and safe pathways.
- Engage the community to address safety and accessibility concerns.

Recreational Opportunities

- Install a small mini ramp for children with disabilities.
- Provide diverse recreational opportunities for all community members.

Community Support

- Collaborate with local businesses for park maintenance and amenities.
- Work with the community association to address ongoing concerns and improvements.

Question 4: Do you have any suggestions on how we can improve accessibility in the park?

Sentiment Analysis: Neutral (12), Positive (2), Negative (2), Mixed (2)

Verbatim

“Add accessible bathrooms, as well as water fountains. And maybe plant some more trees, or build pavilions to provide shade.”

“Please keep plowing and deicing the pathways in the wintertime.”

“Better signage might be helpful. Maps of the park at entrances indicating where the playgrounds, disc golf course, picnic tables, ball diamonds, skating rink, fire pits, tennis courts etc. are located would be helpful for new visitors. [...]”

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Themes

Infrastructure and Pathways

- Ensure pathways are wide enough for wheelchairs and mobility aids.
- Create paved trails and maintain consistent grades for accessibility.
- Install proper paths and staircases, especially near 144 Georgian Villas NE.

Facilities

- Provide accessible bathrooms and permanent clean porta-potty.
- Install water fountains throughout the park.
- Add more picnic tables, BBQ areas, pavilions, and shaded rest areas.

Seasonal Considerations

- Use sand or gravel on pathways for winter traction and keep them clear of ice and snow.
- Improve lighting for safety and accessibility, especially in the evenings.

Recreational Opportunities

- Create a fenced off-leash dog park with accessible features.
- Develop accessible recreational activities like frisbee golf and walking trails.
- Include garden meditation spaces accessible to all.

Safety and Security

- Implement security patrols, especially in the evenings.
- Provide clear maps and signage to guide visitors to various park amenities.

Community Engagement

- Increase city programming and events to engage the community.

Education

Question1: Which programs would you like to see offered in Big Marlborough Park?
(Choose up to 3)

Responses are listed below from highest to the lowest.

1. Outdoor Fitness and Wellness Classes
2. Art and Creativity Workshops
3. Nature Education
4. Environmental Stewardship
5. Outdoor Storytelling

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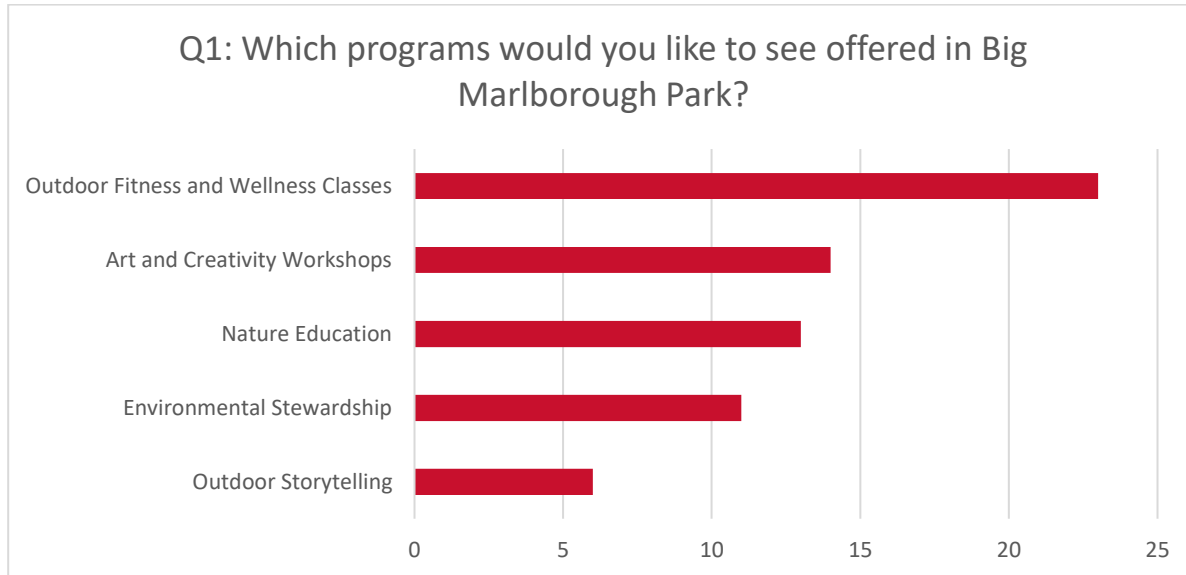


Figure 20: Which programs would you like to see offered in Big Marlborough Park?

Question 2: Would you mind telling us more about your answer in the previous question?

Sentiment Analysis: Positive (9), Neutral (7), Negative (2). Mixed (0)

Verbatim

“Education is important to a healthy society and parks could partner with CBE, SAIT, Calgary Horticulture Society, UCalgary, MRU, Alberta Health, CPL, cultural/arts associations and others to enrich, integrate, educate and create community. This central space is well placed be an educational hub.”

“I think learning to live with nature and respecting the land is important and not something everyone was taught growing up. I think games could be fun for adults and children.”

Themes

Nature and Environmental Awareness

- **Nature Conservancy:** Programs on environmental awareness and conservation.
- **Outdoor Activities:** Encourage kids to engage with nature.

Recreational Clubs and Activities

- **Skateboard Club:** Fun sessions for skateboarders.
- **Fitness and Yoga:** Fitness programs and yoga sessions in the park.
- **Community Tournaments:** Organize sports tournaments.

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Arts and Culture

- *Live Theatre*: Performances with live actors.
- *Community Art*: Art events showcasing community work.
- *Performing and Visual Arts*: Programs for various artistic needs.

Educational Programs

- *Nature Education*: Classes on nature and the environment.
- *General Education*: Programs on happiness, budgeting, financial security, and parenting.
- *Seniors Programs*: Activities and classes for seniors.
- *School Programs*: Physical activity and play programs for kids.

Community Engagement

- *Events and Festivals*: Programs and events at various times for working people.
- *Educational Partnerships*: Collaborate with institutions to create an educational hub.

Question 3: Is there anything else you'd like us to know about educational programming in Big Marlborough Park?

Sentiment Analysis: Neutral (8), Mixed (0), Positive (0), Negative (0)

Verbatim

"Live theatre or educational programs on live stage would draw more people to the park in spring/summer months. There should be a permanent live stage."

"I also think it's important to honour indigenous teachings about nature."

Themes

Community and Recreation

- *Tennis Instructions*: Offer tennis lessons through the community club.
- *Mountain Bike Dirt Jumps*: Provide facilities for mountain biking.

Cultural and Educational Programs

- *Permanent Stage*: Establish a stage for theatre and educational events in spring and summer.

Educational Institutions and Outreach

- *Collaboration*: Work with MRU, SAIT, AUARTS, and UCalgary to address transportation and enhance outreach.

Indigenous Teachings and Nature

- *Programs*: Incorporate Indigenous teachings and nature-related programs to foster respect for the environment.

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Future Thinking

Question: Imagine five years from now. What will be the most important thing to you in Big Marlborough Park? What about 10 years? What about 20?

30 July, 2024 Anonymous says: "I'd love to see the park made more a focal point for the community. Overall increased quality all around. Frisbee golf tee pads etc....."  0	29 July, 2024 Anonymous says: "Fun safe place for kids to play. Newer parks, splash park, skatepark and or pump track Maturing trees and green space for all time"  1	29 July, 2024 Anonymous says: "Easy access to natural space and native flora and fauna"  0
29 July, 2024 Anonymous says: "A large and safe kids park, perhaps a splash park or wading pool. A paved walkway all the way around the park would be nice too."  1	28 July, 2024 Anonymous says: "The mature trees providing shade and cooling to the park users. Safer space for kids to use and more activities for people to do there."  0	23 July, 2024 Anonymous says: "That it remains a park for ever! An encumbrance should be put on the land so that it can never change from a park to multi-family housing."  3
22 July, 2024 Anonymous says: "Wheelchair accessibility. Natural Beauty and upkeep. A vibrant drama club that has plays twice a year that are excellent and interesting."  0	22 July, 2024 Anonymous says: "Stage for live outdoor performances. Music, movie nights and live theatre. More markets in spring and summer months."  1	19 July, 2024 Anonymous says: "That Filipino Calgary Tennis Club can adopt this court and become a premier tennis venue for tournaments."  0

Figure 21: Sample text from portal page

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Sentiment Analysis: Positive (22), Neutral (5), Negative (3), Mixed (0)

Themes

Cleanliness and Safety

- Engage the community in maintaining cleanliness for future generations.
- Promote sustainability and safety.
- Ensure areas remain safe as urban landscapes evolve.

Community and Inclusivity

- Design flexible areas for evolving community purposes.
- Plan for current children to use the space as teenagers.
- Develop inclusively to meet year-round needs.

Nature and Greenery

- Implement sustainable planting for long-term ecological health.
- Plan for tree maturity cycles and durable infrastructure.
- Build lasting park infrastructure.

Recreational Facilities

- Ensure skating rink and hockey nets are resilient to winter weather and climate change.
- Develop bike paths and pickleball courts for increasing foot traffic and diverse activities.
- Add more benches and garbage cans for future needs.

Vision Board

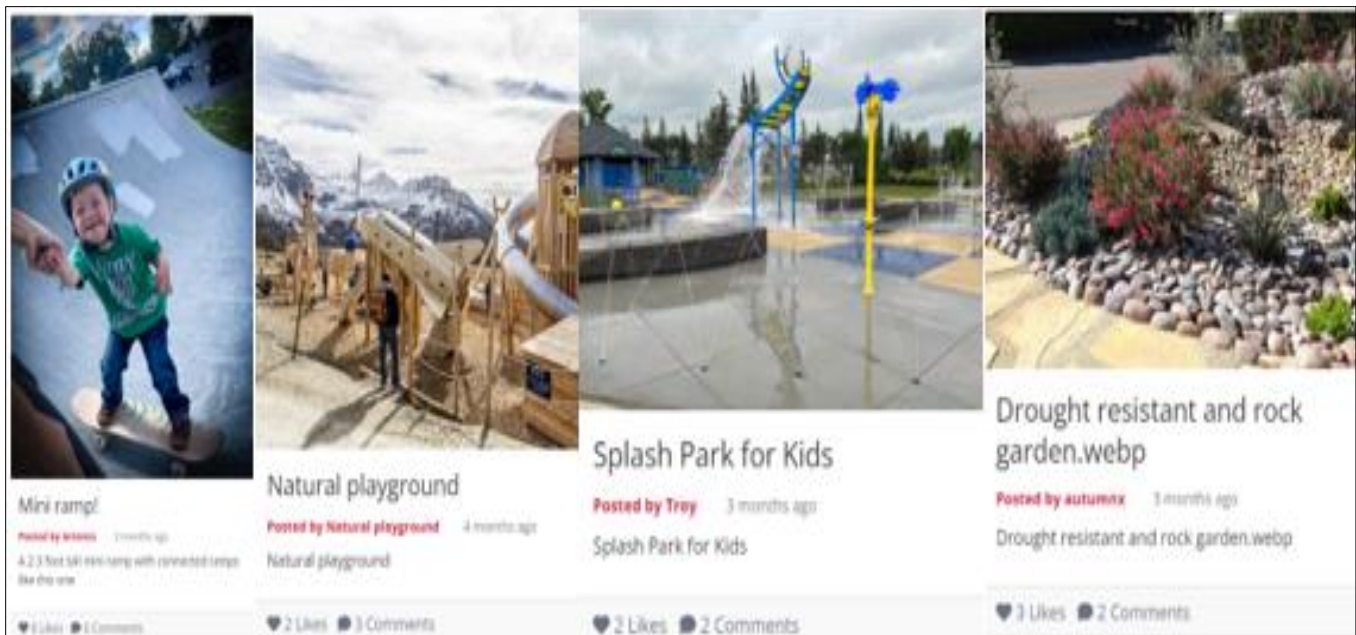


Figure 22: Sample responses from Vision Board

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Here's a summary of the comments from the Vision Board exercise at Big Marlborough Park:

Recreational Facilities

- Desired: Spray/splash park for families and kids.
- Suggestions: Skateboard parks, bicycle pump tracks, and a 2–3-foot mini ramp with connected ramps.
- Interest: Developing cricket facilities and a proper skateboard training facility
- Discussion: Use of tennis courts for pickleball and the need for dedicated facilities for both sports.

Park Improvements

- Concerns: Too many dogs in the park.

Environmental and Aesthetic Enhancements

- Use of sustainable rocks and plants.
- Interest in mini water features and fountains.
- Creation of a natural playground.
- Planting a variety of tree species for a resilient and diverse canopy.
- Adding flower beds and paths for beauty and contemplation.
- Suggestion: Reims Labyrinth Meditation Walk inspired by great philosophers.

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Mapping Exercise - Concerns

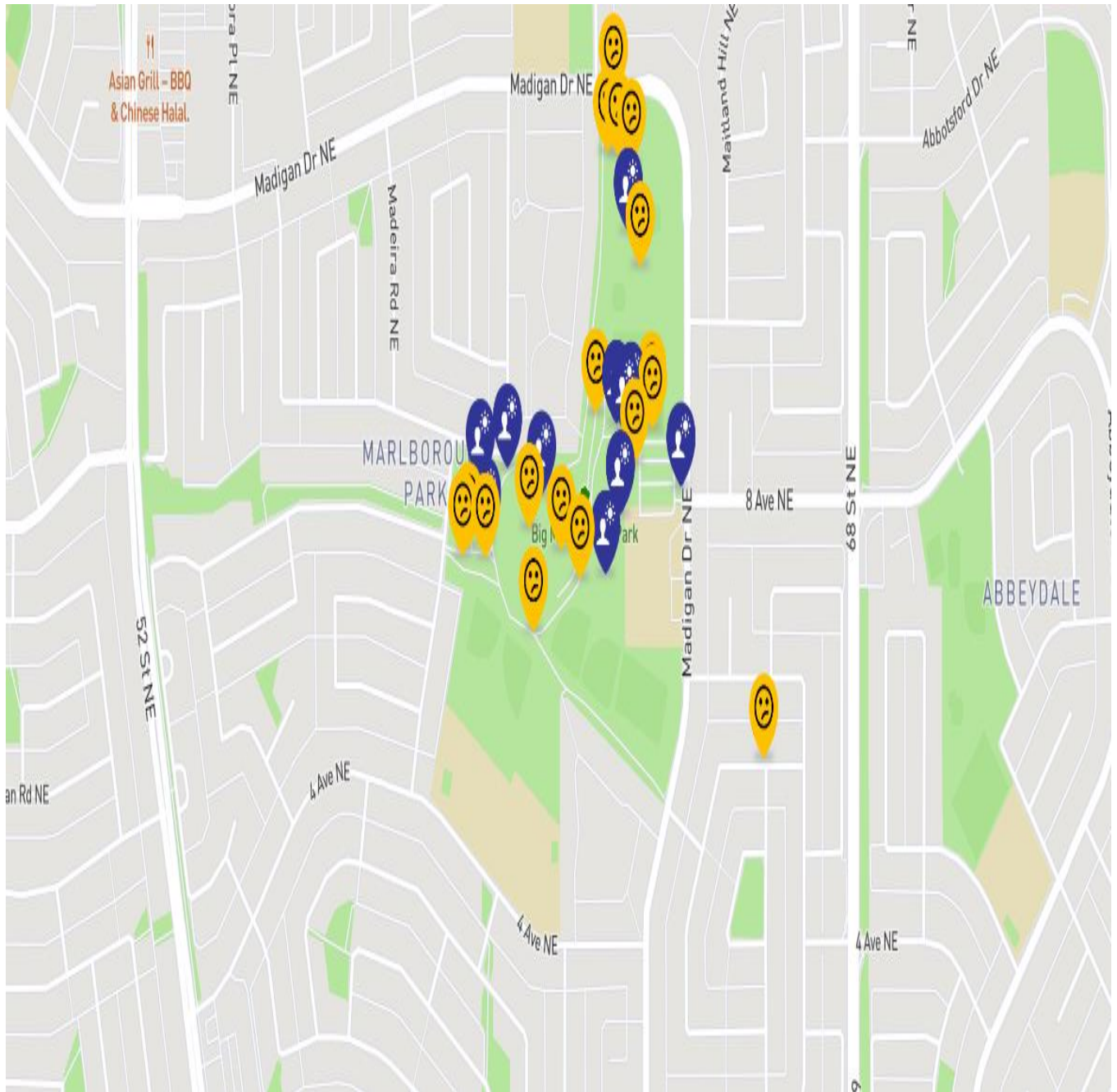


Figure 23: Social Map – concerns

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Mapping Exercise Concerns – Verbatim

- Digital signage offering current events and programs for better communication and engagement with the Community would be very beneficial.
- Add a proper path/staircase here connecting the city sidewalk to the park path.
- Please build a dedicated pickleball courts and get rid of the pickleball lines on the tennis courts.
- Add pump track/skate park feature
- Enclosed off leash dog area
- Have noticed encampments set up here
- Have noticed lack of maintenance to infrastructure in this area
- Vehicle stunting etc
- park is too easy to enter with a vehicle. vehicles stunt in the park all year round damaging grass and sports fields
- People ripping around on quads and mini motorbikes, between 6 and 8 pm most nights, while the park is full.
- Add fitness-workout stations such as steps or chin-up bars?
- 2nd small playground?
- Add Comm garden
- Add lawn bowling area.
- Add Kids' water spray park.
- Extend pathway from north parking lot east and south to tennis courts in a “wandering” fashion for additional walking and biking. Keep disc golf in place.
- Regular serious winter icing due sunny exposure & chinooks. Re-engineer slope with tiers of drought resistant plants and fix drainage.
- Lighting

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Mapping Exercise – Usage

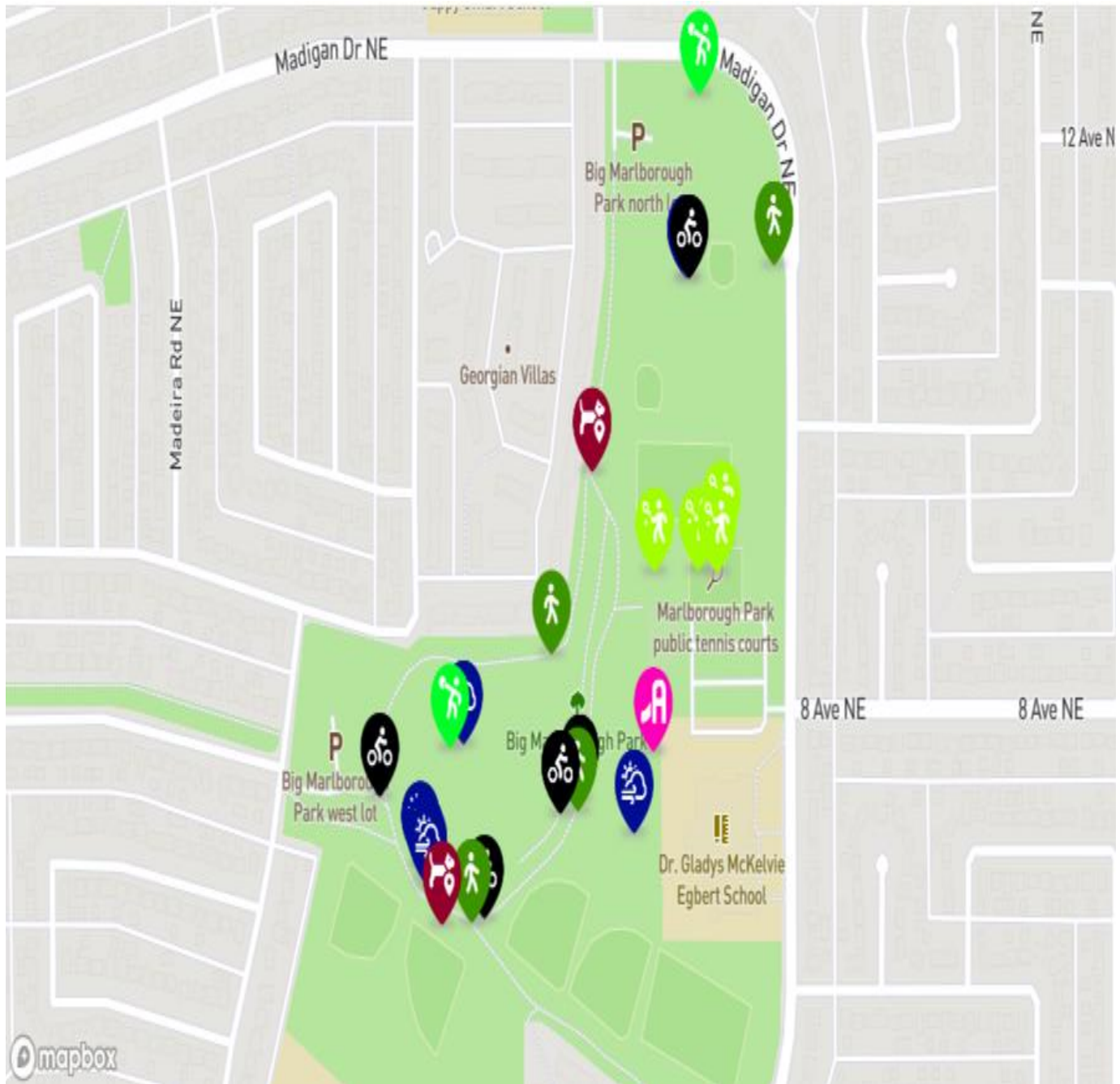


Figure 24: Social Map - Usage

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Mapping Exercise Usage – Verbatim

- In a good ice year, it works so well to have skating and sledding available in close proximity.
- Lovely park to walk in
- We love having a loop for our kids to cycle around where we can keep them in sight.
- We love sledding here! Especially the variety of hill steepness and height. It works well for the entire family.
- rip this bike path on a skateboard
- There was a temporary Tonal Disc Golf Course - would be a nice space for a permanent course
- Great for sledding in winter
- Nice cycling paths
- Great walking and cycling
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- accessible playground
- Skateboard park
- Skatepark!!!
- Kids riding bikes
- Build 4 pickleball courts here.
- Please build a separate pickleball courts and get rid of pickleball lines on the tennis courts
- Skatepark!
- Tobaganning
- would do again helkth allowing
- what I do
- Daily dog walk
- walking thru trees
- Play weekly disc golf here with friends and family.
- Minimum 3x week. East side of bowl is prone to serious icing due sunny exposure and
- Chinooks

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In-Person - Cappy Smart School

We connected with Cappy Smart School and over 180 students. We went on four empathy walks through Big Marlborough Park as well as asked the students to design their own park. A summary of notes taken on the walks, as well as the drawings are included in this section.

General Park Improvements

Accessibility:

- Need for more accessible pathways, ramps, and seating areas.
- Suggestions for wheelchair swings, accessible playgrounds, and Braille signage.
- Pathways should be wider and have contrast lines for visually impaired users.

Facilities and Amenities:

- Desire for more washrooms, including accessible options.
- Requests for drinking fountains for both people and dogs.
- More garbage, recycling, and compost bins throughout the park.

Safety and Maintenance:

- Concerns about broken pathways and dead trees needing replacement.
- Need for better lighting, especially around playgrounds and sports fields.
- Suggestions to add barriers near playgrounds and sports areas to protect spectators.

Playground and Recreational Areas

Playground Features:

- Requests for more swings, slides, monkey bars, and climbing structures.
- Desire for a larger, combined playground area with features like a zipline, trampoline, and spongy ground.
- Suggestions for a separate accessible playground connected to the main park.

Sports and Activities:

- Interest in adding facilities for various sports such as basketball, volleyball, badminton, and lawn bowling.
- Requests for a skateboard park, bike park, and parkour area.
- Suggestions for a year-round skating rink and a spray/splash park.

Community and Aesthetic Enhancements

Community Involvement:

- Desire for community gardens and more community art projects.
- Suggestions for more picnic areas, seating, and shade structures.
- Requests for a fire pit and outdoor classroom/talking circle.

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Aesthetic Improvements:

- Suggestions to paint and decorate the community building and chain-link fences.
- Requests for more trees, plants, and flowerpots to enhance the park's appearance.
- Interest in adding murals and colorful art that represent the community.

Specific Concerns and Suggestions

Safety Concerns:

- Issues with cars driving into pedestrian/cyclist pathways.
- Concerns about drug, gang, and homeless problems around the school and park.
- Need for more signs indicating dogs must be on a leash and providing free dog poop bags.

School and Playground Connectivity:

- Need for better sidewalk connections between Cappy Smart School and the park.
- Suggestions to build a fence along the road to protect kids in the playground.
- Requests for more bike racks and signs for better navigation.

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Figure 25: Sampling of Student Drawings

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In – Person (Open House-in-the-Park, and Park Pop-Ups)

This summary captures the ideas and suggestions from in-person engagements regarding improvements and concerns for Big Marlborough Park.

1. **Connectivity and Accessibility**

- Pathways connecting to Chestermere.
- Wider bike paths and walking-only paths.
- Wheelchair accessible playgrounds and pathways.

2. **Recreational Facilities**

- Sledding hill, spray/splash park, and swimming pool.
- New and improved basketball courts, including indoor options.
- Skateboard park, pickleball courts, and disc golf.
- Outdoor exercise equipment and parkour equipment.
- Zipline and long pathways for skateboarding and rollerblading.

3. **Community and Family Amenities**

- Summer camps for kids, community garden, and shaded picnic areas.
- Public bathrooms, more benches, and BBQ stands.
- Music and entertainment areas, including a bandstand and open mic events.
- Dog-friendly areas, including a fenced dog park and dog agility training area.

4. **Aesthetic and Environmental Enhancements**

- More flowers, trees, and green spaces.
- Clean park with more garbage cans and better maintenance.
- Native plants, xeriscaping, and sensory gardens.

Concerns About Big Marlborough Park

1. **Safety and Security**

- Homeless people camping and illegal activities in the park.
- Graffiti, gangs, and insufficient lighting.
- Speed of electric bikes and e-scooters.

2. **Maintenance and Infrastructure**

- Old and inaccessible playgrounds.
- Poorly maintained areas, including grass, ice rink, and parking lots.
- Clogged sewers and loose gravel.

3. **Community and Social Issues**

- Lack of Indigenous representation.
- Concerns about the city selling off park land for development.
- Not enough garbage cans and people not picking up after pets.

4. **Accessibility and Inclusivity**

- Inaccessible playgrounds and lack of maintenance.
- Insufficient lighting and visible stormwater infrastructure.

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Verbatim

Portal Page Verbatim

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.

The Big Stuff

How can we make Big Marlborough Park even better, ensuring it meets the needs of your community both now and in the future?

Green space and more paths

"SPLASH PARK would be a great idea. More ice and snow clearing of pathways, increase safety of pathways. I often notice there is loitering in the parking lots, I often smell marijuana around the pathway. More police patrol to disperse these unsavoury activities would help."

in the early spring, during the "freeze/melt" phase, putting more emphasis on clearing the pathways of ice would be greatly appreciated so my family and I can walk safely on the paths.

The northeast is lacking for skateboarding parks on the same level of South Wood or Huntington Hills

Sometimes I don't feel safe there. Lots of homeless and people driving motorized vehicles around. I spend half my time yelling at them to slow down, my small children have been close to hit several times. I have stopped going there as much because of this. The children's park is also very outdated.

More exercise park and flowers and place for kids to play.

More cycling infrastructure in the park itself and the East Calgary in general. It would be nice to have some cycling lanes connecting to the park itself, making cycling there safer and easier. Also, the amenities should be upgraded and maybe add new ones.

" -community garden -covered picnic areas -washroom -more signage saying no off leash dogs."

Activities, bigger parking lots more accommodations.

Extend the biking path so it goes around the entire park

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By leaving it a big park. Not filling it with buildings and pathways. Its nice to see open space. I don't want to see ethnic buildings or temples. Then its not a park.

Pickle ball courts

"It's just a big empty underutilized space simply changing that would make it better Make it a busy place so it's safe to go to and please don't cater to small groups of the population There's already a new facility coming to the far northeast that I'll never use."

A splash park and skating rink

"suggestions – Windbreakers - Benches inside the courts - Public toilets - Water fountains - Separate Pickleball courts - Shed/storage - Power outlets - Tennis Court Lights"

" – Windbreakers - Benches inside the courts - Public toilets - Water fountains - Separate Pickleball courts - Shed/storage - Power outlets - Tennis Court Lights"

I am a mother with two kids.me and my husband play tennis while my kids love to play with their bikes and scooters. I suggest if we could have a playground close to the court just as the prairie winds.club house, wash room, benches, water fountain, wind breaker

Make it safer. Perhaps put "911 Address" throughout the park so that emergency responders can find the caller. They are looking for a street address and the only one is the community center building. There needs to be a stronger police presence regularly. Stop the vandals and illegal activity!

Revamp the pit so it can be used again for hockey in the winter, make it usable for something else in the summer. Redo the pathing around the pit and area in general. Add some trees, make the soccer fields usable. Add some park benches/tables and some lighting so it's less sketchy.

Live music, live theatre movie night, and/ or night or farmers market. Water park for summer.

Make it more pet friendly

Walking/ jogging trail and more equipment for kids playing

"There is hardly any shade. No playground just open field. We need a water park for all local low Income families to visit."

those pump tracks and skateboard parks are pretty fun and seem to be super popular. they are always packed. and the baseball diamonds are usually being used for Cricket. so Cricket Wickets might be a fun addition for the Calgary Cricket scene.

"Two rinks, one hockey one skating. Keep the disc golf course.Lighting could be improved in the pathways for winter time, along with there is a spot on the east side of the circle around the dry pond that always ices up from melting snow."

"1 Build a separate pickle ball court and keep tennis court for tennis 2 Install wind breakers, lighting & benches in the tennis court 3 Provide access to a washroom 4"

Provide washrooms for the outdoor users. Windbreakers for the tennis court. Roof cover for the tennis courts

"I used the tennis courts to play tennis. Need the following enhancements.- Windbreakers - Benches inside the courts - Public toilets - Water fountains - Separate Pickleball courts - Shed/storage- Power outlets - Tennis Court Lights"

Put a toilet and shed for tennis players. Put wind breaker in tennis courts. Put bubble tent for 2 tennis courts so that we can use during winter. Thanks. [personally identifying info removed]

"Install additional facilities at tennis courts: - windbreakers, public toilets or portable potty, benches inside the court, water fountains, shed/storage, power outlets, separate pickleball courts."

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"Needs the following:- Windbreakers - Benches inside the courts - Public toilets - Water fountains - Separate Pickleball courts - Shed/storage - Power outlets - Tennis Court Lights"

it is nice if the pickleball separate court

"Tennis court wind breaker Separate pickle ball courts More benches inside the court Water fountain Public washroom Shed/storage More light Another playground closer to the community center."

"Its nice if we can have windbreakers in our tennis courts.- Benches inside the courts - Public toilets - Water fountains - Separate Pickleball courts - Shed/storage - Power outlets - Tennis Court Lights"

"Separate the pickleball courts. Put windbreakers. Clubhouse."

Parking space for each facility. Example, parking for tennis, one for a separate pickleball court, one for playground.

"Remove pickleball lines Wind breakers Lights"

">Would love improvements in the tennis court >Separate pickleball court >Portable Washroom >Windbreakers"

" -tennis court wind breaker -benches inside the court -public toilet -water fountain -separate pickle ball courts -Shed storage -power outlets -playground for kids that is closer to the community center."

Separate the pickleball court and install windbreaker for the tennis court.

" - Put windbreakers around the tennis courts - Setup public toilets - Setup drinking fountains - Benches inside the tennis courts - Power outlets around the tennis courts for events using PA systems - Build a separate pickleball courts - Big storage shed for squeegees, shovels, pushbrooms etc."

Tennis court is one of the landmark of the park. Because it has 4 tennis courts. Now that Pickle Ball is increasing, I suggest there's a separate courts for them because the blue line that was drawn on tennis court confuses the tennis player's game. Also, a wind breaker is highly recommended.

I belong to [identifying information removed]. We call this tennis court our home court with about 100 members. We hold tennis clinics, tournaments and regular games. With enough players just for tennis, the pickleball should be placed somewhere else. There should be a port a potty for washroom.

Add small soccer fields

Separate the pickleball court in tennis court. Then it would be more nicer if tennis court had a Windbreaker.

Make sure it accessible at all times of the year.

Add a new inclusive playground, wading pool, splash park and outdoor washrooms closer to the Community Hall. New outdoor digital signage at the Community Center to advertise events and programs.

The park is great as is. The biggest issue is the traffic around the park. Marlborough Drive could benefit from some traffic-calming measures to slow speeders and stop road racing. Traffic lights would help as well.

Big playground, outdoor pool, meeting space, outdoor school space, forest area

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It's great just how it is. Don't touch it as city bureaucrats only make things worse while wasting money.

Stop with the inclusive BS

I would like a splash park for my grandkids

It would be great if the park had a fenced in dog run where you can have a controlled environment for your dogs to meet. There are a lot of dogs that are walked here, but you can't utilize any of the large area so dog can have burn off some of that energy and meet dog in play...

keep the tranquility Enhance the Nature and Pollinators

Garbage can for the play ground

water park for kids in summer, washroom facility, pump track, climber, monkey bars, upgrade to playground needed. keep skating ice and sledding hill, walking biking pathway along madigan drive.

"More playground areas Water bottle filling stations Splash/spray park More garbage containers area for rollerblading accessible playground area"

"A better park for the kids with no rocks Skate park Better ice ring"

Dog water Fountain

No comment

Anything that provides recreación for people and prevent vandalism tha is frequently happening in this community

Build a skateboard park and big ice skating rink

Add a splash park for families.

Have some splash park on it. Please

"Up grade the draw to the park, it's well used and should reflect the options available to other Calgarians via their community parks. The ice rink shelter/seating additions over the winter were well received and appreciated. park hasn't seen updates since I played little league there in the 90s"

Is there anyway to add a splash park or water feature for the summer??

"1. create a fenced off leash dog park area! 2. create a running track!"

A skatepark would be a great addition!

Maintain or enhance the frisbee golf circuit present in the park.

Putting in a splash pad for youth

A Skatepark

"If a possibility to have dog poop bags along the way. It seems many people do not pick up their dogs poop which we do all the time. There seems to be many more people in Marlborough Park with dogs I have noticed. Please consider dogs on walks when building ad well, especially reactive dogs"

Please put a SkatePark in there, all the Skateparks in the City are ALWAYS packed!

"The central North East is in dire need of a skatepark. The closest skatepark is Genesis which is 10km away. Calgary, being an international sports destination could also use a proper Olympic speck skatepark, and this would be a great location for it!"

Inclusive playground structure. More accessible or space covered by the play park. Regular cleaning and maintenance to clear parks of dangerous items (needles, broken bottles, pieces of sharp metal).

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A skatepark!

"More playground apparatus' That are all inclusive."

Pump Track for recreation.

add more trees so it may provide more shade. Place a playground. Place more benches and picnic tables

More parking, more trees, more events.

A bigger playground would be a nice start, the community association needs to get with the ages.

Out door wading pool would be nice and better access to the ice rink

A skatepark would be nice

Dog park, water park / splash pad, Maybe even live events

Would love a skate park. Big bowl and a street section. A pump track would be awesome as well.

A roof over the bowl would be great for keeping it clean and dry. As I look for a new place to live, if this was in the plan, the area would be very attractive to move to.

Do not mess with it. Other than some upgrades to existing items, tennis court, ball fields... should leave it as is.

If there was a skatepark built in the area i would visit! There is lots of space and the NE has the least skateboarding facilities in the city.

More features to encourage gathering of community, which should improve public safety

Would love a skatepark and paved pumptrack!

Wading pool, splash park for summer, food trucks come more often. I do not want skateboard park because it brings in graffiti and things that are like that.

Off leash dog park, better benches,

Bigger playground

A splash fountain, picnic areas. Maybe small events

"Out door washrooms at the tennis/ Pickleball courts for weekend access. More benches : 1 per each court. The outdoor family zone with the splash park would be well received and used! Air conditioning in the main gym / hall for indoor Sports programs."

We believe spending on expensive equipment or facilities would be completely under used. It seems the city has difficulty caring for the area already. What would help Marlborough park is to enforce existing bylaws for horrific property care. Lived here for 30 years and embarrassed to call this home

in winter some of those pathways are treacherous- may clean or put de-icer

Since the tennis courts are the busiest sports place, build a separate, dedicated pickleball courts and get rid of the pickleball lines on the tennis courts.

Would love to see a skatepark or pump track in the area!

Better playgrounds

Providing a place for kids, teens and adults to be active and play. A skatepark is desperately needed in this community.

More garbage cans

Continue to maintain the pathways throughout the year, good lighting, maintained baseball diamonds and soccer fields. Plant more trees/bushes. Establish picnic areas with benches/tables

It's fine the way it is

Don't contest it. It's nice now with wide open space.

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"Enclosed dog areas Improved playgrounds Pump track"

"More sports options like basketball courts, permanent hockey rink, skate park etc. More lighting around the pathways."

"More police presence. Portapotties. Another garbage on the south side of the parking lot since people can't seem to walk to the north side."

A big shaded gazebo area would be a huge benefit as well as picnic tables.

We walk the paths everyday with our dog. The flower planters and trees are beautiful in the summer. The only recommendation I would make is better lighting around the path it is quite dark at night. Any improvements of the ice rink and toboggan hill is welcomed. More trees and plants. I love the walking path and the greenery is beautiful. The hockey rink in the winter is the best. More lighting on the walking path would be nice.

Assure us that Big Marlborough Park will remain a park IN ITS ENTIRETY. in perpetuity.

I am trying to think what to have usage the storm water holding field, perhaps having a temporary gazebo (with signs about evacuate the area in case of storms), or a temporary skateboard ramps in that area as well. A revived playground in the North side so children get drawn back to that area again.

Keep the public winter skate area (perhaps run a skating program for kids). The addition of Disc Golf course is a great idea to utilize the area. I would like to try the tennis court. The tree grove in the southern part should perhaps continue to expand.

The park needs activities to attract visitors and the grounds need to be maintained & upgraded. Demographics of the Marlborough Park Community has changed as the resident population ages. Field activities for children have declined but not many new activities have been added other than disc golf.

Building a new playground and pump track

More lighting at night, shelters from the rain, more bike racks, more greenery

Install signs that say it is not an off leash area for dogs. Regularly I see dogs there off leash. This park is located next to schools and off leash dogs should not be allowed.

Please remove the disc golf area. Please update the playground for the children and add more fun things to do. Maybe some safety fencing/barriers at the areas that are by the road, lots of wildlife come out there and get struck by vehicles.

Have more lights

Build an off leash gated area for dogs please, an area where our dogs can freely run without us thinking of our dogs picking up garbage around the park.

"It needs outdoor exercise equipment! Better playground with rubber play area. No gravel!"

Playground with Zip-line."

It would be amazing to see more lush gardens and treed areas that people can enjoy. With the need for densification also comes the need for nature. I think the more beautiful these areas are kept, the more that will encourage people to be out and enjoying and feeling safe in these areas. More active spaces to bring people here. It's an ideal location for a skatepark in my opinion. There are few inner city spots and nothing remotely close to here.

Build a new Skateboard Park there

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I would love to see a splash pad. It doesn't have to be big and can have a button you push to activate it for 5-10 minutes or so and could only be active during summer. Also, a new park is definitely needed. If it has the rubber bottom instead of rocks that would be awesome.

"get rid of the berms that shield the parking lots from view from the street add more pathways around the outer edges of the park in the NE corner"

The sled hill is awesome. Please keep it. We love the circular path for biking. It could use things like picnic sites and a playground closer to the south west side. A water splash park or water area would be cool.

Allow a small portion of it to be designated as an off-leash area.

Updating the playgrounds, make them accessible as possible to disabled children, but also sensory friendly for other users. please don't put them too close to the houses, we enjoy the birds and the dark nights.

Have areas for little dogs to play without worrying about the big dogs.

Adding more flowers or tree canopies, maybe a natural playground and signs reminding people it is not an off leash dog park and to have their dogs leashed.

More garbage cans with access to dog poop bags, more lighting along the path especially in the winter. The path builds up ice in the winter so seeing where ur walking would be great

An off leash dog park would be amazing.

I feel that keeping the disc golf course and the variety of sporting options open, especially with the number of schools in the area.

We live the park, we walk in the evenings with our kids. There is a really big need for a better more inclusive playground. Something like Elliston would be nice, and a splash park. We would also really love if the walking path went all the way around the park, not just around half. Thank you

Biking, sleiding, walking

Fence some of it off. Some of the disk golf is close to the road and for those who are not good, it can help us not worry about playing with our children near the road. There are lots of family's with children and dogs, having a fence can ensure more safety for those coming to visit!

My family primarily uses the disc golf course, bike paths, skating rink in winter and the toboggan hill. The playground could use an upgrade. More picnic areas, fire pits, washroom etc. hope the disc golf course stays because it's such a family friendly course.

A roofed seating area with spots for food trucks

Kids' water park near by playground; lawn bowling W. of tennis courts; "wandering" bike path around N.perimeter fm tennis courts to N.parking lot. Comm. garden S. of comm ctr. Re-engineer hillside on E. side of bowl: tiers & drought resistant plants. Work-out stations: steps, chin up bar etc.W.play?

Updated playground for the little ones. More trees.

Security....the parking lot on the West side has become a haven for drug dealing. It is hidden behind a hill/bushes, which is great as community members don't see it...but the traffic, loud cars and speeding along Maidstone Drive are out of control. Someone is going to get killed.

Plant more trees and flowers

Needs additional shade areas for hot summer days

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"Skating pond seems to be underused.....a COVERED picnic table area would be used....flower pots not seen by many waste of money.....oak trees take too long to grow you can choose better... Removal of dead trees ...pruning dead branches important..."

Accessible playground, more pathways, fenced off-leash dog play area.

"Make something for small kids More clean Safety slides and colourful Swing"

Upgrade the playground for kids. Add more activities for older kids like a skate park

Including more covered seating areas, expanding the play ground to have more structures/things children can use. Providing outdoor workout equipment at the playground so people have free access.

make it more accessible for everyone

More trees, better walking and bike connections

It is possible to put a small artificial lake with ducks and geese, and it is also possible to put a section for family gatherings

"Splash park for kids. More garden area.Keep the ice rink in the winter, it's amazing."

Something for kids, splash park, skate park or better playground without rocks.

I would like to see more trees and flowers and maybe some more resting areas. I usually use the park to go for walks. I am an original Marlborough Park resident (51 years) so have used the park regularly.

Widen Madigan Drive by the park and create angle parking for events. Raise the pedestrian crosswalks leading into the park to slow traffic. Install highly-visible security cameras (or fakes) and signage to deter illegal activity. Install a traffic light at the corner of Madigan Drive and 8 Ave NE. A bicycle pump track like the ones all the rich neighborhoods gets from the Calgary Flames would be nice.

I'd love to find ways to make this park more beautiful and perhaps interactive. More plantings like flowers, shrubs, light features, public sculpture, a gazebo and gathering area, more shade and attractions that draw interest.

Get the soccer field to become more advanced for higher level play.

Talk to the people who are there more then me but I love how the city is engaging with the community

There should be a pool, water fountain, basketball court.

I'd like to see more pathways. Perhaps around the periphery of the park. An inclusive playground would be good and picnic tables for families to enjoy the park.

"Remove dead trees....and replant. Keep path ways free if snow AND ICE all year long as many many people walk there.Those flower pots are position so few can enjoy the ,...waste of money better spent on trees.....oak trees a waste of money take centuries to grow..."

Do not get rid of this beautiful green space!

"It's a beautiful park with a good walking path. Good skating opportunity in the winter.

Adding an inclusive playground would be great. Monitor the parking lots as they are hidden and can have people parked in cars for long hours making it feel unsafe."

Outdoors gyms, off leach area

More picnic area. Enhanced walking path

Ensuring the green space remains with more trees.

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Easier access to the playground and ball fields, such as pathways. Better lighting for night time, especially for winter seasons. Washroom facilities would be amazing.
More activity spaces, gazebos, day areas for bbqs or small gatherings
Putting a proper and bigger playground for all ages (toddler to teenagers).shaded area at the playground. pathway to the playground. More picnic tables, benches. A fenced off dog park. Too many dog owners allowtheir dogs off leash and it becomes a problem. skate or bike/rollerblade area.

What are your long-term hopes for the park (5 years, 10 years, 20 years)?

Values and Priorities

Is there anything else you'd like us to know about your values and priorities for Big Marlborough Park?

The park really needs public bathrooms, as well as drinking fountains, plus some sort of water feature for kids to play in would also be good

Would like to see the walking path go all the way around to reduce congestion

Splash park would be a great addition.

I love to bring my kids here, but the children's park is very outdated and small. I also struggle with people driving motorized vehicles around the park they drive very fast and have almost children. I would like the place safe and clean

It's a well preserved and maintained open green space that we all value. More recreation like basketball or outdoor exercise park would be great addition but any additional outdoor events etc. must be mindful of the residents who live around the park

Youngsters used to enjoy climbing the spider net while their older siblings played soccer here.

Community gardens would be great. Connect seniors and students from the adjoining schools to help each other with the garden plots. There would be a sense of ownership and maybe less vandalism.

More trees and flowers....more entertainment live music, markets etc.

We need a sense of commitment

We want to hear positive new not just shooting news about Marlborough. Let's give the park back to the community.that is our kids future. We need more shaded spaces.

build more fun stuff for people to do, people will come to the park. skateboard park, bicycle jumps, like GOOD bike jumps, the kind with wooden kickers.

Leave it alone. The community uses it as is. It is nice not to have overcrowded space. The community likes it as is. Just maintain paths.

I have lived in Marl Park for over 25 years and BMP has been a huge part of my families lives! We bought our home with the park as one of the most important reasons. Let's keep it accessible to all.

Love the disc golf course

Add a splash park for kids.

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Green space with trees, flowers, plants. Accessible and safe for elderly with mobility issues.

Definitely would go out of my way to bring my family to skateboard here!!

Maybe a few picnic benches.

Basically leave it alone

This park is a great place to spend time in the winter because of the toboggan hill and well maintained gigantic skating rink. Would be great to see some festivals/food trucks/events type things go on there

We really need a good public playground

Big Marlborough Park gives me a sense of well being just knowing it is there. Even when I just drive by it, It is important to me

The walking/cycling path is the most used area, all seasons. There are no water features. The picnic tables degraded till complaints were made about safety. The new flower planters are nice. There is very little or no shade in the summer months.

I would love to see more multi use spaces. In particular a skatepark would be fantastic to encourage physical activity to be uses by scooters, skaters, rollerbladers etc

I like that the green space is available for us who live in the area. Feels like a private space just for us. And I love that.

We would appreciate the residents proximity to the park be considered when making your finale decision. We want everyone to be able to enjoy the amenities offered but without taking away the peace the park currently offers. No splash parks please!!!!

Integrated eco friendly garden/art/learning space would be nice. Tired area on east side bowl.

Safe space for dog play

Designing this park to be more of a draw due to enhanced beauty, cultural elements, people, flowers, water, etc, would increase use of the space even more than currently. A place to linger and enjoy.

Ensure the people come for usage

I think more manicured greenery and pathways would really help the space feel welcoming and i know my family would absolutely love spending a lot more time in the park if that changed.

And a lot more lighting on the pathways and playgrounds.

Concerns:

Would you mind telling us more about your previous answer?

(Which concerns do you have about Big Marlborough Park? Multi-select)

It's hard to know what amenities are available in the park, especially the playground or discgolf, since they are stuffed off into a corner, where most people don't even realise they exist. Also, there's no toilet or fountain so you have to leave

I think the safety and maintenance of the walkways/pathways needs to be increased.

More police patrols to prevent loitering in the parking lots.

I am very concerned about people driving motorized vehicles. My kids have almost been hit 3x it's very scary. Also a big increase in homeless camps. And no washrooms. I used to use the park daily, recently I don't feel safe.

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Even though the Big Marlborough Park itself is nice, it has largely unchanged as mentioned in the official City of Calgary website and it's located close to some sketchy neighbourhoods, like Forest Lawn and Marlborough with some people doing drugs.

A lot of situations when it is windy, it's hard to play tennis at the tennis court.

Adding pickleball lines at the tennis court confused us tennis players. They should have their own separate courts.

The signs regarding dogs and where they can be within the park were removed so people think it is an off-leash park. Dogs are at large regularly and the owners are rude. There is a lot of illegal activity all the time and nothing is being done.

More trees please and benches placed so there is shade on the benches. More regular supervision of the park by the City would be beneficial. Dogs running off leash and signage that this is not an off leash park and pick up after your dog signage.

Lack of garbage bins and no public washrooms are of concern. Social disorder is a turn off people need to feel safe.

For a big park, there is no public washroom. During off hours, the parking lot is being used by young adults to smoke pot.

We need fresh air please provide a water /winter features for the community

i like to ride bicycle dirt jumps and skateboard parks. the lack of Public Mountain Bike Dirt Jumps in Calgary saddens me.

We Tennis Players are having conflicts with pickleball players as they are using the Tennis Courts.

There is no washroom period. We play tennis and need to go to a gas station to do our business.

I find there aren't enough activities to bring families in the community together. What happened to Jelly Bean dances? Kids especially need to feel a sense of community and a safe place to go.

Community garage sales, block parties etc.

People ride electric scooters / motorized bikes quite fast (30km/h+) throughout the park. They weave between people walking on the path. They ride off the path. They ride fast over blind hills nearly hitting people.

It's fine as is, for the most part.

Would love to see a great skatepark here!!

Pickleball players act as if they own this court. We have been using the te Nissan courts since 2006. There should be a separate court for them.

Secondly, drug users use the parking lot frequently.

When playing tennis, especially in tournaments, If the community hall is closed, there's no access to washrooms.

I use the pathway and green spaces and walk my dogs daily. When I bike part of the pathway connects to my bike route. I have no concerns with how it is.

There seems to be a lot of fancy cars idling waiting for meetings.

Idling cars period are offensive, not to mention exchanges that are being made in that parking lot.

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This park is quite busy as it is. Adding attractions encourages other communities to make noise and create garbage and leave

I have notices that the city seems to be doing the bare minimum of maintenance to the infrastructure of Big Marlborough Park.

The picnic tables became so worn they were unsafe and remained that way till complaints were made. Garbage cans should be easily available. When the community centre is closed there are no facilities. The park also has the silliest name in the city.

Drug and gang use of parking lots, vehicles driving in green space

The parking concern is with west parking lot. The entrance isn't graded properly and when exiting the bottom of my vehicle hits. More benches, more shade, more picnic tables and a bathroom would be nice.

I recommend signs reminding owners it is not an off leash park

Over the past several years, fireworks have become more and more common...almost weekly in the summer months. This, IMO, is directly related to the people using the parking lot for dealing drugs and meeting up to rev engines and do donuts. Not cool

Barely any playground equipment, barely any gardens, not wheelchair accessible.

I think this park receives a little bit of maintenance attention, but not a lot. And more amenities would make this more of a destination for hanging out, rather than just a green space that is only really for moving through.

na

There are no restrooms, and I am not aware of many activities to take part in. There has been no ice rink for the last couple of years either.

Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

Add toilets and water fountains, maybe a better playground closer to the schools or community centre. Also a spray park would be great; there are so many families with young kids in the area, but many don't use the BMP

I think the safety and maintenance of the walkways/pathways needs to be increased.

have some police patrolling the parking lot areas more often for people doing "suspicious activities" Security

Some people need some help if they continue to engage in unsafe activities, like doing drugs. And the NE needs better cycling infrastructure and more upgrades. We can't just focus on 3 quadrants and ignore one.

Can we put up a wind breaker along the fences to reduce or avoid the wind from entering the court.

Build a separate pickleball courts.

Better signage and lots of them. Regular monitoring by By-law and the Police not just when somebody calls them..

More security, washrooms and garbage bins.

install public washrooms and increase security

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A Bicycle Dirt Jump and Progression Park. and a skateboard park.
Separate Tennis Courts and Pickleball. Install windbreaker in tennis court
install washrooms or even just a Porta-potty
Hold different classes for kids and parents to enroll in together. This allows for meeting neighbors in the community.
Ban electric scooters / motorized bikes from the park.
Better waste disposal options, dog waste bag stations , washrooms. Just better up keeping and lighting. Public gardens
More bathrooms
Allow our club to manage/maintain the courts for the city and we will make sure the tennis courts will be protected.
Either keep the community hall open from 8-5 or place a porta close to the tennis court or building.
Cameras and more police patrol.
More lighting
Replacing (not bare minimum repairs) to picnic tables , benches and playground equipment
I have seen other parks with had surface tables, some with built in chess boards. Some with roofs over them. I would also like to see more shade.
Add trees along street edge, fix parking lot barriers with steel poles
Yes, but it's not realistic...remove the parking lot but they'd just end up on the street. It's a tough one for sure. How do you make the parking lot less attractive? Maybe lights. Or perhaps consider locking security date earlier.
Wheelchair accessible playground and pathways, gardens, water, dog safe play area (fenced)
Provide visual and sensory interest, to make this quite lovely green space more of a place to seek out for its beauty and improvements, what it has to offer. Activate this space with art, fun, installations, shade for lingering, a water fountain maybe?
na
Needs more lighting. It gets sooo dark at night time, especially in the winter.
Better playground for kids of all ages. Spray park

Accessibility

Would you mind telling us more about your previous answer?

The parks need bathrooms and water fountains, otherwise it forces people to leave. It would also be nice to have specific shady areas for people to cool down during the summer.
In the winter season, snow that accumulates melts onto the walking paths of the park and freeze overnight, so this is very dangerous if not sanded or maintained. The pathways are often unuseable without ice cleats.
We frequently notice suspicious individuals meeting in parking lots, and I often smell marijuana, which is quite bothersome. I find this concerning, especially since I frequently visit these areas with my 6-year-old
No bathrooms. Lots of homeless camps. And people driving motorized vehicles

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When playing tennis, there is no washrooms available when needed and benches to sit on.

A permanent facility washroom would be beneficial.

There is no washrooms. Not many tables for picnics.

currently i used the park simply for commute purposes. i have no real reason to stop and hang out.

Pathways are too steep for someone in a wheel chair or using a walker or cane. They ice up terribly in the winter making it unsafe.

My son has Down Syndrome and is learning to skateboard. A small 2-3 foot mini ramp would be a perfect learning tool!

I grew up in Marlborough park and walked directly through the park and around it daily to get to my school bus route as a kid until my teen years. My disabled sister still lives in the community, and I worry for her safety and opportunities for her inclusion

Park is easily accessible but need more parking space.

There is so much garbage there. The city could enlist help from local businesses. For instance, the garbage we see is often from Tim Hortons and the convenience store on Memorial.

Big park with no washrooms makes it hard for families to enjoy longer stays

The community association has washrooms that are accessible but there are no washrooms available when the community association is closed

The pathway around the park/dry pond is well maintained and since the parking lot on the Madigan Drive entrance has been paved it is easy to access. I live in the neighbourhood and am familiar with the park so don't have a problem locating things that I want/need but that would not be so for all.

People are ripping around the park on recreational vehicles, its not safe to walk in the park when they are doing it.

More lighting and garbage cans

East side of bowl ices across the pathway due to the sunny hillside exposure or during chinooks.

With the grass flooded and re-freezing at night, 8.15 foot sections become impassable. It's been bad for 20 years.

Washrooms would be beneficial.

Cappy Smart School is a refuge for a significant number of EES students. The park is not currently supporting these children

na

Are there barriers we need to overcome?

Do you have any suggestions on how we can improve accessibility in the park?

Add accessible bathrooms, as well as water fountains. And maybe plant some more trees, or build pavilions to provide shade

Sand or gravel for pathways? A better way to clear ice and snow.

I would like to see less loitering in the parking lots. These are often people who meet in vehicles and talk to each other sitting in their vehicles, it's suspicious and I don't see these persons using the park for recreation.

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A paved path all the way around the park. I see a lot more people walking there than playing Frisby golf and the walking trails get congested.

Put up a permanent clean portalet on the area and benches to sit on.

Please keep plowing and deicing the pathways in the wintertime.

Provide washroom's, more tables. Maybe some bbq stands .

wider pathways? more all wheel access to more areas of the park with paved trails.

Bring all the pathways up to the same grade.

Add a proper path/staircase just to the SW of 144 Georgian Villas NE connecting the city side walk to the park path. A lot of people access the park through the trees here and the ground is worn out. It can be quite slippery in the winter.

Make it a fenced in off leash dog park with a water fountain for the dogs

More city programming in the park & events, better lighting and accessible features for all to enjoy provide walkways along the park from the added parking space.

No it is quite accessible

Better signage might be helpful. Maps of the park at entrances indicating where the playgrounds, disc golf course, picnic tables, ball diamonds, skating rink, fire pits, tennis courts etc. are located would be helpful for new visitors. Also signage for dog owners with information about leashing etc. security patrols between 6pm - 8pm

See above. Re-engineer the slopes using tiers of drought resistant plants, it could be a learning area too.

Wheelchair accessibility throughout the park, and calming garden meditation spaces.
na

Events

What type of events have you attended in Big Marlborough Park?

Markets voting. Jellybean dances when I was a kid nothing recently.

Meals on Wheels Volunteer event

New Years Party once.

Blood Donor Clinic

City of Calgary meet your Alderman

Christmas Markets

Live Music in the park, baseball games.

none. just commute through.

Tennis tournaments

Girl Guides for years.

In the past, I have attended Jelly Bean dances, sports, craft sales, pre-school with my children.

Little Kickers soccer.

Day care, summer camps, softball. Street hockey meet ups. Baseball games at the junior high.

Jelly bean dances.

Baseball when kids were little

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We need to know when their events going on. There is no signage and the website is trash. No info or I would attend things

Tennis Tournaments

NASA family bbq. Occasional market.

My kids have attended some of the stay and play activities. Shakespeare in the park.

Sports

Anniversary of the community, sporting events and tournaments (youth and adult),

Softball games, soccer games, jellybean dances, Tai Chi, New Years parties, parades, fireworks, craft fairs, rummage sales, community cleanups, Canada Day BBQ's, pancake breakfasts, summer day camps, picnics, blood donor clinics, babysitter training, Chinese New Year lunches, ran out of room ...

Sports day

Rockets launches, cultural events, soccer and t-ball games, races for schools

Markets, family events

Safety/ comm assign meetings, comm clean up, dog walks. (We don't have kids).

Watched softball and soccer games. Attended antique shows at MP Community Center

Pancake breakfast, community cleanups, Lego contest

Blood drive

Sport event

Sports, community days in the past

Sporting events, community clean up

Kid sports

All Sports Day

What types of events would you like to see more of?

Farmers markets would be great! Also event that help community members to connect with the people and resources around them

anything with live music would be great!

Markets, music

More events that are family, friendly stuff for kids to learn about and for adults fun as well.

Zumba classes for ladies in the early evenings.

Sit classes for seniors in the day and early evenings.

Lectures and slide shows for instance like TED lectures and travel that add interest to life.

Dog training classes.

Live music, movie nights, and outdoor markets.

Skateboarding, BMX, Mountain Bike Dirt Jumping, Pump Track Festival. Redbull knows what's up.

Nature related events like they have in Inglewood Sanctuary and Carburn Park.

I feel the community association has dropped the ball for many years regarding having events for families. The Facebook page is hardly ever updated and community news or events are not as heard of anymore.

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More summer camps for kids. Lots of new youth in the arena and new to Canada children that should experience what some of us take for granted. It will help bring them a new sense of community that's starting to lack all over the city
Less old people activities and more things for all ages
Skateboarding
Farmers Market
More markets, vendors. Allowing adequate notice for upcoming markets other than the newsletter.
Free.
A large bouncy castle day.
Neighbour day.
Farmers market.
Farmers market
Cultural events expressing the diversity of our area
Concerts, arts and crafts activities, parks and recreation recreation lessons i.e. teach me disc golf, equipment lending libraries. Gardening information classes (from seed to table)
More free Sports day for kids
soccer games, baseball
Outdoor markets,
Kite festival? Lawn bowling? Pickle ball? Water park and or skate board park; comm garden. Star gazing? Music in the park?
Markets, antique shows and maybe food truck events
Evening Yoga classes! Please keep up the blood drives, and open mike nights, I'm interested in these but keep missing them.
Festivals, farmers markets, craft fairs, community garage sales
Cultural event, sports events.
Community days again, theatre in the park, city of Calgary exercise classes, park and play
Sports, outdoor music events

What types of events would you like to see less of?

More events are needed to include all
anywhere anyone is calling me a savage abomination. a heathen set to be cast into a lake of fire to burn of all eternity.. yeah. not a big fan of those kooks. less of those please.
Baseball games - because there never are any.
more the better , it's a big park that could give a lot more
None
Anything with a microphone
Pickleball (just kidding)
Can't think of anything.
One that will invite too many strangers.
ones with loud music or fireworks
? Gear-heads leaving their trash in parking lot by tennis courts.

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N/A

None that I can think of

na

Your Story

What would make Big Marlborough Park feel like home to you?

It already does but would love to see it improved to match the quality of some of the other parks in the city as far as amenities go.

More community events, more use of the large space through splash park, outdoor summer aquatic activities.

To feel safer

Feel like more like a community, more social activities more amenities stuff for families to do more often.

Lots of Beautiful flowers and a variety of trees and easy accessible picnic tables to have a picnic on.

More trees and groomed flower areas.

a Mountain Bike Dirt Jump and Progression Park with drops and jumps. a Skateboard Park. A proper UCI Pump Track for when Redbull comes to town again.

Playing tennis here since 2010

More trees and gardens.

To have programs for adults geared towards different activities. Crafts, games, dance lessons etc. plant diversity , kids leagues using the facilities, summer camps for kids . I enjoy seeing the skating pond fully used by families in the winter

To make it a fenced in off leash dog park

A skatepark with a great playground next to it so that the older kids can skateboard while there is also something fun and engaging for our toddlers

Allow our club FCTC, to assist the city in managing and maintaining the park.

Less garbage is the big deal.

Better lighting and leaving it a wonderful green space. Walking paths. Trees and flowers.

It does feel like home to me now, but every home needs upkeep

It does feel like home but I would like more spots to sit in the shade and read a book. Or sit at a bench or table and have coffee with my friends and neighbours. Or take my grandchildren to play in the park and have a picnic.

It is already home to me. One that is all mine.

Respecting the wild animals that currently call the park home, the sense of peace the park brings.

Minimum: can of bike path. Fix drainage, add more garbage cans please.

More trees and flowers.

More interactive spaces for children to play (playground, splash park), dog safe play area (fenced), gardens and calming spaces with seating.

More trees and flower beds

More trees and flowers

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Definitely what would feel like home would be flowers to smell and revel in. Plus it seems like all human beings are drawn to water, in some way. A water feature, or even just some water fountains and a bit of a splash area would be so much fun.

Proximity

It's a great space, just make the parking lots safer. More community events hosted in the park.

Adding a city of Calgary office onsite.

More greenery!!! There's a huge empty field that could be used for gardens with pathways and sitting areas. I know i would love to have a place to go and eat a picnic and just be in nature. It's a perfect open spot!

How can we honor and celebrate cultural diversity within the park? Small flags/banners on the light polls around the walk path

A cultural festival featuring live music, games, and food.

Markets would be nice and pop up events like bringing in food trucks , however markets should be interesting for ALL people not just one particular group of people.

By including all in the activities. Music, markets and movie nights.

First Nations Do ALL Art. work with Skateboard Park Builders who are affiliated with Nation Skates Youth (<https://nationskateyouth.com/>)

Keep it accessible and welcoming to all who use it.

just the diversity and how it's changed since the communities inception. Ethnic backgrounds have shifted widely since the park was created.

There is a lot of cultural diversity in the neighbourhood and we have had nice experiences embracing the diversity. Does there need to be something other than the interactions of humans? I don't think so.

Leave it the way it is.

Leave it the way it is . All different people from different walks already use the park and it's quite busy. More lighting for in the evenings would be good though.

The stone circle by Egbert School is a nice addition. More awareness of Indigenous and local history of the area should be reflected. The back wall of the community centre is literally a blank canvas. It could be utilized as long as it was cared for.

Isn't it already diverse?

acknowledge the traditional territories of the native people. When trying to celebrate other cultures you can create a bigger divide, while one group feels like the park is inclusive, other feels left out and unsafe.

Sure but let's not make it "cluttered".

I think it would be amazing to include an indigenous person in the design team.

I think incorporating elements of design from different cultures around the world would be interesting, for the park benches, light features, a water fountain, even different ways of bringing interest in culture with various aromatic herb plantings.

Add markers and stories

Inclusive playground. Indigenous art.

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Are there local historical or cultural elements we should include in the park?

An element about connections between all ethnicities may be nice to include but that is something I wouldn't like to see be expensive.

Could have an information board on the history of the area.

the history of Skateboarding BMX and Mountain Biking in Calgary.

Marlborough was the original suburban area in the NE. It use to be full of hotels and night life/live music as my parents say. Might be something there to expand on for those who missed that era of the community

No. At this point in time, everything historical and cultural is controversial.

Leave Big Marlborough as a celebration of nature.

N/a

Diverse recreational opportunities like Cricket or Petanque might be attractive to people. The local schools may be interested in having their students contribute to cultural elements. If we don't have history now, we should start creating memories.

only ones that have to do with the original people of the land and or anything about the animals and tree life that lives in the park. Teach people to respect the land and creatures.

Probably but I prefer to think of the neighborhood culture collectively vs single elements as it changes with each new generation that arrives and grows up etc. I love our diversity but don't try to overwhelm / scare people.

No.

Maybe a something with when the park came to be originally.

Big Marlborough Park was born in the '70s, so let's celebrate the '70s!! LOL. It would be fun to at least reference some of how Calgary was as a city then and the even better city that it is now.

How Marlborough Park was developed.

Art. Gardens.

Education

Would you mind telling us more about your answer in the previous question?

Maybe we could have community member art displayed at the park and events to create that art and teach others about mediums.

More programs would be nice because there does not seem to be anything offered right now. The programs could be offered at various times of the day/evening so that working people can attend.

U of C and Mt. Royal and the City could perhaps suggest some programs or evenings or classes.

Perhaps they would come and speak on a particular subject such as happiness, debt reduction and budgeting, financial security, parenting, seniors programs , etc.

Live theatre would be great w/live actors. Fitness is a hit with many and nature education is important.

we already have a club of skateboarders in Calgary called 100% Skateboard Club and they do fun sessions.(<https://100percentskateclub.ca/>)

Learn about the wonderful outdoors in the outdoors.

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I see less and less kids outside. Create an environment of intrigue and curiosity well better help the respect and use of city parks

Engaging all people for nature conservancy will boost the community's environmental awareness.

It's close to home and I may be interested in this.

Knowing the importance of a place brings value and if you know about the environment you are more likely to care for and keep it clean.

These are the type of events that either don't happen in our park or are not well advertised

Education is important to a healthy society and parks could partner with CBE, SAIT, Calgary Horticulture Society, UCalgary, MRU, Alberta Health, CPL, cultural/arts associations and others to enrich, integrate, educate and create community. This central space is well placed to be an educational hub.

Anything that would make kids be involved.

I think learning to live with nature and respecting the land is important and not something everyone was taught growing up. I think games could be fun for adults and children

Yoga in the park, community tournaments for sports

Can be included under art but performing and visual arts have different requirements.

An after school Monday to Thursday program for kids would be amazing. Something that encourages physical activity and play.

Anything to bring people together in a fun and safe way

I selected these answers as I would be interested in attending any of these if they were advertised and taking place in Marlborough Park.

Is there anything else you'd like us to know about educational programming in Big Marlborough Park?

Live theatre or educational programs on live stage would draw more people to the park in spring/summer months. There should be a permanent live stage.

if you actually do Mountain Bike Dirt Jumps I can show people how we build those.

Our club can conduct Tennis instructions to the community.

I also think it's important to honour indigenous teachings about nature.

Advertise more

NE Calgary is underserved with educational institutions. MRU in the SW, SAIT, AUARTS and UCalgary in the NW means transportation issues for citizens living in the neighbourhoods around the Big MP. Publicly funded institutions should be encouraged to offer outreach that goes beyond their campuses.

I'm ignorant as well. So please inform me.

Sorry, not immediately.

No

Sports and Recreation

Which of these activities do you enjoy the most and why?

Late night skateboarding around the walking path

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I love the paced walking paths for my stroller.

Soccer baseball

Tennis. Because we have lots of players or members playing, also, inviting other tennis clubs or cities to compete and play tournaments. We need decent courts and be able to promote marlborough park.

Playing Tennis

Lawn tennis

Walking is an affordable activity. I do not walk in the park much any more because it is not safe. dog walking and walking. We are seniors

We love baseball, and occasionally jogging/walking. Not very big for cycling but I pass through on way to friends house.

Tennis! Our club has made this courts our second home since I joined this group in 2015.

Pickleball lines within the tennis courts are such a nuisance. This is a highly utilized tennis courts.

There should be a separate pickleball court. The park can surely accommodate the space for it. the street style snowboarding in winter because it is that unicorn activity and it can only be done when the planets and the stars aligned just perfectly.

Tennis. Majority of our tennis club members use this facility.

Tennis

Tennis

Tennis.

Tennis

Tennis. This is a highly used tennis court. Please keep pickleball out. Create a separate pickleball courts.

There should be some windbreakers and benches for the courts. Maybe a shelter. FCTC donated 2 benches as we have adopted the tennis courts as our second home since 2006.

Tennis. This court have lots of active tennis players. Friendly people and love to play with them.

Tennis

Tennis. It is our club's home and favourite court. Playing in this court is our way of fellowship and stress reliever.

Tennis, the best racquet sports that can ease your stress.

Pickleball because it's an awesome, enjoyable sport and easy to make friends with

Walking is good exercise for all.

Disc Golf

Disc golf. It's a fun little course to bring beginners and kids to

Ice hockey in the winter in the pond and running or walking the dogs. Nice to get out and the park provides a retreat from the chaotic energy that is Marlboroughs urban area noise (constant noise).

Walking. Love walking with my dog.

Frisbee Golf, allows for socializing at the same time as remaining active and unwinding.

Tennis. We have been playing tennis here since 2006. We bring people from different parts of the city. In fact, we had a big tournament here last year between our club and clubs from Edmonton and Saskatoon.

I enjoy both sports so I play both.

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I enjoy skateboarding with my kids and fellow adults (30+). It is a wonderful form of exercise that requires intense concentration, which is a great escape from the daily grind.

Walking. I use the green space mostly; away from others and in the dense ness of the tree line on the ridge around the park.

Disc golf.

We love sledding in the winter and use the paths and green spaces for various activities the other seasons. I feel very comfortable to be out in the park at any time of day or night, alone, with kids or as a family and I allow my kids to go to the park on their own.

Walking my dog

Walking and cycling because the park is accessible to my residence and needs no extra equipment

Tai Chi which I have participated in since my retirement. It offers social contact while participating at a level within my physical ability. It can occur outside when conditions permit. It aids in improving balance, spatial orientation, strength and coordination in order to prevent falls/injuries.

All

Basketball I'm d1

Walking and Volleyball. The girls are beautiful that do this.

Activities with my son or my son and his friends.

it is nice to be in some greenery and be away from traffic

none specific, I would enjoy listening to others having fun

Softball but not in this park or community.

Dog walking is the most common for myself in this park due to it being right down the street

The disc golf course is my favorite feature. I use it daily.

Dog walking is required. The rest are by choice. Having JUST retired, I expect to use the park & comm centre more.

Dog walking as the pathways are a safe place to walk.

Probably dog walking. I like meeting other people and in particular their dogs.

Walking. It's a nice large park

Pickleball

Tennis, walking, bike riding, skating

Walking & bike riding. Good for mental health & exercise.

Nature

How can we make the park more supportive of the local plants, wildlife and pollinators?

flower beds

Lost more garden spaces! Maybe have some community garden spaces, where community members could sign up for a space, and grow things. Plant more native species of plants, less lawn grass

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We need more trees around the park. And in my opinion, the NE Calgary should also have more trees. Trees provide oxygen and shade, which we all need!

Community gardens both vegetable and flowers and improve the tree canopy around the park
Planting more flowers that attract bees.

if you plan on building a "sensitive area" you are going to have to set up a trail system to keep kooks from wrecking it.

More natural gardens.

More tree canopy, natural areas that are barriers to the recreational areas/ mixed up parts of the parks.

Please keep the trees and green space and paths. I would love to see more of gardens/plants/flowers ... a place within the park for quiet, reflection time amongst flowers and plants.

Planting more wildflowers will attract more butterflies and bees.

Also pollinator gardens. Maybe a community garden area .

Behind the community centre there is a dip between all the path ways that could be more natural as it isn't wide enough for much else.

We walk through the park and there are a few pollinator gardens, but not very many. There are a lot more places where there could be native plants.

It takes labour and a long term vision to support trees and plants in the park. Using native species, like those found on the YardSmart list, should offer more resilience to environmental and climate challenges.

Plant the trees now so they can grow

Teach those who use the park to respect the land, no littering , stop letting their kids chase or harass the animals.

That's tough. Drought resistant plantings but I would prefer to keep it manicured since a lot is space is already taken by ball diamonds & soccer fields.

Gardens, gardens, gardens! Water features, trees. Naturalized zones interspersed with the lawn space.

Plant more diverse trees

Invest in a variety of trees to improve the tree canopy. A bunch of Pollinator gardens would be amazing! Which can include native plants, but go for all kinds of bright happy flowers that would liven up the overall space as well. And more benches.

Fence off areas of growth.

Add gardens and trees

Future Thinking

Imagine five years from now. What will be the most important thing to you in Big Marlborough Park? What about 10 years? What about 20?

I want it to be left alone no commercial development

"Pump park. More pollinator plants. Definitely more garbage cans and porta-potties year round.

Survey was cumbersome with the captchas."

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Not having it ruined by loud hoodlums in the parking lots, homeless people sleeping in the trees, and drug addicts early am.

5 years - developing the trees and gardens. Ensuring the accessibility is maintained. 10 years - keeping the park without allowing developme

How well did you take the input of the people of the area to redo the park.

The Redbull Action Sports Fest World Cup Mountain Bike Dirt Jumping, BMX/Skateboarding Street/Park, UCI World Cup Pump Track.

That Filipino Calgary Tennis Club can adopt this court and become a premier tennis venue for tournaments.

Stage for live outdoor performances. Music, movie nights and live theatre. More markets in spring and summer months.

That it remains a park for ever! An encumbrance should be put on the land so that it can never change from a park to multi-family housing.

Clean, well maintain, lots of green spaces, solar powered lightings throughout the park and safe environment for everyone that uses the park

Wheelchair accessibility. Natural Beauty and upkeep. A vibrant drama club that has plays twice a year that are excellent and interesting.

I believe that allowing us to adopt the tennis courts and having a clubhouse or enclosed shelter adjacent will be a very good idea.

The mature trees providing shade and cooling to the park users. Safer space for kids to use and more activities for people to do there.

A large and safe kids park, perhaps a splash park or wading pool. A paved walkway all the way around the park would be nice too.

Easy access to natural space and native flora and fauna

"Fun safe place for kids to play. Newer parks, splash park, skatepark and or pump track. Maturing trees and green space for all time"

I'd love to see the park made more a focal point for the community. Overall increased quality all around. Frisbee golf tee pads etc.....

a clean park that's multifunctional and well maintained, a sense of community/curiosity and undoubtedly safe for kids to be kids and roam.

That it's a space that my then-teens will want to hangout together continuing to challenge themselves & encourage each other in the skateprk

I love being able to walk around the whole park and see people is it all year long. I would love more vegetation and natural play structures

Beautiful greenery, lots of walking path space, and the skating rink with hockey nets in winter.

More mature trees, well kept infrastructure, and especially the park kept as a park IN ITS ENTIRETY, in perpetuity.

I've lived in MP since 1988, so 2044 isn't far. I want every inch of the park to be the big, beautiful, green space that I loved then & now.

5 yrs from now, my son will be 16 and probably use this park less. 1

It will always be all living things that contribute to keeping the park great. I would love to see trees, flowers and animals protected.

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Keeping the space open and available for the community to use. Keeping it safe and lite up as their are lots of ages/people who use it regul
Bike paths, pickle ball, better slope drainage, healthy shade trees, more garbage cans & benches, hear kids playing, see a band or play.
Being able to walk my dog in a safe place that is easy to get to, as I live in the neighbourhood.
Better lighting, espcially in the winter
Mataining a safe, well lit, clean and welcoming space for all.

Cappy Smart School Verbatim

Big Marlborough Park – Cappy Smart empathy walks with grades 2-5
June 19, 2024

COMBINED NOTES

Walking over to the park:

- Painted crosswalk in a 30km school zone is good, could use lights
- Sidewalk ends just before the parking lot entrance, as well as past the entrance there is a bus stop with a strip of concrete that is unconnected to the entrance or any other paths

Pathways in park:

- Shared and marked pathway with centre line, bike/walk sharing image. All paint needs to be updated. There are a few rough patches that could be patched.
- More trees around the pathway
- There's no pathway around the

General Playground updates (1 or 2 mentions unless otherwise stated):

- We need more trees
- Lawn bowling
- "stuff to play with" (frisbees, balls, badminton rackets, kites)
- More nets, like for volleyball and badminton
- Skatepark (3x)
- Monkey bars (x4 mentions)
- Merry go round
- Rubber ground instead of gravel (x5)
- Exercise equipment
- Zipline (x3)
- Basketball court
- More swings (x4)
- Wheelchair and accessible swings (one child mentioned Elliston Park has these)
- Seesaws

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- Climbing ropes and/or climbing rope structure like the old spider climb (x3)
- Climbing rocks/walls (x3)
- More benches and picnic tables nearby for families (x4)... someone said chairs cause their "gramma likes chairs"
- BBQ's and cooking areas (x3)
- Ramps (x4)
- Elevator/ escalator in park?
- Table that fits wheelchair too (awesome kid)
- More trees
- Lawn bowling
- Permanent ping pong table
- Lights in the park too, especially near playground, ball diamonds and soccer fields
- Race course (I think they meant on the paths, but I might be mistaken... they said for their scooters and bikes, sounds awesome)
- More garbage bins, but also what about compost and recycling?
- More of the big flower pots like at the north parking lot
- Gardens! Maybe more than one garden, not only vegetables
- Rollercoaster (haha, yes, they said rollercoaster)
- Putting green for golf
- Skating rink year round (like with a hard plastic surface in summer)
- Spray park (once this was said, about 8 kids also yelled spray park)
- A "swirly slide" and "bigger slides"
- Trampolines
- Signs that say NO LITTERING
- Signs that have braille
- Signs that tell you what kinds of stuff there is to do (we got into a sign talk here, clearly)
- Parkour (like a ninja course)
- Can we paint the building?
- Barriers to protect people watching soccer

SECTION - JC

- No light/push button crossing Madigan Dr. NE at Manora Dr NE.
- The sidewalk along the south bound of Madigan Dr NE do not continue in the north entrance of BMP.
- There is no bathroom in the park.
- Noticeable ponding in the sod area next to north parking lot.
- Frisbee golf through out the park, most kids haven't played the sport but were interested.
- There is a climbable tree near the play area.

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- Not a lot of shade/chairs near the play area.
- Soft grasses are not food for wheels (wheelchairs, walkers, strollers)
- Pets are allowed in the park (notice a lot of people off leash their dog)
- The big green field has no wires, good for kite flying, frisbee and picnic
- Tennis court has sign for no skate boarding.
- Hard paved pathway goes to tennis court and pad next to practice wall.
- There was no lighting in the field.
- Dry pond has skating rink in winter, has solar lighting. Can we make the rink all season?
- Swing is best!
- How can people with visual challenge see or feel the park? With bright contrast colours and Braille signage.
- You don't have to pay to play in the park.
- People may want to sit in sun or shade, should have seating for different needs.
- People may not be able to climb the stairs to seat near the baseball diamond, we should have benches on the ground.
- Trees are good for people's health, provide shade. Kids want to have fruit trees in the park.
- Community building exterior wall is boring grey, we can use more colours and art. Art that represent what matters to us and the community.
- We can have fire pit in the dry pond area.
- More sidewalk in the playfield area.
- Wheel chair swing
- Horse foot print, sundial, climbing wall, swing, forest, mini zipline, merry go round, different height of slides. The playground should be accessible to all.
- Spongy ground, rubber for the playground.
- Place to rollerblade.
- Things for parents, picnic area, seating, walking path near the playgroud.
- Where do family seat when they are watching games?
- Small elevator or ramp for people to climb up the seats.
- Little lake, water feature in the field.
- Lawn bowling, ping pong table.
- Dart board on the tennis practice wall.
- Boxing, soccer, volleyball practice outside.
- Contrast line on the pathway for visual challenged user
- Art and light with outdoor fire pit, like university district.
- Decorate the chainlink fence along the park with community art
- More trash bin in the park, recycle and compost bin.
- We want community garden.
- Cars drive into pedestrian/cyclist only pathway, how to stop cars.

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- Nice flowerpot at the entrance.
- No net on soccer goals, dangerous for spectators
- Some trees in the park are dead, need replacement.
- Some people may not have jacket in the winter when they visit the park, they may not have skate to enjoy the rink.
- Why are the play area separated? Can we have a big one combined?
- We want drinking fountain in the park.
- Monkey bar for the playground.
- Skate board park/bike park
- Lemonade stand
- Weather proof material for shelter
- Add more slides
- Rope climbing, stronger ropes
- Camping site
- Parkour site
- Trampoline
- No metal slide
- Barrier near playground close to the road
- Spray park/outdoor pool
- Washroom near picnic site.

SECTION- MB

- Cappy Smart School doesn't go over to BMP often. They prefer their rock/talking circle and "forest" behind the school. Cappy Smart promotes land-based learning. Classes visit the talking circle outside every day. They have multiple bulletin boards capturing their monthly outdoor adventures. Their playground is at the end of its life cycle. Principal Rachel hopes to obtain federal and provincial funding to create an accessible playground, but she's concerned about the significant grade change around the existing playground. The principal indicates there is a drug, gang and homeless problem around her school and in the park. She's concerned with gangs recruiting the school kids in the area.
- The sidewalk ends at the crosswalk from Cappy Smart School. There is no sidewalk connecting to the pathways into BMP.
- Build a fence along the road to protect kids in the playground
- Sidewalk along top of park connecting to the sidewalk at the bottom of the park (continuous along Madigan Dr.)
- Zipline
- Flying fox

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- Separate accessible playground
- Separate accessible playground connected to regular park
- Washroom
- 1 accessible washroom, 1 regular washroom
- Signage
- More navigation
- Motion navigation or eye-tracking navigation
- More bike racks
- More garbage cans
- Signs to have dogs on leash
- Dog park
- Fenced dog park with toys
- Free dog poop bags
- More garbages for dog poop
- Area for golfing
- Outdoor volleyball
- Basketball courts
- Badminton
- Mini golf
- Bigger playground
- Ice rink with sides
- More ice rink trainers
- Jumps for the Toboggan Hill
- More trees blocking the sun for the ice rink
- More plants, trees and flowers like the forest behind Cappy Smart
- Merry go Round
- This park is lame and boring
- This playground is for little kids
- Where do the big kids hang out?
- More slides
- More swings
- Circle (saucer) swings
- Monkey bars
- Two sets of monkey bars, one with a ladder for shorter kids
- More teeter toters
- A box for toys
- A sandbox for kids
- Full surface like at Elliston Park

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- Skate park
- Community Centre is an eye-sore, add gardens, a mural and colour
- Have a sign to the community centre from the path by the top of the dry pond
- Have a sign with activities at the community centre
- More signs for the park and in more languages
- A welcome sign to the park in multiple languages
- Audible signage
- Saucer swing arches like at Applewood Park
- Water fountain
- Water fountain for people and dogs
- Recycle bins
- Fix the concrete it's broken (talking about the cracked pathways)
- More soccer fields
- More soccer fields, less baseball diamonds
- Soccer fields with nets and lines
- Update the bleachers at the soccer field
- Entrance sign with available mobility canes for those who need more help through the park
- Signs in Braille
- We love the toboggan hill; don't take it away!
- Add stairs to the Toboggan Hill
- Make two ice rinks, one for hockey and one for recreation
- Activity dog park
- Offer free doggie-bags
- There is a lot of poop in the park
- Dogs are often off-leash in the park
- We need more signs saying Dogs Must be on Leash
- Human detector signs
- Splash park
- The playground is in a really swampy area
- There's a pond near the north parking lot (a low spot with lots of water). This is bad for wheelchairs, visually impaired and strollers
- Tons of mosquitos around the playground area
- Hard for families to get to playground
- The playground needs an accessible pathway to the parking lot
- Playground needs ramps
- Outdoor classroom/talking circle
- Bigger playground
- Flat surface for wheelchairs

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- Flying fox with seat close to the ground
- More slides
- Spider rope climber
- Tilted merry-go-round
- Racetrack
- Spinning cup
- Area for babies at the playground
- A shade structure and rest area at the playground
- Accessible swing
- Treehouse with slide
- Painting area
- More benches
- Basketball courts
- Fix the see-saw, it's squeaky
- Saucer swing
- Spider/climbing feature
- More ramps and pathways throughout the park
- Our classmate in a wheelchair can't watch our soccer games. We need a pathway along the soccer field
- Area for ice cream trucks and umbrellas
- Picnic areas
- More porta potties
- The kids attended sports day, community events, pancake breakfasts, graduation and funerals at the CA
- Bowling
- Volleyball courts at the CA
- More trees
- More bike locks/bike racks
- Pathways need to be wider
- Pathway from CA: wider, needs signs, maybe a rail for visually impaired or for seniors, it's too steep for wheelchairs, maybe a ramp instead
- Small zipline
- Gym/workout equipment
- Horseshoe pit
- Sitting area for teenagers
- Badminton
- Volleyball
- Meditation area

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- Basketball
- First aid building
- Dog area
- Dog fountains
- Dog park
- Rentals for skates and sleds
- Signs and more pathways from parking lots
- More garbage bins
- There's so much garbage in the park

SECTION – RM

- 2 zip lines
- Soft mats under and around swings
- A candy shop
- Wheelchair parking
- Handicapped bathroom
- Ramp up to slide
- Sign saying "Everybody's Welcome"
- Water fountain
- Calming Hut
- Stroller parking
- See-saw
- Play Water Fountain
- Interpreter
- Benches
- A sign saying "You're not alone"

Open House-in-the-Park, and Park Pop-Ups Verbatim

What would you like to see at Big Marlborough Park?

Ability to connect from here to Chestermere as a loopy, thought out walkable area

Sledding hill

Summer camps for kids (affordable)

Water fountain

Indoor basketball court; basketball course

Trampoline

Nets on all rims

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Community garden
Walking only paths
Flowers
Peace and quiet
Dog training
New Basketball courts
New Basketball courts
More Garbage cans (1 check mark)
Spray Park
Skate park
Pickleball courts
Splash park
Spray park
Pathway to playground
Fenced in dogpark
Public bathroom
Better playground
Skate park
Swimming pool
Spray park
More benches, garden, playground upgrade
Shade
Keep it to the same size
Clean park (littering)
Spray park
Public bathroom, new playground, swimming pool
Spray Park
Wheelchair accessible playground and pathways, gardens, water, dog safe play area (fenced) (3 checkmarks)
Picnic tables for BBQ
Shaded gazebo like areas
Maintain pathways
Water pool
Off leash dog park
Dog agility
Dog agility
every year they celebrate a big park for kids
More fruit trees
Bigger skating area
Skating area designed to include the possibility of playing with pucks
Skating trails
More flowers
Clean gravel off sidewalks

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More lighting in parking lots (North and West lots)
Public bathroom
Agree to pickle ball courts
Playground with canopy (multi-age 2-12)
More disc golf
Mini-golf
Outdoor exercise equipment beside the playground (multi-generational) (with canopy) REPLY TO COMMENT BY ANOTHER PARTICIPANT: Interesting idea, have used them by Deerfoot City in all weather. It would be nice in the area.
Parkour equipment
Water bottle refill station
Water bottle refill station
Public bathroom
Get the soccer field to become more advanced for higher level play (6 stars given)
(widen) bike paths to connect to other bike paths
Tables
Music
1 court for all sports (tennis, bb, vb) 1 wall to play tennis by self / practice, 1 net to play soccer, hockey
Zipline
long pathways to ride skateboard, rollerblade, walk ... long "? To skate on in winter months. Sled hills but mild slope & space to slow down. Very freaky at Prarie Winds.
Bike Paths
Less mosquitos
Pathway is perfect - just needs to be wider
A cheetah themed playground - Mimi 4 years old
Some interactive park on the southside near current baseball diamond
More trees & green
BBQ for people cooking or picnics
Community Hall programming - line dancing or yoga
Yes please to skate parks
Playground for all ages of kids 2- 16
Attention to bicycle access. This means bike racks, continuing paths like currently exist that flow fairly well and thought to how they connect at the edges. Can we get to Marlborough Mall, Village Square, the Greenway, East hills
Disc golf, off leash, mucky hole, wayfinding & access - mobility, skate park, b-ball, lighting in parking lots
People have said flowers - if so a focus on native plants, xeriscaping, or even a crevice garden or sensory garden
More bencjhes, seating
More garbage bins
I would like to zee the jumboline [trampoline]
a picnic area, umbrellas for shade, games like slide and trampoline

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1. PICKLEBALL COURTS: With the ever increasing demand for pickleball courts it would be nice to see more designated pickle ball courts. The current tennis courts are popular and often the pickleball players cannot get onto the courts. Also the net is too high for a proper game of pickleball.
2. GARDENING AREA: With the cost of food increasing, it would be nice to see a designated area where residents could grow their own vegetables (or flowers). In England we have many allotments and I have seen similar things on British Columbia. (Weather may be a factor here short growing period).
3. PICNIC AREA: In the winter the City kindly provided fire pits, but there was nowhere to sit. More seating in the park is definitely needed. It would nice to see BBQ stands as well.
4. BANDSTAND/MUSIC AREA/OTHER ENTERTAINMENT: How about music in the Bog Park? MPCA hosts an Open Mic the second Friday of the month (evenings) in the lounge. We could expnad this to outdoor summer fun. Such thing sas talent from our kids, sing-a-longs, movies in the park etc. The dry pond is anatural auditorium but I realize no permanenet structure could be buiilt.
5. CRICKET PITCHES: With the changing demogrphics of our community, many of the ethnic population play cricket (a sport for young and old). Just like soccer took off in our community 40 years ago, cricket has the same potential.
6. DOG AGILITY/TRAINING AREA: This park is probably too small to accommodate an off leash area, but what about a chained off area where you could put your pet through the paces (climbing up, running along a plank, going through a tunnel, that kind of thing)

What are your concerns about BMP?

With the rise of e-baikes more concerned about pedestrian infrastructure

Will the City lie to us as they have with other issues?

Not enough Indigenous representation

Speed of (electric) bikes (and e-scooters) need speed limit signs.

Concern that the city will sell off part of park from development

Homeless people

on leash signs

Homeless camping out

people doing drugs

Not picking up after pets

Graffitti on buildings

Gangs in area (+3)

So many homeless camping in the trees

They will put up condos etc since they rezoned the city.

Graffiti

Improperly maintained areas - grass, ice rink, parking lots

I miss the picnic tables

Clogged sewers

Homeless camping

Memorial benches

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inaccessible playground

Lack of maintenance

Loose gravel

rezoning to build housing no matter how much residents and users object as is happening in other communities

Homeless people

drinking @ picnic tables (not visible from the street)

Graffiti on pathways

Dead grass

The playground is so old

Playground is old! Yes!

Not accessible

People don't take care of the park

Not enough garbage cans

Night activity (illegal activity in parking lots) (+3; 1 star)

There is no land acknowledgement in the park

Access to the rink in the winter is precarious, better steps would be nice

Insufficient lighting

Visible stormwater stuff

I am concerned that the city will take some of the park away for housing development. That would be unethical This area needs to retain its recreational area. Update the park