

New Park at 44 Jackes Avenue

What We Heard: Phase 1b (Design Options) Engagement Summary

April 2022

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Introduction

A new park is coming to 44 Jackes Avenue as part of a new residential infill development!

The new 651 m² park will front onto 44 Jackes Avenue, and will be located across from David A. Balfour Park. The City of Toronto is coordinating this project, while the developer (QuadReal) is funding and leading the project's construction. The design of the new park will be led by Janet Rosenberg Studios.

Since fall 2021, the City of Toronto worked closely with the local community and stakeholders to understand their vision for the new park. Using the feedback collected, two new design options were created for the consideration of stakeholders, residents, and community members.

This report documents the feedback received on the Design Options during phase 1B of the engagement process through the following inputs:

January 26, 2022

Stakeholder Meeting 2

Web-based video conference with a presentation, followed by discussion.

February 24, 2022

Virtual Community Meeting 2

Web-based video conference with a presentation, followed by virtual question-and-answer session with the project team.

February 24 to March 13, 2022

Online Survey

Web-based survey questions

February to March 2022

Email Comments

Emails from the public sent to the City of Toronto

Design Options

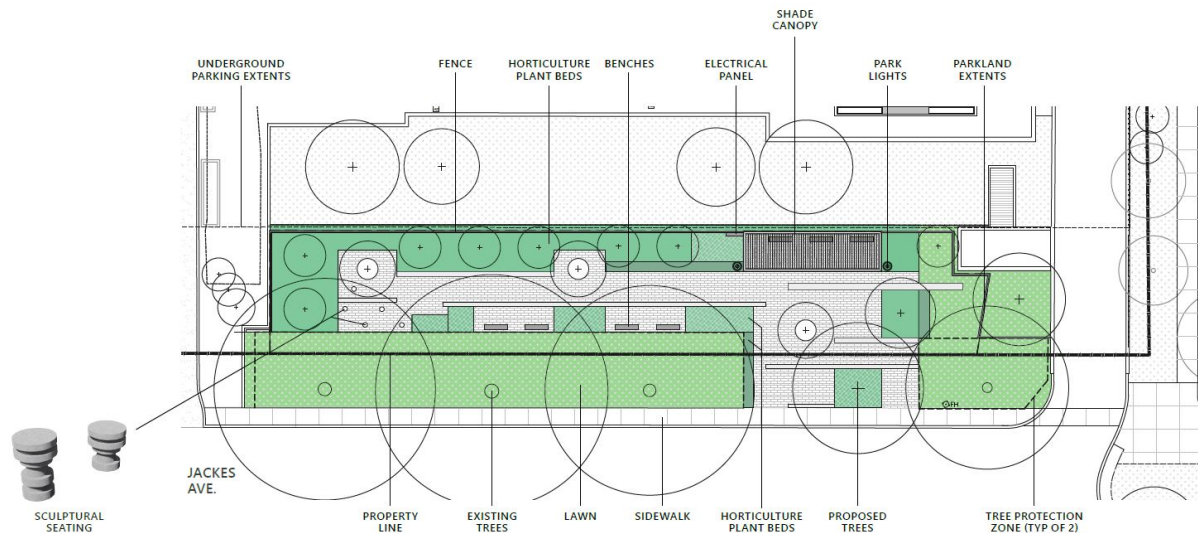
In this section you will see both design options and their main differences and features.

Common Features of Two Design Options

- Designed to meet Toronto's Accessibility Design Guidelines.
- Designed to create a park that is reflective and meditative in theme.
- Both designs keep the existing trees along the Jackes Avenue street frontage, and propose no work within the tree protection zone shown as a black dashed line.
- Access to the park from Jackes Avenue.
- The park is located south of the existing underground parking garage.
- Pedestrian-level lighting that conforms to best practices for public safety.
- A wooden fence to create privacy for building residents and park users.
- New seating and seating areas.
- New planting areas.
- New pathways.
- New shade canopy.

- Signage to deter off leash dogs.

Design Option A



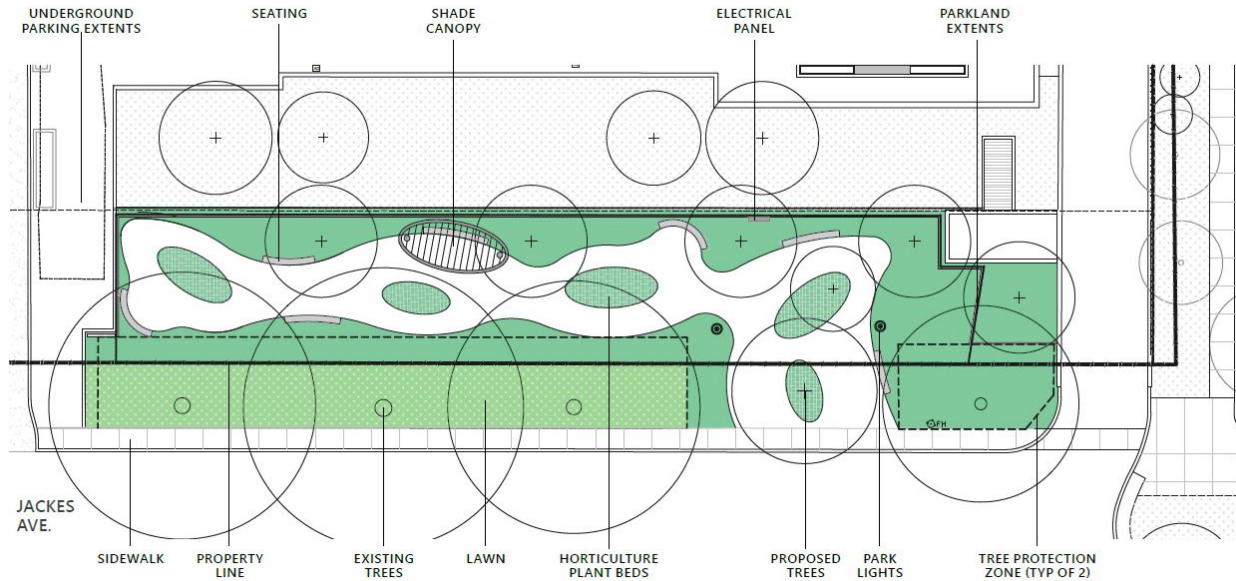
Concept Design Focus

- Linear and organized form

Key Features

- Bench seating (with backs) are tucked between new planting areas
- Sculptural seating on the west side of the park, offering a space for small social gatherings (four people maximum)
- Accessible paved walkways
- A shade structure on the east side of the park with three spaced benches below
- A six-foot-tall solid wood fence that borders the park on the north, east, and west, creating privacy for building residents and park users
- New shade tree at the park entrance
- All plantings will be hardy shrub planting. Planting areas are proposed to be raised to mitigate dog maintenance concerns
- The existing trees along Jackes Avenue will remain. Due to the tree protection zone and concerns related to tree root damage, the sodding will remain within those areas. This is the only location in the park proposing to include sod.

Design Option B



Concept Design focus

- More winding, curvilinear forms

Key Features

- Oval shaped planters and curved planting beds with mixed shrubs and trees
- An accessible looped pathway through the park
- Bench seating (with backs and arms) along the perimeter of the walkway, providing different seating areas
- A small shade structure in the middle of the park with seating below
- A six-foot-tall solid wood fence that borders the park on the north, east, and west is proposed, creating privacy for both building residents and park users
- New shade tree at the park entrance
- All plantings will be hardy shrub planting. Planting areas are proposed to be raised to mitigate dog maintenance concerns
- The existing trees along Jackes Avenue will remain. Due to the tree protection zone and concerns related to tree root damage, the sodding will remain within those areas. This is the only location in the park proposing to include sod.

Project Timeline



The project anticipated schedule is as follows:

- April 2021: Hiring a design team
- May 2021 to Spring 2022: Concept development and community engagement
- Spring 2022 to Winter 2022: Construction drawing preparation
- Early Winter 2023: Tendering and award of contract
- Spring to Summer 2023: Construction of the new park

How We Reached People

Due to COVID-19 and following the recommendations of Toronto Public Health, community engagement was conducted on a variety of online platforms (Webex), digitally (online surveys, email) and on the phone to ensure appropriate physical distancing requirements were met.

Print Media

Signage near the site

Project information was displayed on a 36x48 notice board placed near the new park site. The notice board provided information about the project, details about the virtual community meeting and online survey, and how to access additional information on the project webpage.

Community Postcards

7,100 postcards advertising the project webpage, the virtual meeting and online survey were delivered to addresses in the neighbourhood within 1km of the site.

Digital Media

eFlyer

A digital flyer was circulated to future residents of the nearby residential development, to community groups, and the local Councillor's Office for additional distribution.

Social Media and Digital Ads

The City of Toronto used its Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts to promote the online survey through paid advertisements and organic posts from February 24 to March 13th 2022. September 20th to October 15th, 2021. A paid advertisement and organic posts reached a total 20,763 users and resulted in 765 unique link clicks through to the project website.

Project Webpage

A webpage (toronto.ca/JackesAvenuePark) was set up to act as a communications portal to inform the public about the new park project. The webpage hosts all up to date information regarding the project, including links to the online survey and public meeting, meeting presentation, and a sign-up button for e-updates.

What We Heard

Stakeholder Meeting

Prior to the public meeting for this round, a meeting was held with invited community stakeholders to provide early feedback on the two new concept design options for the new park on January 26, 2022. The stakeholder meeting included the following community groups, as well as local residents invited by the local Councillor.

- Bretton Place Tenant's Association
- Yonge and St. Clair BIA
- Summerhill Resident's Association
- The Linden School
- 40 Rosehill Condo Board
- 33 Jackes Condo Board
- 5 Rosehill Condo Board

The following is a summary of comments received from participants who attended the Stakeholder Meeting:

- Many participants expressed support for both design options, and were appreciative of the changes made from the previous round of consultation feedback. After a poll at the end of the meeting, the majority of participants slightly preferred Option A over Option B, but many noted that they would be satisfied with either.
- Some concerns from members over how the new park may impact traffic/congestion within the area.
- Suggestions from participants to remove the small turf area and replace with tall planters or be turned into a small garden
- Concerns that the wooden wall (solid) would be too intrusive, and something that was more permeable would be preferred so that the park would not see too private.
- Concerns about dogs going off-leash/using the small open lawn area for relief. Requests from participants for signage in the park noting that dogs are not allowed off-leash.
- Comments from nearby school that expressed preference for Option A, as it would allow for better supervision of youth who may use the new park.
- Questions on where the entrance to the park would be located, and if there is a service entrance. Staff note that the entrance will be to the east end of the park because that is the only location where there is a gap where trees cannot be planted.
- Suggestions to look more into the tree protection zone along the Jackes street frontage to investigate if more planting could be integrated into the plan (e.g. through raised planters with native grasses).

Virtual Community Meeting

A virtual community meeting was held on February 24, 2022 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm to share the new design options for the park for community feedback. Approximately ~40 people attended the session (excluding the consulting and staff team).

Community members were invited to learn more about the project, see the concept design and site furniture options for the new park, and share their questions and thoughts through a virtual Q&A. The following is a summary of the meeting:

Agenda and details

- Land acknowledgement
- Introduction and welcome
- Project timeline and key findings from past consultation
- Design presentation
- Virtual Q&A
- Next steps and adjourn

The full presentation from this meeting can be downloaded at toronto.ca/JackesAvenuePark.

Attendees

Local Councillor's Office

Councillor Josh Matlow, Ward 12 Toronto – St. Paul's
Jade Leung, Constituency Assistant

City of Toronto

Rajesh Sankat, Senior Public Consultation Coordinator
Elijah Bawuah, Senior Public Consultation Coordinator
Eric Stadnyk, Manager, Landscape Architecture Unit
Leigh Lichtenberg, Project Coordinator Landscape Architect, Landscape Architecture Unit

QuadReal (Developer)

John Marotta, SVP Development
Kat Lee-Ball, Construction Coordinator

Janet Rosenberg Studios (Design team)

Wayne Swanton, Principal
Andrew Taylor, Junior Landscape Designer

~40 community members

Key Feedback Highlights

Discussion focused on the concept design, park amenities and layout, as well as questions of clarification regarding the new park site. The following is a summary of what we heard:

- Overall, most respondents preferred Option B due to its curvilinear nature, but expressed appreciation to the project team for creating two satisfactory options as a result of the previous round of feedback.

- Some concerns from nearby residents who live in the residential apartment building beside the park regarding smoking in the park. Parks staff suggested that signage could be added to the park to deter smoking in the site, and also said that no smoking is permitted within nine metres from any entrance of the new park.
- Some concerns about fireworks in the new park and skateboarding
- General concern about road safety with increased development in the area
- Some questions on the approach for lighting in the new park

Online Survey

An online survey was posted from February 24 to March 13, 2022 on the project webpage, and asked for input on the two design options that had been created for this new park.

The survey had two components:

- Concept Designs and Features – providing feedback on the two new design options
- Participant Demographics – this section asks about who is filling out the survey, to help us understand who it reached and whose feedback we may be missing

The survey received a **total of 206 responses**, which included input from 284 participants of various ages. This section presents the survey results and a summary of the common themes of comments.

On Survey Respondents

- The survey received a total of **206 survey responses**, which included input from **284 individuals**.
 - The majority of survey respondents were in the 40 to 55 (26%), 30 to 39 (20%), and 55 to 64 years old (20%) age categories.
- **The majority of survey respondents found out about the survey from:**
 - Social media advertisements (78%)
 - A community postcard/mail out to their home (9%)
 - Email from project team (5%)
 - Word of mouth (4%)
 - Communications from the local Councillor's Office (4%)
 - Park signage (3%)
 - Project webpage (3%)
 - I don't know/Prefer not to answer (2%)
- **The majority of respondents identified as living near to the new park at Jackes Avenue.**
 - 68% of respondents live between 10 and 30 minutes walking distance (500 metres to 3km).
 - 19% of respondents are residents of 44 Jackes Avenue.
 - 6% of respondents live between 30 and 60 minutes walking distance (3km to 5km)
 - 1% of respondents live over 1 hour walking distance (6km to 15km)
 - 1% of respondents live a distance too far
 - 4% of respondents identified as members of the wider community.
 - 1% of respondents identified as future residents at the nearby residential development.

- 6% of respondents prefer not to answer.
- **The majority of respondents rely on parks as their primary outdoor space.**
 - 36% of respondents only have access to public spaces like parks (no private space)
 - 32% of respondents have access to semi-private/shared outdoor space
 - 29% of respondents have access to private outdoor space like a yard.
 - 3% of respondents preferred not to answer.
- **The majority of respondents identified as renters (55%).**
 - 42% of respondents identified as homeowners
 - 1% of respondents identified as permanently living with parent(s) or other family member(s).
 - 1% of respondents are temporarily staying with others (no fixed address)
 - 1% of respondents preferred not to answer

Feedback on the design options

- **Overall, survey respondents preferred Design Option B.**
 - 60% of survey respondents preferred Design Option B.
 - 21% of survey respondents preferred Design Option A.
 - 19% of survey respondents liked both options.
- **Survey respondents were asked to identify their favourite and least favourite features of each design option are based on pre-formulated statements.**

Table 1 summarizes the total agreement (all “Strongly Agree” and “Agree”) responses on Design Option A and B. Generally, Design Option B scored higher on all park elements except for a slight difference in preference regarding the location of the shade structure. Full results are included in Appendix A.

| Park element | Design Option A Strongly Agree/Agree | Design Option B Strongly Agree/Agree |
|---|---|---|
| Seating options in this design are sufficient. | 67% | 75% |
| I like the sculptural seating. | 63% | 82% |
| I like the pathway layout in this design (including entrances and connection to amenities). | 60% | 83% |
| There is a balance between paved surfaces and green space. | 73% | 83% |
| I like the amount of plants and trees in this design. | 77% | 85% |
| I like the location of the shade structure in this design. | 77% | 75% |
| I like the location of fencing in this design. | 77% | 86% |

- **When asked what shade structure for Design Option A was preferred, survey respondents preferred semi-transparent.**
 - 66% of respondents preferred a semi-transparent shade structure.

- 34% of respondents preferred a solid shade structure.

Additional comments on the park design

When asked if they had any additional comments or suggestions on the proposed concept design 54 respondents provided additional feedback. Full comments can be found in Appendix B.

Top comments and suggestions included:

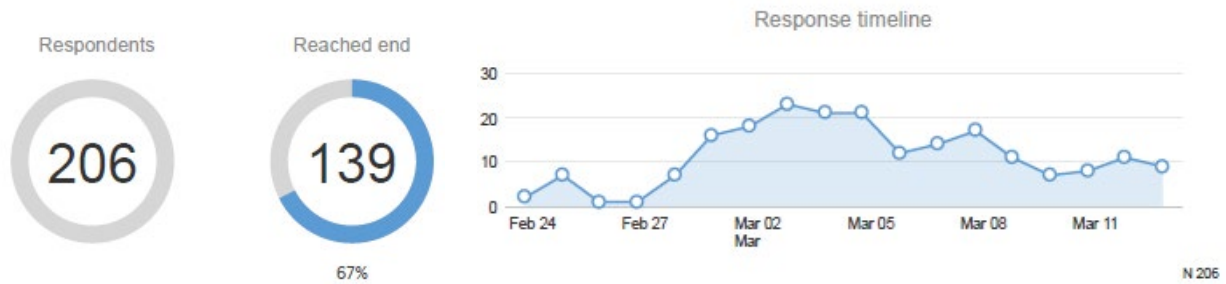
- Feedback on Option B, including changing the shade structure to a trellis and adding more sculptural seating to the design to allow for small gatherings in the park
- Materials-related suggestions, including using natural mulch instead of grass, permeable or semi-permeable paving throughout the park
- Comments regarding appreciation of the change in design theme
- Comments liking both design options
- Suggestions and various requests to keep the new park as naturalized as possible

Next Steps

The feedback received from this consultation will help to determine a Preferred Design for the new park. The design team will be progressing with Option B to the detailed design phase, and the preferred option will be shared on the project webpage in spring/summer 2022.

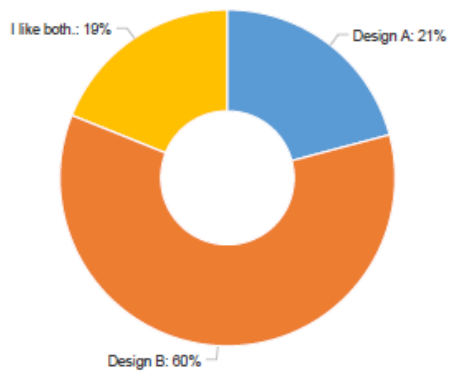
To stay up to date on this project, please visit the project webpage at toronto.ca/JackesAvenuePark and sign up for e-updates.

Appendix A: Quantitative Response Summary



Section 1: Design Options and Features

Overall, which design option do you prefer?



N 206

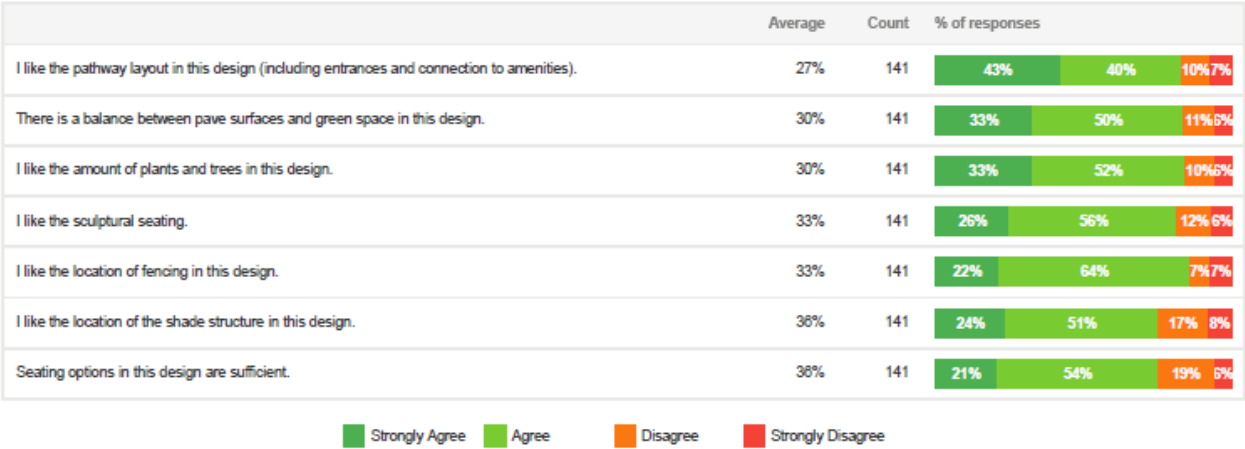
Option A

| | Average | Count | % of responses | | | |
|---|---------|-------|----------------|-----|-----|-----|
| I like the location of the shade structure in this design. | 38% | 140 | 18% | 59% | 14% | 9% |
| I like the amount of plants and trees in this design. | 39% | 140 | 14% | 63% | 17% | 6% |
| I like the location of fencing in this design. | 41% | 140 | 10% | 67% | 14% | 9% |
| There is a balance between pave surfaces and green space in this design. | 42% | 140 | 9% | 64% | 19% | 8% |
| Seating options in this design are sufficient. | 42% | 140 | 13% | 54% | 26% | 7% |
| I like the sculptural seating. | 45% | 140 | 14% | 49% | 26% | 11% |
| I like the pathway layout in this design (including entrances and connection to amenities). | 46% | 140 | 11% | 49% | 29% | 11% |

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

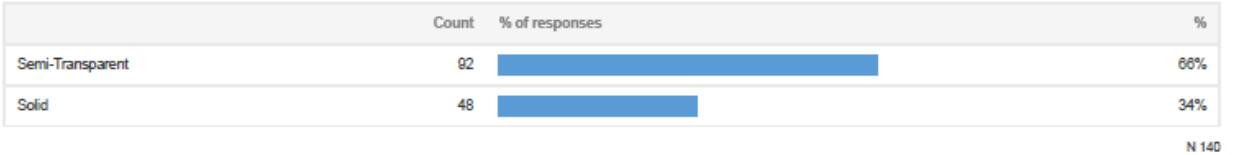
N 140

Option B



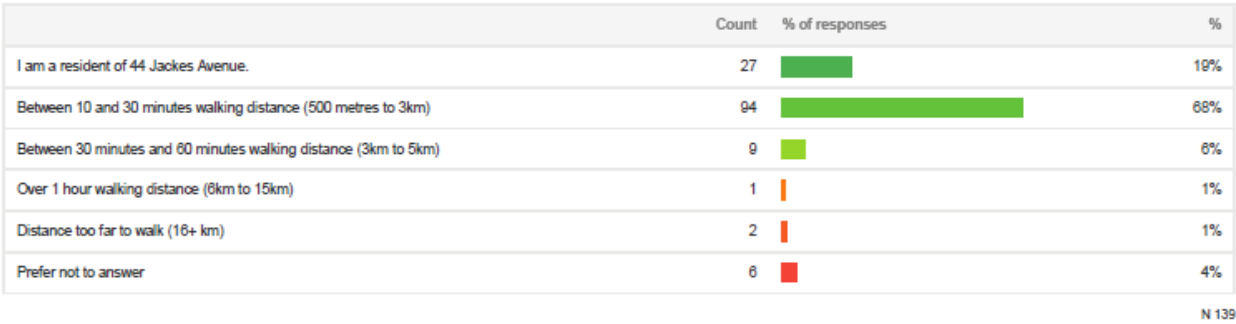
N 141

The design team is considering two types of shade structures for Design Option A. Which shade structure type do you prefer?Click on the images below to expand.



Section 2: Demographics

How far do you live from the new park at 44 Jackes Avenue?



What is the age of the person filling out this survey?

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|-----------------------|-------|----------------|-----|
| 0 to 4 years old | 0 | | |
| 5 to 12 years old | 0 | | |
| 13 to 18 years old | 0 | | |
| 19 to 29 years old | 8 | <div></div> | 6% |
| 30 to 39 years old | 28 | <div></div> | 20% |
| 40 to 55 years old | 36 | <div></div> | 26% |
| 56 to 64 years old | 28 | <div></div> | 20% |
| 65 to 74 years old | 25 | <div></div> | 18% |
| 75 years old or above | 9 | <div></div> | 6% |
| Prefer not to answer | 5 | <div></div> | 4% |

N 139

Gender identity is the gender that people identify with or how they perceive themselves, which may be different from their birth-assigned sex.What best describes the gender for the person filling out this survey?

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|--|-------|----------------|-----|
| Woman | 95 | <div></div> | 68% |
| Man | 32 | <div></div> | 23% |
| Prefer not to answer | 10 | <div></div> | 7% |
| Not listed, please describe | 3 | <div></div> | 2% |
| Trans woman | 1 | <div></div> | 1% |
| Gender non-binary (including gender fluid, genderqueer, androgynous) | 1 | <div></div> | 1% |
| Trans man | 0 | | |
| Two-Spirit | 0 | | |

N 139

Sexual orientation describes a person's emotional, physical, romantic, and/or sexual attraction to other people.What best describes the sexual orientation of the person filling out this survey?

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|-----------------------------|-------|----------------|-----|
| Heterosexual or straight | 99 | <div></div> | 71% |
| Prefer not to answer | 21 | <div></div> | 15% |
| Gay | 11 | <div></div> | 8% |
| Bisexual | 4 | <div></div> | 3% |
| Queer | 2 | <div></div> | 1% |
| Don't know | 2 | <div></div> | 1% |
| Not listed, please describe | 1 | <div></div> | 1% |
| Lesbian | 0 | | |
| Two-Spirit | 0 | | |

N 139

People often describe themselves by their race or racial background. For example, some people consider themselves "Black", "White" or "East Asian". Which race category best describes the person filling out this survey? Select all that apply.

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|--|-------|----------------|-----|
| White (e.g. English, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Slovakian) | 103 | <div></div> | 74% |
| Prefer not to answer | 13 | <div></div> | 9% |
| Other, please describe | 7 | <div></div> | 5% |
| Latin American (e.g. Brazilian, Colombian, Cuban, Mexican, Peruvian) | 5 | <div></div> | 4% |
| More than one race category or mixed race | 4 | <div></div> | 3% |
| South Asian or Indo-Caribbean (e.g. Indian, Indo- Guyanese, Indo-Trinidadian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan) | 3 | <div></div> | 2% |
| Southeast Asian (e.g. Filipino, Malaysian, Singaporean, Thai, Vietnamese) | 3 | <div></div> | 2% |
| Black (e.g. African, African-Canadian, Afro-Caribbean) | 2 | <div></div> | 1% |
| First Nations (status, non-status, treaty or non-treaty), Inuit or Métis | 2 | <div></div> | 1% |
| Arab, Middle Eastern or West Asian (e.g. Afghan, Armenian, Iranian, Lebanese, Persian, Turkish) | 1 | <div></div> | 1% |
| East Asian (e.g. Chinese, Japanese, Korean) | 1 | <div></div> | 1% |

What language do you prefer speaking?



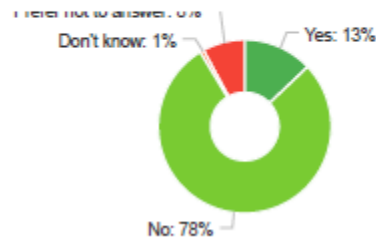
N 139

Indigenous people from Canada identify as First Nations (status, non-status, treaty or non-treaty), Inuit, Métis, Aboriginal, Native or Indian. Does the person filling out this survey identify as Indigenous to Canada?



N 139

Disability is understood as any physical, mental, developmental, cognitive, learning, communication, sight, hearing or functional limitation that, in interaction with a barrier, hinders a person's full and equal participation in society. A disability can be permanent, temporary or episodic, and visible or invisible. Does the person filling out this survey identify as a person with a disability?



N 139

Excluding yourself, does anyone in your household identify as a person with a disability?







N 139

What best describes your current housing situation?

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|--|-------|----------------|-----|
| Home owner | 58 | <div></div> | 42% |
| Renting | 76 | <div></div> | 55% |
| Permanently living with parent(s) or other family member(s) | 1 | <div></div> | 1% |
| Temporarily staying with others (no fixed address) | 1 | <div></div> | 1% |
| Unhoused (staying outside, in a shelter, in a 24-hour respite) | 0 | | |
| Prefer not to answer | 2 | <div></div> | 1% |
| Not listed, please describe | 1 | <div></div> | 1% |









N 139

What best describes you and your household's access to outdoor space?

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|--|-------|---|-----|
| I have access to private outdoor space like a yard | 40 |  | 29% |
| I have access to semi-private/shared outdoor space | 45 |  | 32% |
| I only have access to public spaces like parks (I do not have access to private or semi-private outdoor space) | 50 |  | 36% |
| Prefer not to answer | 4 |  | 3% |

N 139

How did you find out about this survey? Select all that apply.

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|--|-------|--|-----|
| Social Media (e.g. Facebook, Instagram etc.) | 109 |  | 78% |
| Mailer to my home | 13 |  | 9% |
| Email from the project team | 7 |  | 5% |
| Word of mouth | 6 |  | 4% |
| Councillor's Office communications | 5 |  | 4% |
| The project webpage | 4 |  | 3% |
| Park sign | 4 |  | 3% |
| I don't know/Prefer not to answer | 3 |  | 2% |

N 139

Appendix B: Text Responses

- I really like Option B with the curvilinear theme and approach.
- Design option B doesn't appear to have a 'fence' marked on the drawing, so I responded 'disagree' to the fence question as I wasn't sure what to agree to. Thanks!
- It's a shame such beautiful trees were needlessly chopped just to the north. This seems like small compensational green space for the concrete monstrosity being built metres away.
- David Balfour park needs to open before we rush into more "structures" for a parkette.
- There is a reservoir and large grass area down the street. This is silly to have this as well. You'll get teenagers, seniors, [REDACTED] and neighbors - strange mid-city melange
- There needs to be some open space! So the neighbourhood has somewhere to gather in unregulated, less designed public space!! Please let people have some space to determine their own uses! This is highly valuable public green space in an increasingly dense urban environment.
- Please make the park accessible for skateboarding
- The original design was much better. The dead end design of the path means you can't pass through on the way to the main park at the reservoir. The existing connections between the building circulation routes are disruptive. Why are there fences on the east and west - especially the west side. Why block the view between the sites. Overall the

design is overly complex, lacks integration with the street, the buildings and the reservoir. Why didn't the city negotiate for a strip of the land over the subway to create a pathway connecting the neighbourhood.

- No dogs! The urban parks in Yorkville are disgusting with all the dog urine and feces. I chose design A because it mentioned signage to deter off leash dogs. Even better if you can do more than just signage, and if you can deter ALL dogs!
- We need an off leash dog area!
- As an occupational therapist I do think of the accessibility of all and I wonder if there is enough seating in option B. I assume it will all be the same level for those with canes and other mobility aids and issues. It looks like the shade structure may be bigger in option A?? Maybe not - the largest/most coverage in relation to afternoon sun would be best. I love the 'loop' path of option B vs a straight there and back of A - makes it more likely that people will enjoy strolling along the whole path. Are dogs allowed in the park/on the path? If so, it may need some non-raised planter areas for dogs to go the washroom so they don't go on the paved walking path. You have great drawings/ideas for the park and terrific that you are asking for public opinion!
- Thanks for the opportunity to see the designs. Providing this park has ample seating and a good flow in and out it will be a welcome addition to our neighbourhood.
- THIS IS JUST THE FRONT OF AN APARTMENT BUILDING AND IS BEING USED AS A PLOY TO WIN PEOPLE OVER BUT IN REALITY IT IS REALLY JUST A WAY OF TRYING TO [REDACTED] ABOUT ANOTHER HIGH RISE WITH OVERLY EXPENSIVE APARTMENTS TO BE BUILT IN AN ALREADY CROWDED AREA.
- More naturalized
- I strongly believe that the sodded area should be built up, so that it resembles a raised bed. That will discourage dogs (and owners) from using the sodded area as a latrine. I also strongly believe the park should have clearly expressed and well placed signs saying "No Dogs Off Leash" and 'No Smoking in the Park.' Thank you.
- I am not a fan of hostile design (the arms in the middle of a bench), and will be very disappointed if it is used in the final design.
- Eliminate arm rests on benches to allow for more seating options. There are many dogs in this neighbourhood. Please provide poop disposal bin (in addition to garbage and recycling bins) with space for clean bags. Dogs will pee and poop on the grass (as they do now). If the grass is watered frequently it might have a chance at survival. Otherwise, consider using a natural mulch instead of grass (e.g., pine needles, wood chips).
- Ensure seating does not attract skateboards or bicycles
- I love the organic shapes in design B. It feels more meditative and warm.
- Both options seem conservative.
- One more shade surface in curvilinear park design B
- I would like the shade structures roof be solid at seating area to provide more shelter to rain and snow it could be latticed at the furthest edge.
- Seems to be a dead end in first one
- Our area needs a fenced in dog park!
- Like the curvy flow of option b
- Hopefully materials used are low maintenance and environmentally friendly. Also, in case of vandalism/graffiti they are easy to clean
- Both options are ok though a much larger park extending west & into the parking lot area would have been way better. Please consider rain & choose paving that absorbs it, Also

– as you know - this area will mostly be used by dogs and their owners. This design must allow space for dogs to play and pee. It must provide for it actively! This will eventually turn into a dog park for local residents so include many waste disposal units.

- Please keep or plant as much greenery, especially trees as can be well-maintained.
- Dog area. And please finish Balfour Park ASAP!!!
- More seating and less pavement. More green
- Paramount to make it dog friendly- many dog owners in the street. Big social activity for all residents on the street
- There might be issues with the parking exits being close to the edge of the path which would cause people to cut through the greens.
- Both designs are very beautiful. My concern is always with maintenance after the fact. It's one thing to create raised garden beds and fill them with hardy shrubs but if no one waters them and cares for them all of this work will have disappointing result.
- I like that it's recessed (not right on the path) and the solidness provides a sense of privacy
- This is a colossal waste of time and money with the redesigned reservoir feet away.
- Glad there is no dog park for resident's sanity.
- Curved path design more interesting; suggest 2 sculptural seats with curved bench north west corner. And narrow footpath from SW corner to sidewalk as people will walk over grass there anyway. Place other central bench opposite present site without canopy (S side of path, less need for shade with present tree., and curving in rather than outward.) Paths aren't more than 6'wide, right? Put canopy with bench under, NE inner curve. Put shade structure NE corner with seat. One design has lights, but are they necessary?
- I like the unit paving in option a but the organic nature of the design in option b. I think the more permeable paving and planting/ green space the better. Toronto needs to start doing a better job at reducing the impact of climate change and the parks are a good way to do this. Micro forests and micro ecologist are a great thing to introduce into our public space.
- Thanks for your hard work
- Don't like either of design option, nor the idea of any tiny park located right next door to one of Toronto's largest parks, David Balfour Park. This is just another developer-funded 'neighbourhood improvement' fiddle to win approval from compliant City officials. It is the answer to a question no one in the immediate neighbourhood asked.
- Small tables for sitting and having a conversation. Seating is all bench, which does not work for meeting with people.
- Please don't have grass. This neighborhood is terrible for letting dogs of leash and not picking up waste, your designs will be ruined quickly. There is the reservoir park for grass and dogs. Please make this something separate that can be enjoyed with accessibility in mind. If there are off leash dogs, people won't use the space then it's pointless
- Less paving more sod please or at least something semi permeable.
- Attention should be given to access to the park for the disabled, and seniors who live on the west side of Yonge. I have a daughter who is blind who would love to use this park but she lives on the west side of Yonge St. Will there be provided an accessible crossing of Yonge St nearby? Currently there is a crossing at Rosehill only and then she would need to cross both Yonge (west/east) and Rosehill (north/south) as well. Would be good to have an accessible crossing at Farnham and Yonge.

- I feel the shade structure in design 1 is asking for graffiti! It feels like a wall in a time when we are trying to tear down walls. The second option has lovely movement to it, in the words of Frank Gehry, movement is emotion. The second design is more interesting and flowing and softer. With all the hard lines in the city, it's nice to see some softness.
- Should go with the option with the lower maintenance as they are pretty similar
- I am so pleased that the City and Josh Matlow understood the absolute need by residents who face the park at 44 Jackes for the minimum amount of ongoing daily noise and daily disruption: 'reflective and meditative' captures that + only seating combined for not more than 4 persons. All sound travels up the echo chamber of the south facing units at 44 Jackes (of which there are 90+ units).
- I'm wondering if the shade structure actually needs to provide shade in option B, based on the large canopy trees south of the site. What about making it a trellis structure to support wisteria or other flowering vines instead? I also don't see garbage bins or bike rings in or near this park. Those features are always useful.
- Some images show the benches having additional arms in the middle or inconveniently spaced arms to prevent people from lying down. I strongly oppose this feature. It's hostile and discriminatory towards anyone who needs a place to lie down, in particular people experiencing homelessness. Parks should be for everyone, and I don't want parks in my neighbourhood to be designed to exclude vulnerable and disadvantaged people.
- In addition to woody shrub plantings, native flowering plants should be included to support pollinators and Toronto's commitment to being a "bee city". Potential to include a Monarch Waystation and have the park certified as such.
- I'd like to see an entrance/exit on the southwest corner for accessibility.
- Hard to fully weigh in on what is needed when David Balfour Park is still incomplete.