

Community Engagement Phase 1 Summary Report

Barbara Hall Park Improvements

Phase 1: Towards a Vision

City of Toronto – Parks, Forestry & Recreation

August 2024

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Introduction

The City of Toronto is collaborating with the local Church-Wellesley Village community to develop a new vision and improvement plan for Barbara Hall Park. The objectives of the park vision and improvement plan are to enhance the park's function for everyday use and as a central gathering space for the City's 2SLGBTQ+ community; better accommodate passive and active uses, special events, and moments of reflection; and improve park maintenance and safety for all.

Phase 1: Towards a Vision

The purpose of this phase was to create a new community-led vision that will serve as the foundation for the development of design options for the park once a design team is hired. The following sections present the draft vision statement, guiding principles, and big moves for the park improvements, and a summary of what we heard through an online thought exchange activity, a community workshop, two Community Advisory Committee meetings, an intercept survey of vulnerable park users, and an online survey of the broader community.

How We Reached People

Print Media

Signage

Notice boards placed in the park displayed information about the project, the engagement activities, and how to access additional information on the project webpage.

Flyer

Flyers posted throughout the community, including the park and The 519 community centre, advertised the thought exchange and community workshop.

Digital Media

Project Webpage

The webpage (toronto.ca/BarbaraHallPark) provided up-to-date information about the project and the engagement activities, and a button for community members to sign up to the mailing list and receive email updates.

Email Update

Email updates were sent to the mailing list to notify subscribers of the engagement activities.

Social Media and Digital Ads

Engagement activities were promoted through paid advertisements and organic posts on the Parks, Forestry and Recreation division's [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [X](#) accounts.

Key Outcomes

During Phase 1 of the engagement process, the project team created several iterations of a vision statement, guiding principles, and big moves for Barbara Hall Park. These were directly informed by feedback from the Church-Wellesley Village community, including a variety of local organizations and stakeholders.

Vision Statement

A vision statement is a description of the big-picture goals and objectives of the new park design.

The vision statement for Barbara Hall Park is:

“A revitalized Barbara Hall Park will be a place to gather, celebrate, and heal. It will be an inclusive and welcoming space that is the green focal point of the City's 2SLGBTQ+ community in the Church-Wellesley Village. As home of the AIDS and Trans Memorials, the park will offer calm and quiet space for reflection and mourning of those lost, while also celebrating the history and resilience of the 2SLGBTQ+ community through heritage interpretation, art and culture. The park design will ensure it is a place where everyone in the surrounding community feels welcome and comfortable while centering needs of the most vulnerable. Barbara Hall Park will be a highly accessible, functional and cohesive

space that is easy to program and is animated throughout the year with community-focused programming for people of all ages, ethnicities, abilities, and incomes.”

Guiding Principles

Guiding principles are values-based recommendations that help guide how the park should be designed to achieve the vision.

In no particular order, the guiding principles for the park are:

- **Balance:** The park design should balance the community need for a welcoming green oasis and community events.
- **Animate:** The park design should improve the existing park’s programming and provide opportunities for additional daily animation.
- **Functional:** The park design should enhance the park’s circulation and provide a variety of spaces for seating and passive use.
- **Durable:** The park design should incorporate site furnishings, surface materials, plantings, lighting and waste management that can be easily and routinely maintained.
- **Accessible:** The park design should surpass an Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)-level of accessibility.
- **Equitable:** The park design should promote equity and support the existing and future community outreach/care programs that exist there.
- **Celebrate:** The park design should celebrate 2SLGBTQ+ communities.
- **Commemorate:** The park design should continue to be a place to reflect on and mourn the lives that have been lost to AIDS while also celebrating people living with HIV/AIDS today.
- **Future proof:** The park design should allow for the potential future expansion of the AIDS Memorial through the addition of new pillars.

Big Moves

Big moves are the main priorities for the design of the park. They are specific directions for the design team that flow from the vision and guiding principles and help to make them a reality.

In no particular order, the draft big moves for the park are:

- Add a small cafe/retail space to animate the park.
- Add washroom facilities.
- Add site furnishings that will contribute to the park’s animation (i.e. more seating, games tables, fitness station).

- Remove the stage to improve sightlines and increase flexibility.
- Enhance the memorials to make them more prominent and more accessible.
- Incorporate new elements in the park that celebrate people living with HIV/AIDS.
- Develop a Community Stewardship Plan for the AIDS Memorial.
- Create a sense of arrival in front of the Trans Memorial through improved paving and landscaping.
- Incorporate heritage interpretation to tell the story of the park and the 2SLGBTQ+ community in Toronto.
- Improve the Dogs Off-Leash Area.

Thought Exchange

The project team conducted an online thought exchange from April 21 to May 7, 2023, as a key activity in Phase 1 of the engagement process. A thought exchange is an interactive activity that allows community members to share their thoughts and ideas, and to read and rate those of other participants in a collaborative, two-way process. This tool gives staff and the public a better understanding of the community's priorities than a typical survey would allow.

The goal of the thought exchange was to define an overall vision for the park improvements, including a series of guiding principles, which will guide the development of design options in Phase 2.

The thought exchange received 341 thoughts and 7,926 ratings from 282 participants of various ages and backgrounds.

Who Participated

- 15% of participants were 19 to 29 years old, 35% were 30 to 39 years old, 27% were 40 to 55 years old, 13% were 56 to 64 years old, and 7% were 65 to 74 years old.
- 52% of participants identified as a man and 20% identified as a woman.
- 66% of participants identified as white, 9% identified as Asian, 9% identified as a person of colour, and 7% identified as Latin American.
- 14% of participants identified as an immigrant or refugee.
- 2% of participants identified as First Nations, Inuit, or Métis and/or Indigenous to Canada.
- 17% of participants identified as a person living with a disability.
- 68% of participants identified as 2SLGBTQ+.
- 12% of participants had access to private outdoor space like a yard, 26% to semi-private/shared outdoor space, and 54% to only public spaces like parks.

For a full summary of participant demographics, including a graphic representation of this data, please see the appendix.

Feedback Summary

This section summarizes the feedback collected through the thought exchange.

Participants were asked to complete the following statement: "A revitalized Barbara Hall Park will be a place to/that..." The highest rated thoughts were:

1. Walking at any time of the day without being afraid of angry people surrounding the park. I think everyone needs to feel safe in their neighborhood and not try to avoid the space. (4.5 rating)
2. Is a gathering place for the LGBT+ community. Safe spaces are still needed and important. (4.4 rating)
3. ... that is a safe space for the community to gather. The park should be a hub of community activities, but currently is not. (4.4 rating)
4. The entire community can enjoy. Communities thrive when members of that community can share space and experiences. (4.4 rating)
5. Is inviting and safe. (4.4 rating)
6. A place that is safe and available. Because the park was once a hub of the community and a viable green space is needed. (4.4 rating)
7. Have regular litter/garbage cleaned up. Garbage attracts more garbage. (4.3 rating)
8. Is safe. Meet friends for coffee, hangout, watch entertainment. (4.3 rating)
9. Right now the park has become a de facto refuge for homeless LGBTQ+ people often with mental illness. it serves this function poorly there should be active resources for these people that actually help them. (4.3 rating)
10. Be able to enjoy the beauty of outdoors and connect with others, while feeling it is safe space at the same time. With limited spaces especially outdoor spaces in Village it is important we have a space that features regular programming to bring community together. (4.3 rating)

The thoughts were organized into 20 themes. Ranked by the total number of thoughts within each theme, the top five themes were:

1. Is safe (126 thoughts)
2. Is welcoming and inclusive (65 thoughts)
3. Gather and hang out (59 thoughts)
4. Prioritizes and supports vulnerable people (56 thoughts)
5. Experience nature and the outdoors (41 thoughts)

When ranked by the average rating of thoughts within each theme, referred to as the star score, a different set of priorities emerged. The theme "Go for a walk" moved up from 17th place to first, "Is calm and relaxing" moved up from 15th place to second, "Celebrate and unite 2SLGBTQ+ community" moved up from ninth place to third, and "Is safe" moved down from first place to eighth.

Ranked by the star score, the top five themes were:

1. Go for a walk (4.2 star score)
2. Is calm and relaxing (4.2 star score)
3. Celebrate and unite 2SLGBTQ+ community (4.1 star score)
4. Experience nature and the outdoors (4.1 star score)
5. Gather and hangout (4.1 star score)

A complete summary of the results, including all thoughts and ratings, can be viewed [online](#).

Spotlight on Alternative Perspectives

When engaging the community on a new vision for the park, the issue of safety was strongly contested, particularly as it relates to vulnerable park users, including those experiencing homelessness, addiction, and mental health issues:

- More than 100 thought exchange participants who rated the need for safety in the park 4.3 or higher in turn rated the need to prioritize and support vulnerable park users 1.8 or lower. They also expressed concerns about the presence of vulnerable people in the park.
- On the other hand, about 30 participants who rated the need for safety in the park 2.4 or lower in turn rated the need to prioritize and support vulnerable park users 4.3 or higher, upholding the right of vulnerable people to access programs and services and seek refuge in the park.

Similarly, while many participants at the community workshop stressed the need to feel safe in the park, other participants requested that the word "safe" not be used as it can mean different things to different people and tends to reflect how non-vulnerable park users feel around vulnerable park users.

Community Advisory Committee Meeting #1

The first Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting was held virtually on May 9, 2023, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The purpose of this meeting was to welcome and introduce CAC members to the project team, provide an overview of the project, review the CAC's Terms of Reference, solicit feedback on the plans for the upcoming community workshop, and respond to questions and comments.

Who Participated

The meeting was attended by 13 CAC members, including four members-at-large and representatives of the following organizations:

- Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association
- Church-Wellesley Village Business Improvement Area
- Circle of Cedar Singers
- Gerstein Crisis Centre
- Inner City Family Health Team
- Pride Toronto
- Progress Place
- The 519

Four CAC members were absent, including representatives of ACT Toronto and the Barbara Hall Park Dog Park Association.

The following project team members were present:

- Daniel Fusca, Public Consultation Manager, City of Toronto
- José Ramón Martí, Public Consultation Coordinator, City of Toronto
- Tonya Crawford, Senior Project Coordinator, City of Toronto

Feedback Summary

This section summarizes the main discussion. CAC members' questions and comments are not presented verbatim. Responses from the project team are noted in italics.

Community workshop:

- The plan for next week's workshop looks really good.

Design consultant:

- Are there any restrictions with respect to hiring the design consultant?
 - *The design consultant must be a landscape architect in good standing with Ontario Architectural Association. We are looking to bring on a diverse team, including an 2SLGBTQ+ design advisor to ensure the space is inclusive and meets the needs of the community.*
- Will money be spent on an external consultant or agency that will allow local community and agencies to be involved in the design process?
 - *The work is carried out mostly by local agencies. Samples of previous work are shared when submitting a proposal.*

Safety and social issues:

- The number one consideration is safety. It's been an ongoing challenge in the park and there is disagreement about how to address it.
- The stage is used to sell drugs. How can it be used in a positive way without being taken away? Are we able to create a community hub in a safe way, given that a lot of surrounding area is being turned into condos?
- The park has severe problems that need to be dealt with. Hopefully the City can deal with these issues but save some money to build something that is valuable for the community in the future.
 - *This project is focused on the design process, but we plan to work collaboratively with other agencies so that design improvements will work hand in hand with other efforts (e.g. improve safety, services, outreach to unhoused) to make the park safer and a better experience for those who use it.*

Surrounding development:

- The first four row houses have been sold to a developer, which will affect population density and park surroundings. L-shaped property adjacent to park may be incorporated into the park and Master Plan.

Accessibility:

- As a park user, I admire what my able-bodied friends can access. We [people with physical disabilities] are often left out of the community. I dream that Barbara Hall Park will be that accessible community space.

Engagement of marginalized communities:

- The CAC should take the engagement process to marginalized communities. [Two CAC members agreed.]
 - *The Request for Proposal (RFP) includes a requirement that the vendor engage marginalized people through independent meetings/sessions throughout the project. The vendor will work with Social, Development, Finance and Administration staff in this process.*
- How will the CAC adopt the lens of marginalized park users? Should we setup a separate committee before first design considerations?
- Progress Place recently surveyed folks in the park. They would be willing to support engagement as well.
- We are dealing with people who are facing a diversity of challenges, such as physical or mental disability, homelessness, or addiction. It's important to keep this in mind as we move forward.
- For people who use drugs or experience homelessness, the park is their safe space and a large number of them are queer. We need to find a way to

accommodate everyone. With this process hopefully we can help these communities get access to these services. We need to include their voices.

Project timeframe and other park improvement projects:

- Three years into the Linear Park improvements, construction has yet to begin. The revitalization of Barbara Hall Park shouldn't begin until other park improvements in the area have been completed and the parks have re-opened. City staff need to be considerate of the people who live here.
- With the upcoming closure of Moss Park and potentially Linear Park, the local community may be left with little green space when the Barbara Hall Park revitalization begins. What will be done to address this potential lack of park access?
 - *There is no construction timeline for the revitalization of Barbara Hall Park as construction is not included within the scope of the project. Once the Master Plan is complete, a new project will be created to implement the park improvements pending available funds. Construction timing of the surrounding green spaces will be considered when implementing the park improvements.*

Community Workshop

On May 15, 2023, the project team held a community workshop at The 519 community centre from 5:30 to 8 p.m. The purpose of the workshop was to introduce the project and Master Plan process, share the work done to date, and co-develop a renewed vision, design principles, and big moves for the revitalization of Barbara Hall Park.

Who Participated

More than 40 community members participated in the workshop, including people of different ages and backgrounds.

The following City staff members from Parks, Forestry, and Recreation were present:

- Peter Didiano, Program Manager
- Katy Aminian, Senior Project Manager
- Tonya Crawford, Senior Project Coordinator
- Daniel Fusca, Public Consultation Manager
- Kim Behrouzian, Graphic Design and Visualization Supervisor
- José Ramón Martí, Public Consultation Coordinator
- Esther Afriat, Project Manager, Parks Ambassador Program Unit

- Grant Drygas, General Supervisor

The following City staff members from Community Infrastructure Social Development, Finance, and Administration were present:

- Kate Rabinowicz, Community Development Officer
- Sean Major, Project Manager

In addition, the local Councillor attended with staff members.

Feedback Summary

This section outlines key ideas and suggestions shared by participants during the three workshop activities.

Activity 1: Building a Vision

Participants collaborated in small groups to craft a vision statement for the park. They were asked to complete the sentence, "Barbara Hall Park will be/feel/look..." The responses have been summarized below to reflect a synthesis of visions shared across all groups.

Participants envisioned that Barbara Hall Park will:

- Provide a welcoming and inclusive space for the 2SLGTBQ+ community
- Be a multi-purpose space offering dedicated spots that are easy to program
- Work to improve and potentially relocate the AIDS and Trans Memorials onsite
- Work to recognize the different perceptions of "safety" that are held by different groups, including unhoused and street-involved park users, to facilitate future conversations around programming and operation of social services onsite

Activity 2: Guiding Principles

Participants worked in small groups to establish guiding principles that achieve the group's vision statement. Groups completed a worksheet and placed their guiding principles on a graphic image of a bullseye following four prompting levels of importance. The responses have been summarized below according to the common themes that were identified within each ring of the bullseye.

Under "might help to achieve":

- Create unity between areas of the park
- Invite community members to share information
- Provide a range of seating options

Under "encouraged to achieve":

- Ensure the park is well maintained

- Integrate public art

Under "useful to achieve":

- Prioritize greenery and calm spaces
- Provide multi-purpose park animation
- Re-envision the location and legibility of the AIDS and Trans Memorial

Under "necessary to achieve":

- Ensure that it is a welcoming, inclusive space for all park users
- Provide a space for community events and gathering
- Support community comfort, safety and accessibility for all

Activity 3: Potential Big Moves

Participants worked in the same small groups to develop and prioritize specific interventions that would implement their guiding principles. Each table received a deck of cards comprising six potential big moves and six wild cards on which participants could write their own big moves.

Participants played the following potential big move cards the most:

- "Add Small Café and Retail Space" was played seven times
- "Add Washroom Facilities" was played six times
- "Add Game Tables" was played four times
- "Add More Seating" (wild cards) was played twice
- "Formalize the Trans Memorial" (wild cards) was played twice

For a more detailed summary of the feedback collected at the community workshop, view the [summary report](#) or [online whiteboard](#).

Community Advisory Committee Meeting #2

The second Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting was held at The 519 community centre on October 12, 2023, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. The purpose of this meeting was to provide an update on recent and ongoing engagement activities, solicit feedback on the latest draft of the vision statement, design principles, and big moves, and respond to questions and comments.

Who Participated

The meeting was attended by nine CAC members, including one member-at-large and representatives of the following organizations:

- ACT Toronto
- Barbara Hall Park Dog Park Association
- Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association
- Gerstein Crisis Centre
- Inner City Family Health Team
- Progress Place
- The 519

Six CAC members were absent, including representatives of Church-Wellesley Village Business Improvement Area, Circle of Cedar Singers, and Pride Toronto.

The following project team members were present:

- Daniel Fusca, Public Consultation Manager, City of Toronto
- José Ramón Martí, Public Consultation Coordinator, City of Toronto
- Tonya Crawford, Senior Project Coordinator, City of Toronto

Feedback Summary

This section summarizes the main discussion. CAC members' questions and comments are not presented verbatim. Responses from the project team are noted in italics.

Draft vision statement:

- Why isn't race included in the statement (along with ages, abilities, etc.)?
 - *"Ethnicities" will be added.*

Draft design principles:

- Concern and lack of clarity around daily animation. Less concern about the idea of park regularly hosting a variety of users and uses.
 - *Language will be revised to clarify what is meant by daily animation – daily animation could include sitting on a bench, people watching, eating lunch, etc.*
- Concern that the park redesign is trying to accomplish too much, given the long list of design principles. May not be possible to include everything in master plan. May need to prioritize certain needs and uses over others. [A second CAC member agreed.]

Draft big moves:

- Adding a café would take space away from the park and isn't necessary given the businesses on Church Street. Could create more social issues given the park's existing challenges.
- Opposition to building any kind of permanent/fixed structure. The park is too small to accommodate a café or shipping containers.
- Agreement on including a space and/or temporary structure that could be used by local businesses and vendors on a rotating basis.
- Add a big move about the playground – the playground should be improved and more inviting.

Accessibility:

- Introduce smooth surfaces (over pavers) and eliminate ledges or gaps to improve accessibility.

AIDS Memorial:

- Is the condition of AIDS Memorial the result of built form or lack of upkeep and maintenance?
- Where was public concern and care for the memorial prior to master plan process?
- Lighting of the memorial should be improved.

Social issues:

- Need to temper expectation that “we are going to design our way out of a social problem.” Will young people with HIV want to celebrate near people using drugs? Washroom is more accessible but may lead to more drug overdose.

Lawn condition and uses:

- Disagreement about the cause of grass being in poor condition. Some CAC members think Green Space festival is the main cause and others think it's the lack of sunlight and soil compaction.
- Flatten existing green space to facilitate other uses and activities (non-programmed).

Development at 100 Wellesley Street East:

- Could the development at 100 Wellesley be incorporated into the park redesign?
 - *A Privately Owned Public Space (POPS) at 100 Wellesley is being developed independently of the master plan process. This is not City property. The City cannot factor it into design or make assumptions about when or if the development will go ahead.*

Landscaping at eastern park entrance:

- Possibility of the future building along Cawthra Square introducing landscaping to improve entrance to park.

Off-leash area:

- Barbara Hall Park Dog Park Association has submitted a proposal to improve the dog off-leash area through the Councillor-led participatory budgeting process.
- Lack of clarity and transparency around participatory budgeting process running in parallel to master plan process.
 - *It is a separate process and does not involve City staff but it is being funded from the same pot of money (Section 37 funding).*
 - *City staff have asked for coordination with the Councillor's office. It would make more sense to think about improvements together so the overall park design is integrated.*

Maintenance:

- Will the City increase maintenance following the park redesign?
- The easier the park is to maintain the better.

Climate change and sustainability:

- Consider climate change and the need to create resilient landscapes in the redesign.
- Given global warming, garden viability, what kind of open, green space is going to be viable in 5 years?

Request for Proposals (RFP) process:

- Would an open design competition change the project timeline compared to the standard RFP process?
 - *An open design competition would delay and extend the engagement timeline compared to the RFP process.*
- *City staff informed the CAC that one or two CAC members could form part of the RFP evaluation team. If more than two CAC members are interested in evaluating the RFP, a lottery will be used for selection.*
 - Two CAC members expressed interest in joining the RFP evaluation team.

Intercept Survey

From October 8 to October 24, 2023, The 519 conducted intercept surveys with vulnerable park users in Barbara Hall Park.

Who Participated

In total, staff from The 519 surveyed 40 community members who were experiencing poverty, homelessness, severe housing precarity, and/or other forms of marginalization. Respondents were provided an honourarium for their participation.

Feedback Summary

This section summarizes the feedback collected through the intercept survey.

When asked how welcome they feel in the park:

- 80% of respondents said somewhat or very welcome
- 18% of respondents said somewhat or very unwelcome

When asked how safe they feel in the park:

- 75% respondents said somewhat or very safe
- 25% respondents said somewhat or very unsafe

When asked what feeling safe means to them:

- 13 respondents said being free from violence (physical, emotional, sexual, etc.)
- 10 respondents said being in community (amongst friends or familiar faces)
- 9 respondents said having a sense of acceptance, belonging or understanding
- 8 respondents said being free from police or policing
- 7 respondents said more security measures
- 6 respondents said more supervision from outreach workers or social supports
- 5 respondents said no discarded needles or pipes
- 4 respondents said no drugs, drug users or drug sellers
- 3 respondents said:
 - having a clean park
 - being less aware or vigilant of their surroundings
 - being close to The 519
 - being authentic or feeling whole
 - maintaining or increasing the police presence in the park
- 2 respondents said:
 - having access to social supports or resources
 - being more inviting for Indigenous people
 - not being followed or targeted
- Other responses included:
 - Having a fully accessible space (e.g. accessible by mobility device)
 - Having more lighting and cameras
 - Having a safe injection site outside
 - Being more aware of what is happening in the park
 - Finding happiness in a space

- Safety for 2SLGBTQ+ community

When asked for feedback regarding the draft vision statement:

- 28 respondents liked the vision statement, either in whole or in part, and 1 respondent disliked it
- 10 respondents suggested focusing on making the park inclusive of everyone (e.g. 2SLGBTQ+, all ages, abilities, and cultures)
- 5 respondents commented on the AIDS Memorial, including suggestions to:
 - Celebrate rather than mourn the lives of those commemorated
 - Make the memorial more vibrant and colourful
 - Not alter the memorial
- 4 respondents:
 - emphasized the need for safety (e.g. for people living in, working in, or using the park)
 - suggested adding Indigenous elements (e.g. a sacred fire, a memorial for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and other Indigenous people)
- 3 respondents suggested:
 - adding more greenery (e.g. flowers, trees)
 - using clearer and more specific language
- 2 respondents suggested more programming for kids and other groups
- A respondent suggested adding a reference to harm reduction and other social supports

When asked for feedback regarding the draft guiding principles:

- 22 respondents expressed support for the guiding principles, either in whole or in part
- 8 respondents commented on the Equitable principle, including:
 - Deliver more community outreach/care programs in the park
 - Ensure the park can be accessed by unhoused and low-income people
 - Focus on all community members, not one community in particular
 - Reduce police presence
- 7 respondents commented on the Commemorate principle, including:
 - Improve the AIDS Memorial
 - Protect the AIDS Memorial
 - Underscore the AIDS Memorial's importance
 - Focus on the Trans Memorial and trans community
- 6 respondents commented on the Accessible principle, including:
 - Improve accessibility
 - Add ramps
 - Add a structure to shelter from weather
- 4 respondents commented on the Celebrate principle, including:
 - Emphasize the park's 2SLGBTQ+ history
 - Increase celebrations and make them more inclusive
- 3 respondents commented on the Balance principle, including:
 - Expand and preserve green space

- Ensure the park is inclusive and safe
- 3 respondents commented on the Animate principle, including:
 - Add more activities and programs
 - Offer programs for everyone
- 3 respondents commented on the Functional principle suggesting expanded and improved seating options
- 3 respondents commented on the Durable principle suggesting improved sanitation and maintenance
- A respondent suggested having a medicine wheel that incorporates all the principles

When asked for feedback regarding the big moves:

- 10 respondents supported leaving the stage in its current location, 4 respondents supported relocating the stage, and 2 respondents supported removing the stage
- 9 respondents supported either minor enhancements or more significant changes to the AIDS Memorial
- 8 respondents supported:
 - making improvements to the dog off-leash area, including expanding the area and adding poop bag dispensers
 - adding site furnishings such as more seating, a shade structure, and games tables
- 7 respondents supported adding washroom facilities, and 2 respondents were opposed
- 6 respondents supported:
 - adding a small café or retail space, and 4 respondents were opposed
 - adding more lighting, including string lights
- 5 respondents supported improving accessibility, including stage accessibility in particular
- 4 respondents:
 - supported incorporating heritage interpretation
 - suggested providing outreach staff and/or care programs and services
 - suggested adding more greenery, including trees
- 3 respondents suggested adding more safe disposal bins and drinking fountains
- Other suggestions included honouring the park as a sacred space and adding:
 - a mural or space to recognize people living with HIV,
 - a memorial to honour the street queer community
 - a water feature
 - a community bulletin board
 - signage that is welcoming and positive

When asked if there were other ways that the physical design of the park can be altered to improve their sense of safety and belonging:

- 6 respondents suggested adding more lighting throughout the park
- 5 respondents suggested adding more greenery
- 4 respondents suggested police patrols

- 3 respondents said they currently feel safe in the park
- Other suggestions included:
 - improving accessibility
 - having traditional elders and traditional medicine available
 - flying more flags, including the transgender flag
 - maintaining clear sightlines
 - installing an emergency call button
 - adding better safe disposal bins
 - adding a covered area to protect from weather

Some respondents suggested ways to improve the park that are not physical improvements. These include:

- assigning more outreach workers and providing other social supports to vulnerable and street-involved park users
- assigning more police or security personnel to the park

Online Survey

The project team conducted an online survey from April 17 to May 1, 2024, as a key activity in Phase 1 of the engagement process. The survey collected feedback on the draft vision statement, guiding principles, and big moves for the park.

Who We Heard From

The survey received 582 submissions from at least 778 respondents of various ages and backgrounds, including members of the same household who completed the survey together.

Respondents were asked to provide demographic information to help the City better understand who participated in the survey. This data was collected in alignment with the Data for Equity Strategy and is meant to ensure that City programs and services are delivered equitably.

A complete summary of respondent demographics can be found in Appendix B.

Feedback Summary

This section summarizes the feedback collected through the online survey, including over 450 written responses.

Overall, the survey feedback can be summarized as follows:

- **Respondents largely support the draft vision, draft guiding principles, and draft big moves.** The majority of respondents agreed with the vision statement and supported each of the guiding principles. Of the nine guiding principles, seven received very high levels of support (over 80%). Of the ten big moves, only the proposal to improve the dogs off-leash area failed to receive majority support (49%). This proposal also ranked lowest among the big moves.
- **“Safety” is a concern.** Similar to what we heard through other engagement activities, respondents expressed nuanced but also very contrary views on the issue of “safety”. Many respondents noted that visiting the park makes them feel unsafe and reported witnessing or experiencing harassment, intimidation, violence, and criminal activity. As a result, some respondents avoid the park and would like to see security improved, including heightened surveillance. Other respondents pointed out that the park provides a safe space for vulnerable and street-involved people and stressed the need to better accommodate and support these park users.
- **The park redesign should balance the needs of all park users.** Many respondents remarked that, as a public space, the park should be enjoyed equally by all community members, including children, seniors, and 2SLGBTQ+ people. They felt that the park should not prioritize the needs of vulnerable people at the expense of other park users and the term “the most vulnerable” should be clarified. Several respondents urged the City to address the social challenges within the park, including issues related to homelessness, mental health, and substance use, so that everyone can feel welcome and comfortable. Other respondents emphasized the right of unhoused and street-involved people to access and enjoy the park.
- **Adding washroom facilities poses safety and maintenance concerns.** Although the proposal to add washroom facilities received support from 57% of respondents and ranked second among the big moves, it also received a relatively high level of opposition (29%). A large number of respondents noted that washroom facilities would encourage a variety of illicit activities and could lead to more incidents of drug overdose in the park. Respondents were also concerned that washrooms would be difficult to monitor, maintain, keep clean, and protect from damage or misuse.

Draft Vision Statement

When asked how strongly they agree with the vision statement for Barbara Hall Park:

- 65% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed
- 17% of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed

When asked if there was anything they would like to add to or change about the vision statement:

- 61% of respondents answered no
- 39% of respondents answered yes

Their responses are summarized below:

- **Safety concerns:** Many respondents expressed that the park currently feels unsafe due to the presence of drug users, needles, and erratic behavior. They emphasized the need for increased security and cleanliness to make the park more welcoming.
- **Clarity on "most vulnerable":** There was confusion and disagreement over what "centering the needs of the most vulnerable" means. Some respondents believe it refers to the unhoused and drug users, while others feel it should focus on children, the elderly, and the disabled. Many requested a clearer definition.
- **Balancing needs:** Respondents stressed the importance of balancing the needs of all community members, not just the most vulnerable. Some felt the park should prioritize the needs of the entire community, including families and local residents.
- **Impact on usage:** The current state of the park, with issues related to drug use and homelessness, is deterring people from visiting. Many respondents wanted these issues addressed to make the park a pleasant and usable space for everyone.
- **Vision statement:** Some respondents found the vision statement too wordy and vague. They suggest making it more concise and specific, focusing on key aspects like safety, cleanliness, and inclusivity.
- **Addressing social issues:** While there was support for making the park welcoming to all, there was a strong sentiment that current challenges need to be addressed first to make any future improvements effective and meaningful.

Draft Guiding Principles

When asked how much they support or oppose the guiding principle "Balance: The park design should balance the community need for a welcoming green oasis and community events":

- 85% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 5% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the guiding principle "Animate: The park design should improve the existing park's programming and provide opportunities for additional daily animation":

- 72% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat

- 10% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the guiding principle “Functional: The park design should enhance the park’s circulation and provide a variety of spaces for seating and passive use”:

- 83% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 6% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the guiding principle “Durable: The park design should incorporate site furnishings, surface materials, plantings, lighting and waste management that can be easily and routinely maintained”:

- 92% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 3% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the guiding principle “Accessible: The park design should surpass an Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)-level of accessibility”:

- 83% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 3% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the guiding principle “Equitable: The park design should promote equity and support the existing and future community outreach/care programs that exist there”:

- 59% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 25% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the guiding principle “Celebrate: The park design should celebrate 2SLGBTQ+ communities”:

- 91% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 4% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the guiding principle “Commemorate: The park design should continue to be a place to reflect on and mourn the lives that have been lost to AIDS while also celebrating people living with HIV/AIDS today”:

- 90% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 4% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the guiding principle “Future proof: The park design should allow for the potential future expansion of the AIDS Memorial through the addition of new pillars”:

- 81% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 6% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked to rank the draft guiding principles from most important to least important to achieve through the park vision and improvement plan, respondents ranked them in the following order:

1. Balance: The park design should balance the community need for a welcoming green oasis and community events.
2. Celebrate: The park design should celebrate 2SLGBTQ+ communities.
3. Functional: The park design should enhance the park's circulation and provide a variety of spaces for seating and passive use.
4. Durable: The park design should incorporate site furnishings, surface materials, plantings, lighting, and waste management that can be easily and routinely maintained.
5. Commemorate: The park design should continue to be a place to reflect on and mourn the lives that have been lost to AIDS while also celebrating people living with HIV/AIDS today.
6. Animate: The park design should improve the existing park's programming and provide opportunities for additional daily animation.
7. Accessible: The park design should surpass an AODA-level of accessibility.
8. Equitable: The park design should promote equity and support the existing and future community outreach/care programs that exist there.
9. Future Proof: The park design should allow for the potential future expansion of the AIDS Memorial through the addition of new pillars.

When asked if there was anything they would like to add to or change about the guiding principles:

- 69% of respondents answered no
- 31% of respondents answered yes

Their responses are summarized below:

- Safety concerns: Many respondents emphasized the need for improved safety and security. Issues mentioned include drug use, violence, and the presence of unhoused individuals. Suggestions included increased security measures and better lighting.
- Role of the park: Many respondents focused on the park's purpose, with some advocating for it to remain a memorial and recreational space, while others believe it should not serve as a space for community outreach programs or as a refuge for unhoused individuals.
- Community use and inclusivity: Several respondents stressed the importance of making the park welcoming and inclusive for all members of the community,

including the LGBTQ+ community, without being dominated by any specific group.

- Maintenance and cleanliness: Concerns about the park's cleanliness and maintenance were prevalent among respondents. Comments highlighted the need to address litter, particularly drug paraphernalia, and ensure the park is clean and well-maintained.
- Balancing different uses: Some respondents suggested balancing the park's function as a memorial space with its use for recreational activities and community events. There were also calls for careful planning to avoid overcrowding and ensure the park remains a pleasant space for relaxation.
- Aesthetics and design: There was a desire for the park to be visually appealing, with suggestions for more greenery, flowers, and overall beautification. The design should promote a welcoming and calming atmosphere.
- Equity and accessibility: Some respondents criticized the use of the term "equity" and called for clearer definitions and practical implementations. There was also a focus on ensuring the park is accessible to everyone.
- Conflict with community outreach/care programs: There were mixed feelings about the role of outreach/care programs within the park. Some believe these programs contribute to the park's problems, while others see them as essential but requiring better management and separation from the park's primary functions.

Draft Big Moves

When asked how much they support or oppose the big move “Add a small cafe/retail space to animate the park”:

- 54% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 31% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the big move “Add washroom facilities”:

- 57% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 29% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the big move “Add site furnishings that will contribute to the park’s animation (i.e. more seating, games tables, fitness station)”:

- 65% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 15% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the big move “Remove the stage to improve sightlines and increase flexibility”:

- 51% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 21% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the big move “Enhance the memorials to make them more prominent and more accessible”:

- 70% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 9% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the big move “Incorporate new elements in the park that celebrate people living with HIV/AIDS”:

- 63% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 11% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the big move “Develop a Community Stewardship Plan for the AIDS Memorial”:

- 77% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 4% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the big move “Create a sense of arrival in front of the Trans Memorial through improved paving and landscaping”:

- 71% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 8% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the big move “Incorporate heritage interpretation to tell the story of the park and the 2SLGBTQ+ community in Toronto”:

- 80% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 5% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked how much they support or oppose the big move “Improve the Dogs Off-Leash Area”:

- 49% of respondents supported it strongly or somewhat
- 20% of respondents opposed it strongly or somewhat

When asked to rank the draft big moves from most important to least important to achieve through the park vision and improvement plan, respondents ranked them in the following order:

1. Add site furnishings that will contribute to the park’s animation (i.e. more seating, games tables, fitness station)
2. Add washroom facilities
3. Incorporate heritage interpretation to tell the story of the park and the 2SLGBTQ+ community in Toronto
4. Enhance the Trans and AIDS Memorials to make them more prominent and more accessible

5. Add a small café/retail space to animate the park
6. Develop a Community Stewardship Plan for the AIDS Memorial
7. Remove the stage to improve sightlines and increase flexibility
8. Incorporate new elements in the park that celebrate people living with HIV/AIDS
9. Create a sense of arrival in front of the Trans Memorial through improved paving and landscaping
10. Improve the Dogs Off-Leash Area

When asked if there was anything they would like to add to or change about the big moves:

- 69% of respondents answered no
- 31% of respondents answered yes

Their responses are summarized below:

- Safety and security:
 - Develop a comprehensive safety and security plan, including cleaning staff, security patrols, and police presence.
 - Implement night-time closing and enforce a gated park to protect the memorial and enhance safety.
 - Add emergency call buttons and improve lighting to make the park safer, especially after sunset.
- Washrooms:
 - There is significant concern about the misuse of washrooms by drug users, leading to issues with cleanliness and safety.
 - Some suggest partnering with The 519 for bathroom access instead of building new ones.
 - If new washrooms are added, ensure they are well-maintained, regularly cleaned, and monitored for safety.
- Retail and cafe space:
 - Many oppose the addition of a cafe or retail space, citing competition with local businesses and potential administrative issues.
 - Suggestions include focusing on non-commercial uses and ensuring any retail addition aligns with the park's community focus.
- Children's play area and dog off-leash area (OLA):
 - Suggestions to relocate the children's play area to a less central location or to reduce the size of the OLA to make space for other activities.
 - Concerns about the play area's current placement, which is seen as poorly situated and underutilized.
- Park design and features:
 - Mixed opinions on the stage removal. Some support keeping it for community events, while others suggest alternative uses for the space.

- Proposals for additional seating, fitness stations, and games tables, with a focus on maintaining flexibility for larger events.
- Emphasis on improving green space, adding more trees and flowers, and incorporating natural landscaping.
- Addressing homelessness and drug use:
 - The park is currently seen as unsafe due to the presence of unhoused people and drug users, leading to calls for more support and resources to address these issues.
- Memorials and community focus:
 - Enhance the AIDS and Trans Memorials to make them more prominent and accessible.
 - Incorporate elements that celebrate the 2SLGBTQ+ community and provide a space for contemporary achievements.
- General maintenance and upkeep:
 - Emphasis on the need for ongoing daily maintenance to keep the park clean and safe.
 - Concerns about the durability and longevity of new installations, ensuring they are built with quality materials.

Next Steps

In Phase 2 of the community engagement process, the project team will use the outcomes of Phase 1 to develop two to three design options for the park improvements. The design options will be presented for feedback and collaboration with community in Fall 2024/Winter 2025.

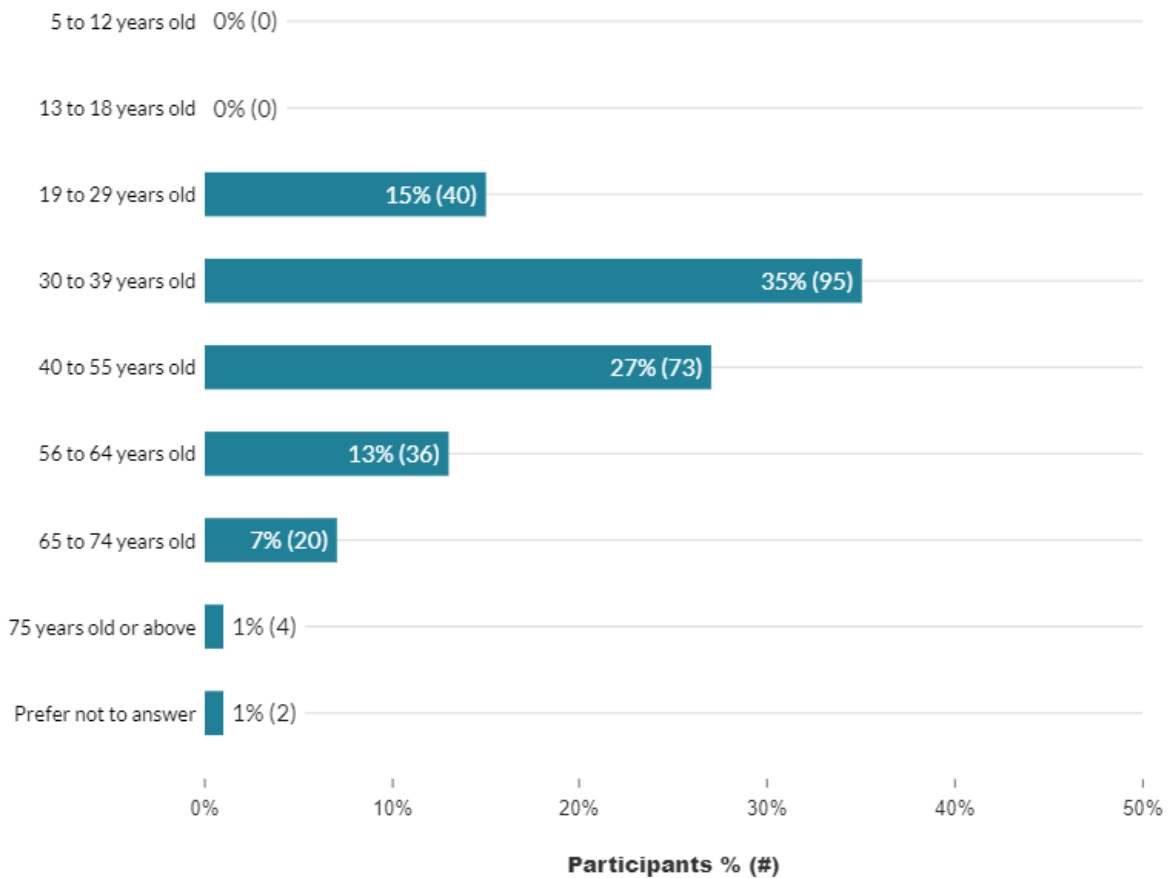
To view the project timeline, learn about upcoming community engagement opportunities, and sign up for email updates, visit the project webpage at toronto.ca/BarbaraHallPark.

Appendix A: Thought Exchange Participant Demographics

Q1 | How old are you?

Answered: 270

Not answered: 12

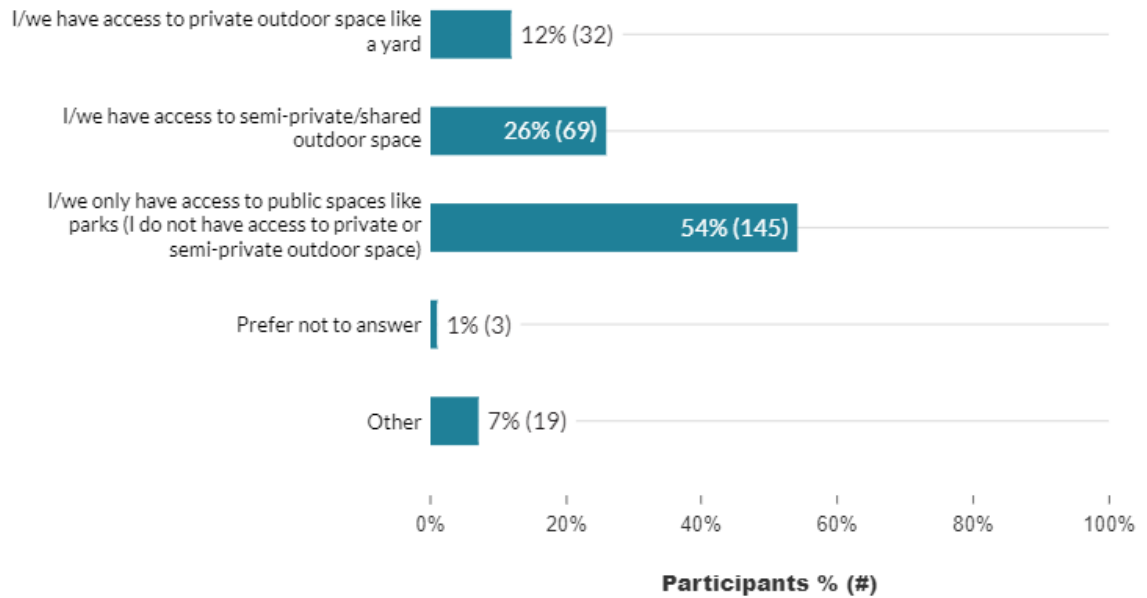


Q2

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

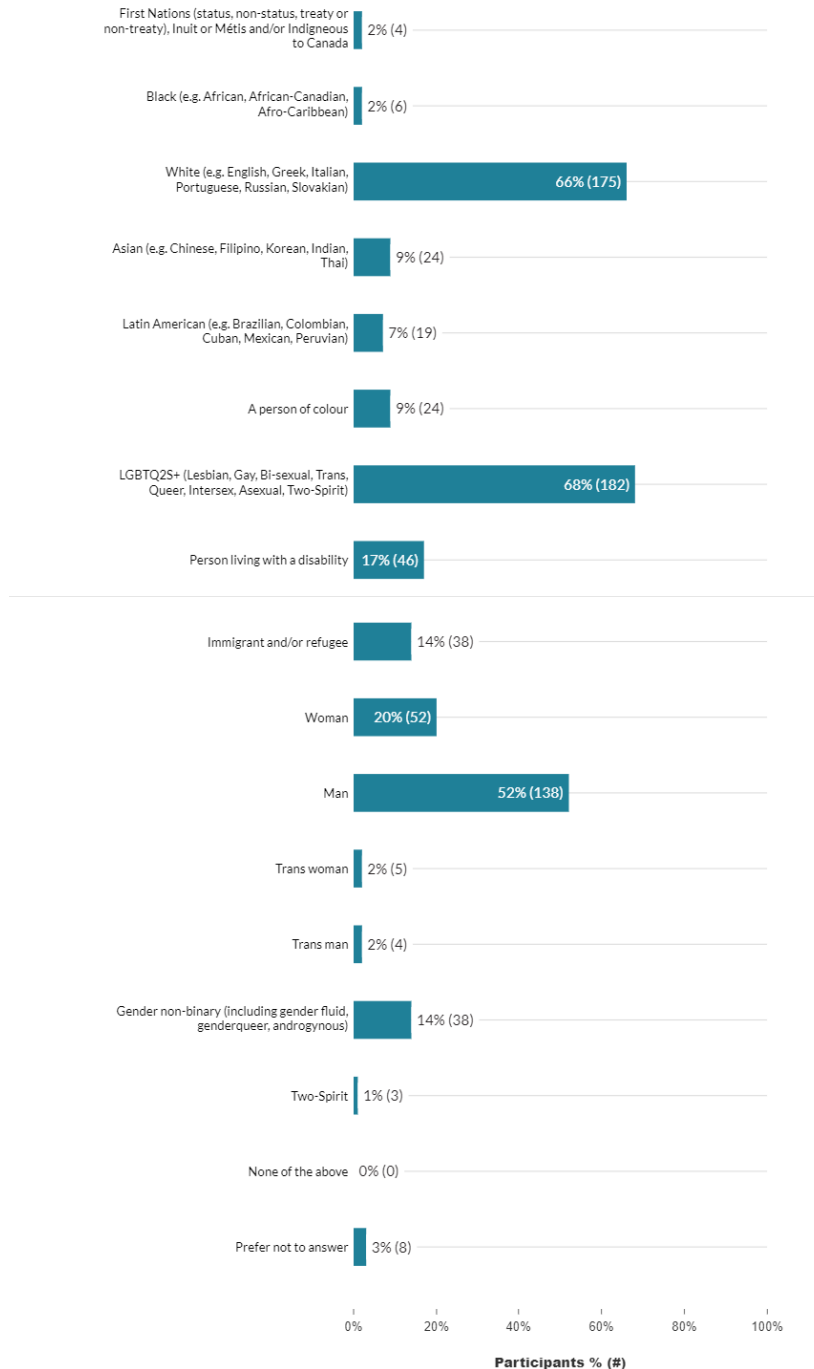
Answered: 268

Not answered: 14








Q3 | Check all that apply. Do you identify as any of the following:

Answered: 266
Not answered: 16











Appendix B: Online Survey Respondent Demographics

How far do you travel to get to Barbara Hall Park?

	Count	% of responses	%
0 to 0.5 km	187		49%
0.5 to 1 km	64		17%
1 to 5 km	92		24%
More than 5 km	30		8%
Prefer not to answer	8		2%










N 381

How often do you visit Barbara Hall Park?

	Count	% of responses	%
Daily	27		7%
A few times a week	64		17%
Once a week	29		8%
A few times a month	66		17%
Once a month	27		7%
A few times a year or less	149		39%
I have never been to Barbara Hall Park	4		1%
Prefer not to answer	15		4%








N 381

When visiting Barbara Hall Park, who do you go with most often? Select all that apply.

	Count	% of responses	%
Alone	208		55%
Friends	135		35%
Spouse or partner	120		31%
Pets	52		14%
Other, please specify	38		10%
Family	23		6%
Children	16		4%
Prefer not to answer	6		2%
I have never been to Barbara Hall Park	5		1%

N 381

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

	Count	% of responses	%
0 to 4 years old	0		
5 to 12 years old	0		
13 to 18 years old	0		
19 to 29 years old	29		8%
30 to 39 years old	82		22%
40 to 55 years old	128		34%
56 to 64 years old	84		22%
65 to 74 years old	39		10%
75 years old or above	9		2%
Prefer not to answer	10		3%

N 381

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

- 0 to 4 years old = 15
- 5 to 12 years old = 7
- 13 to 18 years old = 5
- 19 to 29 years old = 18
- 30 to 39 years old = 42
- 40 to 55 years old = 59
- 56 to 64 years old = 30
- 65 to 74 years old = 12
- 75 years old or above = 8




N 381

What language do you prefer speaking?

- English = 367 = 96%
- French = 5 = 1%
- Arabic = 1 = 0%
- Armenian = 1 = 0%
- Chinese - Mandarin = 1 = 0%
- Farsi = 1 = 0%
- Indigenous - Cree = 1 = 0%
- Italian = 1 = 0%
- Portuguese = 1 = 0%
- Spanish = 1 = 0%
- Not listed = 1 = 0%












N 381

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	341		90%
Prefer not to answer	24		6%





N 381

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?

	Count	% of responses	%
White (e.g. English, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Slovakian, Eastern European)	261		69%
Prefer not to answer	45		12%
Latin American (e.g. Brazilian, Colombian, Cuban, Mexican, Peruvian)	17		4%
More than one race category or mixed race	15		4%
South Asian or Indo-Caribbean (e.g. Indian, Indo- Guyanese, Indo-Trinidadian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan)	14		4%
Black (e.g. African, African-Canadian, Afro-Caribbean)	10		3%
First Nations (status, non-status, treaty or non-treaty), Inuit or Métis	10		3%
East Asian (e.g. Chinese, Japanese, Korean)	8		2%
Southeast Asian (e.g. Filipino, Malaysian, Singaporean, Thai, Vietnamese)	6		2%
Other, please describe	6		2%
Arab, Middle Eastern or West Asian (e.g. Afghan, Armenian, Iranian, Lebanese, Persian, Turkish)	5		1%





N 381

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	98		26%
No	244		64%
Don't know	5		1%
Prefer not to answer	34		9%









N 381

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

	Count	% of responses	%
Yes	35		9%
No	303		80%
Don't know	4		1%
Prefer not to answer	39		10%









N 381

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	%
Man	250		66%
Woman	73		19%
Prefer not to answer	34		9%
Gender non-binary (including gender fluid, genderqueer, androgynous)	23		6%
Trans woman	5		1%
Trans man	5		1%
Two-Spirit	5		1%
Not listed, please describe	4		1%






N 381

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	%
Gay	226		59%
Queer	52		14%
Heterosexual or straight	42		11%
Prefer not to answer	37		10%
Bisexual	31		8%
Lesbian	15		4%
Not listed, please describe	7		2%
Two-Spirit	6		2%
Don't know	0		

N 381

What best describes your current housing situation?

	Count	% of responses	%
Home owner	159		42%
Renting	199		52%
Permanently living with parent(s) or other family member(s)	6		2%
Temporarily staying with others (no fixed address)	0		
Unhoused (staying outside, in a shelter, in a 24-hour respite)	0		
Prefer not to answer	13		3%
Not listed, please describe	4		1%

N 381

What best describes you and your household's access to outdoor space? Select all that apply.






	Count	% of responses	%
I have access to private outdoor space like a balcony	191		50%
I only have access to public spaces like parks (I do not have access to private or semi-private outdoor space)	87		23%
I have access to semi-private/shared outdoor space	84		22%
I have access to private outdoor space like a yard	65		17%
Prefer not to answer	11		3%

N 381

Appendix C: Online Survey Quantitative Results



Vision Statement

How strongly do you agree with the vision statement for Barbara Hall Park?

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly Disagree	35		6%
Disagree	63		11%
Neutral	107		18%
Agree	214		37%
Strongly Agree	163		28%

N 582

Is there anything that you would add or change about the vision statement?






	Count	% of responses	%
Yes	225		39%
No	357		61%

N 582

Guiding Principles






How much do you support or oppose the following guiding principle for Barbara Hall Park?

Balance: The park design should balance the community need for a welcoming green oasis and community events.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	7		2%
Somewhat oppose	15		3%
Neutral	43		10%
Somewhat support	120		28%
Strongly support	246		57%






N 431

Animate: The park design should improve the existing park's programming and provide opportunities for additional daily animation.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	14		3%
Somewhat oppose	30		7%
Neutral	76		18%
Somewhat support	129		30%
Strongly support	182		42%






N 431

Functional: The park design should enhance the park's circulation and provide a variety of spaces for seating and passive use.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	13		3%
Somewhat oppose	14		3%
Neutral	46		11%
Somewhat support	126		29%
Strongly support	232		54%






N 431

Durable: The park design should incorporate site furnishings, surface materials, plantings, lighting and waste management that can be easily and routinely maintained.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	8		2%
Somewhat oppose	4		1%
Neutral	21		5%
Somewhat support	56		13%
Strongly support	342		79%






N 431

Accessible: The park design should surpass an Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)-level of accessibility.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	6		1%
Somewhat oppose	7		2%
Neutral	61		14%
Somewhat support	70		16%
Strongly support	287		67%






N 431

Equitable: The park design should promote equity and support the existing and future community outreach/care programs that exist there.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	58		13%
Somewhat oppose	51		12%
Neutral	70		16%
Somewhat support	81		19%
Strongly support	171		40%






N 431

Celebrate: The park design should celebrate 2SLGBTQ+ communities.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	12		3%
Somewhat oppose	6		1%
Neutral	19		4%
Somewhat support	58		13%
Strongly support	336		78%






N 431

Commemorate: The park design should continue to be a place to reflect on and mourn the lives that have been lost to AIDS while also celebrating people living with HIV/AIDS today.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	7		2%
Somewhat oppose	7		2%
Neutral	28		6%
Somewhat support	69		16%
Strongly support	320		74%










N 431

Future proof: The park design should allow for the potential future expansion of the AIDS Memorial through the addition of new pillars.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	10		2%
Somewhat oppose	16		4%
Neutral	59		14%
Somewhat support	85		20%
Strongly support	261		61%



N 431

Rank the draft guiding principles from most important (1) to least important (9) to achieve through the park vision and improvement plan.

	% of responses	%
Balance: The park design should balance the community need for a welcoming green oasis and community events.		14%
Celebrate: The park design should celebrate 2SLGBTQ+ communities.		14%
Functional: The park design should enhance the park's circulation and provide a variety of spaces for seating and passive use.		14%
Durable: The park design should incorporate site furnishings, surface materials, plantings, lighting, and waste management that can be easily and routinely maintained.		13%
Commemorate: The park design should continue to be a place to reflect on and mourn the lives that have been lost to AIDS while also celebrating people living with HIV/AIDS today.		11%
Animate: The park design should improve the existing park's programming and provide opportunities for additional daily animation.		10%
Accessible: The park design should surpass an AODA-level of accessibility.		10%
Equitable: The park design should promote equity and support the existing and future community outreach/care programs that exist there.		8%
Future Proof: The park design should allow for the potential future expansion of the AIDS Memorial through the addition of new pillars.		7%

N 431

Is there anything that you would add or change about the guiding principles?






	Count	% of responses	%
Yes	132		31%
No	299		69%

N 431

Big Moves






How much do you support or oppose the following big moves for Barbara Hall Park?

Add a small cafe/retail space to animate the park.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	69		18%
Somewhat oppose	52		13%
Neutral	55		14%
Somewhat support	91		23%
Strongly support	121		31%






N 388

Add washroom facilities.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	72		19%
Somewhat oppose	40		10%
Neutral	55		14%
Somewhat support	73		19%
Strongly support	148		38%






N 388

Add site furnishings that will contribute to the park's animation (i.e. more seating, games tables, fitness station).

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	27		7%
Somewhat oppose	32		8%
Neutral	76		20%
Somewhat support	127		33%
Strongly support	126		32%






N 388

Remove the stage to improve sightlines and increase flexibility.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	31		8%
Somewhat oppose	52		13%
Neutral	107		28%
Somewhat support	84		22%
Strongly support	114		29%






N 388

Enhance the memorials to make them more prominent and more accessible.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	15		4%
Somewhat oppose	20		5%
Neutral	78		20%
Somewhat support	83		21%
Strongly support	192		49%






N 388

Incorporate new elements in the park that celebrate people living with HIV/AIDS.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	19		5%
Somewhat oppose	23		6%
Neutral	102		26%
Somewhat support	94		24%
Strongly support	150		39%






N 388

Develop a Community Stewardship Plan for the AIDS Memorial.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	9		2%
Somewhat oppose	7		2%
Neutral	73		19%
Somewhat support	115		30%
Strongly support	184		47%






N 388

Create a sense of arrival in front of the Trans Memorial through improved paving and landscaping.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	18		5%
Somewhat oppose	11		3%
Neutral	82		21%
Somewhat support	121		31%
Strongly support	156		40%






N 388

Incorporate heritage interpretation to tell the story of the park and the 2SLGBTQ+ community in Toronto.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	16		4%
Somewhat oppose	4		1%
Neutral	59		15%
Somewhat support	100		26%
Strongly support	209		54%











N 388

Improve the Dogs Off-Leash Area.

	Count	% of responses	%
Strongly oppose	47		12%
Somewhat oppose	30		8%
Neutral	122		31%
Somewhat support	77		20%
Strongly support	112		29%



N 388

Rank the draft big moves from most important (1) to your least important (10) to achieve through the park vision and improvement plan.

	% of responses	%
Add site furnishings that will contribute to the park's animation (i.e. more seating, games tables, fitness station)		12%
Add washroom facilities		12%
Incorporate heritage interpretation to tell the story of the park and the 2SLGBTQ+ community in Toronto		12%
Enhance the Trans and AIDS Memorials to make them more prominent and more accessible		11%
Add a small café/retail space to animate the park		11%
Develop a Community Stewardship Plan for the AIDS Memorial		10%
Remove the stage to improve sightlines and increase flexibility		9%
Incorporate new elements in the park that celebrate people living with HIV/AIDS		9%
Create a sense of arrival in front of the Trans Memorial through improved paving and landscaping		8%
Improve the Dogs Off-Leash Area		7%

N 388

Is there anything that you would add or change about the big moves?

	Count	% of responses	%
Yes	121		31%
No	267		69%

N 388

Appendix D: Online Survey Text Responses

Content warning: The following comments express views or describe activities that some may find offensive, inappropriate, or triggering, particularly with respect to homelessness, substance use, mental health issues, 2SLGBTQ+ people, and acts of a violent or sexual nature.

Please tell us what you would add or change about the vision statement.

- 'Centring the needs of the most vulnerable' is what led to the park becoming as problematic as it has.
- Acknowledge the impact of the mentally challenged and or homelessness fact on the enjoyment of that park. none of the components of that vision can be ever realized without understanding (and ideally) addressing that.
- I would like that it includes a focus on safety, my most recent visits to memorial made me feel unsafe and I have been reluctant to return because of it, but I still want to spend time at the AIDS Memorial
- I do not think that the park needs to 'centre' the needs of the most vulnerable. The park should centre the needs of the whole community.
- What does this mean: 'surrounding community feels welcome and comfortable while centering needs of the most vulnerable.' If this means unhoused people encampments or any other 'non-standard' uses of the park by people in distress then it needs to be removed. This park cannot continue to be used as a 'safe space' for unhoused people its not appropriate for a community park to need to compensate for the City not providing appropriate and staffed spaces for folks in distress. The park needs to be actively monitored and deter anyone from using the park space for non-standard purposes. The park now has a history and reputation for being a place that is unmonitored and unpoliced and folks in distress use the space to intimidate other park users.
- switch out the term 'marginalized' for 'vulnerable'
- The 519 has an amazing EarlyON program and space for children and families and nowhere in this description does it describe children or families in the community, especially queer families. Currently when our family visits the 519 we have to pass active drug users, needles and crack pipes. In the past, when we try to use the space for community events planned by the 519 there are cigarette butts everywhere and my daughter couldn't participate. Can you please focus on children in the area and not solely gay men and trans women?
- A critical component should be that it is a safe space. It currently is a place where you cannot comfortably gather, especially with children, due to the drug dealing and use that occurs in the space.
- I don't understand 'centering needs of the most vulnerable.' Also it's too wordy and should be edited down.

- Safety! We don't go to this park anymore because it is full of drug users behaving erratically and sometimes dangerously. Cleanliness! The park is often too dirty to walk through or sit in. Dog and human [REDACTED], trash, needles, etc The 519 community centre staff should be responsible for daily cleaning. Provide them with a way to hose down the park daily.
- Renovations to the park are great but the park is unfortunately unusable due to the homeless population
- It is very unclear as to what is meant by centering the needs of the most vulnerable. This term could mean children, underhoused, low income, etc.. if there is specific intent than it should be stated clearly while noting the statement already speaks to welcoming people from all demographics.
- Space or Resources for the homeless people living in the park
- This park is an open crack den and completely unsafe. [REDACTED]'s refusal to allow City of Toronto police onto the steps of the 519 has created this gap and the unintended consequences of her steadfast refusal to work with the community and police to stop allowing active use of crack and meth on the steps of 519 and the Barbara Hall Park. Centring on the disenfranchised has come at the expense of the rest of the neighborhood! We cannot safely walk through this park nor would we want to anymore. Focus on the positive aspects of public space such as place for rest and reflection. Please stop coddling the public users that bring havoc to our public spaces! As well please stop pretending active drug use is not the main use of this park. Thank You
- This park should be re-imagined for the unhoused population that uses it the most.
- Adding space for children and families
- What does 'centering needs of the most vulnerable' mean? Do you mean the park will prioritize the needs of the most vulnerable, ie homeless and substance abusers? If so, I don't agree with that.
- Prioritize children over dogs.
- BHP is also home to a memorial for those we have lost to overdoses. This park is a safe space for people who use substances and needs to remain so!!
- Parks are not memorials, even if they contain memorials. While memorials themselves should maintain a measure of somberness or thoughtful reflection that ambiance or vibe will kill a lively park. The park itself must be what attracts people to the park people, by and large, do not come to a park to grieve, who wants to leave their home to be somber and mope? People want to go to a farmer's market, bird watch, take their child to a playground, their dog to DOLA, attend a concert (or in larger parks, play soccer/baseball/cricket etc.) or appreciate nature. Any statement about the park must be driven by what will motivate positive use of the space.
- Stop trying to be everything to everyone
- More clarity on what this means: 'centering needs of the most vulnerable.'
- It doesn't capture of the City of Toronto has ignorantly removed the Trans Memorial many times. It doesn't capture how harmful the City of Toronto's policies are towards people who not only have the right to exist but exist within the 2SLGBTQ+ communities but exist within Barbara Hall Park. People need to be told that homeless people may live in the city's parks, deal with it. And those homeless people need to know the City will ensure near by City owned buildings and the agencies who operate them will care for

them, as The 519 has always done. Throw some money in the park to make is nice for folks and The 519s events... but stop kidding yourself if you think a remodelled park will solve anything related to “the park”. Fund The 519 properly and we’ll see amazing things happen.

- I would add that it should be a place TREATED WITH RESPECT by visitors for the importance of its existence
- Ensuring that it is a SAFE space for everyone, where crime prevention informs design and operations. It hasn’t felt safe in a very long time.
- Stop virtue signaling
- Last time I walked through there a man told me he would “shoot me in my [REDACTED] face.” I think there should be social workers who are stationed and give people food and drinks so it’s more of a safe haven and less violent
- What does centering the needs of the most vulnerable mean?
- ‘The park design will ensure it is a place where everyone in the surrounding community feels welcome and comfortable while centering needs of the most vulnerable.’ I would like you to clarify who are “the most vulnerable”? Are they children? Are you referring to the elderly or the disable? Or everyone who lives in the area? Or are you referring to the drug users? I think it is very important for the community to know exactly who the most vulnerable are since they are the center of the BHP redesign. If the vulnerable are drug users, I must respectfully ask why?
- stop double speak and recognize the space is already a place of healing, community and respect that it is being impacted by a toxic drug supply, poverty, oppression and colonialism - how will the space be able to accommodate the pain we see everyday and every moment that is happening?
- Places for people, including those with mobility issues, to sit and enjoy the park.
- centering the needs of the most vulnerable. The park should be used by all in a safe and clean manner
- Remove the word “green” focal point
- The Vision Statement is long and unwieldy, and it's hard to form an understanding of the vision it is proclaiming. It just seems to be falling into the trap that was identified during the community workshop: the park is trying to be everything to everyone all the time, and the result is a muddying of the vision.
- Change the name to better reflect the 2SLGBTQ+ community. Choose the name of someone with lived experience within the 2SLGBTQ+ community. Include a land acknowledgement honouring Indigenous people
- By saying you wish to focus on the needs of the most vulnerable, some may interpret it to mean that you will mainly cater further to those who use drugs, inhabit the park, leave garbage and messes and make it uncomfortable and unpleasant for many other users.
- The need for safety for residents of the area
- Stamens needs to add a commitment to the ongoing vitality of the Church-Wellesley community
- What I would change is I would shift the focus from the trans and 2SLGBTQ and just focus on the AIDS community as I feel they are less represented and awareness is important in order to end the stigma and one day find a cure to this disease. I also feel that the people need a break from the trans 2slgbtq stuff frankly it’s kind of exhausting

hearing about it every day out of any group of people despite their drastically small numbers I've never seen such a small group or any group get as much support and funding than the trans and 2slgbtq communities I think it's time to focus our efforts elsewhere.

- Nowhere in the vision statement does it mention 'safe', which is a primary reason people do not use the park now.
- Include that BHP is a place for children.
- Safety is a huge concern at this park and should be a key element added to the vision statement. I only go to there for events because I don't feel safe there at other times.
- Free of garbage and drug use with higher security presence.
- 'Centering' the needs of the unhoused has created a very dangerous and unappealing park. The focus on public spaces should be safety for the community. Parks are not rehabs
- The focus audience should be centred on queer people and resiliency not the vulnerable sector. The parks history and symbolism needs to be honoured in this way.
- What the hell does centering the needs of the most vulnerable mean. Who are the most vulnerable?? How is the park made accessible and welcoming to everyone if one marginalized group puts public safety at risk ? Without enforcement this will continue to be a vandalized encampment .
- Add the word "safe" bc it feels anything but safe anytime I walk through
- You're forgetting "safe". The word is not used in the statement - and it's been the biggest issue about the park. It's become unsafe - including for the vulnerable residents you are referring to - and unsanitary.
- The park design will ensure it is a place where everyone in the surrounding community feels welcome and comfortable while centering needs of the most vulnerable. Sadly, the most vulnerable have commandeered the space and made it unwelcoming and uncomfortable to visit. The new statement needs to touch on how it plans to provide balance rather than just stating a standard [REDACTED] line to appease everyone.
- Security would be nice , some times you want to sit in the park and is taken or people sleeping, people doing drugs
- I would remove 'while centering needs of the most vulnerable' if that includes those that currently make the park unsafe.
- The first thing to do is have The 519 to stop allowing the drug dealers and street people in the park -us locals that pay are tax's can't even enter/enjoy the park -CLEAN THE MESS up -the park has but be an inclusive space for many years
- Make it secure and safe and close at night. It is unsafe
- Clean the area up from the [REDACTED] and homeless
- Should add that the space is safe, comfortable and well maintained.
- Not sure these words mean anything without action being put in place to keep it safe, clean and a healthy environment!!!
- Stop the drug use in the park! Stop the homeless people from sleeping in the park. More security is needed. I don't feel safe in that park.
- Other than the cafe and retail store, nothing else in the plan changes or improves what already exists. Problems exist in the park that create an unwelcoming atmosphere to most people. The current problems are not addressed by the proposal.

- Define 'most vulnerable'. As it sounds, I assumed it meant homeless and drug addicted people and they have made it inhospitable for the rest of the community. That's been the main problem facing Barbara Hall park over the last few years.
- Remove “centring the needs of the most vulnerable” as this has been the problem with the park - it has been taken over by the homeless, by drug dealers and is unsafe for many in the 2SLGBTQ community.
- The park isn't the problem. Throwing more money into the infrastructure of a park that isn't broken won't make it better. It's unsafe and unusable because of the 519 outreach programs.
- stop putting benches all together and back far, all drug dealers sitting taking seats and intimidate us [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] all naked at nite thru park, watched many [REDACTED] scenes and drug dealers selling dope to homeless guys in dresses and [REDACTED] getting [REDACTED] on benches because they all take seats and put blankets to hide and [REDACTED] on benches , its so nasty.
- No dog park No washrooms No cafe It is now overrun with drugs, mentally ill, homeless, lawless youth
- Make the park more welcoming to the community members and less welcoming to [REDACTED] and homeless people
- My only caution would be that, while I agree with the addition of washrooms, there should be a security element added, so that the washrooms are safe for park visitors. This may include the addition of security cameras (not necessarily pointed at the washrooms), which I know are controversial to some but we need to avoid what has happened to this park over recent years, which is it being overtaken by crime. While I recognize there are many contributing factors to the crime increase, social justice issues being among the most of them, the park needs to be safe and this means that for people who aren't committing crimes in the park, they need to feel there at least is an avenue of recourse or assistance if something does happen - my partner had his dog stolen and held for ransom in that park. Increased security would be helpful for many reasons.
- This Park has been a curse to the neighborhood for years. A big part of the problem is the 519. For years they were the enabler. Condoning the bad behaviour in the Park. Years ago it was the Health Bus now a whole new set of Social issues. The 519 bring the problem forget about policing it and controlling it. I am a Senior now and it would be so great to be able to sit in the Park. On a pleasant day recently I was there sat down and the craziness began. Shouting screaming begging for funds a lighter [REDACTED] what a shame. It just felt totally unsafe and then it was. Oh my the violence eventually Police. This park has been changed over the years rebuilt redesigned on and on Walk abouts with politicians. I back then lived on Monteith Street With a first hand view and experience The 519 was a curse then and remains a Curse!
- A police substation to control the open use of illegal drugs and clamp down on the dealers.
- There is no such thing as a third gender. I would stop targeting little kids, like true low lifes. I Would also stop ignoring this fact
- The vulnerable need resources. Not a park to live in.
- Protect the Parks employees who work in the park and are assaulted verbally and sometimes physically every day.

- I would just really emphasize the safety component, as the park currently feels very unsafe most times of day. If the vision is to be open to everyone, then safety will greatly need to improve because I don't think anyone would ever bring young children or elderly people there at present
- At least one part of the park should be focused on community gathering spaces (for picnics, groups meeting up, etc.
- I don't think the statement reflects a bigger social issue - the issue of what is the cause of the park's problems - as an LGBTQ person, I have felt unsafe in the park entering from Church St, I have been bullied, harassed & intimidated by a variety of men and woman whose taunts and insults suggest they're not LGBTQ. I have stopped going to the park on a regular basis
- Right now it's a mess, drugs, antisocial behavior, people walk through Monteith street to avoid confrontations in BLP . IT NEEDS SECURITY
- What is 'centering the needs of the most vulnerable?' What are those needs? Are they compatible with general use of a public green space? This seems like a very ambitious vision when in most parks, people just want to sit on the grass and relax, maybe throw a frisbee, or bring their kids to a playground.
- this park is unsafe because of an influx of drug users. locals are afraid to use the park esp later in the day or evening and local businesses suffer extensive vandalism. the parks mission statement needs to focus primarily on making it safe for residents and community members FIRST AND FOREMOST. it is not acceptable for the drug users to take this park away from the local community and use it as a base from which to terrorize the neighbourhood
- It does not address how to balance the residents expectations and the transient population's requirements.
- Before any of that can happen, law and order must be restored. It is no longer a public park which can be enjoyed. It is unsafe, there are multiple used needles in the area and crimes regularly occur there.
- Some security guard presence to avoid the drug use and selling of drugs
- I'll remove the non-statement "while centering needs of the most vulnerable" and say what you mean. Are you going to leave the park to the drug addicted and mentally ill folks who now inhabit it?
- I didn't think the vision statement is big enough, it seems more like a mission statement not a vision
- more on site security . It's been years occupied by methods addicts who have injured visitors and damaged surrounding properties
- I would add that it is important that park goers and community feel safe when visiting - regardless of situation. The village currently has issues with windows being smashed, and there has been violence at the park in the last year. Services being delivered nearby to people dealing with addiction and homelessness likely need a change in implementation, and possibly an increase in scale and scope. A redesigned park is all for naught if it continues to see these issues
- Community members feel SAFE, welcoming...
- I agree with the need for reflections and memory, but it should be equally balanced with the positive energy of the community moving forward

- Please add SAFETY , & SECURITY in this park the number one priority because park is frequented by homophobic & transphobic persons who attack or utter threats or harass 2SLGBTQ community so that park becomes their territory for drug abuse especially after sunset.
- I would add something about improved safety and moving homeless and street people away from the park.
- It makes reference to being welcoming several times. I believe the statements are too broad. It will provide a loop hole to allow the types of people who currently inhabit the park to remain in the park. The woke left liberals will interpret this to be a home for the homeless. While it should be a welcoming space, it should be more precise. There is absolutely nothing wrong with the park. It's the people who hang out and live in the park that are the problem.
- I am amazed that once again, this park space is undergoing yet another "revisioning" process, disconnected from any and all reality. This park is a hub for [REDACTED] and violent offenders. It needs removal of all furniture and 24/7 park wardens to control entry to the park. A cafe? Are you joking? The best we can hope for is a greenspace people can walk through without getting assaulted. Figure that out first and then maybe in five years try a bench or two... maybe!! This park went through a big overhaul not many years ago, with a similar pie-in-the-sky, "make it accessible for everyone' nonsense. Open your eyes. The place is a hell hole. Deter the drug addicts and dealers first. Otherwise this will be yet another money pit for the city. How is it we never learn??
- Security is very important. I can't even walk there anymore even during daytime. It is not safe.
- Make it more clear and direct. By adding so many ideas into the vision statement, it becomes inaccessible and unclear
- Somehow the word safety needs to be included
- Priority should be making the park safe and accessible for the public not just "centring" for the vulnerable/unhoused. That's not going to improve the park based on existing challenges/complaints from community members and residents.
- Safety
- It would be a safe, free of drugs space that everyone in the LGBTQ+ community would feel safe in (currently it is not a safe space)
- All lip service typical political mogury
- Better dog park
- Presently it is a haven for drug users and the mentally ill. As long as this remains status quo no one will use the park. It is unsightly to see people smoking crack cocaine and the resulting behaviour
- This park is under-utilized by the community because its not a place people feel safe. The 519 is underqualified to be operating a safe injection site, including managing the neighborhood impact that kind of facility brings. The park becomes a pre-visit and post-visit gathering place for users. Yes, this element is part of our city and we need to make accommodations, but the needs of the few shouldn't negate the needs of the many.
- Seems a dangerous area with many that hang out there struggling with mental illness and homelessness

- I don't understand 'centering needs of the most vulnerable' - what does that mean in plain speak? And, would be nice to have the word 'safe' in there, not just 'comfortable.'
- Clarify what is meant by 'the most vulnerable' being prioritized for park access. A major part of the problem is the conflict between different vulnerable groups that struggle to share the park space – homeless people and people struggling with drug addiction and mental illness make the park less safe for trans/non-binary/femme people and underprivileged community residents who want a safe outdoor space for themselves, their children and their pets.
- It needs to feel safe
- 'Resilience' has become a cliché when talking about marginalized folks. It may be useful for that reason, but if you want to move forward, create a world where we don't need to be resilient any longer.
- lacks programming of space
- SECURITY SECURITY SECURITY I DON'T FEEL SAFE BEING EVEN CLOSE TO THIS PARK THESE DAYS BECAUSE OF ALL THE ADDICTS AND DRUG DEALERS AND HOMELESS AND PEOPLE WITH SERIOUS MENTAL PROBLEMS. THEY ALL GATHER THERE BECAUSE OF 519
- There needs to be something about safety for those using the park, about dealing with those who violate the law and threaten people using and who damage the facilities- currently I am afraid to use that park no matter what colour it is!
- It is way too long and wordy. This should be much shorter and succinct. Take the first two sentences only.
- Calm and quiet place...except for once a year when it's a massive party.
- It's too broad. The park cannot and should not try to be a place for everyone all the time. And it's perfectly fine if it's not. Currently the park is just a space for drug users to congregate and use the services of the 519. Unless this changes, there's not enough coffee shop or aesthetic renovations that will change this. So, rather than spend loads of money trying to please everyone, focus on those that actually need it. Build modular house on a portion of the park instead and house the unhoused. Middle class people and family will not use the park while it's basically at drug site user day and night. I cannot stress this enough. It's a pipe dream to imagine this will happen. Might as well build house and at least find a solution to one problem (homelessness).
- It is trying to be everything to everyone. You can't be quiet and solemn but also celebratory and animated!
- 'the most vulnerable'. This area should be a safe environment for everybody in the community. At the moment this place is very unsafe and therefore unusable due to the presence of homeless and people with mental health issues. Solve this issue first before trying to fix this park, otherwise it will continue to be unsafe no matter how 'pretty' it is.
- I'm not sure I understand why a public park is making 'a commitment to the most vulnerable' as the centre of its mandate. That is the very commendable and appropriate mandate of the 519 - either we decide the park is public, or we decide the park belongs to the 519. A mandate that recognizes that the park is used by the most vulnerable makes sense, but I'm not sure that a public park should have that as its central priority. You can dance around the issue as much as you want, but you must understand that the park will never be seen as a comprehensive community resource

and destination if young families and elderly people are afraid to go there, even during daylight. The issue is not homeless people - the issue is drug dealers and their customers, and prostitutes and their customers.

- Safety and security in our village should also be of clear concern
- I would take out the 'where everyone is welcome'. Drug users that are violent and aggressive should not be welcome. In the last number of years the park has become unusable for law abiding people in the neighborhood. There has been violence, racism, homophobia. Nice words in a vision statement won't change this. A clear message that this will not be tolerated is what is needed.
- I would remove the section on 'centering needs of the most vulnerable.' The park is no place to address these needs. Programs and other departments must address these needs, not the Parks Department.
- "while centering needs of the most vulnerable", if the park is for everyone, this statement need not apply. It is already a hot spot for vagrants and substance use. I would focus more on the safety of all rather than the needs of few.
- It needs to feel safe to even be there
- Listen to people. This feels like there has been zero actual discussion. Look at St. James park - near Sherbourne and Bloor. They asked our opinion- but did nothing.
- What exactly do you mean by "the most vulnerable"? Does this mean it will continue to be an open-air opium den? You need to define this. Our unhoused and severely addicted neighbours are arguably some of the most vulnerable members of our community but I don't want my nearest park to continue to cater to them and their discarded needles over and above being a place where my child can play.
- This is not an inclusive vision until it explicitly states that the community it includes includes people living in encampments. LGBTQIA2S+ folks are disproportionately impacted by both homelessness and police violence. How does this statement acknowledge the most vulnerable members of this community?
- Community safety and security should be paramount within the park and around the park entrances
- while centering needs of the most vulnerable The park is unsafe and unusable now because of this
- Remove 'everyone will feel comfortable'. That's a little presumptuous.
- Unless the other major social issues that plague the park and community are dealt with first the above goal can never happen. Pouring money into a lovely park that people are afraid to walk through is a waste.
- Keep the stage. As venues for performers keep disappearing, this is a valuable amenity for the community's artists.
- The vision is great. But it won't work until the city addresses its utter failure affordable housing, addiction and mental health. Have any councilors actually ever been east of Yonge Street? We are so tired of our section of the city being used as a place to discard and forget vulnerable and unhoused people while rents keep climbing and the city dithers around non issues like what to call Dundas Square. So tired of so called progressives pretending to show how much they care while ignoring the suffering in their own backyard. Barbara Hall Park as it now is is a key example, and as nice as this vision is, there's no plan to address that or stop it just being more of the same.

- Add 24/7 patrol by security personnel to ensure the safety of park users.
- Somewhere in the plan I would like the illegal feeding of pigeons to be enforced, since the pigeons' dried waste carries disease on the air. There are incredible numbers of pigeons in this area and it makes it impossible to enjoy being there. In Mumbai, for example, doctors are seeing an increase in lung disease due to people feeding the pigeons. Pigeons are also a big problem when they make their homes on neighbourhood balconies. Thank you.
- Centering the most vulnerable needs more detail. The statement is overshadowed by words such as 'comfort.' Comfort and being comfortable is often interpreted by the majority to prioritize the majority's needs over the critical survival based needs of the minority. This includes overshadowing 2SLGBTQ+ needs.
- The vision statement misses entirely the critical issue of addressing homelessness and open drug use. These prevent the park from becoming anything more than it is right now, which is a no-go space for the general public.
- I think the vision should also include adapting to climate change as extreme heat and weather events will increase in the near future - which could translate into limiting the heat island phenomenon as much as possible or choosing materials that preserve the ground permeability to better resist floods.
- Green focal point - the park should be an urban park, not endless grass and walkways. Take a look at European parks. 2. Trans memorial is a brand new thing in the park, it just adds another layer of division. Why is there no gay memorial? what about a lesbian memorial? why not a bisexual memorial? 3. 'centering needs of the most vulnerable' - No. They should center on the needs of the tax payers and normal people that use the park. The park is overtaken by the homeless and normal people can not enjoy it. You should think of ways to deter homeless people hanging out there all day. Maybe put speakers with classical music to discourage large unsafe gatherings of homeless.
- Vision statements are often just full of big words without much real substance.
- The stage should be left, there should be security or it should be locked at night. Overnight stays should be discouraged and tents should not be allowed.
- Ensuring that the businesses in the immediate area are protected and thought of when deciding anything of what to do with the park, namely the the safety and security of the residents and businesses in the area
- I live in a building with many seniors that are afraid of the people that currently frequent the park and the danger they pose to people and property. Your statement does not value or mention safety of the neighborhood or its citizens. I recommend placing a police station at the park instead of wasting more taxpayer funds
- Currently, the space is mostly used by unhoused individuals and those with substance abuse issues. What is the plan for them? We need affordable housing and to address the issues with mental health. What you are suggesting is pretty but doesn't solve the problems that we have.
- I would add more specifics about the 'green' aspect. The previous renovation removed soft earth, grass, trees and shade, and added paving and hard structures. I want to ensure that sort of thing is avoided or reversed this time. Shade and green space is especially important with climate change and urban heat islands.

- Need for the park to be a space that is also welcoming to those who need parks and public space as part of their everyday urban living
- Seems too long and somewhat repetitive for a vision statement. Can it be made more concise?
- The most vulnerable should not be warehoused in this park or downtown they should be removed from downtown to a facility like 1000 Queen West (CAMH) or housed at a facility like True Davidson acres in Scarborough the most expensive and central real estate should be used for the working tax payers, not as a holding tank for the sick and unemployable.
- Close the park to the general public and just let the homeless do drugs in it set up tents and poop and piss all over the place! Because no matter what you do, that is exactly what will happen.
- Reconsider the use of the word vulnerable--
- Add the words 'safe' and 'secure' to describe that the space will be safe
- Must be able to support and accommodate community events.
- The park is not currently very welcoming due in large part to the excessive drug culture evident. Efforts should be made to reduce/ eliminate the perception that this park is somewhere to shoot-up/ space out/ loiter while high. It is very uncomfortable for the rest of us.
- The park must be safe for all users inc children
- Safety
- There is a serious problem with open drug use and violence in the park. Until that is addressed it can not be considered a safe and welcoming environment for the community.
- It is way too long.
- I would like the vision statement to reflect the need for safety in the park
- How about a few words about safety? And a park is supposed to be a community amenity, not a treatment service. A park 'centred on the needs of the most vulnerable' is self-contradictory bafflegab.
- Celebrate the Pioneers that built Toronto including the Jarvis and Cawthra families that paid for the infrastructure and road we now use. Stop ignoring the people that built Toronto for some agenda.
- Remove the dangerous element of people using and selling drugs in the park.
- Close down the park. No amount of 'vision' is going to save it, given conditions in neighbourhood / city. Move Memorials to Paul Kane Park and on the north side of 519 to east fence, build an enclosed farmer's / community groups market - slightly reflecting the historical curling club structure that once was part of the 519's history.
- All of your words sound like a wonderful utopia. The city has spewed these words for what seems like forever and all its done make our neighborhood a safe zone for dangerous people. I don't feel comfortable going to the aids memorial .. and your vision doesn't give me confidence that I ever will.
- I am not sure I would change it, but I'd like to know what is meant by centering the needs of the most vulnerable. Does this mean the space will continue to be a haven for a small community suffering addiction and homelessness where they continue to behave

erratically, pollute the area and generally make other potential park users feel unsafe? If so, I am not OK with that.

- The Vision is trying to be everything to everybody. That is not realistic. It's a small space. You can't focus on the most vulnerable, while inviting everyone to celebrate or memorialize. Pick a lane.
- I think that the children of this community have been left behind. What about a space for them?
- It was renovated just 10 years ago for world pride. What a waste of money. The problem is not the park. It's the 519 and the drug addicts/dealers and street thugs it caters to and attracts. Redoing the park again will change nothing. Shame on the city for wasting money
- A vision statement should be more concise
- safety
- Less advantaged people have a community there, this should be considered beyond standard city practices. Include independent and informed opinions on how to best help these people.
- Centering the needs of the most vulnerable??? Nothing against them but they've taken over the place. Feces, needles, trash everywhere, people laying all over the place. Why revitalize a park if the 'vulnerable' are going to take over and use it as a drug haven?? Waste of money putting a dime into it.
- Add: it will be a park that is SAFE and welcoming for ALL to use at ALL times.
- Ensure a degree of safety
- Incorporating or being sensitive to the needs of the most vulnerable vs "centering" To a large extent - sense much of the green space issues (Alan Gardens /Moss Park) are not design issues but public policy issues / broader complexities of attending to the needs of the most vulnerable. As a result these areas can be viewed as unsafe by the broader public
- It reads a bit long. As a vision statement, I would refine it down to whatever is able to capture the essence more succinctly.
- this is a space safe for the community. do not gentrify this park because of the condos your are forcing upon this neighbourhood.
- What does it mean to 'center on the needs of the most vulnerable'? Will there be an outreach space/office nearby or in the park?
- It just seems like the vision is trying to do too much for such a small space. A trans and AIDS memorial, plus a hang out space, plus a retail or cafe space, plus a washroom, plus an event space where none of the existing structures are tampered/damaged or obstruct in the event? There's no way!
- It's trying to be all things to all people. There's nothing wrong with the design of the park at the moment except adding washroom facilities, better nighttime lighting and security.
- Need to be policed. More police necessary
- I'm not sure "centring the needs of the most vulnerable" is appropriate for the park. I don't believe that is the main purpose of the park.
- The park is not a welcome space for most people of the community.. the park is a playground for fentanyl and drug use by homeless and drug addicts than more often that not are not past of the LGBTQ community. Neither me or any of my friends dare to visit

the AIDS memorials because we are scared to step on syringes, we are never able to sit on a bench and enjoy the park because there is always a group of cracked out drug addicts taking over the area. The place is a magnet for these people. And repellent to the rest

- Full time around the clock police officers. They're ready to arrest the drug dealers and [REDACTED]. NO WASHROOMS. My God, the drug addicts will be shooting up in there non stop. The park is already unsafe at any time of day. If you put in a washroom you be hauling a dead body out of it 2x a day within a month. You have to fix the drug problem before you can improve the park in any way. No one would go to a Cafe there. Who wants to drink coffee while watching someone OD and another person piss themselves? This entire project should be about cleaning out the criminals.
- Provide space for celebration as focal point for Pride festivities
- Keep the stage. It is one of the most favored installations in a past park renovation, and is coveted by members of arts and performers in the community. Outdoor washrooms would need high maintenance, but would help curb the accumulated human wastes in the peripheral gardens areas, and park perimeter. Making usage of space more accessible to community arts, performers, circus, dance groups, or community members wishing to bring public performance arts to the park without having to go through excessive city permits would greatly help lower income or marginalized community members contribute to neighborhood enrichment. Many LGBT people exist without family support, and suffer financial limitations putting municipal permits well outside budget. Art grants through the 519 would open many doors to park enrichment if offered to more people in community. Not all queer people are out, but we still live here.
- Safe Space for those without housing
- The place is a haven for drug users - take out 'centering needs of the most vulnerable'. Drug users are vulnerable but they don't 'need' to be in the park.
- The park can be a dangerous place, especially in the evenings. It should be fenced, gated and locked after dark.
- Don't remove the stage. Relocate it maybe to a corner for the sake of "sightlines" PERHAPS, but don't remove it. Maybe gate the stage when not in use if you're trying to get rid of the homeless
- That's not a vision statement. It's a vague boring functional description. "A gathering place blah blah blah with the usual tick boxes" doesn't mean anything and could be the vision of a hospital waiting room. What is the actual vision?
- This park requires better management of discarded needles and pipes
- Make it something positive, not somber. Honor people by living well.
- Get rid of the homeless people and drug addicts. Otherwise it's NOT WELCOMING FOR ANYONE
- Make it family friendly means getting rid of the drug users who scare the crap out of people by being abusive
- I would add somewhere that it will also be a clean and safe space for the community to gather. What I mean by this, is that individuals, groups, and families will FEEL AND BE SAFE from violence, harassment, aggression. Not sure how to put it into words, but personally I'd like to feel that could take my toddler there to play, which I absolutely don't feel safe doing so, due to people being strung out, aggressive, or even sleeping in areas

that we would otherwise want to enjoy. Regarding clean area, I don't know how this would effectively be achieved but I'd love to not see feces and drug paraphernalia everywhere.

- Do not make it a park for entertainment, stop holding pride festivals in it. Make for more peaceful calming area.
- Focus on history of gay space
- The Park is home to a huge number of homeless and drug addicted people that make the park space, no matter how welcoming it appears, to be a place to be avoided, so much so, that the risk to personal attacks and injuries is extremely high. The park needs to either have full time police presence or needs to be gated and locked off at night.
- Centring the needs of the vulnerable has negated the rest of the vision statement
- It should be safe most people do not use the park when not "animated" because it doesn't feel safe
- The vision statement seems to be trying to accomplish unrealistic goals.
- I'm uncertain about part of what I read. Does this include the 519 itself, the building?? That part is clear to me.
- Gate the park and lock it in the evening hours
- Those who are unhoused are welcome
- The most vulnerable already dominate the park and make it unsafe for others. We need to mitigate this, not further center the already centred
- To be sure that it is a place where everyone feels comfortable and 'SAFE'. As safety is one of the greatest concerns with this park
- This vision has nothing to do with reality, I have been going through the park twice a day on my way to work for the last 20 years. This park is dangerous. It's full of drug addicts, and homeless people, and no 'VISION' will make it better till the city does something about it. This proposal VISION is only putting LIPSTICK ON A PIG. Stop spending money the city doesn't have and maybe close down the 519.
- it is supposed to be for everyone, not just drug users
- It needs a water feature that runs during our warmer months. It is very soothing to hear water trickling when one is sitting in a quiet, contemplative mood.
- Make the space safe, since it is often filled with drug abusers and this does not create the welcoming and safe environment that the vision statement appears to be aiming for. Also, recommend hosting more regular complementary community events for people of all ages and not just expensive paid events hosted by the 519 during Pride week. The 519 have a monopoly on the space it appears and does not take the community into account, other than their clients.
- I think having community Marshall's to monitor the park when the 519 isn't open. Not security but there to make sure everyone is safe. They could offer harm reduction supplies and there should be a bio hazard box for needles or other paraphernalia. This box cannot be accessible once items have been deposited. In other words no hands could go into the bin.
- Considering families among the users that are part of the community.
- I feel the success of this urban park would benefit from being a dawn until dusk park encompassed with attractive entry gates that can lock overnight and be used for crowd control during Pride events

- Make it a safer space by flushing out all the drug addicts that hang out there all day and all night.
- It's not a safe place until you get rid of the drug users
- It's fine to speak to the needs of the 2SLGBTQ+++ community, but what about the homeless and addicts who currently use this space as well? Sadly they don't have much choice, and tend to occupy many public spaces in the whole city, which, unfortunately, makes these spaces less accessible/desirable for the rest of the local communities. You can't plan changes to public spaces without taking into account the reality of the current crisis of homelessness, addiction and mental health. No matter what physical changes are made to Barbara Hall park, the presence of this neglected element of our society will continue to inhibit its usage by the rest of the local community.

Please tell us what you would add or change about the guiding principles.

- yes. acknowledgement that none of that can actually be accomplished without addressing the impact of the mentally challenged and or homelessness reality of that location. sad, but a fact.
- Again, I feel there needs to be a focus on safety, there is no value in making improvements if people are not comfortable visiting because they do not feel safe. I have been called homophobic slurs on the park grounds by people who were receiving community outreach support from the 519
- There is no need to celebrate people who are living with HIV/AIDS currently. The memorial commemorates people who died from the disease today, thanks to advances in medicine and education, death from HIV is extremely uncommon, and people who are affected by the virus are no different than people with any other chronic but non-life-threatening condition.
- The park is a memorial and recreational space not a 'safe space' for unhoused people nor people in distress the park is not a treatment space nor should be used to compensate for the lack of City run facilities to support people in distress.
- Please include safe spaces for children and families. Please reduce drug use in the park.
- Yes, it should be a safe space for the community.
- Secure safe space
- The equity principle needs to separate the role of the park as a greenspace and the role of the 519 as an independent entity within the park's footprint. The 519 has clear roles to play within the community which should not be conflated with the role of the park as a community space.
- I have real qualms about the idea of intensified animation activities. Several village business owners have told me that the reason they support more park animation is to try and discourage homeless neighbours from spending time in the park. I am uncomfortable with the idea of prioritizing this without much more clarity regarding what kinds of animation are envisioned. Additionally, a theme that came up in consultations I attended re: Hanlan's was how much a good relationship with the natural environment is a queer community value. It would be really cool to add a guiding principle along the lines of, promoting biodiversity by selecting native plants for the park's landscaping.

Thirdly, my favourite place to sit in Barbara Hall Park is behind the AIDS memorial because it feels private, it's shaded, there's no clear line of sight from the street. The village doesn't have many spaces that offer that privacy, especially given the BIA's moves to close off access to some alley spaces. I would love to see this prioritized in the park.

- The park should consider Pride and Greenspace and create stage space and bars that can be repurposed the rest of the year. Crowd control should be considered
- Community outreach is used here as a veiled term to reflect the normalization of anti social behaviour. Please stop thinking that is the reason for this park. It does not have the resources nor community support to remain an unintended yet actively allowed drug using space to the deterrent of all other users!
- Again, this park should be reimagined for the unhoused population that relies on it the most. Why not build modular housing with wrap around services?
- Security/community safety, cleanliness
- First, I think its important to segregate the primary uses. Is this park meant to be a place for the community? For families/kids or a memorial? I think it can be both but one cannot be the other, its two distinct ideas that need to be respectfully woven together. Little kids come to park to go on swings or a slide, dog owners come to run their dog, that does not preclude the nice memorial there now, which is in no way problematic. But the memorial gets very little active interest, its not really a draw in terms of positive use of the park. That doesn't mean it should be removed or diminished in anyway, but it can't be the focus of the park.
- Community safety
- There needs to be a guiding principle specifically and solely focused on safety and security, not lumped in with another principle. The park is not safe and therefore not welcoming and that needs to be at the forefront of any redesign.
- The drug use and traffic problem in the park needs to be addressed somehow in this section by either creating a space that passively discourages drug use or that acknowledges it and tries to accomodate users in a safe manner to make the park safe for everyone. Either one or another, not simply ignoring that this as the major point of distress in the park like the current plan is doing. You can't create a safe, calm, inclusive place of mourning and appreciation of our community without addressing this.
- The guiding principal should be community safety. During engagements and previous surveys, public safety was the main concern voiced by local residents and business owners. Yet safety is not one of the guiding principals. Why? "Equitable: The park design should promote equity and support the existing and future community outreach/care programs that exist there." This should not be a guiding principal. The outreach programs such as the 519 Harm Reduction should be isolated within the 519 walls, it should NOT spill out into a public park and create dangers to the public. The Harm Reduction program gives freely unlimited amounts of drug paraphernalia, like syringes that after use are littered in the kids play area , grass area, glass pipes are smashed on the ground which becomes another dangerous risk especially to children and dogs. BHP is not an extension of the 519 community center.
- A place should be provided if not already dedicating the park in the name of former Mayor Barbara Hall.

- 519 community centre should be relocated. While the centre is an integral part of the community and plays a pivotal role in providing support to vulnerable and needy ones, the existing Barbara Hall Park has become synonymous to homelessness and hangout space for drug addicts. Redesigning the park is very unlikely to resolve that issue. Nothing against these people but so long we have them there, they're gonna chase away the general public, which would defile the whole purpose of the revitalization.
- I would want assurances that the park design won't be influenced by the need for more commercial programming such as big dance parties
- It's unclear what is meant by surpassing AODA levels of accessibility. Why is it not sufficient to meet the existing standard and requirement? Are there additional costs in "surpassing" them?
- The guiding principles should include a commitment to the continued vitality of the Church Wellesley neighbourhood and the queer community. The guiding principles should contain details on how safety and security will be established in the park on an ongoing basis so that the entire community can make full use of the park space.
- The park should be SAFE.
- To be inviting to the queer community there really needs to be an emphasis on it's aesthetic. It should be a very beautiful space, that accommodates impressive floral or lights displays through the year. Beauty should be incorporated into the guiding principals.
- "Equitable"? Drug dealers and addicts have no place in the park.
- Animate should not involve retail space. We are in a fully serviced retail street. Don't take space away to add another retail space. Instead, encourage people to use the cafe at 519
- Guiding principles must include a design that promotes safety and reduce illegal activities in the park such as the park being fenced in so it can be closed at night.
- CLEAN UP THE MESS of drug dealers and street people
- Ensure that park will be welcoming to all not not overtaken by one group such as homeless or mentally unstable
- I assume 'equity' means the same people who have the park a problem. Prioritize the residents of the community over the outreach programs that are stuffed into the neighborhood and have led the the decline we are seeing
- Why can't the park be an oasis of calm in a maddening world to sit, relax, read, chat SAFELY
- Social programs to look after the Park Do not just build a Park Deliver to the people there the programs to keep all of the Coysafe The park will just be destroyed once again. The residents chased away. Over and Over again once again a redesigned park will not solve the problem Waste of time and resources
- There is no such thing as a third gender. There are already principles of nature that you could use. Stop following nonsense religion into confusion. Good luck paying for it The Canadian government will no longer be supported with taxes either We do not pay lunatic criminals or con artists
- The Park currently is filthy and used daily as a crash pad for addicts and homeless. If this is the priority year it down and build a shelter. It is not 'equity' to utilize a park as a shelter

- Protect the people who work to maintain the park.
- It should be a space for everyone in the local community
- All sounds wonderful in words, but there has to be active supervision. It has to be a Park for everyone and for this right Park goers have a responsibility as citizens to observe the law and spirit of the Park. It is at the moment a place of intimidation and crime, a horror show . Clean it up and think before you enact your naive dream policies .Sorry to be so blunt but it is a real horror show and intimidating to people to enter it
- I don't think the park is an appropriate site for community outreach and programming - those services are done by the 519 with a specific role in the community. The park has a different role - for all residents to enjoy safely. DAILY activities is a concern. Activities and events are important, but daily is too much. Can disrupt peaceful enjoyment of the park and also create noise for surrounding residents. I would say once a month is enough. Maybe a little more frequent around Pride and summer, but we don't need daily activities.
- if you add seating and passive use spaces it will attract even more homeless drug addicts! if you extend support for the outreach programs run by the city and 519 it will only add to the parks current problems and increase the level of crime in the community. instead, put gates on the park and lock the doors at 8 pm. this community has suffered with this parks problems long enough. clean the damn place up and give it back to the community.
- I don't think we need these so much as we need security. All efforts that sound good fail because of feeling of danger in the park from the drug dealing, and violence
- The AIDS Memorial should be the central aspect of the park with the original design principle preserved: 'a place for one person to have a cry and a thousand to protest'
- How does a park "support equity" or "celebrate LGBT2IQ"?
- We need to support the Lgbtq community first and that includes ensuring the park doesn't continue to be a hang out for meth addicts and tents...so much damage and animosity has been created over the last few years by police and others turning a blind eye to the problems ...it has become an extension of Allen Gardens
- Using a park to facilitate outreach is admirable, but it is problematic if it crowds out all other uses of the park or makes others feel unsafe. Understandably this isn't an issue entirely in the scope of a parks project, but it is absolutely not the right priority for spending if the outreach becomes dysfunctional. It seems evident that outreach is needed and space is too. Redesigning the park may be an exercise in arranging deck chairs on the Titanic if the deficiencies in outreach are not addressed
- I would only support maintaining this as a 2SLGBTQ+ space and an Aids Memorial if you can clean the area up and get rid of the street people.
- No mention of security. No acknowledgement of the dire issues faced by this park. This 'consultation' is insulting.
- Personal safety should take equal stature with all of the form function flow and durable design of the park.
- Consider the functional need of order demographics. Children, elderly...
- Make this a safe place to visit by adding 24/7 security guards and security cameras to keep out people who are using drugs and drug paraphernalia

- I don't believe that the park can be maintained with the idyllic principles listed and incorporate community care as it currently stands. Too much drug use!
- 'oasis' doesn't seem like an appropriate word for a functional green space that supports a community deficient in green space. Ask 100 people, and you may get 60 answers for what the definition of 'oasis' means.
- Safety it's creepy there currently and my friends' memorials have been defaced
- Less drug users and provide a place for kids to play
- SECURITY AND FEELING SAFE IN THE PARK. WITH 519 BEING WHAT IT IS RIGHT NOW (LIKE A HOMELESS SHELTER) WE WHO USE THE PARK NEED PROTECTION AGAINST PEOPLE WHO USE 519. WE NEED 24/7 SECURITY GUARDS IN THE PARK
- More police. Clear out the homeless and drug users. Then park is a disgrace
- It's either a space to celebrate and commemorate OR a green space. You can't really do both. If it's a green space, it'll get trampled on and look gross when it's animated. If it's a public square, it's not a place to chill. The 519 should not be using it as its front yard.
- The guiding principles are naive at best. Unless we resolve the issue of unhoused people congregating at the park all the time, this is just an exercise in wasting money. How are people supposed to use the park when it's constantly run with drug users? Nobody goes there to sit down and have a picnic and unless the circumstances around change it, people will continue to avoid it. Again, might as well just use half of the park and build modular homes to house these people.
- Number 1: should provide a SAFE environment for everybody in the community through sustainable programs (e.g. police monitoring, etc)
- I believe the park should actually look like a park - with wholesale greenery, trees, benches, colourful flower beds, a water fountain, maybe even a swing. As much as possible of the current ugly grey/black concrete flooring should be removed and replaced with actual dirt and grass, with a singular, relatively narrow, pathway to walk or cycle through and connect the different sections. The park's actual square footage is so small that there isn't room to have concrete flats without it looking like a parking lot with landscaping - which is what it looks like now.
- Ask people who live in the area what they want. Again, Sherbourne and Bloor - they asked us what we wanted - we replied now the space is closed until 2025. We can't go!
- I would love to have a park that is relaxing and has lots of spaces for rest and outreach programs but again it sounds as though you may intend for these features to accommodate the drug users who mainly occupy the space, rather than the immediate community as a whole.
- I support the expansion of community outreach programs, however, I also support the autonomy of individuals who feel failed by systems and supports, and I want to ensure that nobody feels obligated to engage with these services as a condition of their welcome in this space. I am also not seeing anything here regarding policing, which is a major concern. Please provide more transparency about which services, especially TPS. My vote was predicated on defunding and this language is toothless after what I expected.
- Safety safety safety. The community needs to be able to feel safe to enter and then spend time within the park

- Can a public park be equitable? That particular construct is feelings based.
- There is nothing here that addresses making and keeping the place safe. For example, lighting, emergency harm alarm system.
- Accessibility means financial accessibility too. Community events should not just be ticketed ones.
- Remove homeless people and make the park more lit up at night to enhance safety.
- Safety is the most important.
- Provide more detail on how to prioritize, and enforce policies and guidelines that will ensure 2SLGBTQ+ communities, BIPOC communities, and vulnerable communities will actually be protected, advocated for and committed to.
- Include direct reference to addressing drug use and homelessness
- i would add that the park should be adapted to climate change and preserve as much trees, green space and soil permeability as possible.
- remove the 'equitable' guiding principle. Equity is a far-left, Marxist-communist term. It is used as equality of outcome, that's wrong. If you want to replace it with appropriate, non divisive language use the term 'equal opportunity/access to park for all'
- There is no mention of safety which is probably number 1 on my list.
- The stage should be left, there should be security or it should be locked at night. Overnight stays should be discouraged and tents should not be allowed.
- Provide security to the businesses in the area
- A pleasant park to be enjoyed the year round and maintained as a festival space during pride
- Functional and accessible should be combined
- Safety and security and enforcement against criminal or violent behaviour and drug use
- Safety
- Promotion of safety for users
- There are too many and overlap between them.
- Safety, safety, safety. A park is not a workplace for social workers.
- I'm tired of all the homeless and [REDACTED]. Why should any group get priority treatment in a city park????
- I'm not sure how I feel about the Trans Memorial being included as a 'celebration.' In a reasonable and respectful world the language would be more like the respectful description of the AIDS Memorial.
- A commitment to safety. Ensuring that the park is safe for children and community members by ongoing police or security presence.
- The park should have a deliberate welcoming design, focussing on the comfort, enjoyment and safety of everybody enjoying the park.
- As per original comment.
- The city has allowed this and many parks around city to deteriorate at the hands on drug addicts and assorted criminals. And for my trouble of having to maneuver this every day, you've raised my property taxes. Fix that problem. Make the tough decisions that a vocal minority of activists don't want you to make. Then we can worry about putting money into a park.
- Public safety and cleanliness need to be emphasized, as most people don't feel safe in that park most of the time bow

- Why have an AIDS memorial if its totally trashed and people are allowed to sell drugs and lay all over the place in front of it. Why do anything if its going to remain a complete dump? Obviously no one cares about the park so why spend the money? Is this survey supposed to be a joke?
- See previous suggestion re safety for everyone
- Safety - ensuring safety especially, passing by at nighttime
- respect the community who are already DAILY active users.
- Add something about safety, especially at night. And protect against theft, such as of bikes.
- The park should function as a casual and organic-use memorial park, mainly. No large events like The 519's Green Space parties. Find another spot for that.
- No need to expand AIDS memorial. It's not what it once was and adding people who died of it more recently, now that it's not much different from dying of other things, erodes the meaning behind the memorial. The memorial is in memory of the many gay men who died horrible deaths, while living with discrimination and danger for being gay and the survivors who are forever scarred by our community's decimation. Don't water it down.
- These are fancy words that don't mean much.
- Something to ensure the physical and psychological safety of the community living in buildings around the park.
- By equitable, we mean continuing to allow the park to be taken over homeless and open drug use? The park is only truly equitable if the residents of the neighborhood and the community can use and enjoy it. As it stands not, the park is a magnet for crack group parties and homeless. It is Necessary to provide help and resources to this people, but ignoring the community and neighborhood?
- Please provide police protection 24/7 for community member who wish to use the park. No one feels safe even walking by it in its current state as a drug den.
- Illegal activity need to be addressed and eliminated promptly!
- Safety! Safety MUST be a priority.
- Take out 'support the existing and future community outreach/care programs that exist there.' Outreach and Care Programs can be done somewhere else, not in the park.
- It's a park. Use principles of it being a park to move forward. Use taxpayers' money more effectively and use common sense to build a park. No survey required. Prefer park to be forward thinking and positive, not somber place. Honor others by living. Equality is important- sexism and racism not going to solve anything by singling out groups. All should be equal.
- The park should be gated and locked up at night
- Lock the park at night as it is no longer safe because of open drug use
- Just add that element of safety for the community. (e.g. emergency call post similar to college/university campuses), ample good lighting (which is alluded to already, but I feel this area needs it more than others), no closed spaces/areas to ensure again those clear sightlines throughout (I love the the stage for various events, but agree it's removal will improve sightlines for safety).
- If you're going to have a peaceful and calming park you don't want to have Pride festivals held there noisy band music keep it on the street

- The stage should be kept.
- 9 guides is too much. You can't be all things. Focus on historic gay site and celebratory space that remains unique
- The biggest obstacle to improving the park are not even considered in this survey. The safety and security of the park is THE most important issue facing the park, the 519 and the sidewalks around it. I do not feel comfortable to walk through the park at all, and even will avoid the sidewalk in front of it on Church Street and the 519 due to the excessive number of homeless and drug addicted people who threaten anyone near or in the park. The homeless and drug addicts need to be cleared away from the park so that people who live in the community can enjoy it! I would propose that the park be gated and locked every night at 10pm and opened at 8am, just like the parks in London England. The number of homeless/drug addicts that attack citizens in the community and cause property damage on a continuous basis MUST BE STOPPED!!
- stop with this woke garbage already. youre pandering to such a small percentage of mentally ill people.
- Enough of the 519 policies that contribute to the concentration of drug use and encampments in the park. The village is unsafe and worse off because of it.
- Community safety
- Would like to see explicit naming of plans for the trans memorial as well
- I'm surprised safety and safety concerns or solutions were not included in the survey. The reason I never visit the park anymore is because I don't feel safe, day or night!
- Gate the park in the evening and lock it or close the park entirely as those of us who live in the Village are sick and tired of the drug issues happening in the park which are constantly causing problems on our streets, with our businesses and to the people who live here. When is enough going to be enough and change actually going to happen?! How many more individuals need to be seriously injured or businesses vandalized for this issue to be properly addressed?!
- There should be daily scheduled needle/paraphernalia/garbage pick up. Possibly the BIA could fund this initiative. The 519 could pay clients/participants to do the job. This would also help with less pan handling in the park.
- The existing safety issues in the area and community outreach have created a safety and wellness hazard. I've been chased and harassed cutting through that park in broad daylight. This revitalization won't work without support for the 519 being properly provided. Either the park is theirs and they will Manage it and the security or it's the cities. And the city is not ensuring the vitality of the village by allowing the safety threats to continue. Help house and care for the most harmed in our community and then maybe we can have a park.
- There is no clear language here that addresses the high amounts of drug use in the park. Would love to see how the City will employ harm reduction techniques for folks struggling with addiction while also providing a safe place for folks to gather.
- Safety should be paramount.
- Amount of mature and native plants and trees are essentials to optimize the benefits that such needed green space should be providing as an oasis for the community. Then consider minimizing the amount of paved surface, while considering ecological options in ensuring that accessibility is also present.

- Make it a safe space where people feel safe going there. Most people avoid this park
- Make the park less inviting for the homeless people who hang out there all day and night
- Get rid of the IV drug users.
- Maintain or increase the amount of green space available! Cutting down trees or paving over grass and gardens would be a backward step in the ecological health of the local environment.

Please tell us what you would add or change about the big moves.

- acknowledgement that any additional changes (remembering that there was already changes a few years ago to make this location safer) any only be successful when the impact of the mentally challenged and or homelessness fact is meaningfully address. sorry, but it'll be another big waste of public funds without looking beyond the confines of PFR mandates..
- Develop a safety and security plan
- A cafe/retail space would compete with local businesses, and create numerous administrative problems in the future.
- Washrooms need to be added and a robust plan for their on-going maintenance and monitoring since the park gets used by a large number of people compared to its size. Access to washrooms in / direct from the park is critical infrastructure needed to support other local festivals and events.
- A bathroom sounds great in theory, but in practice it would be horrible. The space is known for drug use, and that is all the bathroom would become known for. There would be graffiti, no doors, no toilet paper, no active maintenance so no soap, the mirrors would be broken. Essentially it would be a waste of money. Patrons can use the 519 instead where maintenance does occur, rather than externally.
- Bathrooms only work if they are kept clean and safe.
- The children's play area should be moved to a corner or a spot out of the way. Maybe to one of the park entrances. It divides the park. Maybe the dog park could be smaller and the kids playground moved there. Can the parkland behind 100 Wellesley be added to the park?
- Night closing enforced. Fenced/locked to protect memorial.
- The washroom facilities need to be kept clean as I am worried about drug use in that park already.
- Will there still be a stage area for events? seems important
- There is no mention of the children's play area and how it should be adapted into a future park. It is poorly situated and highlight shaded / hidden from view resulting in underuse while impeding traffic patterns.
- I would take out the cafe/retail idea. There are so few non-commercial queer social spaces already, that is really valuable.
- The single most difficult issue that needs addressing about the park is related to poverty, homelessness and the misery homeless/drug using people experience. The park is no longer safe due to the unpredictability and threats of violence from the upsurge of

homeless people using the park. The park is filthy with garbage strewn everywhere. In the past, I often had my lunch in the park on a daily basis during summer days. It was a peaceful sunny oasis where many people shared the park, including homeless people. The structural violence done by neo-liberal capitalism means there are now way more homeless, drug addicted and marginalized people using the park as home. I don't hate homeless people. I'm outraged that anyone is homeless and in such dire inhumane circumstances. I also live in the neighbourhood. I used to work in there, too. I no longer use the park. On one of my last walks through the park on the way home, I had to call 911 for someone who had overdosed. I also have been witness to far too many screeching raging fights among the homeless people who gather there. It's not a tranquil or safe sanctuary space for someone my age now. As a senior, I don't feel safe any longer in my own neighbourhood. No faaaaaabulous park redesign will fix this most pressing and urgent problem about the park. Pretending it's a design issue is a deep insult to the misery of the lives of the homeless people who gather there. No amount of benches or washrooms or signage or trees will fix that. The critical lack of housing and support infrastructure is affecting so many of the downtown parks in the city. I'm enraged at the politicians and capitalist class who have created this miserable mess. Good luck with the 'redesign'.

- This park needs ongoing daily resources to remain clean and safe to the community. This includes cleaning staff, security and Toronto police presence.
- I agree with removing the stage to increase visibility and create a more accessible pathway, but don't agree with not providing an alternative for the outdoor performance space
- The park already has washrooms and a cafe failed. Again, this should be modular housing for the population that relies on it the most.
- Bathrooms and extra seating should only be done if safety, security, and cleanliness can be maintained
- There really needs to be restraint here. This is a very small park and doing even one thing well is a challenge. If there is a desire to retain a memorial (great), a play area (fine), the dog area (fine) that's really all the key spaces the park can support. It disrespects everyone when you try to do too many things in a small space and they all end up feeling like they were short-changed. The challenges w/the current space, other than state-of-good repair, are lack of positive park use, particularly on the south and east sides of the space and negative use (criminal/impacts perceptions of safety). The focus needs to be squarely on things that address those challenges. There is no lack of sympathy for those challenged by addiction, who ought to be proactively offered assistance. But people selling or using illicit substances, and clearly entering a physical state that may endanger themselves or others is not something to be welcomed or accommodated. (that doesn't mean a cruel or punitive response either) just that the design isn't about attracting for facilitating adverse uses of the space. Washrooms are borderline for this reason. I like having them, I'd like to have them here. But given the problems in this park right now, any washrooms would require frequent patrols/cleaning etc beyond that which is normative. Any decision to pursue washrooms here, needs to be paired w/the requisite operating funds and strategy for how to make them an asset, not a liability.
- Safety in the park needs to be enhanced.

- Partner with the 519 to open up their washrooms more to the park's users. No café is needed—there are already many very close by.
- Some sort of water feature, like a fountain or pond (Not the splash pad) to visually 'cool' the space and help drown out city noise.
- Instead of removing the stage, create an extensive music, theatre and arts program for the space, occupying it with different artists on a weekend basis.
- I would like more details about each proposed big move. Details should include, estimated cost, estimated cost to maintenance, details of exactly what are these “new elements” and “heritage interpretation”? Add a small café/retail space to animate the park. - Public parks require permits to sell food, drinks, art, services or work. Please refer to Municipal Code, Chapter 608-46 Sale of merchandise, trade or business & Municipal Code, Chapter 608-49, Permits, licences and documents. I suggest speaking to the local retailers to see what they think of a public own retailer in the public park. Add washroom facilities. - Where would the washroom be placed in the park? How often the washroom will be cleaned and maintenance? The 519 includes a public washroom and is open 7 days/week and the area has multiply restaurants where a person could use the washrooms. Safety concerns such as drug use and the risk of drug overdoses going unseen. Risk of being used to isolate assault. Is this addition just encouraging park use after park hours? Enhance the AIDS and Trans Memorials to make them more prominent and more accessible. – Please explain how they currently are not accessible? Incorporate new elements in the park that celebrate people living with HIV/AIDS. - HOW? Please give details. Develop a Community Stewardship Plan for the AIDS Memorial. - My concern is the cost to develop such a plan and future cost to maintain yearly and what that maintenance details (power washing). Create a sense of arrival in front of the Trans Memorial through improved paving and landscaping. The park does need resurfacing and I think it would be nice if the new resurfacing did not have sparkles in the concrete which looks like broken glass and allows actual broken glass to be mistaken as sparkles. Incorporate heritage interpretation to tell the story of the park and the 2SLGBTQ+ community in Toronto. More details are needed. Improve the Dogs Off-Leash Area.- the dog off-leash community submitted
- Green space - native pollinators
- We need to foster a community and space that empowers the Gay people with more focus on the overall wellbeing of our current gay community. A space that's future-ready to welcome our forthcoming generation of gay population. So far, all that we do is delve in the past and celebrate milestones. These are good but are not providing any safe platform for Gay community to thrive and be their best. One of the biggest stigmas that the Gay community has suffered throughout history is the association of HIV AIDS with homosexuality. While this remains a bleak reality to a certain extent, in the 80s and 90s, HIV had become known as the homosexual disease. Maybe I'm just thinking out too loud here, but the AIDS memorial needs a dedicated space of its own (like the parking space at the South West corner of Bloor and Church). Barbara Hall should be made into a space for today's gay community. A space to celebrate the achievements of contemporary gay people. It's about time we move the achievements/ sufferings of the past away from the foreground and be more future focused.
- There is nothing wrong with the over-all look and feel of the Park, except for the inhabitants, who would be better off if the moneys about to be spent on any

'improvements' are spent to house the homeless and focus on safe drug supply and safe treatment ootions.

- No Cafe or retail space. There is enough retail space on Church Street, some of which is empty.
- Washrooms are a bad idea, please don't. Who will it bring to the park? What activities will happen in the washrooms? How often will they be maintained or checked? Secondly, in terms of adding paving in front of the trans memorial, isn't the City now trying to tax paved areas? Wouldn't this be seen as a negative aspect?
- if additional seating / features are being installed, please consider keeping them flexible to allow for the space to be easily used for larger community events such as pride. i do not consider myself to be pro-police, but as it is the park feels unsafe and uninviting.
- All of this is for naught unless you Di something about the homeless and drug dealers that hang out in the park, discouraging others from using it. I won't even walk thru it anymore. This is after the city spent how much the last time "improving" it?
- Create a sense of arrival off of Cawthra SQ as originally discussed. Not tied to the Trans Memorial
- You are referencing locations here that I am unfamiliar with, so it makes it difficult to accurately answer this question. I have been to the park many times but I am not sure where the trans memorial is.
- Opposed to washrooms as the city doesn't make them accessible anyway. You for an evening walk and the washrooms in most parks are padlocked closed. We desperately need to provide public washrooms but they need to be supervised and maintained to discourage vagrancy. Homeless and marginalized people need these facilities too. But without supervision, this will become off limits to people seeking safe clean facilities.
- I fully support the provision of washrooms AS LONG AS THERE ARE MEASURES IN PLACE TO ENSURE THEIR CONTINUED MAINTENANCE, USER SECURITY, AND ANTI-CRIME ENFORCEMENT. If they are allowed to fall into disrepair they will end up undermining all the other improvements.
- Improve safely
- Fence the park so it can be closed to keep those away who make it unsafe. Safety is the largest issue in this park.
- CLEAN UP THE Mess of drug dealers and street people - need more security patrolling the park 24hrs-7 days a week
- I think park works well .. just needs to be spruced up and maintained
- Need more green space and more trees and flowers
- Any new washroom will be filled with needles and drug paraphernalia and the ride unusable by everyone else in less than a week

- [REDACTED]

- The park doesn't need a retail space added. Not everything needs to have money-making involved. Or make the cafe a part of the 519, to help support them.
- I fear that adding washrooms will encourage more loitering, drug use and an overall less safe environment,
- Protect the people who work in the park.
- The park needs to focus on the gay and lesbian community that made this neighbourhood what it is, rather than the transgender subculture that has colonised our movement. Homosexual transsexuals should be recognised and celebrated, but centring a heterosexual body modification subculture is offensive to those of us who fought for our rights in the 80s and 90s.
- Address security and the mental health crisis. Cafes in the area are closing in person seating (Starbucks), so I'm not sure how a cafe/washrooms could be maintained without addressing this challenge.
- Keep BHP clean and SSFE for everyone
- This is a lot to propose for one small space. Washrooms, fitness stations, games tables, memorials?? Does it have to be everything for every purpose? Just a green space would be nice as previously stated. The off-leash park space should be reconfigured. Dog owners do not have a good line of sight when their dogs go into the narrow part on the west side - whether it is their dogs going to the bathroom or able to see who is coming into the park at that entrance. If you make it more square or round, owners can see everything happening. Right now, most owners congregate on the east side and many don't even see their dogs poop around the corner in the narrow part. I also wish people could socialize while also watching their dogs at the same time. The path along the dog park while nice doesn't work because many dogs bark at anyone using the path. Are natural wood chips an option instead of rocks for the dogs?
- if you install public washrooms they will immediately become a homeless person's new home and injection site. It's clear you people have no idea what problems this park's occupants are causing... you seem to be intent on making our communities problems even worse. Why don't you come down here one night at 11 pm and try walking through the park? Or talk to Dudley's Hardware about how many times their windows have been smashed?
- Put in security. None of these changes will amount to much if people are too afraid to use the park. Are you aware that most of the drug dealing occurs on the site of the AIDS memorial?
- It's so passé the whole LGBT2IQ ghetto thing.
- Make sure the bathrooms are safe and not taken over by the droves of drug users that inhabit the park.
- ensure the park closes at night to discourage meth addicts from hanging out and so it's safe for those pedestrians and businesses in the area
- There should be a huge flagpole like San Francisco with a Pride Flag to celebrate the 2SLGBTQ+ community and history.
- Please improve enhance & increase LIGHTING in the park to make park more safe for 2SLGBTQ community after sunset.
- Please have the cafe windows overlook the park and ensure few 'blind corners' where someone could hide. Ideally, the backdrop of the park would include greenery arranged

in an artful way (or incorporating art/the memorial), so as to provide a 'framed view' for those inside the cafe and outside from seating that would allow one to contemplate it. Also, it is very important that the park be well-maintained, not forgotten about as soon as the renovation is complete, specially the washrooms and garbage disposal.

- No bathroom! No cafe!! No seating! It will become a hell hole!
- There are enough cafes, delis, take out places, and Retail in the neighborhood. Adding washrooms is just a luxury that we can't afford, never mind the misuse of the facilities that will undoubtedly happen. Keeping the park open and well lit will cut down somewhat on the crack and meth heads that frequent the park now
- If the stage is removed then the design should still support the ability to easily add a stage or some kind of performance area.
- Increase commitment from TPS for more on-bike police patrols, including during daylight hours.
- Not appropriate for a dog off leash area
- MORE SECURITY AGAINST HOMELESS/CRAZY/DRUG ADDICTS
- Waaaaayyyy too much. A greenspace, an animated square, a memorial, a trans awareness a chess board a dog park. My god how much can you possibly squeeze into one small park. When it's everything to everyone, then it's really nothing to no one. Just make it into a lovely, tastefully designed public square that's focused around the AIDS memorial. Encourage lively activity, the cafe with terrace is a nice touch. It doesn't have to look gay to be gay. Regular gays just like good design. Stop pandering. But if it continues to be a front lawn for 519 homeless drug addicts, then you should just save your money because no one will step foot in it.
- Please don't remove the stage. The free summer concerts were wonderful and should be continued.
- Please, please, add colour to the park!! Through flowers and trees and banners and furniture and any other way that colour can be added. it looks so drab and grey right now that it is not remotely inviting. Make it eye-catching and make it look like a happy place!! Also, consider no longer incorporating the Park into the Pride festivities - the streets are all closed off and there is plenty of other space where people can congregate to drink. During Pride, the park should be only about the AIDS memorial and the LGBT history of the community, but no one can really get to the memorial because the park is being used as event space. And that's probably the reason so much of it is paved - keep the park as public space and memorial space and move the other Pride uses to other places in the neighbourhood.
- This is an urban square type of park. A central meeting point for the entire city when people visit this part of downtown. The dog off leash area should be somewhere else. Not in a central downtown square that hosts events and people from across the region.
- Add security personnel
- Continue to add more plants with name signs. Add more events and community interactions
- Why is it called BIG MOVES? Ask the people what it should be called. Why are these big moves? Why is adding washrooms called BIG MOVES ?
- Our local Starbucks is about to eliminate all of its seating specifically because its staff cannot safely maintain the restrooms that are mandated to accompany public seating

due to dangerous drug paraphernalia and drug users from the park using their bathroom. And countless beloved local businesses and cafes have closed due to similar problems, as well as harassment by the drug users of Barbara Hall Park. How will you stop the same thing from happening in bathrooms and a cafe here? Do you have a thorough security plan? Or will these things simply get boarded up within a few months of opening because the minimum wage baristas are unsafe? You need to seriously think this through and present these solutions alongside such suggestions so we can decide whether we can actually get behind them. Also, please don't put ridiculous exercise equipment or games tables in the park. They are so rarely used and their limited usages just decrease the flexibility of the space.

- Add security at entrances
- Adding washroom facilities will create additional challenges the city and community would have to deal with.
- While washroom facilities would be welcome and are needed, I'm concerned about maintenance, cleanliness, and safety. What are the assurances that the washrooms are for everyone?
- Add an emergency call button for people who encounter harassment or threatening situations.
- Ensure and provide policies that will future proof the commercialization of this space. In the 2SLGBTQ+ community, retail and commercial spaces often will be prioritize over the communities needs. Ensure to open the up membership opportunities for all communities (especially racialized 2SLGBTQ+ members) to join committees such as the Stewardship Committee, or any decision making body that will affect the realities of communities.
- Enhance and maintain natural landscaping and greenery aesthetic
- Get rid of the dog park and reduce or get rid of the kids play area.
- There is an incessant focus on the divisiveness, there should be no trans memorial.
- The stage should be left, there should be security or it should be locked at night. Overnight stays should be discouraged and tents should not be allowed.
- Keep the park safe and clean...if you cant dont waste any more money
- Before adding retail or cafe, figure out why the cafe from the last renovation (Fabarnak) ended up closing. Did it not serve the community? Durability: use quality materials and build structures that will last. Elements of the previous renovation started breaking surprisingly quickly.
- Create a boundaried fence that can be enforced for trespassing or illicit behaviors and add enforcement measures
- Very concerned about adding washrooms that they will attract drug users and abusers and will become an unmanageable eye sore very quickly
- Safety, safety, safety. People will be too scared to use the cafe, only drug dealers and their customers will use additional seating and the washroom will be used as an injection and coated in excrement. You know all this continue to pretend otherwise. YOU are the problem.
- What about the heritage and the settlers who established Toronto? It's not just for one community. And everything will be ruined by all the [REDACTED]. It's NOT A SAFE PARK.
- Hire a new survey designer.

- A commitment to safety. The biggest issue with the park is the current unsafeness due to people using and selling drugs.
- We have/had retail space and washroom facilities on church st. Much of it is gone or going, partly in favor of condos, and much more because high rents and high crime in the area. The city's inaction to bigger problems are what's at issue here. Adding a restroom in the park will be one more thing for the drug addicts to take over.
- Public washrooms will be completely abused. The 519 tried to operate a cafe - it failed.
- Safe area for children
- None of this will matter if people don't feel safe in the park, due to open use of hard drugs, intoxicated people, garbage everywhere etc, so I feel improving public safety is the priority. Also it's not a huge park so feel like you may be trying to cram too much into the space.
- Washrooms? Really???? Whoever came up with that idea must be stoned themselves. I'd give it 3 days before it's trashed and the stench can be smelled 3 blocks away. Everything looks nice on paper, but look at who uses the park. If that isn't dealt with who cares what you do to it????
- Remove any concept of removing the stage it is a major feature removal is a very bad idea. It allows for community use. If something is removed remove the off leash dog park as you can go to Allen gardens for that.
- Washrooms are nice but with the unhoused and those with mental health issues that concentrate in that area, I feel it would not be maintained and not safe to use. Maybe if it was somewhat tied to the cafe/retail.
- How is the bathroom going to be protected? Is it meant so people aren't going into shops asking to use the washroom, so is it open until late?
- There needs to be a prominent city commissioned Trans Memorial / Sculpture by a local trans artist / artists group
- Please DO NOT add a washroom, unless you can guarantee that it will be properly maintained and not abused. Otherwise, the washroom will become unusable/shut down (which is just as good as NOT having a washroom at all) and/or will just become a structure that take already-valuable space. If anything, allow people access to The 519 and local shops for washroom access!
- Adding a cafe is a stupid idea. It will take up valuable space and get run down quickly. What is the point of adding more stuff about people living with HIV. I have HIV, I don't need more memorials or useless stuff that makes me sound like a victim.
- Adding washroom facilities will only invite more homeless, they will become unusable for the rest of us, they will add stench to the area.
- Add 24/7 police and clean out the drug addicts.
- Frequent police patrol through the park.
- Park is too small to achieve all the targeted goals. Dog park should be relocated. Washrooms could be located inside 519. Careful consideration should be used for using the limited space available. Making memorial more prominent in visible will also make it louder and less peaceful which seems contradictory. Is there new location in village that could be better?
- Most important is s to prohibit the use of drugs in the park. Make it drug-free and safe.
- Remove dog off leash area

- I wouldn't add a washroom until there is control or elimination of the drug use there
- as I said before, don't remove the stage, relocate it to a corner and keep it gated when not in use to discourage homeless loitering
- The park doesn't have a large footprint and any plans to add to the park with washroom facilities, a welcoming walkway to the trans memorial, or retail space may get crowded. A tough decision about current amenities may need to be made. Considering relocating the dog part to expand space that can be used by all community members and not just dog owners should be considered. George Hislop park, Alexandra Parkette could be two alternate locations, adding gated dog parks to both could be a solution to fully realize what Barbara hall park can be. I don't think a dog park aligns with its true vision and purpose to serve and honour the community.
- The park should be gated and locked up at night
- Install emergency blue light call boxes, 1-2 of them. Could be used in scenarios with safety or health emergencies. Install ample lighting to create an environment that fosters safety. Ensure that the space is open and there is high visibility throughout.
- Do not further encourage illegal encampments.
- Securing the perimeter of the park and gating it in to prevent homeless and drug addicts from camping in the park overnight. Occupying the park at night leads to continued personal attacks to members of the community and has lead to extensive property damage to the neighbourhood.
- Avoid hostile architectural approaches e.g. fencing in the park, having 'hours of operation' that restrict access to public space, ensure new furnishings etc. are accessible or perhaps modular and non hostile in that they are welcoming, comfortable, and appealing for intergenerational park users
- Keep those lovely Rainbow lights
- The washrooms if you add them have to be completely stainless steel. No ceramic no porcelain. Nothing like that completely stainless steel so that who's ever cleaning this can just back up with a little truck and wash it down because of the nature of the things that happen in the park with IV users and that sort of thing it makes more sense and it's way safer for that individual to just be able to point spray water with cleaner with a big drain in the floor and that way they never have to touch anything. Read a little cafe or something that I'd affect. There are enough companies in this city that are utilizing leftover food and this is a perfect space for that in a little cafe where the city does not charge rent where this is a community space completely run by the 519 where the 519 is not there to make money off of the community.
- Due to the problem with homeless and illegal drug use and sales in the park, it would make including public washroom in the park difficult to monitor and maintain, since they would likely be inappropriately used and soiled by the aforementioned parties. Having said this, public washroom in parks, particularly parks hosting events or with a cafe, is a great idea.
- Preservation of dedicated space for families and kids to be included in the park.
- Remove drug use and crime
- The park is generally unsafe. I live in the area and pass the park every day on my way to work. I have been in the park for events or markets but on a day to day basis I do not feel comfortable entering or spending time there. While I understand the need to

support community initiatives for those experiencing homelessness, I don't know if the park will be a safe space for other members of the community unless security is improved or efforts are made to ensure it is safe. Alternatively I don't mind if the park continues to support the homeless population but I don't know if realistically the park can serve both purposes of being welcoming and helping the community in that capacity. I also don't see public bathrooms as being a good idea unless security is improved. I would not feel comfortable/safe entering a bathroom in that park if the environment remains as is.

- Get rid of the IV drug users.
- Sadly, typical park washroom facilities will only facilitate the use of drugs in the area. The cafe and 519 washrooms should be enough for public use.