

New Park at 25 Holmes Avenue

Proposed Design Survey Summary Report



June 2021

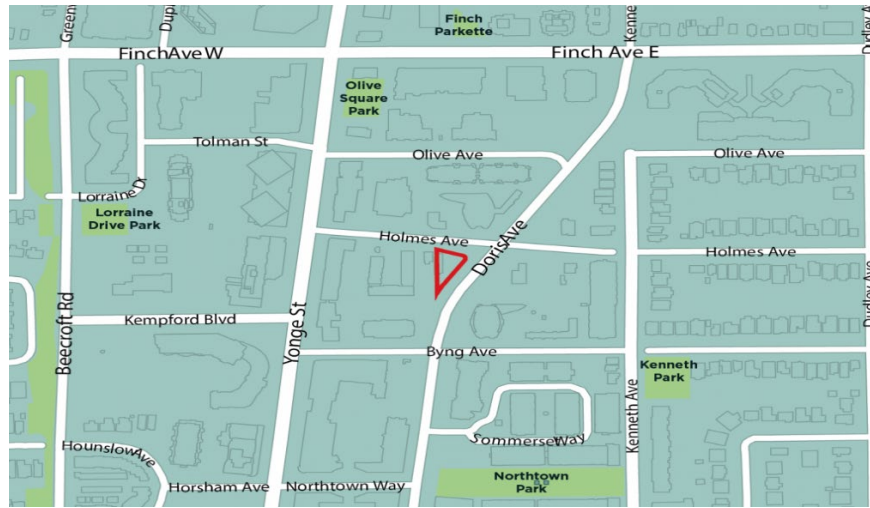
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Project Background



As part of the residential development at 25 Holmes Avenue, the City of Toronto is proceeding with plans to design a new 1000 m² park on Holmes Avenue, in the Willowdale neighbourhood. The site is located at the southwest corner of Holmes and Doris Avenue. The City is working with the developer on the design and construction of the new park, which will include:

- A children's playground with active and passive play zones
- New plantings
- Shade structure
- Seating and gathering spaces

The goal of this project is to develop a new site-appropriate park that meets the needs of the community and key stakeholders. The project is in the concept design phase, which will be developed through consultation with key stakeholders and the wider community.

The City of Toronto is coordinating this project, and the developer (Capital Developments) is funding the project and leading the construction and delivery of the new park. The design of the park will be led by Studio TLA.

How We Reached People

The online survey was promoted through the following channels:

- A community mail out to residents living near the new park site
- An eFlyer that was circulated to future residents of the nearby residential development
- Signage near the site
- Promotions through the local Councillor's Office
- Project webpage: www.toronto.ca/25HolmesPark

Online Survey

In November 2020, the City conducted an online survey to obtain feedback from community members to inform the design development of the new park. Survey participants were given the opportunity to review the proposed park layout, choose their preferred playground equipment and provide general feedback about the proposed concept design.

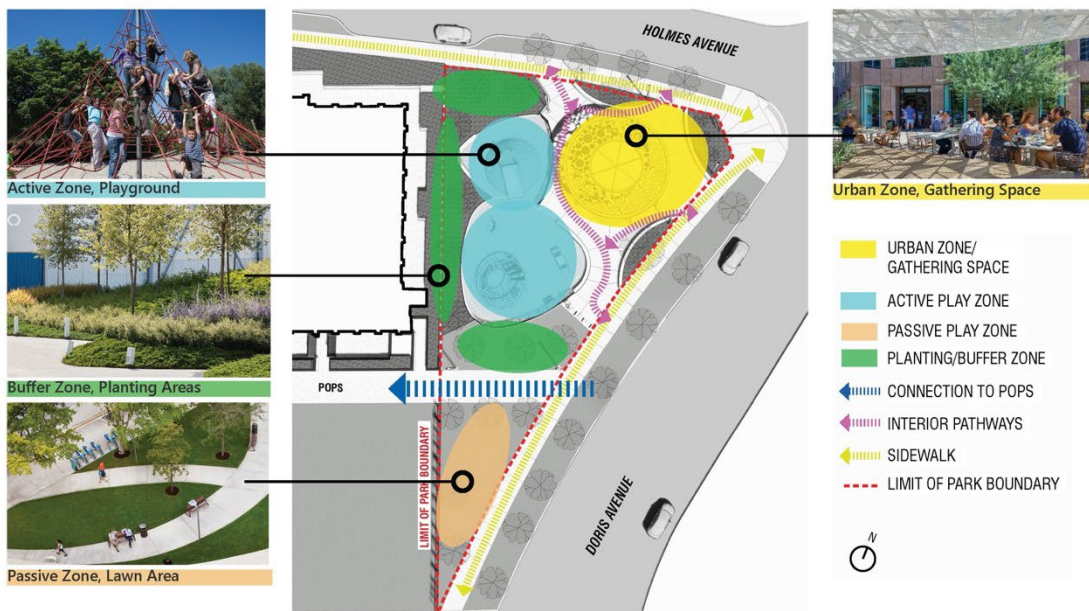
The survey was divided into four sections:

- Playground Equipment Options (2 questions)
- Equipment Colour Options (1 question)
- General Comments (1 question)
- Participant Demographics (7 questions)

The survey was available to complete online from November 22 to December 11, 2020. The survey received a total of **41 survey responses**, which included input from **92 individuals**.

Feedback collected will help inform the final park concept and play elements, which will be shared on the project webpage.

Proposed Design



The new park improvements illustrated above include:

- Active play zone (playground)
- Passive play zone (Lawn area)
- Planting/buffer zone
- Urban zone (gathering area)

On Survey Respondents

- The survey received a total of **41 survey responses**, which included input from **92 individuals**.
- The majority of survey respondents were in the **31-64, 19-30, and 5 to 12 years old age categories**.
- **The majority of survey respondents found out about the survey from:**
 - Mailer to their home (25%)
 - Other (e.g. email from the condo sales office or condo builder) [25%]
 - From attending the public meeting on November 23, 2020 (15%)
 - Word of mouth (13%)
 - Communications from the Councillor's Office (10%)
 - Checking the project webpage (10%)
 - Park signage near site (10%)
- **The majority of respondents identified as homeowners (80%)**
 - 18% of respondents identified as renters.
 - 5% of respondents identified as neither owner nor renter.

Feedback on Playground Equipment

- **The majority of survey respondents preferred Playground Option #2.**
 - 58% of survey respondents preferred Playground Option #2.
 - 35% of respondents preferred Playground Option #1.
 - 8% of respondents chose the option any of the above.
- **The majority of survey respondents preferred bright and vibrant colours.**
 - 63% of survey respondents preferred bright and vibrant colours such as blue, teal and yellow.
 - 23% of respondents preferred playful colours such as purple, yellow and blue.
 - 13% of respondents preferred natural colours such as green, brown and grey.
 - 3% of survey respondents chose the option any of the above.
- **Comments and suggestions on Playground Option 1 included:**
 - Suggestion to make the playground option more adult-friendly (1 respondent)
 - Suggestion to change the color of the rubber surface from blue to green (1 respondent)
- **Comments and suggestions on Playground Option 2 included:**
 - Like the musical panel and seesaw features (1 respondent)
 - Adding ziplines facility with seating (1 respondent)
 - Adding more swings (1 respondent)
 - Adding larger swings (1 respondent)
 - Adding exercise playground equipment (1 respondent)
 - Adding a swing set (1 respondent)
 - Adding space net (1 respondent)

Detailed Feedback

- **When asked if respondents had any other comments about the proposed concept plan for the park, 14 respondents provided thoughts.**

Top comments and suggestions included (number of respondents sharing this sentiment included in parentheses):

- Like the plan as-is (2 respondents)
- Adding a drinking water fountain (2 respondents)
- Adding space for eating (1 respondent)
- Adding pull up bars for adults (1 respondent)
- Adding water fountain for dogs (1 respondent)
- Adding a small vegetable plot (1 respondent)
- Adding seating (1 respondent)
- Adding benches (1 respondent)
- Adding natural grass for seating (1 respondent)
- Adding trees for shade (1 respondent)
- Adding splash pad (1 respondent)
- Adding activity equipment for adults (1 respondent)
- Adding greenery and flowers (1 respondent)
- Adding green canopy (1 respondent)
- Adding more trees (1 respondent)
- Adding adult areas in the park to ensure that the park is not only created for children (1 respondent)
- Safety concerns due to high car traffic in the area (2 respondents)
- Ensuring that the shade area in the design acts as a sun dial (1 respondent)

Appendix A: Quantitative Response Summary

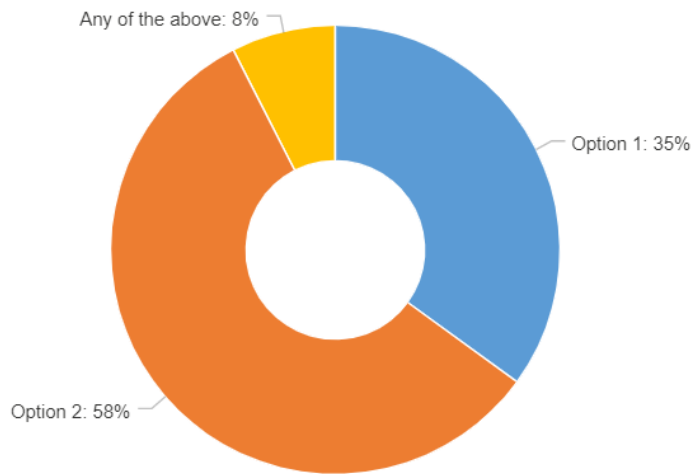
Respondents



Response timeline

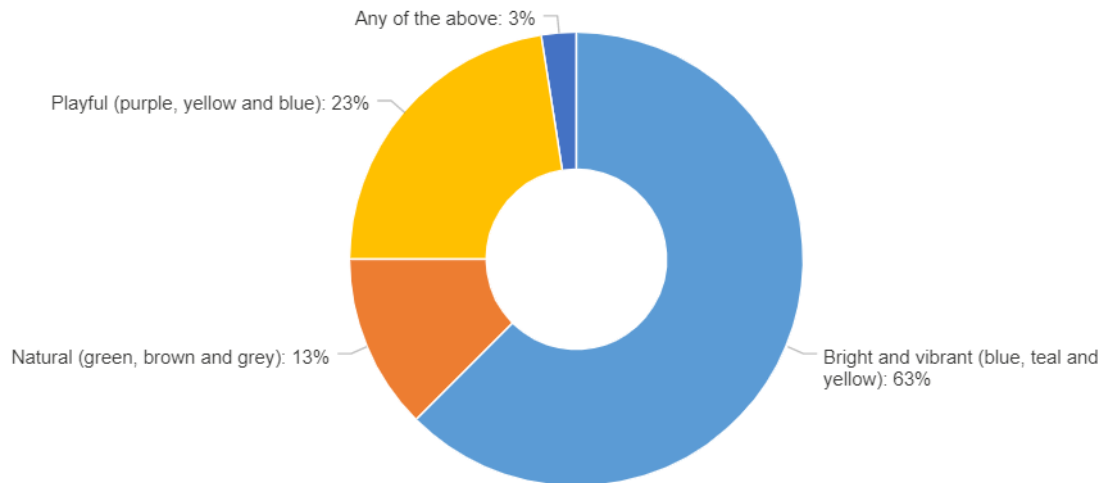


Which of the two playground options shown do you prefer?



N 40

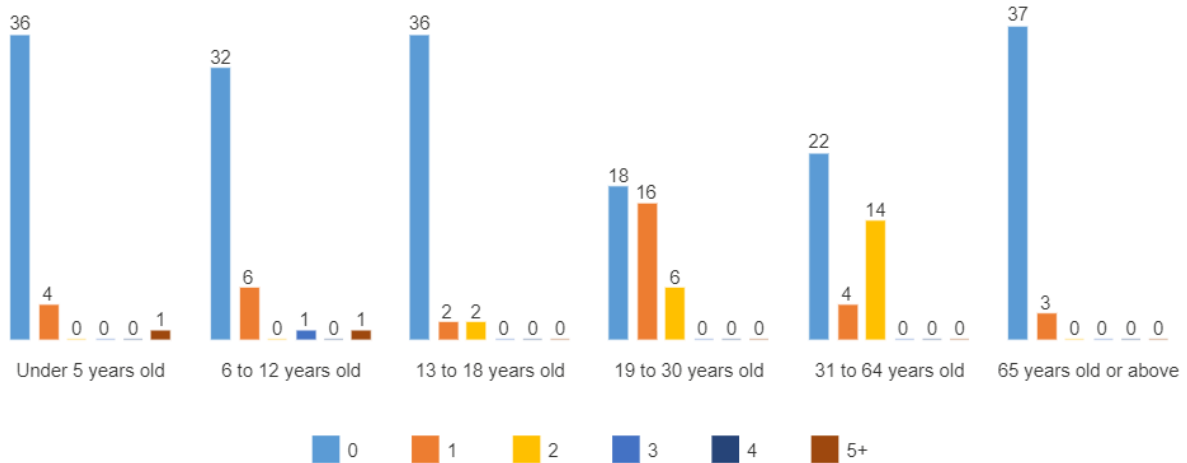
In general, what type of colours would you like to see in the park?



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Demographics

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



N 40

Total responses per age group include:

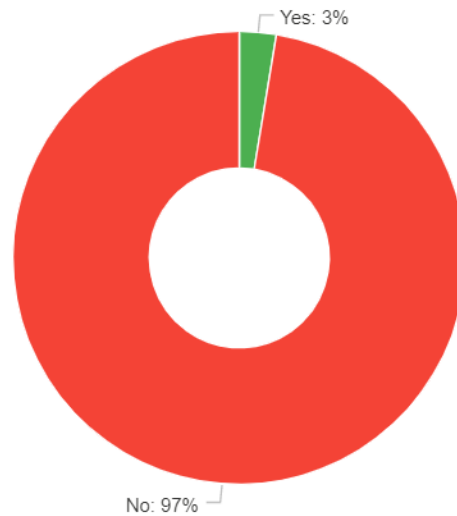
- 9 kids under 5
- 14 kids between the ages of 5 and 12
- 6 teens between the ages of 13 and 18
- 28 young adults between the ages of 19 and 30
- 32 adults between the ages of 31 and 64
- 3 seniors aged 65 and above

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

	Count	% of responses	%
East Asian (Chinese, Korean, Japanese)	26	<div style="width: 65%;"></div>	65%
Latino (Latin American, Hispanic descent)	1	<div style="width: 3%;"></div>	3%
Middle Eastern (Arab, Persian, West Asian descent, e.g. Afghan, Egyptian, Iranian, Lebanese, Turkish, Kurdish, etc.)	1	<div style="width: 3%;"></div>	3%
South Asian or Indo-Caribbean (e.g. Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, Tamil, Indo-Guyanese, Indo-Trinidadian, etc.)	4	<div style="width: 10%;"></div>	10%
Southeast Asian (Taiwanese descent; Filipino, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Thai, Indonesian)	1	<div style="width: 3%;"></div>	3%
White (European descent)	8	<div style="width: 20%;"></div>	20%
I don't know/Prefer not to answer	1	<div style="width: 3%;"></div>	3%
	42		

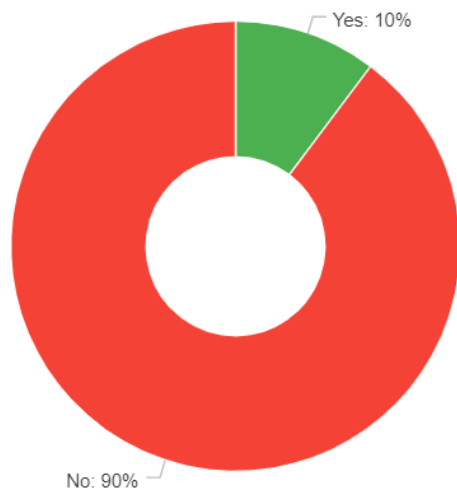
N 40

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



N 38

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?



N 39

Do survey participants rent or own their home?

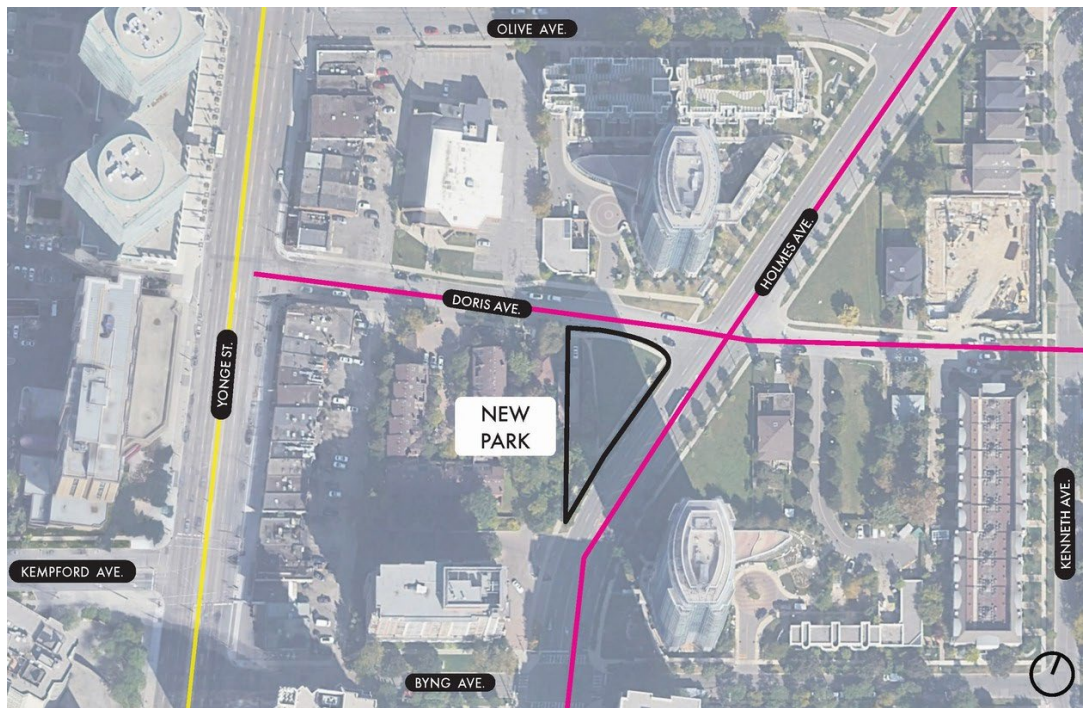
	Count	% of responses	%
Owner	32	<div style="width: 80%;"></div>	80%
Renter	7	<div style="width: 18%;"></div>	18%
Neither owner nor renter	2	<div style="width: 5%;"></div>	5%
	41		

N 40

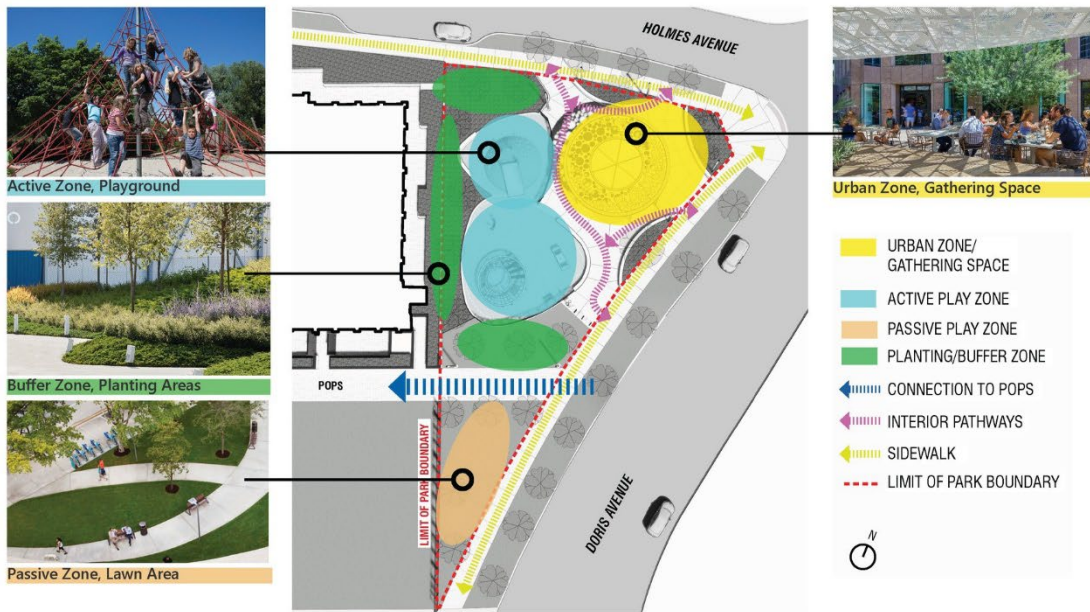
Appendix B: Park Layout and Playground Equipment Options

Park Layout

The new 1000 m² park is located at the southwest corner of Holmes and Doris Avenue.



The image below is of the proposed layout for the new park.



FUNCTIONAL ZONE DIAGRAM

The new park improvements illustrated above include:

- Active play zone
- Passive play zone
- Planting/buffer zone
- Urban zone/gathering space

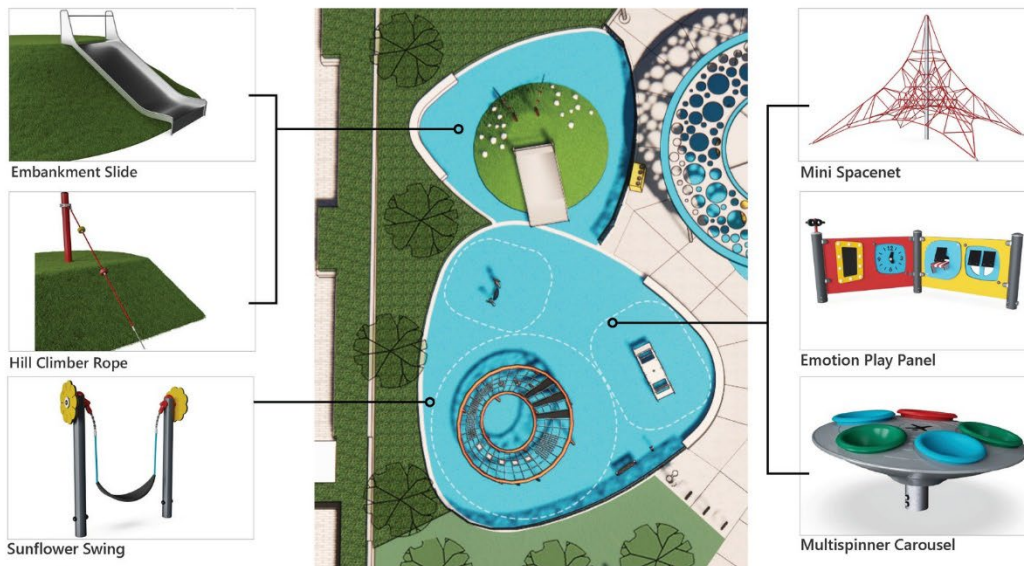
Playground Equipment Options

There are two play equipment options for the future playground at 25 Holmes Avenue. Due to the size constraints of the playground area, the specific type of play elements available were limited. Between the two options, variations have been provided for the net climber and play panels. The key difference between Option 1 and 2 is the multispinner carousel proposed in Option 1 vs the seesaw proposed in Option 2.

The playground will sit on top of a rubber surface. This surface provides universal access to the playground for kids of all abilities to wander around the playground area and engage with the accessible play panels.

Option 1

Play Equipment Option 1



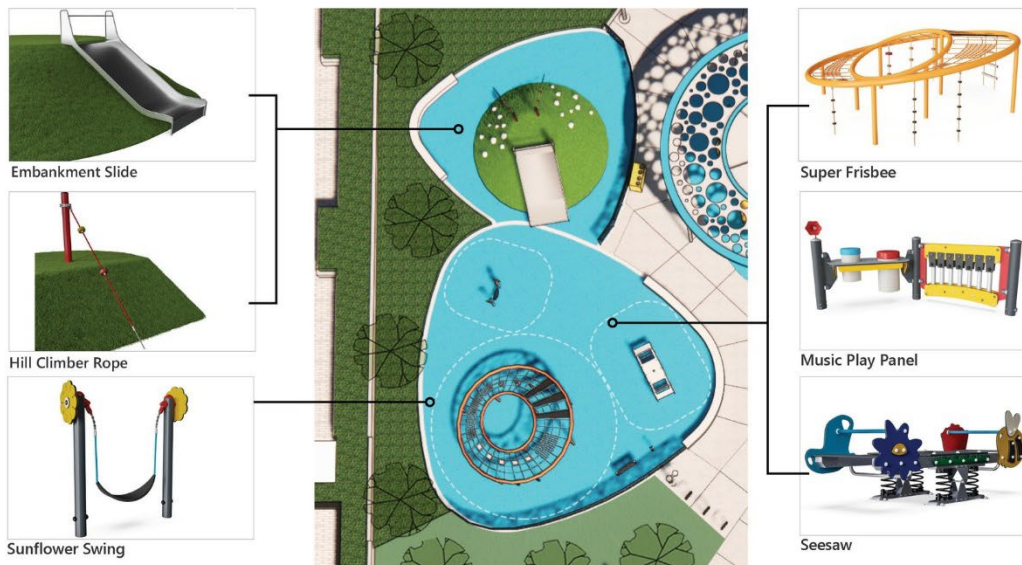
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Option 1 includes the following features:

- 1 net climber - mini spacenet (ages 2-5)
- 1 junior slide (ages 2-12)
- 1 junior hill climber (ages 2-12)
- 2 swing elements (ages 1+)
- 1 multispinner carousel (ages 5-12)
- Accessible play panels - emotion (ages 1+)

Option 2

Play Equipment Option 2



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Option 2 includes the following features:

- 1 net climber - super frisbee (ages 5+)
- 1 junior slide (ages 2-12)
- 1 junior hill climber (ages 2-12)
- 1 junior swing (ages 1+)
- 1 seesaw (ages 3+)
- Accessible play panels - music (ages 1+)

Appendix C: Text Responses

Do you have any comments or suggestions on the proposed playground coming to 25 Holmes Avenue?

- My daughter, 8 years old, suggested installing a facility like a pair of ziplines with seats attached on the pole. People can sit on the seats and being pushed by others sliding across the zipline routes. The ziplines could be swirly, strait or any other designed shape.
- Instead of musical play put emotion in option 2
- More swings would be nice
- can you make them friendly for adults too? :)
- Need larger swing
- I would like to see exercise playground equipment similar to the park at Edith vale community centre.
- Does the rubber surfacing have to be blue? Could it be another colour (maybe green)? This is not a large point...
- The park should incorporate a swing set as opposed to a single swing. Children like chat and swing with their friends.
- love the music panel & seesaw, would love to have the space net as well :)
- No comments.

Do you have any other comments about the proposed plan for the park, including the proposed Urban Zone/Gathering Area?

- areas for sitting. Benches, natural grass...trees for shade...park shouldn't be all about children
- No further comment. it is great to have a park close to this new condominium building.
- My daughter also says that she loves splash pads. She hopes that she may play with the water sprays and ponds.
- Some activity equipment/facility for adults would be nice.
- Reasonably good
- some greenery/flowers as decor would be nice
- The ratio of concrete and steel to the greens should be better balanced. I would like a city with greener canopy than what it is now. We have a concrete and steel jungle as a city now. More trees and shrubs is what I vote for.
- No
- Please consider that cars on Doris can be travelling at high speeds and that families will want to feel safe in the park space.
- space for eating
- This is a high foot traffic area for commuters walking home in this area. Also the playground seems to be very close to a very busy roadway on a bend.
- Would be great to have pull up bars, etc. similar to Edithvale park for adults to come out and enjoy the space as well
- The shade area could act as a sun dial!
- For a colour palette I would like to see it blend with foliage and seasonal flowers. Is there any possibility of integrating a small urban vegetable plot?

- We would love if the park could include a drinking water fountain, with a fountain at the bottom for dogs.
- would love to have a water fountain