# **St. James Town West Park Revitalization**

## **Project Information Guide**

The City is looking to make improvements to St. James Town West Park at 589 Sherbourne Street, as a result of redevelopments in the neighbourhood!

#### Background

St. James Town West Park (located between Sherbourne Street, Bleecker Street and Howard Street) is a small public park in the heart of the St. James Town neighbourhood.

Most of St. James Town West Park is currently leased to the City by Medallion Developments Inc. who owns the parking garage that lies beneath it. Medallion will be redeveloping properties next to the park and repairing the parking garage roof that is below the park. Due to this work, the majority of the park will need to be removed.

This creates an opportunity for a **fresh design of the park** that meets the needs of the vibrant and diverse St. James Town community. The design of the park must consider the parking structure below and the future development beside it.



## **Project Timeline**



## How to Get Involved

St. James Town West Park is an important asset in the community that is valued by residents of all ages. The City is working to engage community members in the park redesign process and understand how people would like to use the greenspace in the future. In response to COVID-19, the City has adjusted its consultation methods to protect the health and well-being of participants and staff. There are several ways you can get involved in helping to shape the future of St. James Town West Park, including:



- Local Community Ambassador Conversations local community ambassadors will assist the City with engaging local residents through established neighbourhood connections, particularly with community members whose language of greatest comfort is not English.
- Virtual Community Meetings community meetings will present the park design options, gather feedback, and answer questions from the community.
- Virtual Design Workshops focus groups will provide opportunities for in-depth conversations about the concept plan options being developed for the park, including opportunities to provide feedback and ask questions.
- **Online Questionnaires** questionnaires will provide opportunities for community members to provide feedback on the park vision and design options.
- Indigenous Community Sharing Meetings led by an Indigenous facilitator, these Indigenous community sharing meetings will engage with Indigenous rights-holders to better understand how to, and ensure that Indigenous perspectives are incorporated into the design of the park.
- Youth Resource Group the City is forming a Youth Resource Group comprised of individuals aged 13-24 to better understand how youth currently use the park, and to provide a forum to see how the park can better reflect the needs of young people.
- **Public Webpage** Learn more and get involved on other opportunities through the City's St. James Town West Park Revitalization webpage <u>toronto.ca/StJamesTown</u>.

## What's your vision for the park?

The new St. James Town West Park will be a dynamic, accessible, safe, and exciting space that will meet the needs of one of the most diverse and dense communities in our city. We are seeking your input to understand how the park is currently used, and what opportunities exist for the future of the park.

Specifically, we want to know:

- Do you currently spend time in St. James Town Park West? If so, how do you spend your time there? Who do you go with?
- How would you describe your vision for a re-designed St. James Town Park West?
- What elements or key features of the park should the City preserve?
- What elements or key features would you/your household like to be included in the park?

Complete the online questionnaire at toronto.ca/StJamesTown by March 15, 2021. You can also contact the Project Team with any questions or feedback you have.

## **Contact Information**

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