Belmont Aquatic Centre and Community Hub

What We Heard Report

June 2026



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Project overview

We're planning the future Belmont Recreation Centre and Community Hub to give residents more places to swim, play, stay active and connect. This project is part of GamePLAN, The City's vision and strategy for the future of public recreation that supports healthy, active communities.

The facility will be located within the Belmont Civic Site at Creekside Blvd. S.W. and 210 Ave. S.W.

Belmont Civic Site Map



Please note: This site concept may change as the facility and site design work continues.

What's happening and why

Southwest Calgary communities like Belmont are growing quickly, creating a need for more recreation opportunities. As part of GamePLAN, this new facility will help close service gaps and keep pace with population growth.

The Belmont Recreation Centre and Community Hub will include an aquatics and fitness centre, gymnasium(s), multipurpose rooms and two athletic turf fields, designed to designed to bring people together through sport, fitness and community.

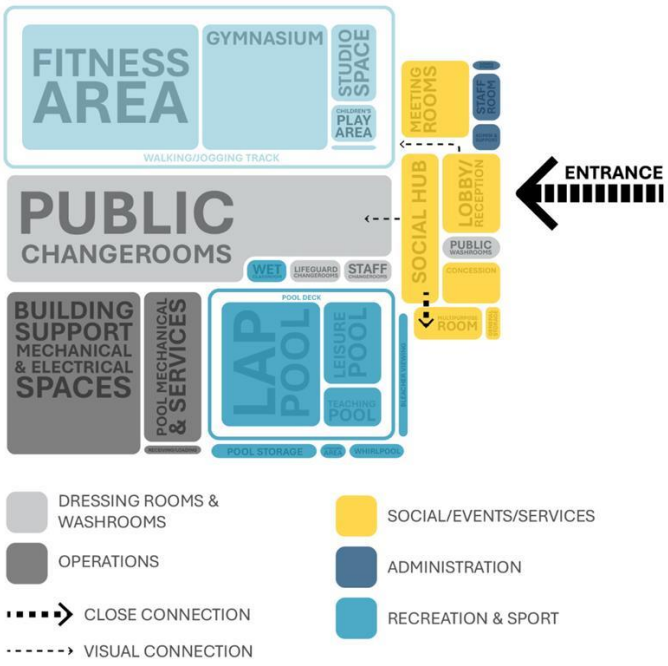
Why now?

This project is one of several priority recreation projects as part of the Council-approved GamePLAN, and we have funding to start planning. We are engaging the public now to make sure the facility is designed to meet community needs.

What feedback we collected and how it will be used

Through the engagement process for this project, we gathered input on the recreational activities the public valued most.

Feedback will help **refine** the **draft concept** for the facility (see draft concept image on the right) and will influence how spaces are allocated and prioritized, but **it won't guarantee specific programs** — those decisions happen later.

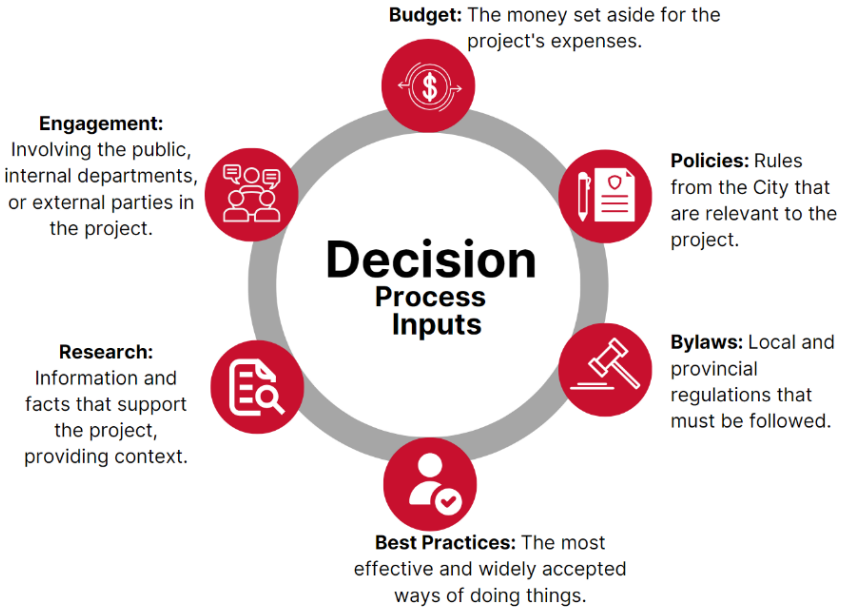


Feedback will help The City understand:

- Which areas may need more space
- Which areas could be scaled back to better match community demand

What won't change:
The location, building size and core features such as pools, fitness areas, gyms, multipurpose rooms and turf fields, are already set based on approved master plans, technical requirements and funding commitments.

How feedback fits in:
Public input is important, but it's one piece of the puzzle. The project team will also consider the master plan, best practices, budget and internal policies when finalizing the facility concept.



Engagement and communications overview

The following strategies were used to inform and engage the public on the project.

Engagement opportunities

To gather feedback from interested parties and the public, we hosted the following events and opportunities:

Online feedback form (Feb 2 – 27, 2026):

- 11,241 views
- 2,935 contributions

In-person event:

- **Silverado Sobeys Pop-up**
  - 1 - 3 p.m.
  - 19369 Sheriff King St. S.W.
  - Approximately 125 participants

Getting the word out

Engagement opportunities were advertised and promoted in the following ways:

- Postcard mail drop to 30,636 residential addresses in southeast Calgary
- Paid media: Printed bold signs, digital screens at CTrain Stations, “Superboard” along MacLeod Tr., web banner ads, YouTube ads
- Social media ads: Facebook, Instagram, Reddit, NextDoor

What we asked/what we heard

What we asked and what we heard online is summarized below. For more detail, see the **Detailed summary of feedback** section of this report and the **Verbatim comments (Appendix 1)**.

High-level themes

During the engagement we gathered public feedback and identified the following key themes:

- **Active recreation is important**
  Recreation and leisure (aquatics), strength training (fitness), and team sports (gymnasium) ranked highest.
- **Learning and flexible gym uses matter, but less**
  Instructional aquatics and flexible gym uses were important, but secondary.
- **Individual and club uses were least important but still supported**
  Club activities, personal training, and individual/small group uses ranked lowest but still had significant interest.

- **Multipurpose spaces need to be flexible**
  Spaces that support many activities like arts and crafts, meetings, childcare, fitness, and drop in use were valued.
- **Functional features in multipurpose spaces are preferred**
  Audiovisual equipment, sinks, and electrical outlets were most important.
- **Shared spaces are valued**
  Event friendly lobbies and spectator areas for aquatics and gyms, and lounge areas were seen as very important.

Detailed summary of feedback

Online Feedback

An online feedback form was available from February 2 - 27 to gather input from the public. Below are the questions we asked and a summary of the responses we received through the online portal.

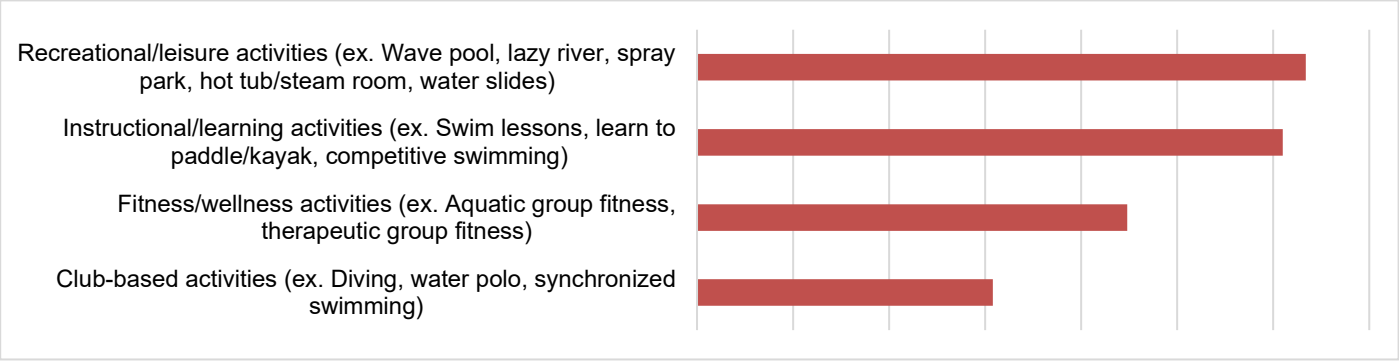
What we asked/ what we heard:

Aquatics

Question 1: What aquatic activities you would you like to participate in at the future aquatics centre? (Rank the following: 1 being most important and 4 being least important)

What we heard:

Respondents ranked recreational and leisure uses as most important for the future aquatic area. Instructional and learning activities were also highly valued, followed by fitness and wellness activities. Club-based activities were identified as the least important to respondents, while still receiving significant interest.



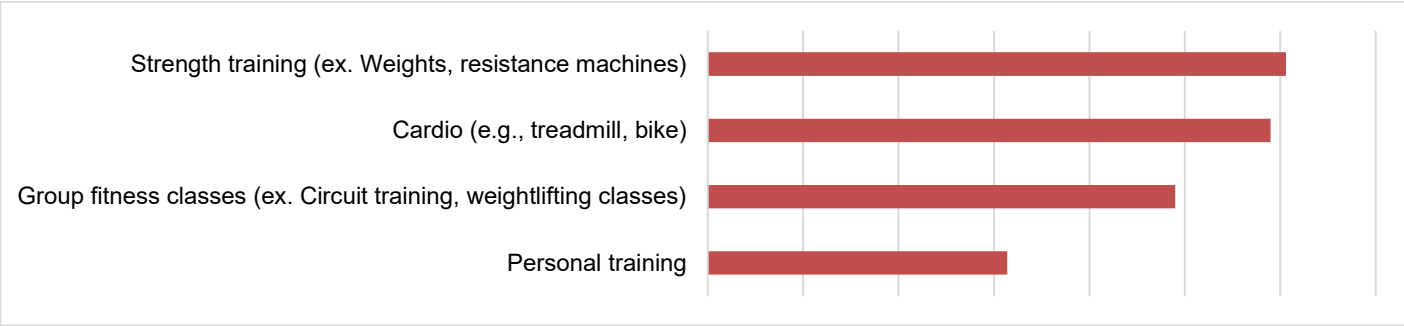
Responses: 2756

Gym and fitness

Question 2: What types of fitness activities are you most interested in participating in at the new facility? (Rank the following: 1 being most important and 4 being least important)

What we heard:

Respondents indicated that strength training uses were the most important to them in a future fitness area. Cardio activities, were also highly valued, followed by weightlifting activities. Personal training was the least important to respondents, while still receiving significant interest.

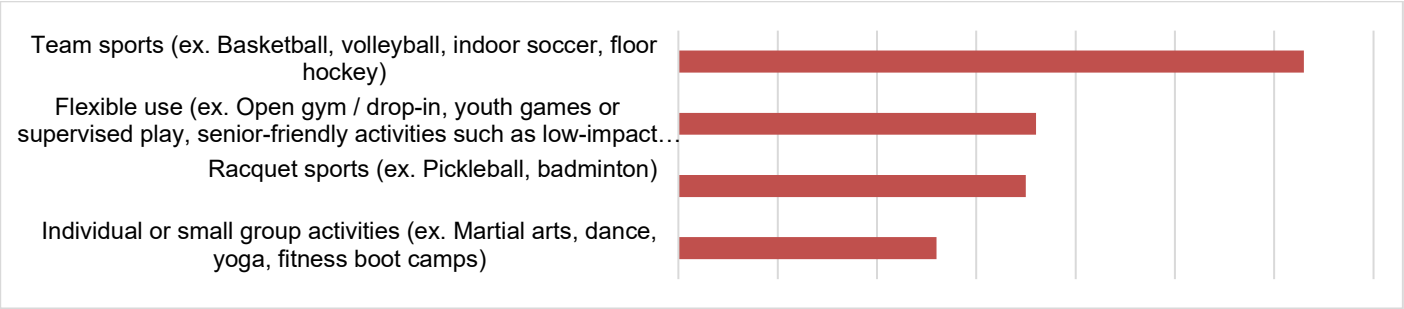


Responses: 2732

Question 3: What types of activities would you like to see offered in the gymnasium space at the new facility? (Rank the following: 1 being most important and 4 being least important)

What we heard:

Respondents indicated that participating in team sports at the future facility was most important to them, followed by flexible use and racquet sports. Individual or small group activities was indicated as being least important to respondents, while still receiving significant interest.



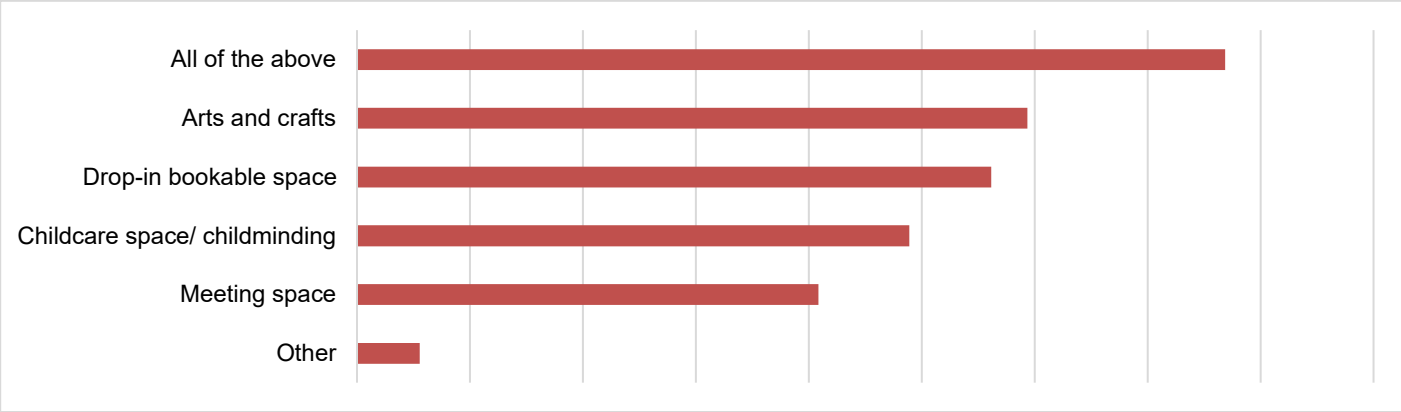
Responses: 2757

Multi-purpose space

Question 4: What types of arts and community activities and programs would you like to see offered in a new multi-purpose space? (Select all that apply)

What we heard:

Most respondents indicated that they would like to see multi-purpose space utilized for a wide variety of activities including arts and crafts, drop-in bookable space, childcare, meeting space and childminding.



Responses: 2719

Question 4, 'other' responses:

- **Fitness activities** (e.g. bungee dance, aerobics, Zumba, yoga, tai chi, table tennis, judo)
- **Programming** (e.g. Theatre, special needs and sensory programming, drop-in art studio, education programs, seniors' groups, parent and youth programs, music space, popup library, cooking/baking)
- **Rental use** (e.g. study space, volunteer or community group meetings, party or event space, community events)

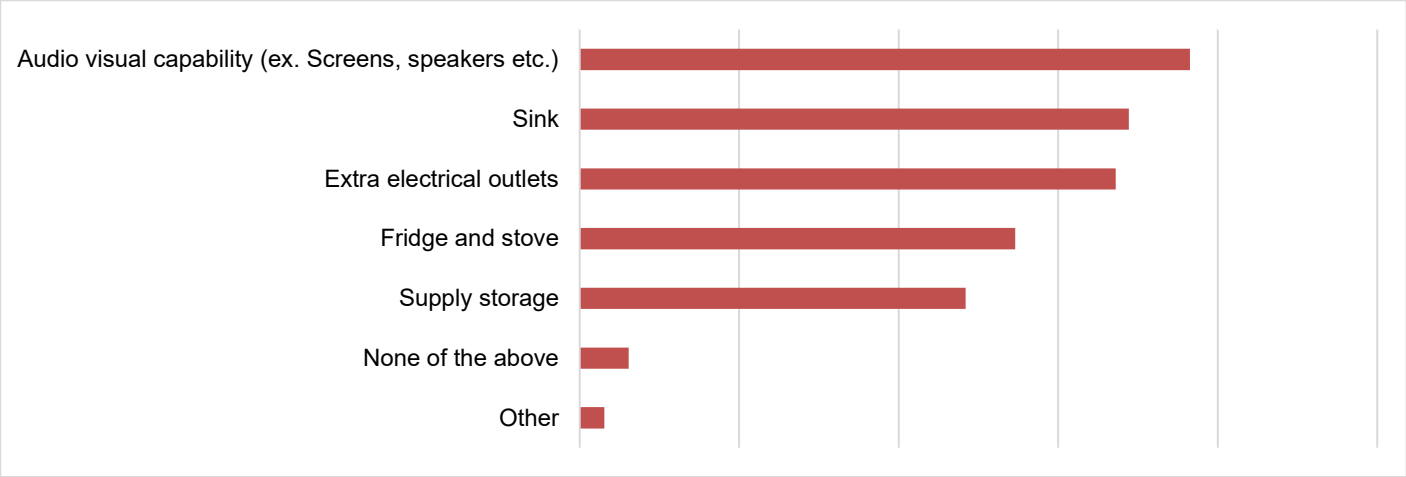
Suggestions outside the focus of this question:

- **Court sports** (e.g. tennis, badminton, volleyball)
- **Active amenities** (e.g. skatepark, rock climbing, skating rink, walking track, trampoline or indoor playground, water park, heated pool)
- **Food service** (e.g. Café)

Question 5: Are there any amenities or equipment we should consider when planning the multi-purpose space to host arts and community programs? (Select all that apply)

What we heard:

Respondents indicated that audio-visual capability was the most important feature to include in a future multi-purpose space. This was followed by sinks and additional electrical outlets. Fridges, stoves, and supply storage were identified next in terms of importance. Next, some respondents indicated that none of these features were important, while some respondents identified other considerations (listed below the graph).



Responses: 2522

Question 5, 'other' responses:

- **Furniture and flexible setup** (e.g., tables, folding tables, chairs, benches, seating/waiting areas)
- **Arts and performance amenities** (e.g., dance/theatre flooring, mirrors, stage, projector, AV equipment, lighting, audio, pianos)
- **Arts and crafts equipment** (e.g., pottery equipment, sewing machines, makerspace supplies, 3D printer)
- **Learning and technology support** (e.g., whiteboards, desks with outlets)
- **Kitchen amenities** (e.g., fridge, microwave, dishwasher, water fountains)
- **Accessibility features** (e.g., accessibility supports, high ceilings, lighting, exhaust fans)
- **Family friendly amenities** (e.g., breastfeeding rooms, nursery room, indoor play structures)
- **Fitness equipment** (e.g., yoga mats, light weights)
- **Comfort and social space features** (e.g., natural light, plants, places to sit, community space)

Suggestions outside the focus of this question:

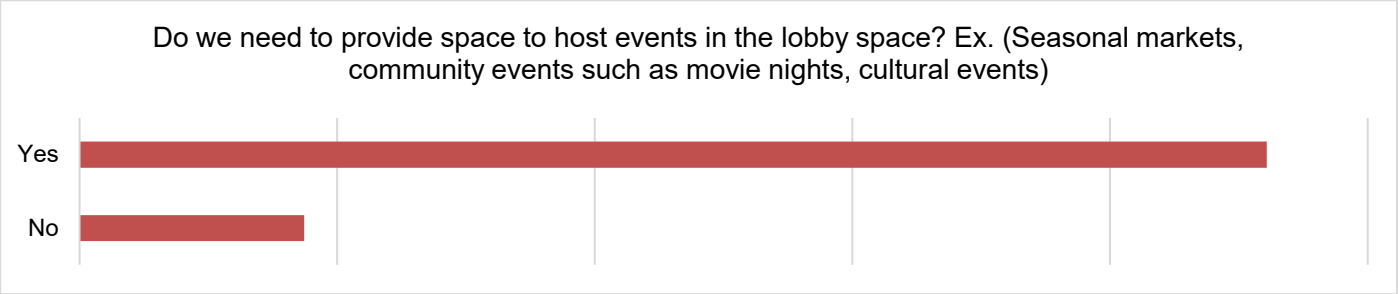
- **Major sport or recreation amenities** (e.g., hockey rink, rock climbing/bouldering, walking/running track, bungee dance facility, indoor artificial turf)
- **Large infrastructure or site elements** (e.g., bridge construction, large parking lots, locker rooms with large lockers, outdoor seating areas with umbrellas)
- **Food service** (e.g., full kitchen with complete cooking facilities, food court)

Lobby space

Question 6: Do we need to provide space to host events in the lobby space? Ex. (Seasonal markets, community events such as movie nights, cultural events)

What we heard:

Most respondents indicated that lobby space should be provided to host events in the future facility.



Responses: 2740

Spectator space

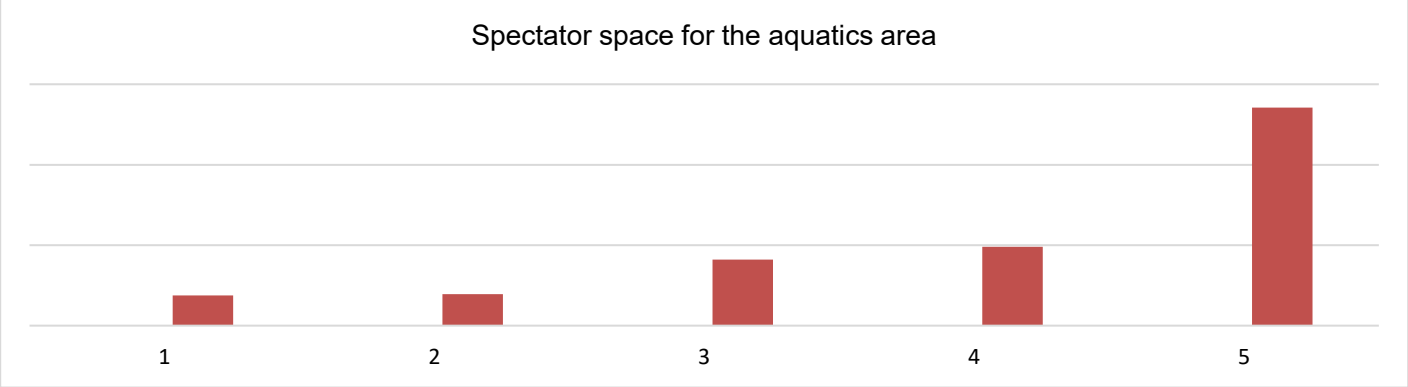
Question: How important are the following spectator spaces to you? Please rate each one from 1 star (Not important) to 5 stars (Very important):

What we heard:

Spectator space for the aquatics area and separate spectator space were both considered highly important to future users, while gymnasium spectator space was also rated as being important but slightly less.

Question 7:

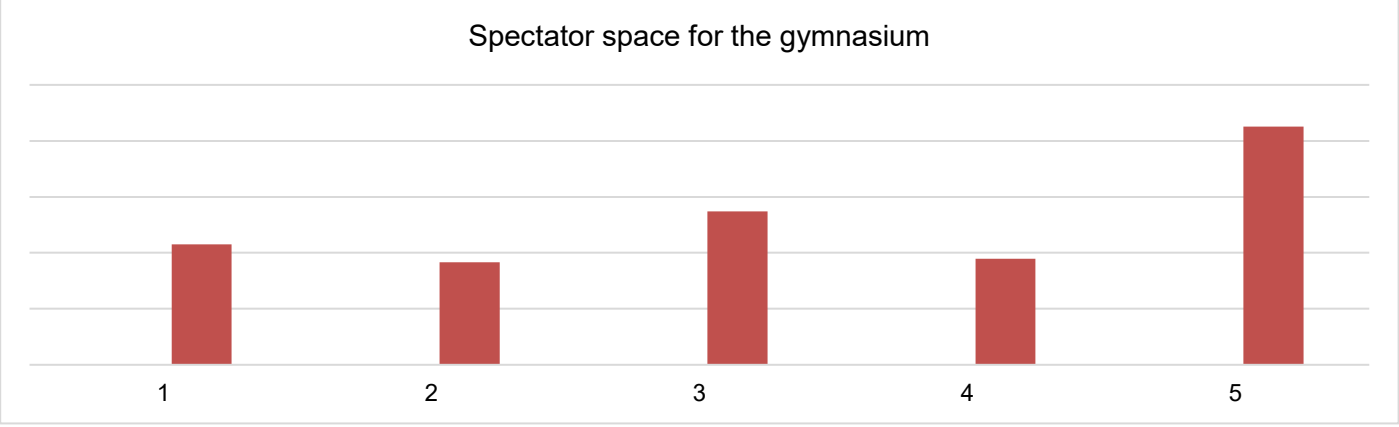
Average rating: 3.96 (1 star being not important to 5 stars being very important)



Responses: 2638

Question 8:

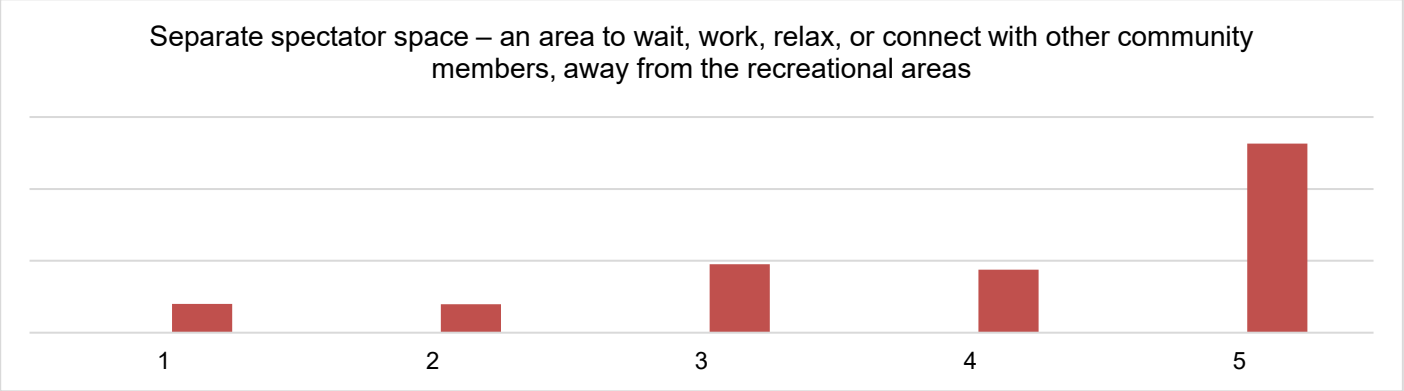
Average rating: 3.33 (1 star being not important to 5 stars being very important)



Responses: 2574

Question 9:

Average rating: 3.94 (1 star being not important to 5 stars being very important)



Responses: 2629

Next steps

The project team will review and consider all feedback as they updated the facility's concept plan. In 2027, we will publish a *What We Did* report that explains how public input influenced the final concept plan.