

City of Toronto – Parks, Forestry & Recreation

New Park at 134 Portland Street

Phase 1: Proposed Design

Survey Summary Report

March 2022

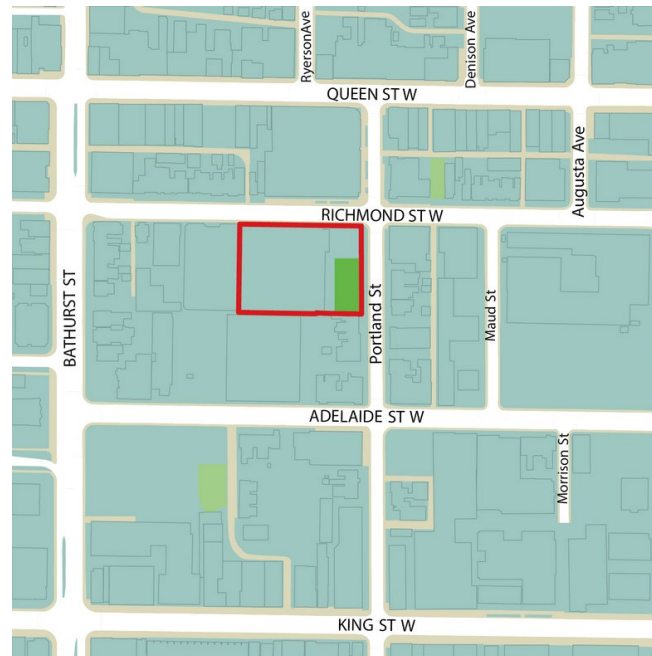
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Project Background



A new park is coming to Portland Street!

To coincide with the build out of the new residential development at 543 Richmond Street, a new 550 m² park will be created on Portland Street. This new park will be located to the south of the corner of Richmond Street West and Portland Street, and is expected to be completed and open to the public in 2024. The design of the park will evolve through consultation with stakeholders, area residents, and the general public to achieve design excellence and meet the current and future needs of the community.

The City of Toronto is coordinating this project, and the developer is funding the project. The design of the park is being led by Nak Design Group and will be overseen by the City of Toronto.

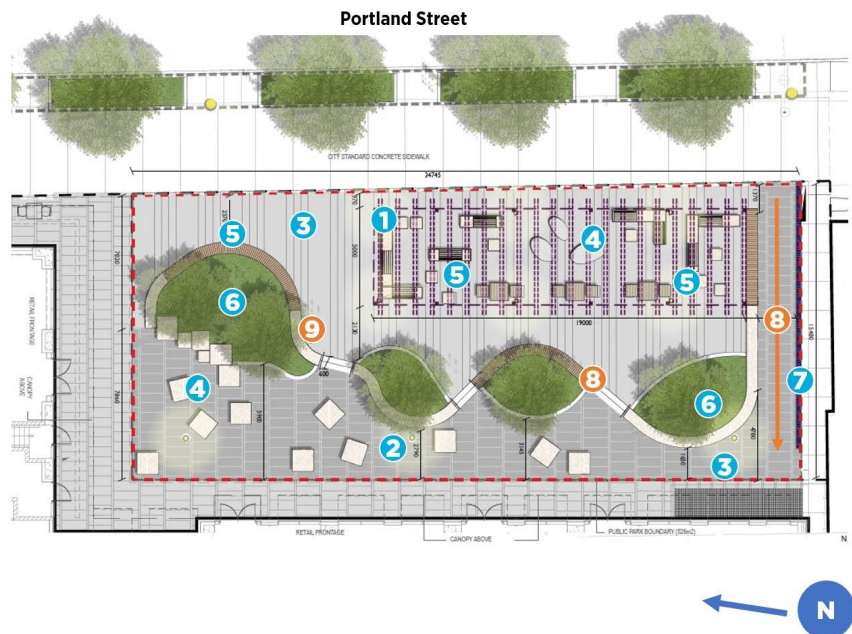
The project is in the early design phase, and will be further developed based on the results the survey results from the first round of consultation, which focused on receiving feedback on the proposed design and shade structure options.

Proposed Design

A concept design is an early phase of the design process, which broadly outlines the proposed amenities, design features, and layout of a space. For this round of consultation, City staff were looking for feedback on one Proposed Design for the new park, shown below:

New Park at 134 Portland Street Concept Design

- 1 **Large shade structure with seating underneath and lighting for ambiance**
- 2 **Park Lighting**
Light poles and recessed LED strip lighting along the bottom of the curved seat walls
- 3 **Park Paving**
Textured paving to divide various zones
- 4 **Informal Seating Opportunities**
Granite cube seating and pebble seating
- 5 **Formal Seating Opportunities**
Seat walls, benches and/or café-style tables
- 6 **New planting areas, including canopy trees in planting beds**
- 7 **Metal privacy screen at the park's southern boundary**
- 8 **Stair access and ramp access to retail units (Accessibility features)**
- 9 **Water bottle filling station and drinking fountain (Accessibility features)**



The proposed design includes:

- A large shade structure with seating underneath
- Informal seating opportunities, including granite cube seating and pebble seating
- Formal seating opportunities including seat walls, benches and/or café-style tables
- Various park lighting fixtures, including light poles and recessed LED strip lighting along the bottom of the curved seat walls
- New planting areas, including canopy trees in planting beds
- A metal privacy screen at the park's southern boundary
- A water bottle filling station and drinking fountain
- Stair access and ramp access to retail units that are proposed as part of the development of 543 Richmond St. W.

Project Timeline

The anticipated schedule for this park project 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
- Winter 2023: Tendering and award of contract
- Spring to Summer 2023: Construction

How We Reached People

Due to COVID-19 and following the recommendations of Toronto Public Health, community engagement was conducted digitally (online surveys, email) and on the phone to ensure appropriate physical distancing requirements were met. In general, the community was informed of engagement activities through social and print media, listed below:

Print Media

Signage near the site

Project information was displayed on 36x48 notice boards placed near the new park site. These notice boards provided information about the project, details about the online survey, and how to access additional information on the project webpage.

Community Mail Outs (Postcards)

3,205 postcards advertising the project webpage, online survey were delivered to addresses in the neighbourhood within 500m of the site.

Digital Media

eFlyer

A digital flyer was circulated 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 virtual community meeting and online survey through paid advertisements and organic posts from December 3 to January 3, 2021.

Project Webpage

A webpage (toronto.ca/134PortlandPark) 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 a sign-up button for e-updates.

Online Survey

In early December 2021, the project team launched an online survey to obtain further input on the proposed design for the new park that had been informed by previous stakeholder feedback. Responses to the survey will help to generate ideas, and confirm priorities for a Preferred Design of the park.

The survey had three components:

- Park Vision – helping us to know what your vision for the new park is

- Proposed Design – providing specific feedback on the proposed design, layout, amenities, shade structure options, and letting us know what may have been missing in the design
- Participant Demographics and Follow Up (Optional) – 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 online survey was posted from December 3, 2021 to January 3, 2022. The survey received a **total of 267 responses**, which included input from 401 participants of various ages.

This section presents the survey results and a summary of the common themes of comments. A full look at the survey results can be found in Appendix A.

On Survey Respondents

- The survey received a total of **267 survey responses**, which included input from **325 individuals**.
 - The majority of survey participants were in the 30 to 39 years old (35%), 19 to 29 years old (19%) and 40 to 55 years old (17%).
- **The majority of survey respondents found out about the survey from:**
 - Social media advertisements (67%)
 - A community postcard/mail out to their home (16%)
 - Other (5%) [included Urban Toronto webpage, and email from community group]
 - Word of mouth (4%)
 - Park sign (4%)
 - Email from project team (2%)
 - Project webpage (2%)
 - I don't know/Prefer not to answer (1%)
- **The majority of respondents only have access to public spaces like parks and do not have access to private or semi-private outdoor space (52%)**
 - 23% of respondents have access to private outdoor space like a yard.
 - 23% of respondents have access to semi-private/shared outdoor space.
 - 2% of respondents preferred not to answer.
- **Approximately half of survey respondents identified as homeowners (48%) and half as renters (48%).**
 - 3 respondents (1%) identified as permanently living with parent(s) or other family member(s).
 - 3 respondents (1%) identified as temporarily staying with others (no fixed address)
 - 6 respondents (3%) preferred not to answer.

- **10% of survey respondents identified as a person with a disability.**
 - 84% of respondents did not identify as a person with a disability.
 - 6% of respondents preferred not to answer.

Park Visioning

- **To get to the new park (respondents could select multiple options):**
 - 96% of respondents would walk
 - 35% would bike
 - 17% would use public transportation
 - 6% would use a mobility device and/or stroller
 - 5% would use a scooter and/or skateboard
 - 3% would use a personal vehicle
- **When visiting the park (respondents could select multiple options):**
 - The majority of respondents would visit with friends (66%), with their spouse or partner (66%) or alone (60%)
 - Less than a third of respondents' would visit with pets (26%) or with family (21%)
 - Some respondents would visit with children (13%)
 - 2% of respondents chose Other, which included visiting the park on a date, visiting with coworkers and/or colleagues
- **The most popular activities respondents would like to partake in at the park are:**
 - Relaxing in the seating areas (84%)
 - Enjoying a meal, coffee, drinks, etc. (80%)
 - Travelling through the park to get to nearby cafes, stores, restaurants (59%)
 - Enjoying and observing planting areas (57%)
 - Spending time with others (55%)
- **Less popular activities included:**
 - Spending time alone (49%)
 - Walking a pet (29%)
 - Other, please specify (5% or 13 responses)
 - Playing with children, exercising, admiring public art, tennis, playing live music
- **When asked to think about a park or public space where they feel safe, respondents identified the following as key features of those spaces (respondents could select multiple options):**
 - Lights that turn on at night (88%)
 - Good sight lines throughout the space (63%)
 - Accessible pathways (62%)

- Visibility from a main road, street and/or intersection (52%)
- There are people of all ages (51%)
- There is a water fountain (22%)
- Wayfinding signs for easy navigation (14%)
- A fence surrounding the area (10%)
- Other, please specify (10%)
 - Includes public washrooms, emergency alert stations, keeping the park clean, regular security/police presence, shelter from the rain,
- I don't know (8%)

Feedback on the Proposed Design

Balance between pavement and green space

- **The majority of survey respondents (82%) felt there was too much paved surface in the concept design.**
 - 17% of respondents felt there was the right balance between paved surface and green space.
 - 3% of respondents felt there was too much green space.

Amount of seating provided

- **The majority of survey respondents (69%) felt there was the right amount of seating provided in the concept design.**
 - 25% of respondents felt there was too much seating provided.
 - 7% of respondents felt there was not enough seating provided.

Amount of plants and trees

- **The majority of survey respondents (75%) felt there were not enough plants and trees in the concept design.**
 - 25% of respondents felt there was the right amount of plants and trees.

Other features

The survey provided respondents with a series of statements about the elements in the concept design, and asked if they Agree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, or Disagree.

“The lighting options in the concept design would make me feel safe.”

80% Agree

18% Neither Agree nor Disagree

2% Disagree

“The pathways as shown would allow me to easily move to the places I want to travel to.”

72% Agree

23% Neither Agree nor Disagree

5% Disagree

“I would visit this park to relax with family, friends, or by myself.”

71% Agree

19% Neither Agree nor Disagree

10% Disagree

- **When asked what features respondents liked most about the concept design, the top 5 responses were:**
 - New planting areas, including canopy trees and planting beds (62%)
 - Park lighting features, including LED strip lighting and light poles (59%)
 - Large shade structure with seating, tables and chairs underneath (52%)
 - Formal seating areas – tables and chairs, picnic tables and seat walls (45%)
 - Informal seating areas – granite cube seating and pebble seating (40%)

- **When asked about what features respondents disliked, the top 5 responses were:**
 - Amount and distribution of green space (42%)
 - Metal privacy screen at the park’s southern boundary (30%)
 - Informal seating areas – granite cube seating and pebble seating (23%)
 - I like all of the features shown (23%)
 - Large shade structure with seating, tables and chairs underneath (16%)

- **When asked how respondents felt about the proposed layout shown in the concept design, results were generally positive:**
 - 54% of respondents were very satisfied or satisfied.
 - 29% of respondents were neutral.
 - 17% of respondents were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

- **In general, the majority of respondents were somewhat satisfied with the concept design.**
 - 26% of respondents were satisfied.
 - 43% of respondents were somewhat satisfied.
 - 13% of respondents were neutral.
 - 17% of respondents were not satisfied.
 - 1% of respondents were unsure.

Additional comments on the park design

When asked if they had any additional comments or suggestions on the proposed concept design, 128 respondents (48%) provided additional feedback.

Top comments and suggestions included (the number of respondent comments sharing this sentiment is included in parentheses):

Who did we hear from?

A total of 267 people participated in the online survey from December 3rd, 2021 to January 3rd, 2022. Participants were asked to voluntarily provide demographic information. This helps the City better understand who participated, and whether particular groups in the community were missed in the engagement phase.

A snap shot of the survey participants follows:

Age

0 to 12 years old

23 individuals or 7%

13 to 18 years old

5 individuals or 1.5%

19 to 29 years old

72 individuals or 22%

30 to 39 years old

129 individuals or 40%

40 to 64 years old

74 individuals or 23%

65 + years old

7 individuals or 2%

Racial Background

White (e.g. English, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Slovakian) — 59%

East Asian (e.g. Chinese, Japanese, Korean) – 11

Prefer not to answer – 10%

More than one race category or mixed race – 7%

Jewish – 8%

Latin American (e.g. Brazilian, Colombian, Cuban, Mexican, Peruvian) – 6%

Arab, Middle Eastern or West Asian (e.g. Afghan, Armenian, Iranian, Lebanese, Persian, Turkish) – 6%

South Asian or Indo-Caribbean (e.g. Indian, Indo-Guyanese, Indo-Trinidadian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan) – 5%

Southeast Asian (e.g. Filipino, Malaysian, Singaporean, Thai, Vietnamese) – 3%

Other, please describe – 3%

Black (e.g. African, African-Canadian, Afro-Caribbean) – 2%

A full summary of the demographic information is included in Appendix A of this report.

Next Steps

The feedback received from the first round of consultation will inform the next step in the design process for the new park.

The City of Toronto will share a Preferred Design with community members in spring 2022. To be notified about upcoming consultations for the new park, please check the project webpage at toronto.ca/134PortlandPark and sign up for e-updates.

Appendix A: Quantitative Response Summary



Section 1: Vision and Park Use

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

	Count	% of responses	%
Walk	255		96%
Cycle	93		35%
Public transportation	46		17%
Mobility device and/or stroller	16		6%
Scooter and/or skateboard	14		5%
Personal vehicle	9		3%
Taxi and/or ride share	1		0%

N 267

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

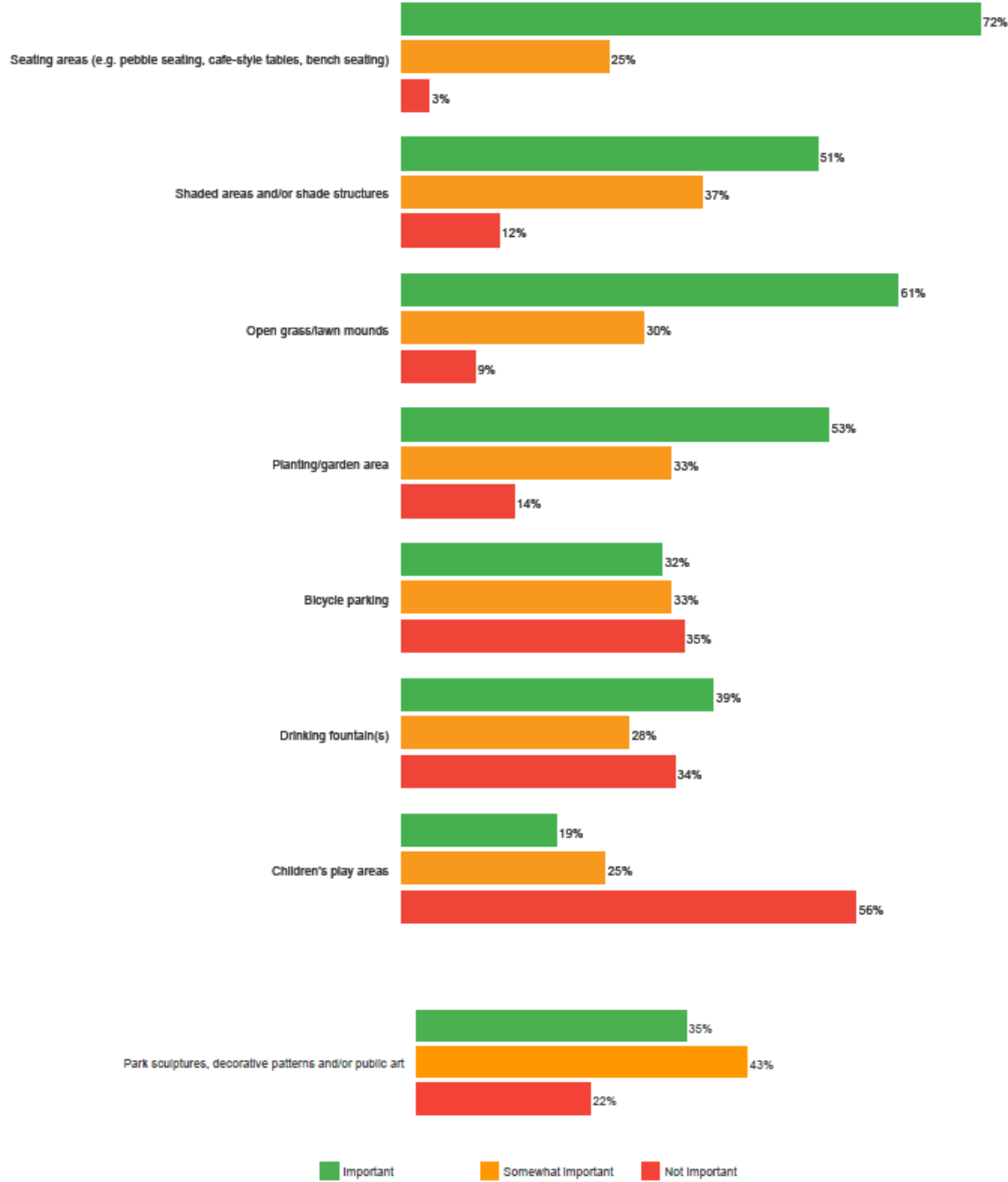
	Count	% of responses	%
Friends	177		66%
Spouse or partner	175		66%
Alone	161		60%
Pets	70		26%
Family	57		21%
Children	35		13%
Other, please specify	5		2%

N 267









Other responses:

- Date
- Co-workers (park is close to work)
- Colleagues
- Date
- Date

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



What activities would you like to partake in at the new park? Please select up to 5 that apply.











	Count	% of responses	%
Relaxing in the seating areas	225		84%
Enjoying a meal, coffee, drink, etc.	214		80%
Travelling through the park to get to nearby cafes, stores, restaurants	158		59%
Enjoy and observe plants/planting areas	152		57%
Spending time with others	147		55%
Spending time alone	131		49%
Walking a pet	75		28%
Other, please specify	13		5%

N 267

Other responses included:

- Please no tables. Only park benches with fenced off greenery like every NYC parkette
- Playing with my children on a play structure
- Playing with my young kid
- Hanging with kids and babies
- Playing sports and games with my kids
- walk round / light cardio exercise
- Working out
- Tennis
- Playing with my kids
- Enjoying the greenery, the trees, evergreen shrubs
- Enjoying plant life, perhaps a water feature like a fountain or small pond, to attract birds, etc.
- admiring the public art
- It would be nice to have an area where there could be live music like the music garden down by the lake in the summer. Bringing some more eclectic culture into the city

Take a moment to think about a park or public space where you feel safe. What features does that space have? Select all that apply.

	Count	% of responses	%
It has lights that turn on at night	235		88%
There are good sight lines throughout the space	169		63%
It has accessible pathways	166		62%
It is visible from a main road, street and/or intersection	140		52%
There are people of all ages	137		51%
There is a water fountain	59		22%
It has wayfinding signs for easy navigation	37		14%
It has a fence(s) surrounding the area	27		10%
Other, please specify	21		8%
I don't know	2		1%
Prefer not to answer	0		

N 257

Other responses included:

- We have a number of people who settle on Portland to drink alcohol and eat. Garbage and cans are left behind. How are you going to control this issue?
- Open space with protected greenery (ex walkway protected). Cyclist separated from pedestrians
- Emergency call station
- Public washroom
- Lighting is super important. So often parks are dimly lit. It should be safe and enjoyable after sundown!
- There are both more open and also closed off areas
- This is a tiny space, so don't have all of the bells and whistles, or try to be all things to all people.
- There is no litter/garbage and it is well-maintained to feel safe
- Separate areas for bikes and walkers
- It is clean
- Please no bright LED blinding night lights. Enough light pollution. Overly bright does not mean safe
- There is regular police presence around/passing through/stopping by
- Area for dogs
- There are NO police or security around
- Safe public spaces are spaces that are busy and vibrant 24/7. Turning on flood lights at dusk is more a mood killer than an invitation to use a space. Just build a space with good
- seating and maybe some shelter from the rain.
- Fencing for children's play area and for a dog play area.
- Dogs are allowed. Dog walkers help deter crime because they are somewhat omnipresent

- No dogs
- trees
- Fences make me feel UNSAFE! The whole area feels very safe.
- I don't find a fence surrounding spaces safer. In fact they make me nervous because it traps me inside the fence in case of emergency.

Section 2: Proposed Design

Which of the Shade Structure options do you prefer?



N 244

How do you feel about the balance between paved surfaces and green space in the concept design?

	Count	% of responses	%
There is the right balance between paved surface and green space.	42		17%
There is too much green space.	3		1%
There is too much paved surface.	199		82%

N 244

How do you feel about the amount of seating provided in the concept design?

	Count	% of responses	%
There is the right amount of seating provided.	168		69%
There is too much seating provided.	60		25%
There is not enough seating provided.	16		7%

N 244

How do you feel about the amount of plants and trees in the concept design?

	Count	% of responses	%
There is the right amount of plants and trees.	60		25%
There are too many plants and trees.	0		
There are not enough plants and trees.	184		75%

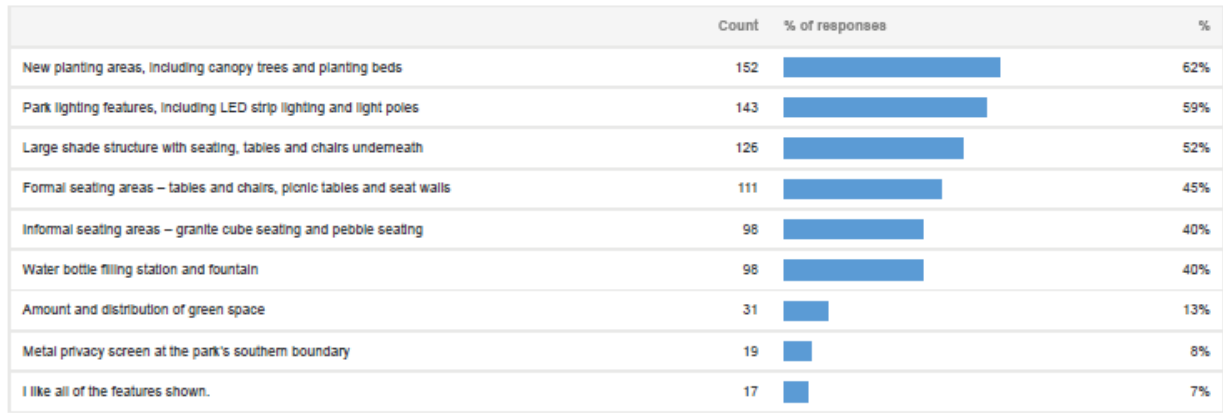
N 244

Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements about the elements in the concept design.



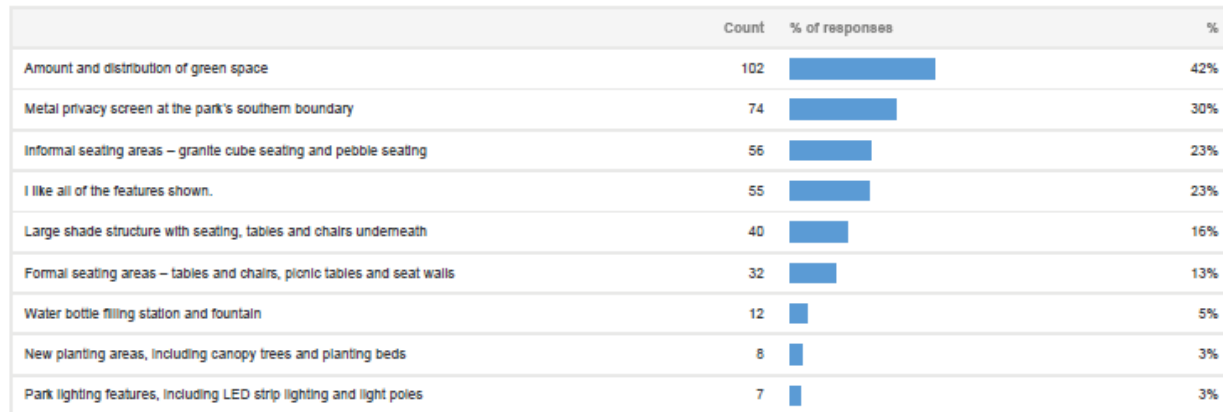
N 244

What features shown in the concept design do you like the most? Please select your top 5.



N 244

What features shown in the concept design do you dislike? Please select up to 5 features.



N 244

How do you feel about the proposed layout (i.e. location of the features and amenities) shown in the concept design for the new park at 134 Portland Street?

	Count	% of responses	%
Very Satisfied	25		10%
Satisfied	107		44%
Neutral	71		29%
Dissatisfied	30		12%
Very Dissatisfied	11		5%

N 244

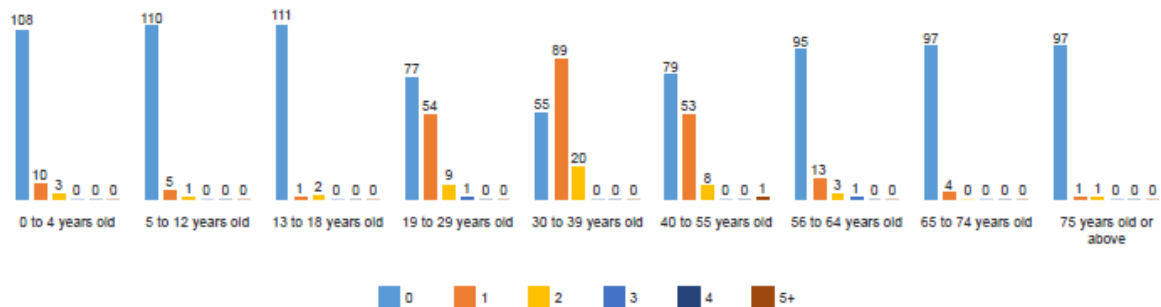
Overall, how satisfied are you with the concept design for the new park at 134 Portland Street?

	Count	% of responses	%
I am satisfied with the concept design	63		26%
I am somewhat satisfied with the concept design	106		43%
I am neutral about the concept design	31		13%
I am not satisfied with the concept design	42		17%
I am not sure	2		1%

N 244






Section 3: Demographics

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











N 240

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 your gender?

	Count	% of responses	%
Woman	149		62%
Man	89		37%
Prefer not to answer	7		3%
Gender non-binary (including gender fluid, genderqueer, androgynous)	4		2%
Not listed, please describe	1		0%
Trans woman	0		
Trans man	0		
Two-Spirit	0		

N 239

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

	Count	% of responses	%
Heterosexual or straight	155		66%
Gay	31		13%
Prefer not to answer	23		10%
Bisexual	12		5%
Queer	7		3%
Lesbian	4		2%
Not listed, please describe	4		2%
Don't know	3		1%
Two-Spirit	0		

N 236

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 you? Select all that apply.

	Count	% of responses	%
White (e.g. English, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Slovakian)	138		59%
East Asian (e.g. Chinese, Japanese, Korean)	25		11%
Prefer not to answer	24		10%
More than one race category or mixed race	16		7%
Latin American (e.g. Brazilian, Colombian, Cuban, Mexican, Peruvian)	14		6%
Arab, Middle Eastern or West Asian (e.g. Afghan, Armenian, Iranian, Lebanese, Persian, Turkish)	13		6%
South Asian or Indo-Caribbean (e.g. Indian, Indo-Guyanese, Indo-Trinidadian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan)	11		5%
Southeast Asian (e.g. Filipino, Malaysian, Singaporean, Thai, Vietnamese)	8		3%
Other, please describe	7		3%
Black (e.g. African, African-Canadian, Afro-Caribbean)	5		2%
First Nations (status, non-status, treaty or non-treaty), Inuit or Métis	0		

N 235

What language do you prefer speaking?



N 233

Indigenous people from Canada identify as First Nations (status, non-status, treaty or non-treaty), Inuit, Métis, Aboriginal, Native or Indian. Do you identify as Indigenous to Canada?



N 233

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 anyone participating in this survey identify as a person with a disability?



N 234

What best describes your current housing situation?

	Count	% of responses	%
Home owner	112		47%
Renting	112		47%
Permanently living with parent(s) or other family member(s)	3		1%
Temporarily staying with others (no fixed address)	3		1%
Unhoused (staying outside, in a shelter, in a 24-hour respite)	0		
Prefer not to answer	6		3%
Not listed, please describe	0		

N 236

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	54		23%
I have access to semi-private/shared outdoor space	55		23%
I only have access to public spaces like parks (I do not have access to private or semi-private outdoor space)	124		52%
Prefer not to answer	5		2%

N 238

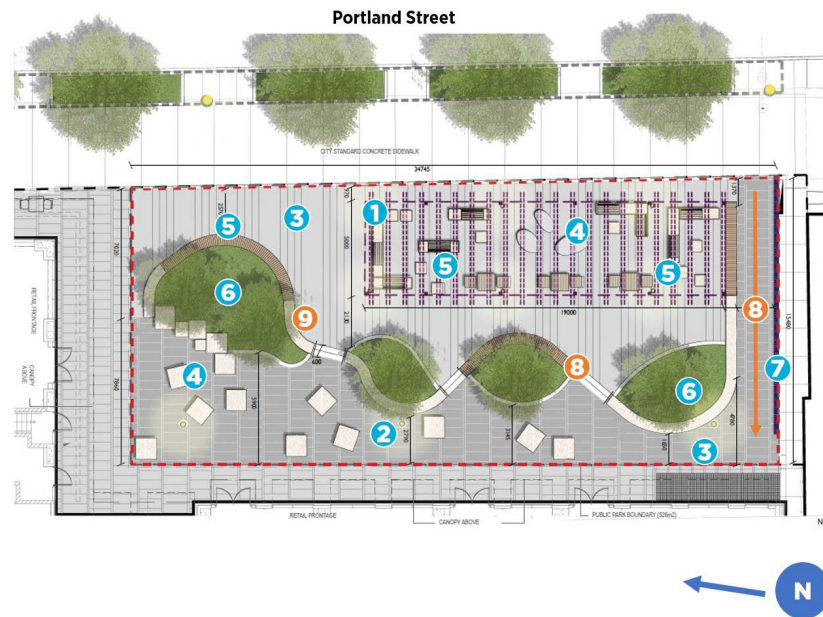
Appendix B: Concept Design

A concept design is an early phase of the design process, which broadly outlines the proposed amenities, design features and layout of a space. There is one proposed Concept Design the project team is looking for feedback on for the new park at 134 Portland Street.

This is the proposed design for the new park.

New Park at 134 Portland Street Concept Design

- Large shade structure with seating underneath and lighting for ambiance**
- Park Lighting**
Light poles and recessed LED strip lighting along the bottom of the curved seat walls
- Park Paving**
Textured paving to divide various zones
- Informal Seating Opportunities**
Granite cube seating and pebble seating
- Formal Seating Opportunities**
Seat walls, benches and/or café-style tables
- New planting areas, including canopy trees in planting beds**
- Metal privacy screen at the park's southern boundary**
- Stair access and ramp access to retail units (Accessibility features)**
- Water bottle filling station and drinking fountain (Accessibility features)**



The design includes:

- A large shade structure with seating underneath
- Informal seating opportunities, including granite cube seating and pebble seating
- Formal seating opportunities including seat walls, benches and/or café-style tables
- Various park lighting fixtures, including light poles and recessed LED strip lighting along the bottom of the curved seat walls
- New planting areas, including canopy trees in planting beds

- A metal privacy screen at the park's southern boundary
- A water bottle filling station and fountain
- Stair access and ramp access to retail units that are proposed as part of the development of 543 Richmond St. W.

Appendix C: Text Responses

- My concern is for the park not to become a place where people drink alcohol, smoke weed and/or sleep as they already do on Portland Street. Seeing the result of Loblaws selling alcohol and inhaling weed smoke as I walk in this area does not make me feel safe, or in any way comfortable; rather, it just saddens and depresses me. This may become another place for these issues to flourish.
- This is truly awful. Trying to do too many things in this tiny park space. Pick one of two. Everyone needs more foliage and planting, perhaps some fenced beds in a unique shape with tree and native wildflowers in them. Due to the number of food offerings in the area place some formal seating the like tables and chairs and a shade canopy and be done with it. The park is tiny, fix your issues with parkland in the area before you ruin another minuscule space and produce less useful parkland for the city
- The benches should have back support. The shade structure could be supplemented by shade from trees
- The first priority of any park design, especially one on corner like this, is to streamline pedestrian flow. Note where the desire path will be, then design the park around that. This park design doesn't do that. It places the planting beds directly in the diagonal path that pedestrians would like to take across the park. The diagonal doesn't have to be a direct straight line, it could curve a bit, but it should be a direct line across the park without pedestrians feeling like obstacles are in their desired path. Seating in most recent City park like in Grange Park is awful. The flat seat and back is uncomfortable. The seat and back should be curved to fit people better. Lighting should be indirect, not harsh from bare bulbs. Again, look to Grange Park to see what not to do. There, the bulbs are bright and bare - lots of light, but it's counterproductive. Make the gardens beautiful, like at the Music Garden by the waterfront. Use trees for shade, rather than the canopy.
- Park benches lining walkway. Water fountain with seating around it
Community garden Bikeshare integrated station Small fenced in dog park. Ppl will not walk the two blocks to get to other dog park.
- I'm sure it's there, but what about garbage receptacles? How about a place to charge your phone or computer?
- Lose the shade structure all together. With the adjacent buildings, strategically placed trees in good growing conditions are sufficient (actually better). The suggested light fixtures read as sterile and cold, they have no flavour, they would be suitable to a prison yard. The LED (under seating) lighting just reads as light pollution. Rethink everything. Start over.

- Please look at every small parkette in NYC to see what green space with chain link fence and park benches look like. Simple concept that is easy to maintain. Your design is too concrete forward and tables will not get used for most of the year. Shame.
- Keep it simple and high quality - there is too much happening for such a small space. This should be a quiet, meditative garden-like space. It is over-programmed. Less paving, more gardens.
- More greenery/green space
- There should be more green space. The city is a concrete jungle, we need more grass rather than pavers.
- Neither shade design looks like it will actually provide shade. Needs to be something a bit more substantial
- Is it possible to have kids playground?
- I realize there are stores/cafes in the area for washroom breaks but this information (or additional washrooms) would help encourage people to want to use the park.
- Looking good. I would love to see a bit more green space/additional trees
- More grass!
- The area no longer has a large day traffic of people who work nearby- it will be mostly of young families or people who work from home taking a break. Focusing too much of its function on providing an outdoor eating space seems not versatile (also considering where it's located at, not a place i'd enjoy lunch break). Also what concerns me is a moveable tables and chairs- they easily get damaged and if chained, looks quite messy.
- The use of paving (textured or otherwise) feels unimaginative in an area of the city that is dominated by concrete. It will undoubtedly make for a very hot park in summer, even with shading.
- It would really just be a missed opportunity not to include more green space. We need more greenery in this area. Also, please consider a community garden! That would really be fantastic
- MORE GREEN SPACE
- We are desperate for more green space downtown. But given the size of the space I think this is a good design.
- The shade structure blocks the view of the street with a lot of seating very close to each other. I'm not sure if I would like to be so close to so many people and also right by the sidewalk. I would rather have trees provide the shade rather than another built structure. The seat wall along the planters are nice. I think more informal seating is better than conventional chairs and tables. Seem a bit too formal the way they are arranged under the canopy.
- There is no distinguishing this park from any other park that is easily [REDACTED] The park needs to be nice enough for families to use the space otherwise it becomes overtaken. The limited florals and green space is a big concern.
- More green space please!

- Include options like high line in nyc Add more greenery grasses .. lounge chairs ..
- Play structure is missing
- More grass
- Dog park and playground
- The cubes aren't welcoming at all or look like seating. Needs at least double the trees. This looks like an odd entrance plaza and not a public park.
- Public washroom
- Neither option for the shade structure is great. Can it not have an actual roof?
- Dog drinking fountain
- More green space would be great
- More green space.
- For the future, Could the shade structure incorporate pieces of decommissioned wind turbine blades in a sculptural way? There have been recent park elements designed into new parks, in Europe mostly I think, using these. They are unique and convey a message of reuse. For the past, Could their be an element acknowledging the past history of the area? Like a small curated displace of photos and text? Acknowledging both would add interest are be memorable.
- The region already lacks green space compared to other parts of Toronto, so it would be nice to have more green space.
- More trees. Ones that will grow large and eventually make large canopy's.
- More plants and grassy area
- Partial natural play pieces for kids that could be used for sitting or multipurpose use for all.
- I like the layout and amount of seating, but I don't like the paving. There is already a really similar park behind 525 Adelaide St W with exactly the same mixture of seating/trees/paved ground which suits my needs for that. I would prefer a park with more grass so I could sit with friends to have a picnic, or play with my kid.
- We need MORE green space and less pavement. Pavement + seating doesn't equal a park. Give us reprieve from a concrete jungle.
- More soft cover. No grass to sit on in the summer. All that pavement will be so hot on those 25+ degree days.
- Please consider mothers and breastfeeding mothers with this design! Looking forward to it
- It feels cold: it would be great to have more green space. People simply able to sit on grass vs all the structured areas
- The shade structure seems oxymoronic: its supposed to provide shade but in each concept there are holes or slat openings, so then there would be sun and rain coming through it. Generally, its a really confusing space, by just looking at it, the point it seems to serve is for people to have a place to eat outside, and that is it. This doesn't seem like an efficient use of space. There is way too much concrete, and not enough greenery and the two types of trees that will be there isn't enough. Its not a beautiful space either. It would

- be better to have trees that have leaves that change colors throughout the seasons, flowers and bushes that are colorful, substantially more open grass in the corner further away from the streets, technology that cleans the air, perhaps a small splash pad that can be turned into a curling space in the winter, and perhaps create a fence around the park using nature.
- I'd like the park to reflect the reality that unhoused people might at times need the park to sleep. Yeah, this sucks, but they're people, and all levels of government haven't done much to adequately address this. The least we can do is make sleeping just a little less miserable for anyone who has to rely on parks as an option.
 - It would be better to switch the placement of the informal seating and the covered seating so that the covered seating sits closer to the building and the pebble seating is closer to the sidewalk and more welcoming and accessible. However, this isn't critical. The two designs presented may require change. They are both not pleasing aesthetically. The first design is a bit better than the second but the designers could come up with a better design and colour scheme. The red or hot pink is not a good look nor are the random cut-outs. There is very little grass and trees to call this small space a park. I would suggest much less concrete, much more grass and trees.
 - Please add more grass in the design. We go to a park to be able to experience some greenery. I love the updates that were made to Grange park, the right amount of pathways but also preserved a lot of the open green space as well as lighting that feels safe at night so I would look there for inspiration
 - A park is green space, not more concrete. If someone wants to sit at a formal table they can go to any patio or restaurant. We need grass, trees and flowers.
 - Seating should be more spaced out to allow for distancing and privacy