City of Toronto - Parks, Forestry & Recreation

# New Park on Brimorton Drive Survey Summary Report

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## **Project Background**



Aerial overview of the new park near Brimorton Drive and Meadowglen Place.

As part of the new residential development at Brimorton Drive, the developer is dedicating 2024 m2 of land to the City of Toronto for a neighbourhood park, located at the southeast corner of Brimorton Drive and Meadowglen Place. The City is working with the developer on the design and construction of the new park, which will provide various new amenities that will complement existing parks in the surrounding neighbourhood. The new park will include:

- Seating and gathering area
- Shade structure
- Outdoor fitness equipment
- A children's play area
- Large open lawn space
- Ornamental tree plantings

#### The New Park on Brimorton Drive project anticipated schedule is as follows:



## Notification



Signage near the new park site, promoting the online survey.

The online survey was promoted through the following channels:

- Facebook, Twitter and Instagram advertisements targeting area residents. <u>See</u> an example here.
- Promotions through the local Councillor's Office
- Community mail out to residents in the local area
- Project webpage: toronto.ca/BrimortonPark
- Park signage

## **Online Survey – April 9 to April 25, 2021**

An online survey was hosted from April 9 to April 25, 2021, and asked for input on the early concept plans, park features and amenities. Feedback from the online survey will help to generate ideas and confirm priorities for the final design of the park, which will be shared in summer 2021 with the community and key stakeholders.



#### **Proposed Concept Design**

The proposed concept design features a variety of "Zones" – which will each include different amenities and features for different uses. These include:

- Urban Zone Gathering Space
- Active Zone Fitness Area
- Active Zone Children's Playground
- Buffer Zone Planting areas
- Passive Zone Lawn Area

The concept design also includes a variety of features, including:

- Walkway
- Outdoor Fitness with a rubberized surface (City bike, free runner, dip bench, and overhead ladder)
- Children's Playground with a rubberized surface
- Shade Structure
- Seating
- Bike Racks
- Tree Bosque on Berm
- Buffer Planting
- Big Lawn/Passive Play
- Decorative Fence

The survey received a total of 121 responses. This included feedback from 408 participants of various ages.

#### **Online Survey - Key Feedback Highlights**

#### **On Survey Respondents**

- The survey received a total of **121 survey responses**, which included input from **408 individuals**.
- The majority of survey respondents were in the **19-29**, **40-55**, **and 30-39 years old age categories**.
- The majority of survey respondents found out about the survey from:
  - Email from Lash Developments (37%)
  - Mailer to their home (27%)
  - Email from project team (19%)
  - Word of mouth (8%)
  - Park signage (7%)
  - Communications from the Councillor's Office (4%)
  - Social media advertisements (4%)
- The majority of respondents identified as homeowners (65%).
  - $\circ$  37% of respondents identified as renters.
  - o 2% of respondents identified as neither owner nor renter.

#### **Visiting the Park**

- To get to the new park (respondents could select multiple options):
  - 91% of respondents would walk
  - 40% of respondents would bike
  - 21% of would use a personal vehicle
  - 12% of would use public transportation
  - o 11% would use a mobility device and/or stroller
- When visiting the park:
  - The majority of respondents would visit with family or children (83%)
  - More than half of respondents' spouse/partner (54%), or with friends (51%)
  - Some respondents would visit the park Alone (36%) or with Pets (21%)
- **The most popular activities** respondents would like to partake in at the new park are relaxing or reading on the lawn/seating (60%), enjoying and observing plants/plating areas (55%), gathering with others in the seating areas, benches, etc. (52%) and enjoying or using the children's play area (51%)
  - **30%** of the respondents said they would like to do all the above-mentioned activities.

#### **Concept Design – Detailed Feedback**

- An overwhelming majority of survey respondents were satisfied with the proposed concept design, including park amenities, features and layout:
  - $\circ~$  45% of respondents were Very Satisfied
  - 51% of respondents were Satisfied
  - o 4% of respondents were Dissatisfied
- When asked what respondents liked most about the proposed concept design:
  - The most popular features included:
    - Playground with the rubberized surface (66%)
    - Seating (65%)
    - Walkway (64%)
    - Shade structure (59%)
    - Outdoor fitness with rubberized surface (58%)
    - Big lawn/passive play (52%)
  - Features less preferred by respondents included:
    - Tree Bosque on berm (39%)
    - Buffer planting (31%)
    - Bike racks (32%)
  - Few respondents liked the decorative fence (22%).
- When asked what respondents did not like in the proposed concept design:
  - The majority of respondents (61%) indicated they liked the option as is.
    - Few respondents indicated they disliked:
      - The playground with the rubberized surface (13%)
      - Decorative fence (11%)
      - The outdoor fitness area with the rubberized surface (10%)
      - Tree bosque on berm (10%)
- When asked if respondents had any additional comments on the proposed concept design, 37 respondents provided additional thoughts and suggestions. Top comments and suggestions included (number of respondents sharing this sentiment included in parentheses)
  - Adding a dog park to the plan (5 respondents)
  - Adding a water play area (4 respondents)
  - Ensuring pathways are wide enough for social distancing, wheelchair/mobility devices, and for cyclists (3 respondents)
  - Adding a basketball court (2 respondents)
  - Considering the safety of pedestrians coming in and out of the park (e.g. traffic signal at the intersection of Brimorton and Meadowglen) [2 respondents]
  - Ensuring all park features and amenities are accessible, with dedicated features for community members with disabilities (e.g. barrier-free park features) [2 respondents]
  - Ensuring natural and sustainable materials are used in the construction of the park (2 respondents)

- Separating the fitness and play areas (2 respondents)
- Increasing the size of the play area given the amount of children in the area (1 respondent)
- Increasing the size of the fitness area (1 respondent)
- Adding a water feature or pond (1 respondent)
- Planting cherry blossoms (1 respondent)
- Adding a tennis court (1 respondent)

#### **Proposed Playground – Detailed Feedback**

- o 56% of respondents had children between 2-12 years old.
  - 7% with Children under 2 years old.
  - 19% with Children 2-5 years old.
  - 30% with Children 6-12 years old.
- 43% of respondents do not have children in their household.
- When asked how respondents feel about features for the play area:
  - A significant majority of respondents liked the Miracle Sphere (80%) and Multideck Tower (79%)
  - A smaller majority of respondents liked the Bee Spring (58%) and the Spinner Plate (55%)
  - Out of the four options surveyed, none were significantly disliked by survey respondents.
- When asked what types of colours respondents would like to see for the children's playground:
  - 42% of respondents preferred Bright and Vibrant (blue, teal and yellow)
  - 31% of respondents preferred Playful (purple, yellow and blue)
  - o 27% of respondents preferred Natural (green, brown, and grey)

### **Next Steps**

The results of this survey will be shared with the project team and local Councillor's office, and will inform the park's final concept design. This design will be available on the <u>project webpage</u> in spring 2021.

## **Appendix A: Quantitative Response Summary**



If you were to visit the new park on Brimorton Drive, what method of transportation would you use? Please select all that apply.

	Count	% of responses %
Walk	110	91%
Biking	48	40%
Personal vehicle	26	21%
Public transportation	14	12%
Mobility device and/or stroller	13	11%
Taxi and/or ride share	2	2%
Other, please specify	1	1%
		N

If you were to visit the new park on Brimorton Drive, who would you go with? Please select all that apply.



#### What would you like to do at this new park? Please select all that apply.

	Count	% of responses	%
Relax or read on the lawn/seating	73		60%
Enjoy and observe plants/planting areas	67		55%
Gathering with others in the seating areas, benches, etc.	63		52%
Enjoying or using children's play area	62		51%
Sitting in the park on your own	57		47%
Eating a meal or drinking a coffee/beverage	57		47%
Using outdoor fitness equipment or exercising in the park	54		45%
Games (i.e. chess, etc.)	36		30%
All of the above	36		30%
Walking a pet	31		26%
Anything else? Please specify.	7		6%
			N 121

How important are each of the following potential features to you and your household when thinking about the new park design?

	Average	Count	% of responses			
Seating areas (e.g. benches, tables, etc.)	15%	121	69	3%	21%	7% 3%
Amount and distribution of green space	18%	121	63%		25%	7% 5%
Accessible pathways	19%	121	63%		24%	7% 6%
Shade Structure	20%	121	60%		24%	10% 6%
Children's Playground	21%	121	65%		14%	13% 7%
Space for gathering	28%	121	50%	27%		13% 10%
Planting areas	28%	121	56%	15%	17%	12%
Fitness Area	32%	121	49%	20%	19%	12%
Drinking fountain(s)	33%	121	45%	26%	17%	13%
Bicycle parking	37%	121	39%	28%	17%	17%
Ornamental tree planting	38%	121	35%	31%	20%	15%
	Very Important	tant Somew	that Important			

How satisfied are you with the proposed layout, amenities and features shown in the concept design?



N 109

#### What features shown in the concept design do you like the most? Please select all that apply.

	Count	% of responses	%
Playground (Rubberized Surface)	72		66%
Seating	71		65%
Walkway	70		64%
Shade Structure	64		59%
Outdoor Fitness (Rubberized Surface)	63		58%
Big Lawn/Passive Play	57		52%
Tree Bosque on Berm	43		39%
Buffer Planting	34		31%
Bike Racks	32		29%
Decorative Fence	24		22%
Anything else?	4		4%
			N 109

Are there features in the proposed concept design that you do not like? Please select all that apply.

	Count	% of responses	%
I like all of the features shown.	67		61%
Playground (Rubberized Surface)	14		13%
Decorative Fence	12		11%
Outdoor Fitness (Rubberized Surface)	11		10%
Tree Bosque on Berm	11		10%
Walkway	9		8%
Seating	9		8%
Bike Racks	9		8%
Buffer Planting	9		8%
Big Lawn/Passive Play	9		8%
Shade Structure	8		7%
Anything else?	6	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	6%
			N 10

### Are there any children in your household that use City of Toronto playgrounds?

	Count	% of responses	%
Children under 2 years old	8		7%
Children 2-5 years old	21		19%
Children 6-12 years old	33		30%
I do not have children in my household.	47		43%
			N 109

The proposed concept plan includes a dedicated area for junior and senior kids play. Let us know how you feel about the following play features:



In general, what type of colours would you like to see for the children's playground?

	Count	% of responses	%
Bright and vibrant (blue, teal and yellow)	46		42%
Natural (green, brown and grey)	29		27%
Playful (purple, yellow and blue)	34		31%
			N 109

#### **Demographics**

How many people of each age group participated in this survey?



Total responses per age group include:

- 41 respondents age 0 to 4 years old
- 53 respondents age 5 to 12 years old
- 38 respondents age 13 to 18 years old
- 76 respondents age 19 to 29 years old
- 57 respondents age 30 to 39 years old
- 72 respondents age 40 to 55 years old
- 37 respondents age 56 to 64 years old
- 17 respondents age 65 to 74 years old

• 17 respondents age 75 years old or above

Gender identity is the gender that people identify with or how they perceive themselves, which may be different from their birth-assigned sex. Gender identity is linked to a sense of self, the sense of being a woman, man, both, neither or anywhere along the gender spectrum (non-binary). What best describes your gender?

	Count	% of responses	%
Female	49		49%
Male	45		45%
Prefer not to answer	9		9%
Trans female	0		
Trans male	0		
Gender fluid, genderqueer, gender non-conforming, non-binary, trans	0		
Not listed, please describe	0		
			N 101

Sexual orientation describes a person's emotional, physical, romantic, sexual and/or spiritual attraction, desire or affection towards other people. What best describes your sexual orientation?

	Count	% of responses	%
Heterosexual or straight	68		69%
Prefer not to answer	26		26%
Bisexual	2	1	2%
Gay	2	1	2%
Not listed, please describe	1	I	1%
Lesbian	0		
Queer	0		
Unsure	0		

Please select the racial backgrounds that people who completed this survey identify with. Select all that apply.

	Count	% of responses	%
South Asian or Indo-Caribbean (e.g. Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, Indo-Guyanese, Indo-Trinidadian, etc.)	51		51%
White (European descent)	14		14%
I don't know/prefer not to answer	14		14%
Black (African, Afro-Caribbean, African-Canadian descent)	10		10%
East Asian (Chinese, Korean, Japanese)	6		6%
Southeast Asian (Taiwanese descent; Filipino, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Thai, Indonesian)	4	1	4%
Latino (Latin American, Hispanic descent)	2	1	2%
Middle Eastern (Arab, Persian, West Asian descent, e.g. Afghan, Egyptian, Iranian, Lebanese, Turkish, Kurdish, etc.)	2	1	2%
Other, please describe	1	1	1%
Indigenous (First Nations, Métis, Inuk/Inuit)	0		
			N 1

#### What language do you speak most often at home?



Indigenous people residing in Canada are those who selfidentify as First Nations (status, non-status, treaty or nontreaty), Inuit, Métis, Aboriginal, Native or Indian. Does anyone participating in this survey identify as Indigenous to Canada?



N 99

Disabilities, both visible and invisible, include physical, hearing, seeing, developmental, learning or mental health conditions, chronic illness and addictions. Disabilities may be from birth, caused by injury or accident, developed over time, or result from the combination of a person's condition and barriers in society. Does anyone participating in this survey identify as a person with a disability?



#### Do survey participants rent or own their home?



#### What best describes your relationship to the new park on Brimorton Drive?

	Count	% of responses	%
I am a resident living nearby.	79		79%
I am a future resident at the nearby condo/residential development.	14		14%
I am a member of the wider community.	6		6%
Other, please specify	1	I	1%
			N 100

#### How did you find out about this survey?

	Count	% of responses	%
Email from Lash	38		37%
Mailer to my home	28		27%
Email from project team	19		19%
Word of mouth	8		8%
Other, please specify	8		8%
Park Sign	7		7%
Councillor's Office communications	4		4%
Social Media	4	•	4%
I checked the project webpage	0		

## Appendix B: The New Park on Brimorton Concept Design Proposed Concept Designs



The proposed concept design features a variety of "Zones" – which will each include different amenities and features for different uses. These include:

- Urban Zone Gathering Space
- Active Zone Fitness Area
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#### The concept design also includes a variety of features, including:

- Walkway
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- Buffer Planting
- Big Lawn/Passive Play
- Decorative Fence

#### Play Equipment

## **Play Equipment**



The proposed concept plan includes a dedicated area for junior and senior kids play and respondents were asked to rate the features in the image.

## **Appendix C: Text Responses**

If you were to visit the new park on Brimorton Drive, what method of transportation would you use? Please select all that apply. Respondents who selected "Other, please specify." (1 response)

Cycling

If you were to visit the new park on Brimorton Drive, who would you go with? Please select all that apply. Respondents who selected "Other, please specify." (1 response)

• Grandchildren

## What features shown in the concept design do you like the most? Please select all that apply.

Respondents who selected "Other, please specify." (4 responses)

- A handball 1 wall Court like Stan Wadlow park it's the only one in Canada and used 24/7
- Water fountain, sandbox, community board
- Active Zone
- Include a basketball court

## Are there features in the proposed concept design that you do not like? Please select all that apply.

#### Respondents who selected "Other, please specify." (6 responses)

- Not enough bike racks, a lot of people will be using the fitness scape area, which is currently not provided in other area parks, and bike rack demand from community members travelling may be an issue
- Dogs shouldn't be allowed
- no fence, should be open to the community.
- No dog park
- No
- OUTDOOR FITNESS SHOULD BE BESIDE PLAYGROUND. SO YOU WOULD BE CLOSE TO YOUR KIDS.

Do you have any other comments on the proposed concept design? Is there anything missing from the proposed concept design? If so, please explain. Please do not include any personal information in your response (e.g. name, telephone number)

#### Respondents who selected "Other, please specify." (37 responses)

- No need for a playground....waste of space.
- Little dog park area? Fenced area for dogs. I see that there are plenty of dog walkers within the neighbourhood and I think it would be nice to have a safe area for the pets to be able to interact with others.
- Can you please, please bring in some cherry blossom trees. I know this would be a special touch.
- Small wading pool (of course shallow )
- At a community meeting years ago when Churchill Heights park was being upgraded, the community asked for a splash pad. We were told by then City Councillor De Baermaker that it was not possible BUT a "water feature" was to be included for the community where the new condos and this proposed park are located. The closest splash pad for this community is approx 1.5km away and there is a class of pools/splash pads in this area.
- I think that this will make traffic go up exponentially which is great for outdoor activities but not for the residents that will be right at the area of the park. My only concern is that the amount of people that will frequent the park and the space of the park might not allow for proper social distancing.
- Have well lit lighting at night and a dog park that is fenced off.
- Provide adequate recycling bins, signs of park use rules should be large, bylaws should be large, not small like other parks as they are ignored or not seen by park users. I didn't notice anything for community members and youth with disabilities (barrier free features) there are a few in the community who would appreciate it for themselves and their youth.

- Scarborough needs a playground for children with natural materials (wood, mulch). I dislike playgrounds that are plastic and metal. Also the tree plantings in the park should be naturalized as well not just in those concrete circles.
- It would be awesome to have water incorporated in the kids section to play in. It's so hard finding access points for water for the kids in the summer
- A Splash Pad!
- Please include the Yoga or Meditation room
- I live in the area. A lot of children. Need to use most space for children activities.
- Please ensure that the materials used in the construction of the park hold up better than the building has. If the carpet used in the building is an indicator of how the park will be designed then I strongly consider revisiting the drawing board and ensuring that it is not tacky and actually adds value to the neighbourhood.
- Please include a dog park for off-leash acitivites.
- Ensure that pathways and access to all areas are accessible for wheelchairs, scooters and strollers. Solar Lighting at night and winter maintenance as well as a community board with solar charging station and public Wi-Fi
- We do not need an urban zone for gathering. The same can be done on Grass.
- fitness centre should be larger
- Please include group sports. IE basketball court
- Public Tennis Courts
- like to see it build help with outdoor wellness.
- Where is the water fountain? Will dogs be allowed in the lawn area?
- This is the North-West corner and NOT South-East corner.
- No
- Parks encourage children's play; parks bring people together; parks and nature are linked; parks are a piece of a larger puzzle for a safe community to thrive.
- Na
- A dog park
- Pond, Bridge and more scenic places to walk
- Shade should provide rain shelter.
- Exercise area for large gatherings like group for yoga
- Would be nice to add a dog park
- Very nice space and great idea for the community
- Please be advised that this is the SOUTH WEST corner.
- OUTDOOR FITNESS & PLAYGROUND SHOULD BE SIDE BY SIDE.
- There should be a traffic signal at the intersection of Brimorton Drive/Medowglen Place as there are many pedestrians and children moving around in the area.
- I think maybe the urban zone and the active zone shouldn't be right beside each other. Maybe those who want to do exercise might want some privacy or don't want to be right beside an area where there will be large groups of people? Maybe it can be something near the playground on the right side? I really like the open lawn space and was thinking there could be some trees there too for shading spaces. I also really like the bosque/trees on berm area as that will be really refreshing to walk through. It would be nice if the pathways can be smooth pavement and wide enough so that it can be nice to bike around or rollerskate through the park. And if somehow theres a possibility to connect this park

pathway to this other bike pathway in the surrounding area (I forgot what it was called) but that'd be very fun and enjoyable so that there's a nice trail for bikers/skaters or people who want to take a long stroll.

• Can we get a basketball court

#### How did you find out about this survey?

Respondents who selected "Other, please specify." (8 responses)

- Construction site sign
- Through whatsapp from friend
- Building management
- Email from Me Living
- Building announcement
- Lash sent a email
- Lash Group my developer
- Barcode at the proposed site