

Calgary



October 2024

Kingsland Park

What We Heard Report

Prepared by The City of Calgary
Engage Resource Unit

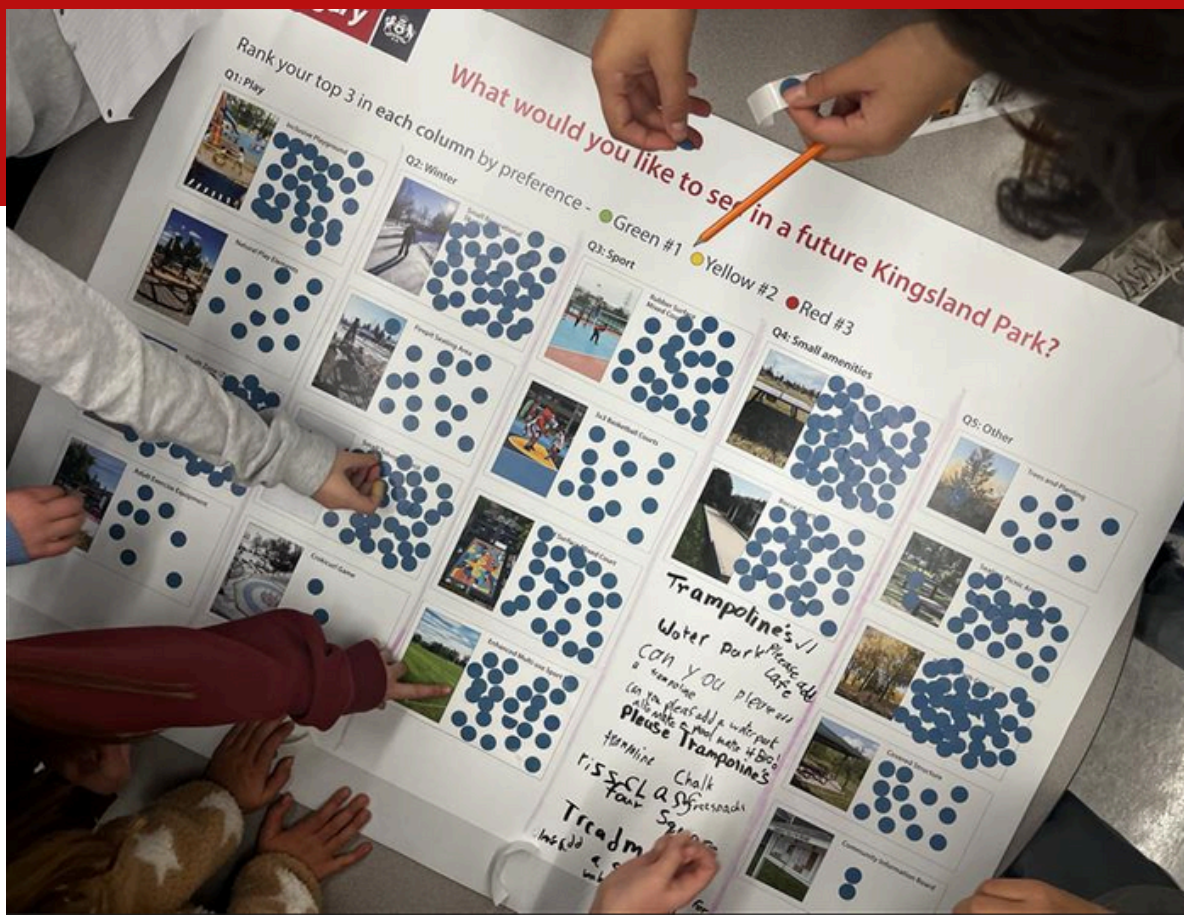




Project Summary

From July to October 2024, The City created a temporary "pop-up" park in Kingsland. The Kingsland Summer Park pilot project offered new spaces to play, socialize, relax and gather in the community. Its purpose was to try out and test innovative ways of improving the use of public spaces in Calgary.

The Kingsland Summer Park project aligns with the core values of the Heritage Local Area Plan: "to enhance and improve civic facilities, parks, open spaces and natural areas." The temporary "pop-up" was implemented to identify and encourage creative uses for the site that will inform future planning. The goal is to work towards funding long-term park improvements while providing temporary community amenities in the interim. There is currently no funding in place for future park improvements.



Engagement Overview

Pre-engagement was undertaken in the spring of 2024, with the project team meeting with the Kingsland Community Association, Neighborhood Partnership Coordinators and Community Connectors in the area to learn about how people may want to be engaged and what temporary amenities could be utilized. This informed The City's engagement strategy and plan for this project.

Phase 1 engagement was conducted online from September 16 until October 14, 2024, asking for public input on the pop-up park amenities and ideas for future long-term improvements to Kingsland Park. 860 people viewed our engagement page online, 77 people participated with 128 contributions online. Direct engagement with 155 participants occurred in person at three events.

**"Loved playing mini golf
and ping pong. It was
neat to see other
families using the space.
Bringing community
together. Green space
yay!"**



We also went to Ecole Chinook Park School on October 8 to get feedback from approximately 105 Grade 6 students who had done a walk of the park and discussed the project in class.



Project Communications

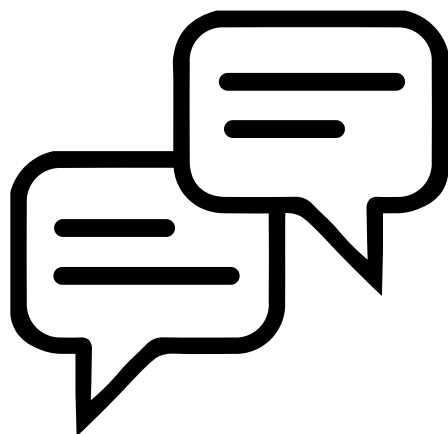
A comprehensive communications plan was developed to inform citizens of the project and events, including social media campaigns for summer park awareness and engagement, on-site signage, postcards, posters, plus information shared through the Ward 11 office, Kingsland Community Association, Social Worker and Community Connectors and schools. Below is an overview of the communications tactics that were used to promote engagement for the project.

- A social media campaign for Phase 1 engagement ran from Sept 16 to Oct 14, 2024 on Facebook, Instagram and Next Door.
- The City's Kingsland Summer Park web page was updated with project developments and links to the Phase 1 Engagement page
- A Kingsland Community Association Bold sign was placed on-site to promote the summer park opening, as well as the Phase 1 engagement period from Sept 16-Oct 14, 2024
- A second sign on-site was posted directing visitors to the Engage in-person event and web page to learn more about the project and share their feedback
- Engagement opportunities were advertised in partnership with the Ward 11 office, community connectors, and Kingsland Community Association via their communications channels, newsletters and social media platforms
- 200 Engage postcards were handed out to citizens
- The City's 311 service was provided with summer park and engagement updates
- A project mailbox was set up for enquiries from interested parties.





In Person Park Engagement



At our in-person event (Kingsland Park, September 29, 2024) we used “Dotmocracy Boards” to get participants to answer several questions by placing dots on a board according to amenity preference for future park amenities as well as feedback on the existing summer pop-up park amenities.

Question 1: We asked participants to use dots to rate each of the summer pop-up park elements based on the choices of “It’s OK”, “Liked it”, “Loved it” ratings.

Results from the in-person event at Kingsland Park in the table below show that most participants loved all the summer amenities except for box hockey.

Element	It's ok	Liked it	Loved it
Box Hockey	9	5	6
Muskoka Chairs	2	0	18
Log Play Area	6	6	13
Gaga Ball Pit	4	4	14
Mini golf	0	5	20
Play Bin	0	0	23
Picnic Tables	3	1	21
Ping Pong Table	1	4	21
Bike Rack	3	5	14
Artist Mural	3	5	14

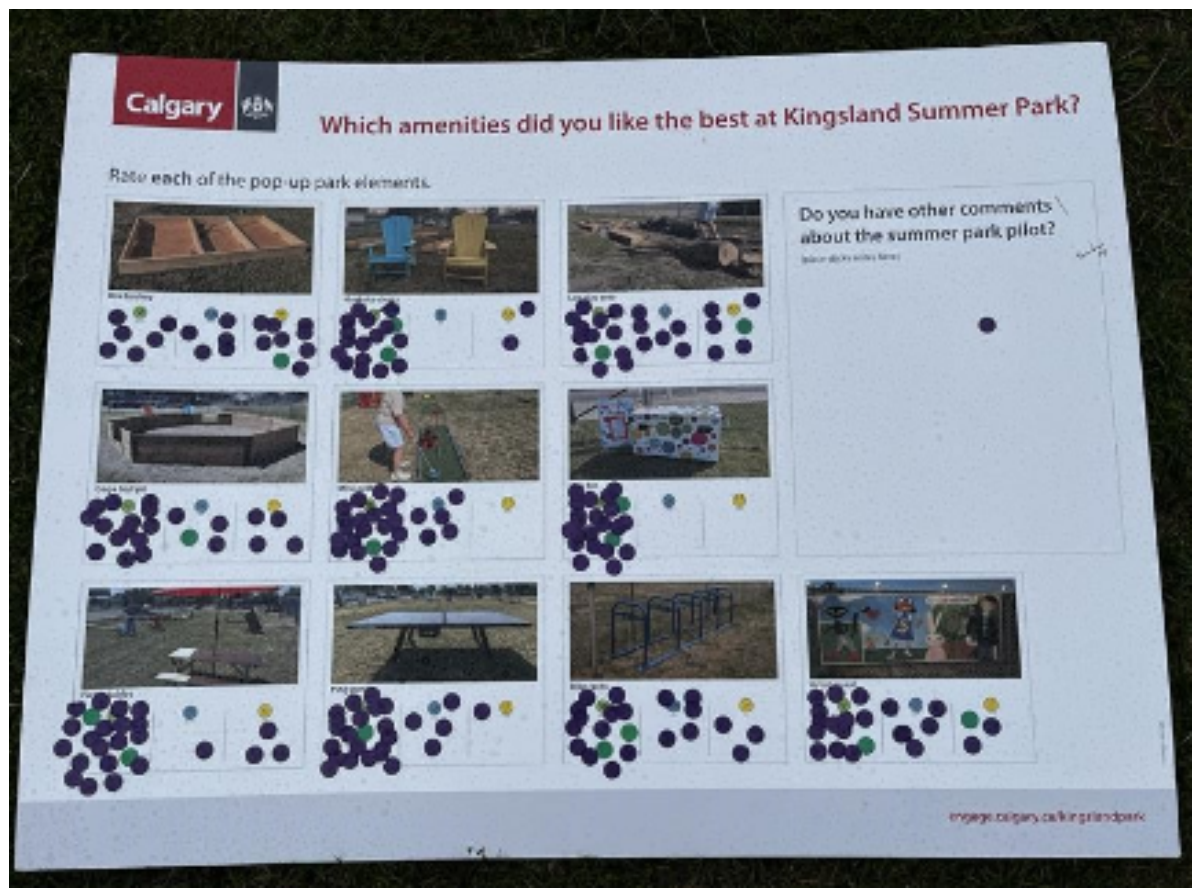


Image above of the results on the Dotmocracy Board for Pop-up Amenities from the in-person event in Kingsland Park September 29, 2024

Question 2: We asked participants to use dots to rank potential future park elements based on the categories of Play, Winter, Sport, Small Amenities and Other, using green dots to show first, yellow for second and red for third preference.

The table below is a summary of the dotmocracy board responses from the in-person event in Kingsland Park. Responses are ranked from most to least mentioned with the number of mentions listed in the brackets.

Play	Winter	Sport	Small Amenities	Other
Natural Play Elements (23)	Croki curl Game (16)	Hard Surface Mixed Court (23)	Ping Pong (15)	Trees and Planting (19)
Youth Zone (15)	Small Toboggan Hill (14)	Rubber surface mixed court (16)	Bocce (14)	Covered Structure (12)
Inclusive Playground (14)	Small Recreational Skating Area (12)	Enhanced Multi-use Sports Field (11)		Walking Path Circuit (12)
Adult Exercise Equipment (10)	Firepit seating area (10)	3x3 Basketball Courts (7)		Community Information Board (10)
				Seating/ Picnic Area (7)

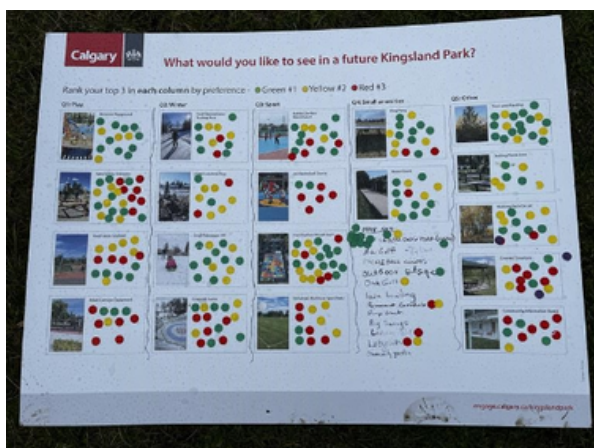


Image above of the results on the Dotmocracy Board for Future Amenities from the in-person event in Kingsland Park September 29, 2024

Participants were able to write in other ideas that weren't included in the options. The following ideas were submitted:

- Off-leash dog park (for small dogs)
- Mini-golf
- Pickleball courts
- Outdoor stage
- Disc golf
- Lawn bowling
- Permanent cornhole
- Pumptrack
- Big swings
- Bouldering wall
- Labyrinth
- Community garden



105 

Students at Ecole
Chinook Park

77 

Online Participants

50 

In person community
members at Kingsland
Park Pop-up and door
knocking at Calgary
Housing.

We worked with four classes of Grade 6 students at Ecole Chinook Park (approximately 105 kids). The students are studying democracy and had visited the park along with learning about the project in class and how the City of Calgary wants youth input.

Question 1: We asked students to use dots to rate each of the pop-up park elements based on the choices of It's OK, liked It, loved it ratings.



Image above of dotmocracy board results from the Ecole Chinook Park Session

Engagement with Ecole Chinook Park School

Results from the Ecole Chinook Park School session in the table below are an estimate, as some dots were overlapping so much that they could not be exactly counted (see image above). Overall, we heard that the kids did not understand how to play the box hockey game. They loved the chairs, mini-golf, picnic tables, play bin and ping pong. They were split on liking or loving the log play area. Kids told us the gaga ball pit was only ok due to its gravel surface not letting the ball bounce as much as it should. If the gaga ball pit were paved it would help improve their responses. The bike rack and mural were seen as ok.

Element	It's ok	Liked it	Loved it
Box Hockey	63	19	12
Muskoka Chairs	7	18	67
Log Play Area	23	40	40
Gaga Ball Pit	47	21	35
Mini golf	21	27	44
Play Bin	16	29	47
Picnic Tables	13	26	50
Ping Pong Table	24	30	46
Bike Rack	34	33	25
Artist Mural	62	11	8

Students were able to add additional ideas they had which were:

- Washroom
- Bigger play bin
- Art club
- Baseball/ softball
- Wood slide
- Rock climbing
- Monkey bars
- Water fountain
- Trampoline
- Bigger mini golf
- Good soccer balls
- Ellipticals
- Gigantic pretend play shop
- Tunnel slide
- A little lemonade stand
- Chess tables
- A bigger swing – 2 people sitting
- Nine square game
- Tire swings
- I wish there was a kids bicycle park with no dogs allowed
- Please put a playground for toddlers and babies
- Skating rink
- Skate park
- Log tag
- Twisty slides
- Art supplies
- Climbing sculpture

Engagement with Ecole Chinook Park School

Question 2: We asked students to use dots to choose their favourite potential future park elements based on the categories of Play, Winter, Sport, Small Amenities and Other. They had one dot to place on each category.

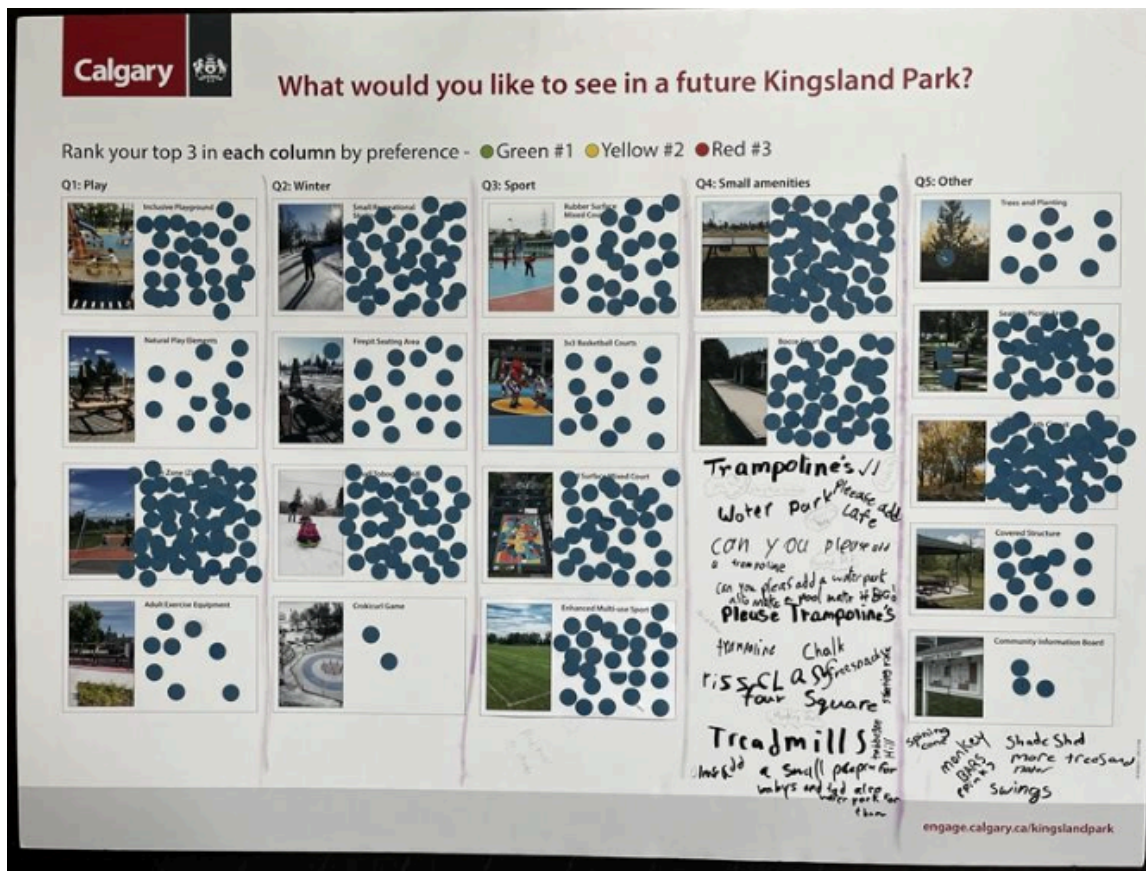


Image above of dotmocracy board results from the Ecole Chinook Park Session

Engagement with Ecole Chinook Park School

The table below is a summary of the dotmocracy board responses from the in-person event at Ecole Chinook Park School. Responses are ranked from most to least mentioned with the number of mentions listed in the brackets.

Play	Winter	Sport	Small Amenities	Other
Youth Zone (56)	Small Toboggan Hill (40)	Hard Surface Mixed Court (33)	Ping Pong (50)	Walking Path Circuit (42)
Inclusive Playground (29)	Small Recreational Skating Area (37)	Enhanced Multi-use Sports Field (28)	Bocce (37)	Seating/ Picnic Area (29)
Natural Play (12)	Firepit Seating Area (18)	Rubber surface mixed court (27)		Covered Structure (14)
Adult Exercise Equipment (8)	Croki curl Game (2)	3x3 Basketball courts (14)		Trees and planting (11)
				Community Information Board (3)

Students also added other ideas listed below:

- Trampolines
- Water Park
- Please add a cafe
- Swing
- Water park
- Little kid section and big kid section
- Spinning tree/ cone
- Sand pit
- Chalk
- Free snacks
- Skating ring
- Four square game
- Skating rink
- Monkey bars
- Treadmills
- Shade shed
- More trees
- Water



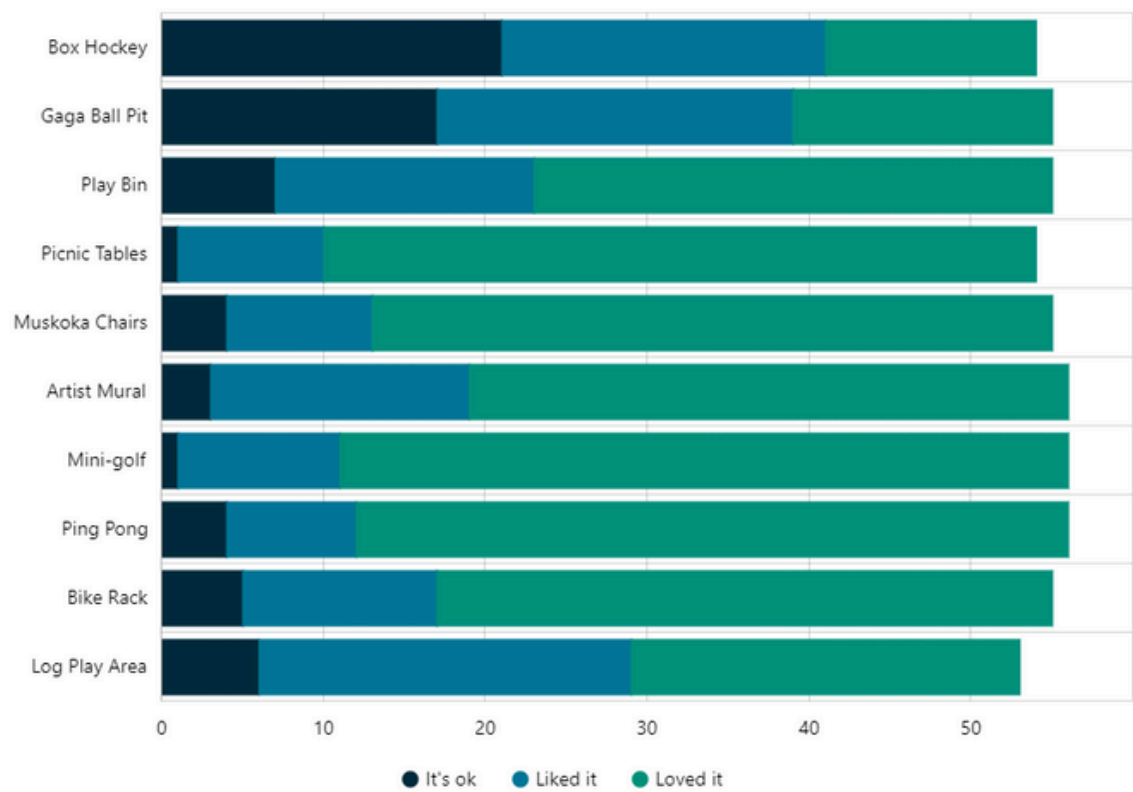
Online Engagement

Below are graphs summarizing the online engagement responses to specific questions. The results are meant to demonstrate trends for further consideration, not a voting process. The online engagement page had 860 views with 128 contributions by 77 contributors.

Summer Park Survey

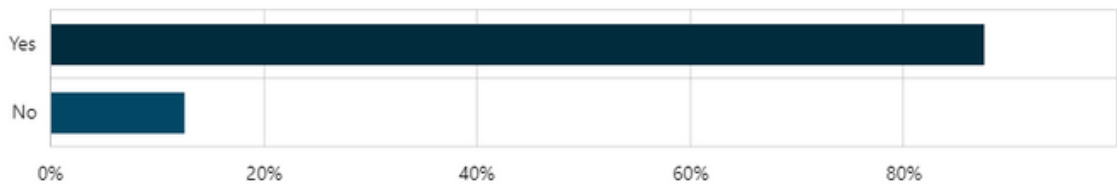
Question 1: Participants were asked to rate each of the pop-up park elements.

The graph below shows the results from online participation which shows most participants loved the picnic tables, mini-golf, ping pong, Muskoka chairs, bike rack, artist mural, and play bin (listed in order of degree of support). Box hockey and gaga ball had mixed reviews with relatively equal amounts of people rating it loved it, liked it and it's ok. The log play area was mostly split between liked it and loved it. Overall participants appreciated the pop-up park elements.



Question 2: Would you like the pop-up park to stay over winter?

The results below in the graph show that most participants would like to see the park stay over winter.



Question 3: Do you have any other comments about the pop-up park?

34 people submitted additional ideas, which can be read in full in the Verbatim Report. Themes included suggestions for improvements to the existing space, support for the park in general, additional amenity suggestions, and desire for winter use.

Theme	What We Heard Summary	Supporting Verbatim Comments
Some participants suggested improvements to the existing pop-up space	• Making the mini-golf more sturdy • Adding more ping pong tables • Better grass/ seeding • More balls in the play bin • Move the bike rack inside the fenced area • Add smooth surface to gaga pit • Better maintenance of play bin items • More trees and shade • More games	✓ “Few more ping pong tables would be great! From teen to adult loved it all the time ,it’s most popular in the park. ” ✓ “Pop ups are okay but not long term solutions. We need a dog park in this area. And legitimate one.” ✓ “Would be great to have more trees planted there for shade!”

Question 3: Do you have any other comments about the pop-up park?

Theme	What We Heard Summary	Supporting Verbatim Comments
Participants support the pop-up park	Participants listed their support for the pop-up park.	✓ "It has been such a great use of space. So nice to see families out utilizing that neglected area." ✓ "Loved seeing residents of all ages coming to enjoy from 3 years to 75+ years! Enjoyed the fact that there were a variety of activities and it was nearly always in use." ✓ "Thank you for adding these to our area. It is so great to see people out enjoying the park!"
Some participants suggested additional amenities	Other suggestions were: • Dog Park • Garden • Bike Park/ Pump Track • Bocce • Beach Volleyball • Firepit • Basketball • Crokicurl • Covered Seating • Barbecues	✓ "Bocce ball, beach volleyball, basketball, firepits." ✓ "We need a dog park in this area. And legitimate one." ✓ "Community Garden"
Some participants wanted winter use of the pop-up park	People suggested additions to make the park winter-friendly and voice support for a year-round pop up.	✓ "For the winter, the park could be used for cross country skiing and snowshoeing" ✓ "For winter, can we change it up so that people can enjoy winter activities? Maybe add a fire pit?" ✓ "If there were winter activities there I'll definitely visit 😊"



**“Sitting in the chairs
watching the kids play.
Love the art. Easy play
areas for all abilities.”**

Question 4: Share with us a favourite memory from the summer park.

A screenshot of all the verbatim responses to this question are pasted below.

13 October, 2024 Anonymous says: "We went with the whole family one summer evening and loved coming across other people playing in the pop up park as well as in the field. "	13 October, 2024 Anonymous says: "When the grandkids come to visit, they always want to go to that park."	13 October, 2024 Anonymous says: "Golf and ping pong "
12 October, 2024 Anonymous says: "gaga ball and ping pong were the best "	10 October, 2024 Anonymous says: "I loved having picnics with my boyfriend"	9 October, 2024 Anonymous says: "My family had ping pong challenges all summer."
7 October, 2024 Anonymous says: "playing pingpong with husband and daughter."	4 October, 2024 Anonymous says: "Loved playing mini golf and ping pong. It was neat to see other families using the space. Bringing community together. Green space yay!"	2 October, 2024 Anonymous says: "Seeing the community come together to use the space! "

Question 4: Share with us a favourite memory from the summer park.

A screenshot of all the verbatim responses to this question are pasted below.

1 October, 2024 Anonymous says: "Mini-golf competitions with the grandchildren and our own hilarious "sports commentary"."	27 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Seeing the pop up being used daily. "	27 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Ping Pong"
27 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Sitting in the chairs watching the kids play. Love the art. Easy play areas for all abilities "	26 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Seeing so many families and groups come together to play at the summer park at all times of the day! The ping pong was fun!"	25 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Hanging out with friends "
25 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Fun to play mini golf so easily! A pump track would be awesome!"	25 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Me and my partner dropped by and enjoyed the mini golf and box hockey :)"	24 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Introducing my kids to mini golf! And the play bin items were very fun and useful."

Question 4: Share with us a favourite memory from the summer park.

A screenshot of all the verbatim responses to this question are pasted below.

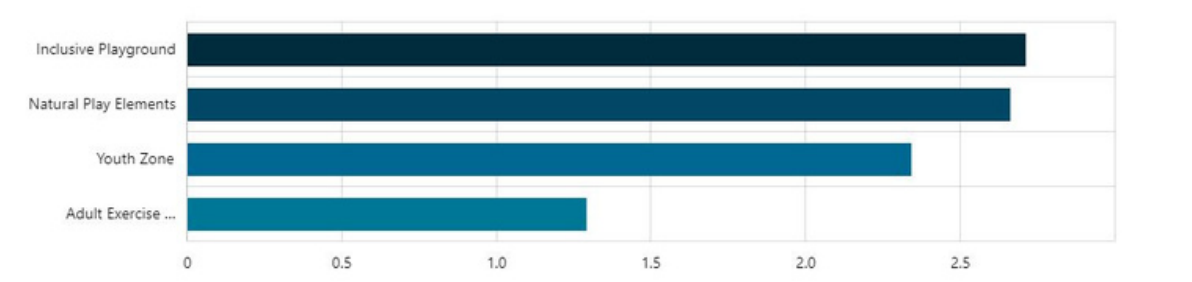
23 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Hanging out with friends and playing games with them "	22 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Definitely playing Ping Pong. It is so fun! Thank you "	22 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "More shade, a pump track, community garden, "natural" playground, dog run, etc, would make it better for everyone and reduce encampments! :)"
19 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "A pump track would be an awesome permanent feature in the field. The park is great, lots of people are using it. "	17 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Playing mini golf and tossing the ball with the scoops was really fun with the kids. "	17 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Grandma and grandpa came to play mini-golf! kids love Gaga ball at school, but it is a bouncing game so the gravel surface doesn't work."
17 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Just love seeing people using it. Any park thing will be great. "	16 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Watching tikes play minigolf with their parents. I don't believe anyone knows gaga ball, and we didn't see the hockey boxes used either. "	16 September, 2024 Anonymous says: "Many teens, adult kids plays after school to killing time better than surfing on the mobile devices!"

Future Park Survey

Question 1: Participants were asked to rate each of the pop-up park elements in each category.

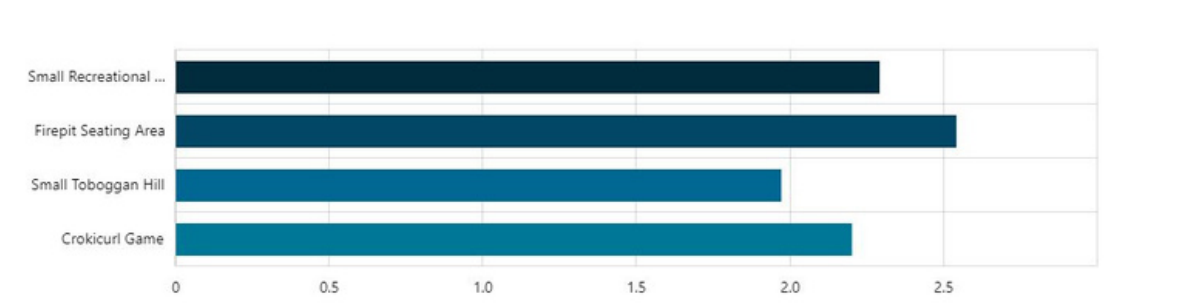
Rank your top 3 play features by preference.

The graph below shows the results from online participation which shows participants preferred the inclusive playground, followed by natural play elements, the youth zone and lastly adult exercise equipment.



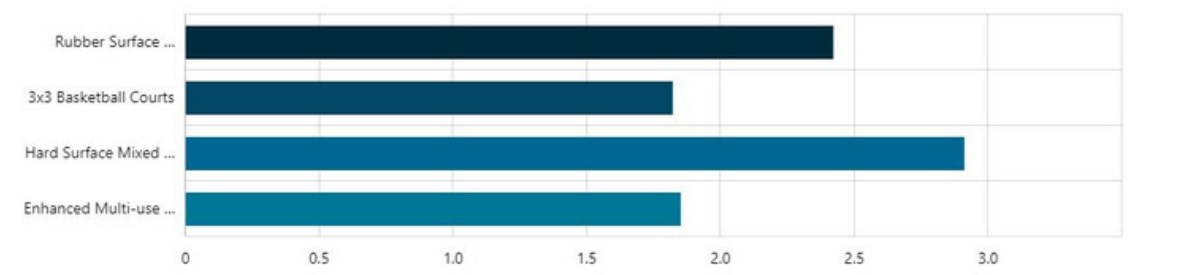
Rank your top 3 winter amenities by preference.

The graph below shows the results from online participation which shows participants preferred the firepit seating area, followed by the small recreational skating area, then the crokicurl game and the small toboggan hill.



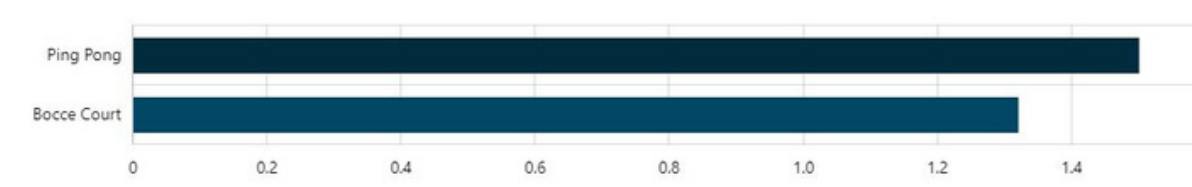
Rank your top 3 sport amenities by preference.

The graph below shows the results from online participation which shows participants preferred the hard surface mixed court, then the rubber surface mixed court, with 3x3 basketball courts and the enhanced multi-use sport field then tied.



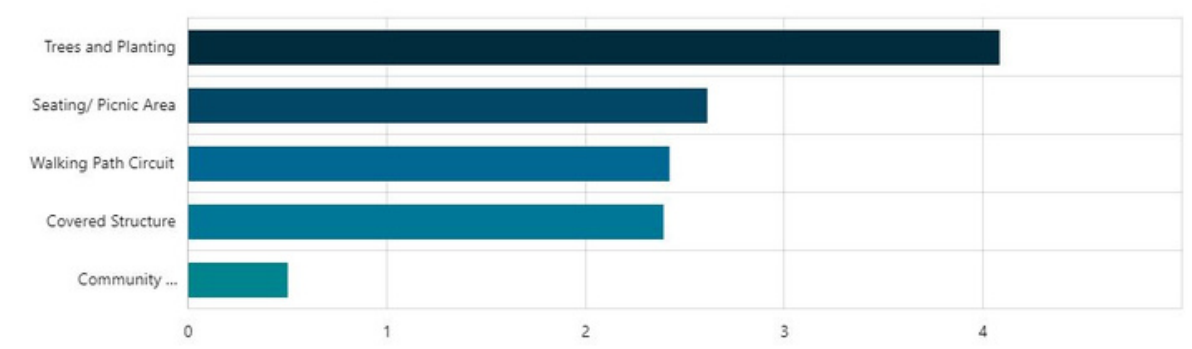
Rank your top 3 smaller sport amenities by preference.

The graph below shows the results from online participation which shows participants preferred the ping pong slightly over the bocce court, but both were popular.



Rank your top 3 other amenities by preference.

The graph below shows the results from online participation which shows participants preferred trees and planting, seating/ picnic area, followed by tied walking path and covered structure with the community sign as least preferred.



Question 2: We asked an open ended question “Is there anything else we are missing?”

Participants listed the following suggestions. All suggestions can be viewed with exact comments in the Verbatim Report.

- Bike pump park
- Off leash dog park
- Splash park
- community garden
- Free little library
- Free little pantry
- Outdoor pool
- Ice rink in winter
- Small toboggan hill could be repurposed as BMX in summer
- Native plants
- A pond
- Pickleball
- Swings for all ages
- Removal of fence to discourage off leash dog use





Next Steps

Public feedback on the temporary summer park and potential new amenities will be used by The City's internal project team to seek funding for future Kingsland Park improvements. Currently, there is no funding allocated for design or construction. Feedback received about extending the temporary park's operation through winter will be considered and balanced with input from parks maintenance teams, operational requirements and budget considerations. Public input will also help to inform other City projects.

The Project Team will continue to collaborate with the Kingsland Community Association and the Ward 11 Councillor's Office on progress towards future park improvements.