

City of Toronto – Parks Development & Capital Projects

# New Parks in the Moss Park Neighbourhood Phase 1 Online Survey Summary

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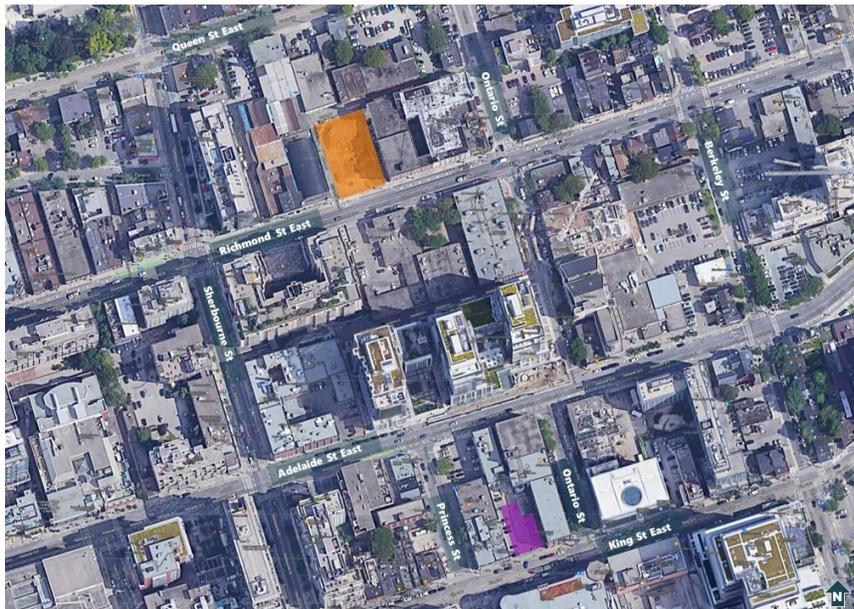
## Project Background

Two new parks are coming to the Moss Park Neighbourhood as part of mixed-use development projects:

- New Park on Richmond Street East: this park will be 1400 m<sup>2</sup> (about the size of a hockey rink), and will be located on the north side of Richmond Street East, west of Ontario Street. This park is being built as part of a development agreement at 261 Queen St. E.
- New Park on King Street East: this park will be 470 m<sup>2</sup> (about the size of a tennis court), and will be located on the north side of King Street East, west of Ontario Street. This park is being built as part of a development agreement at 254-260 King St. E.

Site Considerations include:

- Indigenous Placekeeping (an approach to design that focuses on Indigenous histories and futures while connecting ecological, historical and cultural relationships to a place) will be incorporated into the design of both parks.
- A dog off-leash area will not be included due to the parks' limited size.
- Both are small urban parks and cannot fit large sport features.
- Drinking fountains are planned to be included in both parks.



## Survey Objectives

An online survey was hosted from June 8 to June 30, 2022. The survey collected community members' ideas for the two new parks. The survey received a total of **476 responses**. Some surveys included feedback from multiple people (e.g. entire households). In total, **831 people** of various ages participated in the survey responses collected. The feedback will help develop a draft design for each park.

## Notification

The online survey was promoted through the following channels:

- Facebook and Instagram advertisements targeting area residents
- Project webpage: [www.toronto.ca/new-parks-north-st-lawrence-neighbourhood](http://www.toronto.ca/new-parks-north-st-lawrence-neighbourhood)
- On-site signage
- Posters in the neighbourhood

## Who We Heard From

Participants were asked to provide demographic information. This helps the City better understand who participated and whether particular groups in the community were missed during the engagement process. **A summary of the demographic findings can be found in Appendix A.**

## Key Feedback Highlights

- Most respondents prioritized green (lush with trees and plantings) and calm (a place to sit, linger, and relax) characteristics for both new parks.
  - For the new park on Richmond St E, many also prioritized:
    - Eventful (a space for small, local, outdoor events like community markets or performances) and flexible (a space that can change based on community need) park characteristics
  - For the new park on King St E, many also prioritized:
    - Social (space for meeting and gathering) and whimsical (colourful and unexpected) park characteristics
- Most respondents prioritized trees and plantings as important features for both parks. In addition, over 70% of respondents think seating, shade structure(s), and places to eat (e.g. picnic tables or chairs and tables) are good additions to either park.
  - Over half of respondents think flexible event space could be appropriate for either park, but many prioritized flexible event space for the new park on Richmond St E.
  - Playground and fitness equipment were not frequently prioritized for either park. If playground or fitness equipment is included in either park, there is greater preference for locating these features in the new park on Richmond St E.
    - Almost half of respondents think fitness equipment is not a good choice for either park while about a third of respondents think playground equipment is not a good choice for either park.
  - Games tables were not frequently prioritized for either park. Though if games tables are included, many feel they are appropriate additions to either park.

- The most popular suggestions for ensuring the park feels safe was lighting. Many participants also felt that ensuring visibility through the park and providing buffers between the park and road were important safety features.
  - Overall, fewer participants felt that providing wide pathways was important for park safety. However, over half of survey participants who identified as having a disability said that wide pathways are an important feature to ensure safety in the new parks.

## Additional Respondent-Generated Suggestions

The following provides a summary of the text responses received through the online survey, where sentiments are not already included in the summary above.

- **Respondents shared additional suggestions for improving safety for park users.** Suggestions from some respondents include:
  - Fencing or gates to ensure children's safety, especially around any playground areas
  - Preventing drug use or encampments
    - A respondent noted the need to ensure unhoused residents are not violently evicted from any future park encampments

Suggestions from a few respondents include:

- Metal or concrete barricades or planters to prevent vehicles from entering the parks
- A sharps/needle disposal container
- Police or security patrols (though others noted they do not support police or security in parks)
- Cameras
- Emergency poles/ buttons/phones
- Multiple park entry/exit points
- Accessibility for all park features
- Rounded edges on all park features
- **Respondents shared additional suggestions for both new parks.**

Suggestions from some respondents include:

- A focus on greenery and green space, avoiding concrete and hardscaping.
  - Including native and pollinator plantings, as well as large, mature trees to provide shade (instead of shade structures)
- Including a drinking fountain

Suggestions from a few respondents include:

- Washrooms that are accessible year-round
- Public art, with specific suggestions including:
  - Local artists' work.
  - Black, Indigenous and Racialized local artists' work.
  - Murals commemorating the role of Black Canadians in the early days of the Town of York.
  - Sculptures people can climb or sit on.
  - Colourful and joyful work.

- An off-leash or dog relief area. There is concern that lack of a relief area will result in dog waste (and associated smells) throughout the park
- Ensuring full park accessibility
- A water feature, splash pad, or mister (for visual and audio impacts)
- Bike parking and a bike repair station
- Including Black and LGBTQ2S+ voices in the park design
- Hand washing station
- Non-traditional play structures that can be used by people of all ages (e.g. climbable structures) so that adults without children don't feel out of place next to or in play spaces
- Chess tables
- No hostile architecture
- Funding adequate park maintenance once the parks are built
- Rubber groundcover around any play spaces
- Ensuring the park is open and accessible at all hours
- A skate park and roller skating space
- **Respondents shared additional suggestions for the new park on Richmond St E.** Suggestions from some respondents include:
  - Including a community garden or raised planting bed (e.g. for vegetables or traditional medicines)

Suggestions from a few respondents include:

  - Indigenous Placekeeping elements
    - Signage to state that the parks are spaces for singing and drumming (e.g. to create a culturally safe space, and to explain why singing and drumming is important).
  - Settler and industrial history alongside Indigenous Placekeeping
  - A multi-use stage/outdoor performance area
  - Ice rink
  - E-bike charger
  - Cenotaph
  - Charging outlets
  - That a play area in the park include:
    - Interactive play spaces
    - Accessible design for children with disabilities, autism or sensory challenges
    - Innovative and metal-free play spaces
- **Respondents shared additional suggestions for the new park on King St E.**
- Suggestions from a few respondents include:
  - Ensuring shade, either through a structure, trees, or from neighbouring developments.
  - Making that park an adult-only space
  - A community garden
  - Garbage bins
  - Preserve façade, stairwell, and outdoor light fixtures of the existing building around the park
  - A natural playground

## **Next Steps**

The feedback received from this phase of community engagement will be used to create design options for each park. These will be shared with the community for feedback and refinement later this year.

To be notified about upcoming engagement opportunities for the new parks, please visit the [project webpage](#) to sign up for e-updates.

## Appendix A: Quantitative Response Summary

What would you like the character of the New Park on Richmond St East to be?  
Rank up to three options, with 1 being the most important.

	% of responses	%
Green: Lush with trees and plantings		26%
Calm: A place to sit, linger, and relax		20%
Eventful: A space for small, local, outdoor events (e.g. community markets or performances)		10%
Flexible: A space that can change based on community need		10%
Social: A space for meeting and gathering		9%
Whimsical: Colourful and unexpected		8%
Playful: A place for people of all ages to play and be together		7%
Historic: A place to recognize and celebrate local heritage, including Indigenous Placekeeping		5%
Active: A place to exercise		5%
Choose not to answer		0%

N 479

**Indigenous Placekeeping is an approach to design that focuses on Indigenous histories and futures while connecting ecological, historical and cultural relationships to a place. Indigenous Placekeeping will be included in both parks. What other features are most important to include in the New Park on Richmond St East? Rank up to three options, with 1 being the most important.**

	% of responses	%
Trees and plantings		34%
Seating		14%
Flexible event space (e.g. space for pop up markets or performances)		13%
Shade structure		12%
Places to eat (e.g. picnic tables, or chairs and tables)		11%
Playground equipment		8%
Games tables (e.g. Chess, Ping-Pong, Mancala)		4%
Fitness equipment		4%

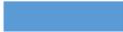
N 483

**What would you like the character of the New Park on King St East to be? Rank up to three options, with 1 being the most important.**

	% of responses	%
Green: Lush with trees and plantings		26%
Calm: A place to sit, linger, and relax		21%
Social: A space for meeting and gathering		11%
Whimsical: Colourful and unexpected		9%
Flexible: A space that can change based on community need		8%
Eventful: A space for small, local, outdoor events (e.g. community markets or performances)		8%
Historic: A place to recognize and celebrate local heritage, including Indigenous Placekeeping		7%
Playful: A place for people of all ages to play and be together		6%
Active: A place to exercise		4%
Choose not to answer		1%

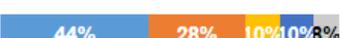
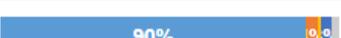
N 458

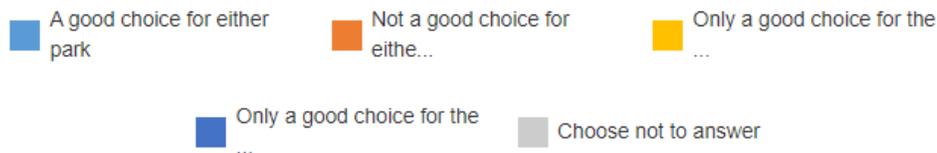
**Indigenous Placekeeping is an approach to design that focuses on Indigenous histories and futures while connecting ecological, historical and cultural relationships to a place. Indigenous Placekeeping will be included in both parks. What other features are most important to include in the New Park on King St East? Rank up to three options, with 1 being the most important.**

	% of responses	%
Trees and plantings		33%
Seating		16%
Shade structure		13%
Places to eat (e.g. picnic tables, or chairs and tables)		12%
Flexible event space (e.g. space for pop up markets or performances)		11%
Playground equipment		6%
Games tables (e.g. Chess, Ping-Pong, Mancala)		6%
Fitness equipment		3%

N 458

## Are the following features better suited for one of the two new parks?

	Average	Count	% of responses
Playground equipment	41%	442	
Fitness equipment	39%	440	
Flexible event space (e.g. space for pop up markets or performances)	30%	441	
Games tables (e.g. Chess, Ping-Pong, Mancala)	28%	437	
Places to eat (e.g. picnic tables, or chairs and tables)	17%	441	
Shade structure	11%	439	
Seating	5%	441	
Trees and plantings	2%	444	



N 447

## Select the park features that would be important for your sense of safety while using the new parks. Select all that apply.

	Count	% of responses	%
Lighting	388		87%
Visibility and sight lines (ability to see into each park while passing by, and out of the park while using it)	342		77%
Planting beds and/or site furnishings (to promote safe circulation and to act as buffers from adjacent roadways)	307		69%
Wide pathways	167		37%
Other (list):	48		11%

N 447

## Do you have any additional suggestions or ideas for the new parks in the Moss Park Neighbourhood?

	Count	% of responses	%
No	315		75%
Yes, I have suggestions specifically for the new park on Richmond St E	96		23%
Yes, I have suggestions specifically for the new park on King St E	61		15%

N 419

## Demographics

### 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	1		0%
19 to 29 years old	96		22%
30 to 39 years old	168		38%
40 to 55 years old	115		26%
56 to 64 years old	33		8%
65 to 74 years old	11		3%
75 years old or above	7		2%
Prefer not to answer	8		2%

N 439

**Excluding yourself, how many people of each age group participated in this survey?**

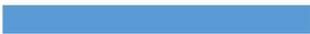
- 0 to 4 years old = 52
- 5 to 12 years old = 32
- 13 to 18 years old = 25
- 19 to 29 years old = 69
- 30 to 39 years old = 77
- 40 to 55 years old = 62
- 56 to 64 years old = 22
- 65 to 74 years old = 18
- 75 years old or above = 8

**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 of the person filling out this survey?**

	Count	% of responses	%
Woman	241		55%
Man	167		38%
Prefer not to answer	26		6%
Gender non-binary (including gender fluid, genderqueer, androgynous)	9		2%
Not listed, please describe	4		1%
Trans woman	2		0%
Trans man	2		0%
Two-Spirit	2		0%

N 439

**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	266		61%
Gay	58		13%
Prefer not to answer	53		12%
Bisexual	34		8%
Queer	14		3%
Lesbian	9		2%
Not listed, please describe	8		2%
Two-Spirit	7		2%
Don't know	5		1%

N 439

**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)	267		61%
Prefer not to answer	40		9%
East Asian (e.g. Chinese, Japanese, Korean)	38		9%
South Asian or Indo-Caribbean (e.g. Indian, Indo- Guyanese, Indo-Trinidadian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan)	28		6%
Black (e.g. African, African-Canadian, Afro-Caribbean)	21		5%
More than one race category or mixed race	20		5%
Latin American (e.g. Brazilian, Colombian, Cuban, Mexican, Peruvian)	18		4%
Southeast Asian (e.g. Filipino, Malaysian, Singaporean, Thai, Vietnamese)	18		4%
Arab, Middle Eastern or West Asian (e.g. Afghan, Armenian, Iranian, Lebanese, Persian, Turkish)	12		3%
First Nations (status, non-status, treaty or non-treaty), Inuit or Métis	11		3%
Other, please describe	9		2%

N 439

### **What language do you prefer speaking?**

- English = 420 responses = 96%
- French = 8 responses = 2%
- Not listed, please describe = 3 responses = 2%
- Albanian = 1 response = 0%
- Greek = 1 response = 0%
- Polish = 1 response = 0%
- Punjabi = 1 response = 0%
- Russian = 1 response = 0%
- Spanish = 1 response = 0%
- Turkish = 1 response = 0%
- Prefer not to answer = 1 response = 0%

**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?**

	Count	% of responses	%
Yes	16		4%
No	391		89%
Prefer not to answer	32		7%

N 439

**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?**

	Count	% of responses	%
Yes	47		11%
No	354		81%
Don't know	4		1%
Prefer not to answer	34		8%

N 439

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

	Count	% of responses	%
Yes	35		8%
No	369		84%
Don't know	4		1%
Prefer not to answer	31		7%

N 439

## What best describes your current housing situation?

	Count	% of responses	%
Home owner	266		61%
Renting	150		34%
Permanently living with parent(s) or other family member(s)	6		1%
Temporarily staying with others (no fixed address)	0		
Unhoused (staying outside, in a shelter, in a 24-hour respite)	0		
Prefer not to answer	15		3%
Not listed, please describe	2		0%

N 439

## 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	91		21%
I have access to semi-private/shared outdoor space	125		28%
I only have access to public spaces like parks (I do not have access to private or semi-private outdoor space)	216		49%
Prefer not to answer	7		2%

N 439

## What language do you prefer speaking?

- English = 1,100 responses = 96%
- French = 12 responses = 1%
- Prefer not to answer = 9 responses = 1%
- Bengali = 5 responses = 0%
- Not listed, please describe = 3 responses = 0%
- Arabic = 2 responses = 0%
- Chinese – Cantonese = 2 responses = 0%
- Spanish = 2 responses = 0%
- Amharic = 1 response = 0%
- Armenian = 1 response = 0%
- Indigenous – Oji-Cree = 1 response = 0%
- Polish = 1 response = 0%
- Portuguese = 1 response = 0%
- Romanian = 1 response = 0%
- Ukrainian = 1 response = 0%

## Appendix B: Location of Each Park

This is an aerial view of the surrounding community and the location of the new parks.



- The orange block shows the location of the New Park on Richmond Street East
- The purple block shows the location of the New Park on King Street East

## Appendix C: Text Responses

**Select the park features that would be important for your sense of safety while using the new parks. Select all.**

*Respondents who selected other (list):*

- Accessibility for people with disabilities
- As many trees as possible
- baby/toddler/pre-school age play equipment enclosed with fence and gate.
- Blue lighting to discourage drug use in parks
- cameras
- Community workers instead of police
- Emergency safety phones, cctv
- Enclosed
- Fence since both are close to major roads. Keep our kids safe and give parents some peace of mind
- Fencing
- Fencing from major streets especially if playground equipment will be present.
- Garbage bins and fencing
- Gated to keep young children from running onto busy roads like Richmond and King.
- I would like a park that does not have security patrols making people in my neighbourhood feel policed
- Important to balance sightlines without making it vacant. Important it feels safe and provides amenity and value to all users including priority populations.
- Keep the (redacted) out of them, as they have taken over all parks, parking lots and every corner in the city
- Metal barricades on paths to stop any cars driving through
- More than one way to enter/exit the park. It appears that these parks will be bounded on 3 sides by surrounding developments. It will be important to ensure the parks don't feel 'closed in,' such as being surrounded by a gate with only one 1 entry/exit point.
- Native plants
- No cops, no security guards. Defend encampments.
- No hiding spaces or nooks and crannies where people can sit and not be seen
- No playgrounds!
- No shade structures for people to loiter.
- No space for people to sleep in
- None of these features needed
- Panic or sexual assault button with auto-dial to Police/Ambulance
- Police monitoring on illegal activities
- Public art, CPTED,
- Regular maintenance
- regular security walk bys (check for needles etc early morning and for safety after dark)
- Richmond is one of the scariest streets in the city to spend time on as a pedestrian. With the new park on Richmond, it would be great if it was protected with concrete planting beds and trees so users of the park can relax in the space without having to worry too

much about the traffic on the adjacent street. Please also make sure the lighting is not implemented as an afterthought (design wise). The placement, colour temperature, type of fixtures, etc. are all important considerations too!

- Safe needle disposals nearby
- Security cameras or other deterrents for crime
- Security guards.
- Sharps deposit boxes for park near Richmond
- Soft Round Edges On All Furnishings And Equipment
- Surfaces that do not facilitate drug use or criminal activity to occur.
- The parks should be well lit and feel safe for kids to visit, given their promiximity to shelters on Queen
- Use of native plants as an act of reconciliation and promote ecological biodiversity
- very good lighting is a MUST!
- Ways to prevent dogs/dog owners from allowing dogs to destroy the park area.
- Wheelchair/accessible to ALL features (not just a pathway to watch)

**Content warning:** The following comments reference unhoused communities, street involved people or drug use which some may find offensive. The City of Toronto has park bylaws to regulate, protect, and govern public parks so that everyone can enjoy the park experience equally. Unless authorized by permit, no person shall use, enter, or gather in a park between the hours of 12:01 a.m. and 5:30 a.m. ([City of Toronto By-law No. 608-9. Access](#)).

- Avoid places where homeless will make tents, sleep on benches etc
- For it not to be like Moss park. I am mindful of and concerned for the vulnerable population living in this area. Without sufficient investment in services and shelter to support their needs, I don't see how these parkettes will wind up any different from Moss Park currently. It's safe to say that the main park in this neighborhood is unsafe, unclean, and largely unsuitable for public use. My primary concern for any new parks in the vicinity is that they will not be used for tents, injecting, etc.
- Frequent security and maintenance checks. Parks here need to be clean and safe in order to be used by residents. Major drug and homelessness in this area.
- No safe injection or homeless site access
- Not letting people camp there
- Our community has a very, very, very large amount of un-homed people/addicts. Providing seating and shade structures -- while I truly understand these are so important and need to be available more widely (along with better services in general for the homeless/addict population) - could encourage this population to overtake the parks and keep other community members from feeling safe.

**My suggestion for the new park on Richmond St E is:**

- A cenotaph to remember all those who have fought and given their lives in the service of our country for freedom and peace
- a space that is welcoming to our homeless neighbours: seating, shade, water fountain, charging outlets,

- Accessible public washroom
- Be mindful of native plant and trees to help pollinators- no invasive plants. no grass lawns since they are water intensive and non drought resistant - perhaps native grass or clover lawns instead. Be mindful of zero carbon emissions during construction. community garden with composting.
- Bike racks, accessible trash cans, local flora
- Can you commit that unhorsed residents of Toronto Centre will be safe in these parks and not violently evicted?
- Canopy shading with trees over shading with a man made structure
- clean hand washing stations, washrooms
- Communal garden for those that live in condos and cannot grow their own vegetables. Solar systems, water fountain (to fill water bottles), access to washroom, ice rink in winter, e-bike charger, permanent stage that can is multi-use
- Community garden
- Community garden needed
- Community safety
- Dog friendly
- Dog Park
- Dog relief area. Does not have to be off leash as per size constraint note
- Ensure whatever is installed is accessible at all levels (playground is not mulch, has ramps, interactive features for ALL abilities)
- Fence for the playground area to keep kids safe
- Have some water feature - like mini waterfall
- Help from local artist to paint and make the space colourful and inviting
- Historical interpretation of the role the area played in the Anglo-European settlement and industrial past of Toronto - alongside, not superseding indigenous placemaking - would be fascinating. The archaeological digs on the site in 2019 looked to have uncovered very interesting historical infrastructure and it would be wonderful to have that history of human activities related back to the local community.
- I think both parks should have murals and/or inscriptions/structures/statues which highlight the immense role which black Canadians had upon the early days of The Town Of York
- I think it'd be great if the new park on Richmond would take inspiration from the newly renovated St James Park (minus yye playground area), as a place where people can go and sit to contemplate nature, while also being able to enjoy the occasional summer music presentations we often see at St James
- I would focus on one thing for each park (e.g. playground/games in the bigger one, and gathering/social/seating in the smaller).
- I would love to have either an indoor or outdoor skate park, I feel like the options in the area currently are too limited. Given the amount of skateboarders and rollerblades in the area, and positions going up, I think the community would love it!
- I'd love to see local art from BIPOC artists, an area of Indigenous history, and that soft bouncy ground that they have in the park in Corktown Common
- Include a water feature or fountain please.
- Include LGBTQ voices in the design voices along with Black voices. There's absolutely no visibility. This must change!!
- Inclusion of a sharps drop box. I live in the area and it is user heavy. Would be nice to have a drop box for sharps.
- Incorporating a small water structure (ex: very small splash pad or misting area)

- Innovative play space for children that don't include metal structures. Loose parts and manipulatives, innovative designs that encourage investigation and wonder.
- joyful public art
- Keep in mind what businesses & buildings are around there. This is not a high foot traffic area in my experience
- lots of greenery- many dense buildings in the area and wall to wall concrete creates a high need for some respite from it. Gardens, mature trees, and something for the community that represents the heritage of the land (Indigenous) and the history of the area
- Native plants and trees
- No but I think it would be helpful if we have a Google streetview of where the future parks would be. Thanks!
- No shade structures are needed, well placed trees can provide shade in warm months (along with all the other benefits of trees.) It would be wonderful to have sculptures that can be used to sit/climb on/play on, over traditional playground furniture. Traditional playgrounds make a place feel designated for children and make childless adults seem a bit out of place. Since these are small spaces, it would be great if they were designed for anyone to use. Examples: Agget' – Egon Moeller Nielsen Tessin park in Stockholm, 1951 'Blue Whale' Designed by Monstrum Plikta park, Gothenburg, Sweden 'Playground' by artist Tom Otterness Aspinwall Riverfront Park, USA See "Playground as Sculpture Park" on Everyday Tourist (.ca) for some other examples.
- Outdoor performance area open to anyone who signs up
- Park should be 24/7 and not close at midnight like other parks. People who work non standard hours need to be able to access freely and not be discriminated against. We need more adults only spaces in this city. Park should be limited to adult pedestrians only. No bikes, no pets, no kids, no skateboards, etc. Make it exclusive to quiet, peaceful adults on foot only.
- Permit dogs off leash, either in a specific area or during designated times.
- Plant very tall trees
- Playground space that caters to children with disabilities / Autism / sensory issues and provides a safe location for them to play in the way they are most comfortable. There are many children on the spectrum or with disability in this area and I think a specialized play space would be very appealing to the community, and also attract people to the space from other neighbourhoods.
- Playgrounds exist extensively at Esplanade, princess st, and st James. No more
- Please design it to make it as safe for all community members as possible. There is a heavy drug use in this neighbourhood and public open spaces are not always safe for everyone to use. Please also consider having a dog park or run section to the park. There are a lot of dogs in the immediate area and this park will be used by them for their outside breaks. Thank you.
- Please ensure that the city allocates ongoing resources (funding) to ensure it is maintained. I have seen far too many parks get upgrades only to see in a few years that all the planting beds are choked with weeds and all the plants are dead.
- please focus on the park having grass and not just all concrete as a base
- Public Art-- Fruit trees and bushes
- Public water fountain. As a runner downtown this is very important to me. There are not enough water fountains.
- Raised plant beds that the community can be involved with: planting pollinator plants, food, traditional medicines... connect people with nature.

- Safety is important. Dogs should not be welcome here, and should be made friendly for humans - there is already a private parkette nearby, which feels rarely used.
- Safety is number one. Park needs to be clean and maintained with frequent security checks. This area is not comfortable for average residents due to excessive drug use in the area.
- Safety must be the key consideration to ensure everyone gets to enjoy it. Many people in the community don't feel safe.
- Safety should be the primary concern. There is a lot of people doing drugs in the neighborhood. Please provide a good lighting design and emergency button pole. Also, please add cameras.
- signage which says the park is for singing and drumming, culturally safe space signs, or something to explain why signing and drumming is important.
- Skatepark, either shaded or in the open
- Splash pad. Natural playground. Soft flooring and fences. 4 years to complete a park is (redacted).
- (redacted) Make it a place for everyone.
- The area for this planned park space is Moss Park - not 'North St. Lawrence Neighbourhood. That name is completely made up with zero relationship with the community's important historic past. This new Richmond St. E park should celebrate Moss Park, its people (past and present) as well as its overall contribution to Toronto's metropolitan rise. In this circumstance, names matter!
- The survey has covered it, but I want to emphasize how important public seating options are for this area, as there are very few free options right now to serve the residents, workers, and visitors to this neighbourhood.
- there is a lot of drug use in that area, especially needle drugs. I believe it would be imperative to ensure some form of safe Sharps disposal for drug users
- There is a real lack of outdoor chess tables in the downtown toronto area. There used to be chess tables at queen st. E and church st. that served as a vibrant area for all members of the community to gather. When these tables were removed, it also ruined the chess community in toronto. I think outdoor chess tables will encourage a multifaceted use of the park and encourage a sense of community that existed just a short distance away.
- There is no green space in the area and it would be so nice to have a nice area to walk through or sit and read a book. St James park has some nice points to it by the fountain or benches. Just overall green space will be such a plus to the neighbourhood
- They need to do something to incorporate the heritage of the area and all of the brick warehouses and brick chimneys and heritage features that are being lost and destroyed for glass and metal condos :( No playgrounds for either. Adult spaces.
- This is a VERY small park, don't try to do everything. Pick one and do it properly!
- This neighbourhood could benefit from more green space that is flexible and a place to stop and sit, like St James Park. An empty concrete space like the new park at Baseball Place should probably be avoided.
- This neighbourhood needs more swings
- This park needs to do some heavy lifting in terms of creating identity for this neighbourhood and proving greenery and amenity. It needs to be both flexible and useful for daily activities.
- This park will be a larger space, good opportunity for a central feature that can be the calling point for the park. For instance, Berczy Park's dog fountain, or the pavilion in St.Jame's park. Landscaping should introduce local and native fauna.Seating should not be anti-homeless. This is a form of hostile architecture that makes parks inequitable.

- To consider that many transient persons, homeless, and drug addicts are in the area. These parks should be used for all residents and community members however, must be cognizant of the fact that there should be steps to prevent unruly loitering and encampments. Thank you
- Use of native plants as an act of reconciliation and promote ecological biodiversity. This should be critical in both parks. Lots of native grasses and perennials to bring in pollinators, colour and textures.
- Water fountain
- Water fountain in the park
- Water fountains and a bike repair station (Basic tools and a tire pump)
- Water to drink and year round washrooms

**Content warning:** The following comments reference unhoused communities, street involved people or drug use which some may find offensive. The City of Toronto has park bylaws to regulate, protect, and govern public parks so that everyone can enjoy the park experience equally. Unless authorized by permit, no person shall use, enter, or gather in a park between the hours of 12:01 a.m. and 5:30 a.m. ([City of Toronto By-law No. 608-9. Access](#)).

- Be careful to design so cannot become a tent city or place for drug dealing
- Before building it, address how the city will manage homeless encampments, tents and the smell of urine from people and dogs.
- Concerns about homelessness and drug use for park, when designing the space consider a layout that deters squatting
- Consider teetering homeless in the park
- Deter dog pooping and drug addict congregations
- Frequent policing with the aim of providing support to the homeless/addict population and protecting other community members.
- Given the location, we run the risk that the park will be used by drug addicts. With full sympathy for these individuals, we need to ensure that the design prioritizes safety. There are already too many needles found in this neighbourhood
- I would like the neighborhood & the issues with drugs & homelessness to be seriously considered. A space for all without appropriate lighting, supervision & lots of benches just becomes a place unsafe for families & vulnerable individuals. If we need space for our homeless let's just invest in that rather than making it a useless space for everyone.
- Make a rule that homeless people are not allowed to stay or live in the park otherwise nobody would want to use it
- Make sure it doesn't become an extension of Moss park with a tent encampment
- Make sure it feels safe for children. I fear it may become a place where homeless residents live when construction around Moss Park begins
- No accessible for homeless and drug users. No drug users in the park. No homeless people
- Please be mindful of security on these new parks. We are constantly surrounded by dirt, needles and public drug use due to proximity to the Sherborne shelters. I worry this park will just become a new spot for such behaviour, so SECURITY will be key!

## My suggestion for the new park on King St E is:

- Accessible public washroom
- Be mindful of native plant and trees to help pollinators- no invasive plants. no grass lawns since they are water intensive and non drought resistant - perhaps native grass or clover lawns instead
- Be sure to put in many refuse bins. There are good courts for basket ball and playground equipment 2 blocks over at the David Crombie park.
- Because this park is close to Rspanade where there is a lot of space for different activities, this park could be a piece of art - bright, artistic, to attract people who live and visit King East design district.
- Bike racks, accesible trash cans
- Can you commit that unhorsed residents of Toronto Centre will be safe in these parks and not violently evicted?
- Canopy shading with trees over shading with a man made structure
- clean hand washing stations, washrooms
- Community garden needed
- Dog Park - ANYWHERE in the st Lawrence area
- Dog relief area. Does not have to be off leash as per size constraint note
- Ensure whatever is installed is accessible at all levels (playground is not mulch, has ramps, interactive features for ALL abilities)
- Help from local artist to make the space colourful and inviting
- I do not support "Indigenous Placekeeping." Make it a place for everyone.
- I think both parks should have murals and/or inscriptions/structures/statues which highlight the immense role which black canadians had upon the early days of The Town Of York
- I would focus on one thing for each park (e.g. playground/games in the bigger one, and gathering/social/seating in the smaller).
- In this busy part of the city, a place that is calm and peaceful is really important for the mental health of residents who don't have access to quiet and peaceful places. This is far more important than playgrounds and exercise areas which are already present in the neighbourhood.
- Include a water feature or fountain please.
- Include lgbtqi voices in the design voices along with Black voices. There's absolutely no visibility. This must change!!
- It will be a shame if the facades that face the park (part of the Fitzrovia development) as well as the stairwell are not saved. While the colourful buildings are not necessarily old enough to be conserved heritage, they are some of the most interesting buildings in the area. It would be cool if the facades were maintained as part of the Fitzrovia development and acted as retail frontages for new businesses. With all the office development coming to the area, this would be a great spot to get lunch. Some colour and whimsy would be incredible here. Those stairs would act as the focal point of the park and almost as a piece of public art. They would be a reason to visit the park by themselves. I think it is important to think about context here - this park is not being designed in isolation. It is being wrapped by buildings on three sides. How can it become an intimate and welcoming space? Also, it would be incredible if the ball light fixtures that are currently in the parking lot could be saved and incorporated. They are very, very cool!!!
- joyful public art

- Keep in mind what businesses and buildings are near here. I think main users will be people taking breaks from work
- Lots of eating options in area so seating and need more greenery along street and nod to design district. No playgrounds for either. Adult spaces.
- Make it a massive tree repository
- Make this a lush green space where it comfortable to sit, talk, read. Play structure for kids.
- Neglect-resistant plantings. Make it a mini green oasis in middle of surrounding glass and steel. A water feature to drown noise. Misting machine in summer?
- New developments on King St E will render this entire area shady - please bear this in mind when considering shade structures.
- No shade structures are needed, well placed trees can provide shade in warm months (along with all the other benefits of trees.) It would be wonderful to have sculptures that can be used to sit/climb on/play on, over traditional playground furniture. Traditional playgrounds make a place feel designated for children and make childless adults seem a bit out of place. Since these are small spaces, it would be great if they were designed for anyone to use. Examples: Agget' – Egon Moeller Nielsen Tessin park in Stockholm, 1951 'Blue Whale' Designed by Monstrum Plikta park, Gothenburg, Sweden 'Playground' by artist Tom Otterness Aspinwall Riverfront Park, USA See "Playground as Sculpture Park" on Everyday Tourist (.ca) for some other examples.
- Park should be 24/7 and not close at midnight like other parks. People who work non standard hours need to be able to access freely and not be discriminated against. We need more adults only spaces in this city. Park should be limited to adult pedestrians only. No bikes, no pets, no kids, no skateboards, etc. Make it exclusive to quiet, peaceful adults on foot only.
- Plant very tall trees
- Playgrounds exist extensively at Esplanade, princess st, and st James. No more
- Please ensure there is ongoing operational funding to ensure the new park is maintained- I have seen way too many examples of parks and other public realm spaces that are upgraded only to find in a few years the trees are dead or dying, and the planet in general beds are choked with weeds due to lack of maintenance
- please focus on the park having grass and not just all concrete as a base
- Please no local parks or playgrounds have good shade in the morning except sackville playground. This is very important for it to be usable all day!
- Pollinator gardens. Bird friendly. No need for playground gym equipment - condos have that.
- Public Art-- Fruit trees and bushes- a large clock
- Public water fountain. As a resident of the area and a runner this is very important to me.
- Roller skating rink
- Same as above.
- seating is a must- could be a great place for people to purchase their lunches at the restaurants along King and bring outside for a picnic
- Skatepark, either shaded or in the open
- Splash pad and natural playground (wood structures), soft padding on the ground and fences to protect from cars
- There is a real lack of outdoor chess tables in the downtown toronto area. There used to be chess tables at queen st. E and church st. that served as a vibrant area for all members of the community to gather. When these tables were removed, it also ruined the chess community in toronto. I think outdoor chess tables will encourage a

multifaceted use of the park and encourage a sense of community that existed just a short distance away.

- There is absolutely no greenery in this area - plantings, trees and greenery would be SO nice to have!
- This is a TINY park in a historic area, don't screw it up! It cannot offer everything to everyone.
- This is a very small footprint for a park and will likely be used primarily by residents next to it. It should focus primarily on comfortable seating, some greenery, maybe an art piece and shade. Any landscaping must withstand high traffic. These little parkettes often become primarily a place for dog owners to relieve their animals. The design should reflect this reality.
- This neighbourhood could benefit from more green space that is flexible and a place to stop and sit, like St James Park. An empty concrete space like the new park at Baseball Place should probably be avoided
- This park is small, but should be a retreat for urban life. It would be good to focus on greenery and biophilia.
- This will be a much smaller park space, this should be a thoughtful and meditative space that is more secluded, and is surrounded by lush landscaping. Landscaping should introduce local and native fauna. Park should have reduced hardscaping, only where necessary. Seating should not be anti-homeless. This is a form of hostile architecture that makes parks inequitable.
- Use of native plants as an act of reconciliation and promote ecological biodiversity. This should be critical in both parks. Lots of native grasses and perennials to bring in pollinators, colour and textures.
- Water fountain
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