

Online Survey

70 Croatia Street Park – Phase 2: Exploring Design Options

September 2024



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Introduction

The City of Toronto is engaging the community to develop the vision for the new 3,580 m² park (about the size of a baseball field) coming to 70 Croatia Street.

This new park is part of a broader residential development project at Bloor Street West and Dufferin Street. The park will be located on Croatia Street and will be bordered by a residential development to the north, a new public street to the west, and a new private street to the east.

In this phase of the community engagement process, the City and consultant teams collected feedback from the community on two park design options.

Overview

An online survey was launched from July 8 to July 22, 2024 for community members to provide feedback on the design options for the new park. The project team will be using this feedback to develop a preferred design to present in Phase 3 of engagement.

The survey consisted of **37 questions** including both multiple-choice and open-ended formats.

The survey included four sections:

1. **Review Phase 1**
2. **Explore Two Design Options**
3. **Compare Two Design Options**
4. **Demographic Information**

584 respondents took the survey to share their feedback on two design options for the new park.

Detailed responses for all questions can be found in **Appendix A**.

Design Option 1 Review

The key features in this option include:

- A design inspired by the historic Denison Creek, which runs beneath the site.
- A theme that pays tribute to Indigenous values related to water and braids.
- Shade structures that mimic the shape of canoes, as part of the park's water theme.
- A play structure that resembles reeds.



Legend:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Naturalized planting | 5. Natural play structures | 10. Parkour + adult exercise equipment |
| 2. Hard surfaces | 6. Canoe shade structures | 11. Quiet seating area |
| 3. Plaza | 7. Washroom + drinking fountain | 12. Misting corridor |
| 4. Stage | 8. Ramp and stairs | 13. Lawn area |
| | 9. Seating | 14. Easement |

Design Option 2 Review

The key features in this option include:

- A design inspired by Indigenous values of star teaching and the stories of the 13 Grandmother Moons.
- A theme that pays tribute to Indigenous storytelling and language.
- Shade structures that integrate constellation patterns and have large arches that mimic celestial maps.
- A story circle for small ceremonial purposes.
- Stacked terrace-style seating and a proposed skateboarding option.



Legend:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Naturalized planting | 7. Washroom+ drinking fountain | 11. Adult exercise equipment |
| 2. Hard surface | 8. Ramp and stairs | 12. Quiet seating area |
| 3. Plaza | 9. Seating | 13. Misting corridor |
| 4. Stage | 10. Stacked terrace-style seating + skateboarding feature | 14. Story Circle |
| 5. Natural play structure | | 15. Lawn area |
| 6. Moon shade structure | | 16. Easement |

Key Feedback Summary – Exploring Design Options

Design Option 1

For Design Option 1, the survey provided the following statements about the features presented and asked respondents if they strongly agree, agree, are neutral, disagree, or strongly disagree.

The layout is safe and accessible for all.

- **30% of respondents strongly agree**
- **45% of respondents agree**
- 21% of respondents are neutral
- 2% of respondents disagree
- 2% of respondents strongly disagree

It is easy to travel though the park and find what I need.

- **25% of respondents strongly agree**
- **49% of respondents agree**
- 20% of respondents are neutral
- 4% of respondents disagree
- 2% of respondents strongly disagree

The park layout prioritizes multipurpose community spaces (e.g. plaza, stage).

- **26% of respondents strongly agree**
- **42% of respondents agree**
- 21% of respondents are neutral
- 8% of respondents disagree
- 3% of respondents strongly disagree

The layout priorities natural materials and green space.

- **25% of respondents strongly agree**
- **39% of respondents agree**
- 22% of respondents are neutral
- 10% of respondents disagree
- 4% of respondents strongly disagree

The park offers enough options for meeting and socializing.

- **22% of respondents strongly agree**
- **40% of respondents agree**
- 25% of respondents are neutral
- 10% of respondents disagree
- 4% of respondents strongly disagree

The park offers enough quiet space.

- **16% of respondents strongly agree**
- **30% of respondents agree**
- 33% of respondents are neutral
- 17% of respondents disagree
- 4% of respondents strongly disagree

When asked if Design Option 1 achieves the vision, guiding principles, and big moves for the new park, **66% of respondents said yes**. 10% of respondents said no, and when asked how they would improve Design Option 1, the top (3) responses included:

- More seating (33%)
- More greenspace (29%)
- Change pathways (17%)

Design Option 2

For Design Option 2, the survey provided the following statements about the features presented and asked respondents if they strongly agree, agree, are neutral, disagree, or strongly disagree.

The layout is safe and accessible for all.

- **28% of respondents strongly agree**
- **46% of respondents agree**
- 20% of respondents are neutral
- 5% of respondents disagree
- 2% of respondents strongly disagree

It is easy to travel though the park and find what I need.

- **23% of respondents strongly agree**
- **45% of respondents agree**
- 22% of respondents are neutral
- 6% of respondents disagree
- 3% of respondents strongly disagree

The park layout prioritizes multipurpose community spaces (e.g. plaza, stage).

- **27% of respondents strongly agree**
- **45% of respondents agree**
- 18% of respondents are neutral
- 7% of respondents disagree
- 3% of respondents strongly disagree

The layout prioritizes natural materials and green space.

- **30% of respondents strongly agree**
- **42% of respondents agree**
- 18% of respondents are neutral
- 7% of respondents disagree
- 3% of respondents strongly disagree

The park offers enough options for meeting and socializing.

- **25% of respondents strongly agree**
- **42% of respondents agree**
- 22% of respondents are neutral
- 8% of respondents disagree
- 4% of respondents strongly disagree

The park offers enough quiet space.

- **20% of respondents strongly agree**
- **38% of respondents agree**
- 26% of respondents are neutral
- 10% of respondents disagree
- 5% of respondents strongly disagree

When asked if Design Option 2 achieves the vision, guiding principles, and big moves for the new park, **67% of respondents** said yes. 13% of respondents said no, and when asked how they would improve Design Option 2, the top (3) responses included:

- More greenspace (22%)
- Design too busy (19%)
- Less hard surface (16%)

Key Feedback Summary – Comparing Two Design Options

Preferred Design Option

Design Option 2 was the preferred choice.

When asked to select a preferred Design Option, **Design 2 (41%) was the preferred choice, followed by Design Option 1 (31%)**. 18% of respondents liked both options equally, 9% didn't like either option, and 2% didn't know or preferred not to answer.

When asked to indicate overall satisfaction with the design options:

- **40% of respondents are very satisfied**
- **39% of respondents are somewhat satisfied**
- 9% of respondents are neutral
- 6% of respondents are somewhat unsatisfied
- 6% of respondents are very unsatisfied

Of respondents who answered “somewhat unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied,” the top (5) comments about what is missing from the design options included:

- More greenspace (19 respondents)
- Off leash area (9 respondents)
- More seating (6 respondents)
- More shade (6 respondents)
- Design too busy (5 respondents)

Specific Design Elements

- The top 5 preferred active elements:
 - **Children’s playground (26%)**
 - **Misting water feature (18%)**
 - Informal stage (16%)
 - Adult exercise equipment (16%)
 - Parkour physical challenge (8%)

- The top 5 preferred passive elements:
 - **Quiet seating areas (24%)**
 - **Social seating areas (21%)**
 - Sculptural shade structure (16%)
 - Stacked terrace-style seating (11%)
 - Historic information, emphasizing Indigenous culture (11%)
- The preferred children's play equipment:
 - **Hexagonal play tower (48%)**
 - Large play tower (23%)
- The preferred outdoor fitness equipment:
 - **An outdoor fitness circuit (44%)**
 - Parkour obstacle course (33%)
- The preferred sculptural shade feature:
 - **Moon arches – type 1 (34%)**
 - Canoe frames – type 1 (27%)
- The preferred ramp and stair design:
 - **Seating terrace with stairs and straight ramp (73%)**
 - Seating terrace with stairs and bent ramp (27%)
- The preferred type of bench:
 - **Steel supports with thick wood seating platform (35%)**
 - Steel frame and slatted wood modular benches (29%)
- The preferred type of outdoor table and chairs:
 - **Square tables with backless bench seating (36%)**
 - Accessible picnic tables (33%)
- The preferred type of seating platform:
 - **Stacked platform seating with tree planting (74%)**
 - Rounded steel and wood modules that can include an opening for trees and plants (13%)

- The preferred type of casual seating:
 - **Lounge chair (67%)**
 - Block seating (26%)

Full list of all the responses from community members can be found in **Appendix A**.

Other Feedback

Other comments (reflecting between 1%-12% of all survey respondents – see Appendix A) reveal a strong preference for more green spaces, natural shade from trees, and additional seating.

Respondents expressed the need for accessible, inclusive features, such as off-leash dog areas, practical amenities, and a balance of open, flexible spaces. Most respondents prefer a simpler, greener design that feels like a community green space rather than a heavily programmed park.

Who Did We Hear From?

Participants were asked to provide demographic information. This helps the City of Toronto better understand who is using our services and programs, and the needs of service users.

This information will help us provide better services to meet the diverse needs of our service users. This data is collected in alignment with the [Data for Equity Strategy](#), which was passed unanimously by [City Council in November 2020](#), and is meant to ensure that City programs and services are delivered equitably. All results will be kept confidential and the results will only be reported at group aggregate level.

A summary of the demographic findings can be found in **Appendix B**.

Next Steps

This online survey was the final engagement activity in Phase 2.

The design team will use this feedback to inform the preferred park design that will be shared with the community in Fall 2024 when Phase 3 of the community engagement process begins.

Stay up to date on Phase 3 engagement activities by checking the [project website](#).

Appendix A

Respondents



Reached end



Response timeline



N 584

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about Design Option 1.

| | Average | Count | % of responses | | | |
|---|---------|-------|----------------|-----|-----|--------|
| The park layout is safe and accessible for all | 25% | 554 | 30% | 45% | 21% | |
| It is easy to travel through the park and find what I need | 27% | 554 | 25% | 49% | 20% | 4% |
| The park layout prioritizes multipurpose community spaces (e.g. plaza, stage) | 30% | 554 | 26% | 42% | 21% | 8% |
| The park layout prioritizes natural materials and green space | 32% | 554 | 25% | 39% | 22% | 10% 1% |
| The park offers enough options for meeting and socializing | 33% | 554 | 22% | 40% | 25% | 10% 1% |
| The park offers enough quiet space | 41% | 554 | 16% | 30% | 33% | 17% 4% |

■ Strongly Agree
 ■ Agree
 ■ Neutral
 ■ Disagree
 ■ Strongly Disagree

N 554

Does Design Option 1 achieve the vision, guiding principles, and big moves for the new park?

Vision:




- The new park at 70 Croatia Street will be a welcoming, accessible and flexible space for all ages in the Bloor-Dufferin community. The park will be a sustainable green oasis with a mix of peaceful spaces to rest, gather, socialize and play.

Guiding Principles:

- Safety and belonging.
- Ecology and resilience.
- Indigenous Placekeeping.
- Consider existing and future neighbours.
- Balance active and passive.
- Play and education.

Big Moves:

- Integrate shade features with inclusive seating options.
- Create a flexible space for small, local, outdoor events that can change based on community needs.
- Ensure there is a flexible, open green space.
- Ensure there are areas suitable for rest/relaxation.
- Include planting areas that will attract pollinators and focus on incorporating native plant species.
- Include plants that are significant to Indigenous communities and honour Indigenous traditions.
- Include a thematic play structure.
- Investigate the technical feasibility of a washroom and drinking water feature.
- Incorporate and highlight Indigenous languages throughout the site.

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|--------|-------|--|-----|
| Yes | 368 |  | 66% |
| Unsure | 131 |  | 24% |
| No | 55 |  | 10% |

N 554

How would you improve Design Option 1 to better achieve the vision, guiding principles, and big moves? (optional)

**Note - Only those who answered “no” to the question of whether Design Option 1 achieved the above answered this question (10% of total respondents).*

Overall, the feedback leans towards a simpler, greener, and more natural design with ample seating and shade, flexible open spaces, and inclusive features. There is a preference for a design that feels more like a community green space rather than a heavily programmed park.

Summary

1. Green Space and Natural Elements:

- There is a strong preference for more green spaces and less paved areas.
- Many respondents suggest adding more trees for natural shade instead of artificial shade structures.
- Some comments express a desire for naturalized areas with native plants.

2. Seating and Shade:

- A significant number of comments call for more seating options, including benches and shaded areas.
- The lack of inclusive seating and shaded seating options is highlighted.

3. Over-Programming and Hardscape:

- Many feel the park is over-programmed, with too many features and not enough open, flexible space.
- There's a concern that the design includes too many hard surfaces, reducing the green space available for relaxation and activities.

4. Dog Park:

- Several comments suggest including an off-leash dog park area, as there are no such spaces in the neighborhood.

5. Design Criticism:

- The design is described as feeling secluded, not inviting, and potentially confusing due to undefined spaces and winding paths.
- Some suggest removing or relocating the stage and other specific features (like the parkour area), arguing they take up too much space or are unnecessary.

6. Accessibility and Inclusivity:

- There are concerns about accessibility, including the layout of pathways and seating, which may not accommodate everyone, particularly those with mobility issues.
- Comments emphasize the need for spaces that encourage community interaction and are welcoming to all.

7. Play Areas and Amenities:

- There are mixed opinions on play areas, with some suggesting they are unnecessary due to nearby options, while others request more space for children to play.

All comments:

- Add a dog park.

- Dog park.
- Get rid of the parkour. It's not 2009 anymore.
- Focus on desire lines of people walking and plan paths accordingly - is there no seating close to the stage? - give wider mouth to paths, easier entry for wheeled mobility devices - swap location of path and activity area in bottom right, to insulate pedestrians from street traffic - do all the benches face the pathways instead of the greenery? - don't make wheeled pedestrians go the long way around if you can help it.
- I do not think this is a good design because it doesn't align with the guidelines/vision for it. The idea is a green space for relaxing & socializing that feels connected to nature. This layout is effectively a walkway that cuts the park into two halves, two separate parks essentially. I believe that the center of the park should be green space with places to sit, whether on the ground or provided seating. The walkways should blend into the park, be accessible of course, but subtle. Not the main feature.
- I think this is over programmed. I would recommend incorporating more flexible spaces.
- Include a small dog park at least for poops to sensitize dog owners to avoid green space. Add more seating under the shade and within the green space to have some quiet seating. Right now, it is only under the canopy. The fountain is a bit far from the kid's playground.
- Instead of building "shade structures", plant more trees. There is no better designed shade structure in existence and is also the world's greatest carbon capture technology. And make sure it's a native species.
- It feels a little too secluded and hidden. Implementing shade is crucial but the way the greenery almost surrounds the winding path sort of give off a 'rushed' vibe - like a 'this park is better purposed as a quick shortcut than an extended hangout spot.' May not look super inviting.
- It's so busy and there's barely any lawn space. Can we call it a park if there's barely any grass? If it's to be truly multi-purpose, the LA needs to be less prescriptive. Also, a canoe shade structure? Like Toronto isn't already over saturated with canoes? Put in some simple green space where people can play, picnic, gather. And some iconic public art and then call it a day.
- It's hard to decide where to even begin on how bad this design is. Lots of undefined space, no convenient and straight walking paths, no seating and no shade.
- Less paving, more places to sit and converse rather than just watch, a more direct path from one corner to the other.
- Less space dedicated to circulation and more toward greenery. Almost half the space appears to be dedicated to circulation.
- Make it just trees.
- Making it bigger and providing more space. This space will not be big enough for the new housing we have. We are getting so many new developments that this feels that we have lost more green space than we are getting back.
- More green space, less pavement. More natural tree shade.
- More green spaces.
- More green space, more seating, less features (ie remove the stage).
- More open grass space.
- More open green areas rather than paved walkways. Instead of superficially making nods to "indigeneity" through structures shaped like canoes and reeds, I'd like to see more naturalized

areas for people to be able to engage meaningfully with naturalized areas, insects, animals, relations that can all make the park home. A programmed community stewarded garden would be wonderful in this huge space. We don't need so many resources intensive artificial structures like misting corridors. Groundcover can replace hard surfaces. There needs to be more green right away in the site plan. If we are to increase accessibility to the large number of elderly folks in the neighbourhood, more seating options should be available. I'd like to see more details about the adult exercise equipment - park exercise equipment for the elderly is very common and successful in Asia, I'll like to see this be integrated.

- More play areas for children.
- More seating and shade.
- More seating options, more shade options, lots of useless space (unconnected green space isn't large enough to use).
- More seating, more trees, shade structures that actually provide shade. The paths are a mess, too.
- More seating, shady areas. less hard surfaces.
- More seating. Larger areas of grass for games and kids (kids are not accommodated well in these designs). More seating. More shade. Curved paths are pretty but not useful. Less is more, too much design not enough space for robust plants and people. Why have programming space when there aren't any funds for programming? And is busyness just a way to keep encampments from popping up?
- More unprogrammed/flexible green space.
- Move the seating area away from the kid's playground. That won't be great for people unless they are specifically watching their kids.
- Need more green space for people to relax on. The stage should be where the canoes are.
- Not enough space for open activities and fun gatherings.
- Play structures that are for play instead of just being modern scandi wood stumps. It's insulting to indigenous people to imply that a bunch of stumps honours them.
- Remove most of the non-grass and concrete areas. Just use Dufferin grove as an example you don't need all these 'hangout' area that's paved in some way just use clover or other native plant species.
- Shade and inclusive seating was truly given lip service here. Really upsetting to see. Add more benches along the pathway. People want seating and places to gather. We don't just stand around open unshaded areas like Sims!
- Shouldn't the plaza and lawn be closer together. It feels like the park is trying to be everything to everyone and over indexing on doing way too much for a small space. Dufferin Park is across the street, and it has way less stuff.
- Take out the stage.
- There are no off-leash dog areas in the neighborhood. Dog owners are forced to use school yards, and it causes a lot of tension with the community. This presents an option to address this and fails to rise to the occasion.
- There are too many things going on in a small space. And not enough green.
- There seems to be hardly any seating in the design. PLEASE include multiple options to sit. Benches, chairs, loungers.
- This is small. There is not enough green space. You don't need a plaza; you have the mall across the street. This should be a full green space full stop.

- This looks like it will be taken over by residents of the condos being built around it. Nothing suggests to the public at large that this is a shared resource, people will presume this is private space belonging to condo dwellers (like most public/private partnerships build by developers). What is the purpose of the stage? That takes up a huge amount of space and for what? Replace it with much needed green space and allow special events to set up a stage when required. This seems like Dundas Square 2.0. Further, there seems to be a lot of hard space immediately adjacent to roads. If Toronto drivers are any indication, I suspect ebikes and small motor vehicles will be flying through the centre of the park - cars too if there are no bollards. Beyond the 'parkour' area for adults, where are activities to take place? Where's the shared gardening area? Ping pong table? Somewhere to throw a frisbee? This seems like it was designed by a condo developer, not someone with the cities best interests at heart.
- This seems way too overprogrammed and heavy on the hardscape. Also: who is doing the maintenance? Have 'misting corridors' EVER worked in our parks?
- Why are you prioritizing kids' play equipment when there is literally a huge play around immediately across the street in Dufferin Grove Park???? Not to mention SEVERAL other public play areas in other parks and schools within a 5min walk! This should be counter programming!!!! Filling an unmet need. Very disappointing.

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about Design Option 2.

| | Average | Count | % of responses | | | |
|---|---------|-------|----------------|-----|-----|-----|
| The park layout is safe and accessible for all | 27% | 465 | 28% | 46% | 20% | 5% |
| The park layout prioritizes natural materials and green space | 28% | 465 | 30% | 42% | 18% | 7% |
| The park layout prioritizes multipurpose community spaces (e.g. plaza, stage) | 28% | 465 | 27% | 45% | 18% | 7% |
| It is easy to travel through the park and find what I need | 30% | 465 | 23% | 45% | 22% | 6% |
| The park offers enough options for meeting and socializing | 31% | 465 | 25% | 42% | 22% | 8% |
| The park offers enough quiet space | 35% | 465 | 20% | 38% | 26% | 10% |

■ Strongly Agree
 ■ Agree
 ■ Neutral
 ■ Disagree
 ■ Strongly Disagree

N 465

Does Design Option 2 achieve the vision, guiding principles, and big moves for the new park?

Vision:

- The new park at 70 Croatia Street will be a welcoming, accessible and flexible space for all ages in the Bloor-Dufferin community. The park will be a sustainable green oasis with a mix of peaceful spaces to rest, gather, socialize and play.

Guiding Principles:

- Safety and belonging.
- Ecology and resilience.
- Indigenous Placekeeping.
- Consider existing and future neighbours.
- Balance active and passive.
- Play and education.

Big Moves:

- Integrate shade features with inclusive seating options.
- Create a flexible space for small, local, outdoor events that can change based on community needs.
- Ensure there is a flexible, open green space.
- Ensure there are areas suitable for rest/relaxation.
- Include planting areas that will attract pollinators and focus on incorporating native plant species.
- Include plants that are significant to Indigenous communities and honour Indigenous traditions.
- Include a thematic play structure.
- Investigate the technical feasibility of a washroom and drinking water feature.
- Incorporate and highlight Indigenous languages throughout the site.

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|--------|-------|---------------------------------|-----|
| Yes | 312 | <div style="width: 67%;"></div> | 67% |
| Unsure | 94 | <div style="width: 20%;"></div> | 20% |
| No | 59 | <div style="width: 13%;"></div> | 13% |

N 465

How would you improve Design Option 2 to better achieve the vision, guiding principles, and big moves? (optional)

**Note - Only those who answered “no” to the question of whether Design Option 2 achieved the above answered this question (13% of total respondents).*

Overall, the feedback highlights a preference for a simpler, greener design that accommodates a range of community needs and fosters a natural, welcoming environment.

Summary

1. **Dog Park:**
 - Many respondents suggest adding a dog park, emphasizing the need for off-leash areas in the neighborhood.
2. **Excessive Hardscaping:**
 - There is a strong sentiment against too many hard surfaces and structures, with a preference for more natural, green spaces.
3. **Skateboarding:**
 - Numerous comments express opposition to including a skateboard area, citing noise concerns and redundancy due to existing nearby facilities.
4. **Green Space and Natural Elements:**
 - There is a clear preference for more green spaces, natural settings, and shaded areas. Respondents want more trees, grass, and native plants.
5. **Seating and Shade:**
 - A recurring theme is the need for more seating options, including benches, picnic tables, and shaded seating areas.
6. **Design Simplicity:**
 - Several comments suggest simplifying the design, removing unnecessary elements, and focusing on creating a relaxing, natural environment.
7. **Community Needs and Inclusivity:**
 - The design should cater to a diverse community, including elderly residents, and provide accessible features like washrooms and water fountains.
8. **Criticism of Thematic Elements:**
 - Some respondents criticize thematic design elements, such as "moon" shade structures, as being impractical or lacking real function.
9. **Stage and Program Spaces:**
 - There is mixed feedback about the stage, with some suggesting its removal and others questioning its purpose.
10. **General Feedback:**
 - Many respondents feel the design is overly prescriptive, with too many features crammed into a small space. They advocate for more open, flexible spaces for various activities.

All comments:








- Add a dog park.
- Again, with the odd wood “play structures” children can’t use those - no one wants them, it’s an insult to indigenous people to say that it’s in honour of them - these are just things adults think kids want but have you ever seen a kid choose that over slides, tunnels and swings?
- Again, you don’t need all these hard surfaces. Both designs are basically just courtyards and after the first year no one will use this park. Dufferin grove is busy all the time because it’s filled with plants and natural areas to relax.
- Be inclusive for the existing community which includes many dog owners and not many if any skateboarders. Universal washrooms not compatible with the existing area communities
- Dog park.
- Get rid of the skateboard element. There is a skateboard space at Dufferin grove park. It's not needed here. They are too noisy. Otherwise, this is the better of the 2 options.
- Get rid of the stage.
- I appreciate the effort to include a lot of different spaces, but I think it is overly focused and doesn’t offer enough opportunities for passive recreation and general play areas.
- 'Investigate' facilities is not a guarantee of addressing the human element of this space. Same as option 1, needs more seating, less hard surfaces.
- Make it relate to its context.
- More flow to allow you to get through the space quickly. No skateboarding.
- More green space and grass. More natural tree shade.
- More green space, I don't like the moon shaped stage/gathering area.
- More seating throughout. Picnic tables. No skateboarding area. It supports a cliqueness.
- More shade and shelter.
- More shade, more trees, more green space.
- My comments from design one all apply. Not enough seating. Too many design elements, keep it simple with robust plantings and lots of seating. There’s no kids’ play space, not enough open grass for running and games. Curves are pretty but impractical.
- No need for space for a farmer’s market, as there is a well-established farmer’s market across the street in Dufferin Grove. More space for teenagers to play. More swings. The shade structures provide no shade.
- Not enough flexible green space.
- Once again seating is a real afterthought, relegated to the outer edges of the park. Make socializing and gathering the focal point. There is a nearby seniors’ home that could really benefit from this, instead of designs that will keep them trapped in their rooms. Benches, picnic tables, chairs, areas to sit and have a coffee with pals, please! Otherwise, I do prefer this design to option 1. It feels more enclosed and urban oasis-y.
- Parks are for kids.
- Similar comments as design option 1. Parks do not need to be overly “designed” this way, and there is too much hardscaping, not enough naturalized planting. A third place that brings community together, and a park that brings meaningful connection back to nature and all our non-human kin relations, is not accomplished by being shaped like “moons” (no one visiting the park will even see the site plan and recognize that concept). Becoming indigenous to a place means more than tokenizing stories from indigenous cultures. It means making folks

aware of our humanness through connection with the land and each other. More open un-programmed spaces that invite folks to sit around comfortably under the shade of trees, more plants for folks to meander through, take care of, be drawn to, less designated walkway spaces telling people where they should or shouldn't walk, more habitats for insects and birds and critters. Also, when you say adult exercise equipment, please make sure you mean exercise equipment for the elderly too.

- Some of the same critiques as first option but harder to understand what moon shade is and looks like, the plaza in the middle also feels like a lot of waster space...,
- The combination seating/skateboarding walls could be a safety hazard. not enough green space. perhaps reduce the number of skateboarding walls and add some more green areas for socializing.
- Swap play structure and stage to insulate children from the street - is there any seating near the stage? - the shade structures don't look like they will provide the shade required in a Toronto that gets hotter and hotter every year. Could they be bigger? the undersides could be painted by local artists while more protected from weather - the celestial theme is masked by the modernity/minimalism, I wouldn't have guessed that theme from this image - washrooms and water fountains are required to accommodate disabled people, thank you - more seating, more seating! Is there any seating planned for the green spaces or only in the paved areas?
- The design is so bad that it's hard to even say how to improve it. No direct walking paths, lots of undefined space and patches of grass. Minimal seating and shade.
- There are absolutely no off leash dog areas in the neighborhood. Dog owners are forced to use school yards and it causes a lot of tension with the community. This presents an option to address this and fails to rise to the occasion. Why is there an option for a stage that will likely go unused most of the time.
- There has just been investment in skateboard park equipment across the street. If you're going to replace and expand that, great, but then this isn't going to be the quiet park that you describe. You can't have both. Ridiculous that someone thinks you can.
- These plans are a dog's breakfast and need a total overhaul. Are these being designed by people who have never seen a park? Also, the park should be named Bloordale Beach Park.
- This community needs GREEN SPACE - Bloorcourt has among the lowest amount of accessible greenspace in the entire city and this park is almost entirely hard surfaces. The designer is trying to squeeze so much functionality into one tiny space that it ends up accomplishing nothing. I'm all for a skate park but build a skate park - not a 'possible' skate area that will absolutely be sub-par. Folks want green space, not an outdoor condo lobby.
- Too many things going on...very busy, no real alone or quite space.
- Too much pavement, program spaces are too small.
- Washroom closer to playground, more natural setting circle area.
- We need green space with lots of trees and grass. You guys are overthinking it. Indigenous culture respects nature. Make it natural with native plants and trees. Not lip service "structures".
- Windy paths are guaranteed to make people create desire line paths, ruining the plantings. Too much paving.
- Wow these are both bad. This one has more lawn space than the last but soo much hardscaping and prescriptive design still. Will the moon shade structures even work? They

seem much too thin to provide any real respite. We need a simple green space for people to gather and use how they want. Public art. Public bathrooms.

How important is it to include these active park elements? Rank at least 4 of your top choices from the following options, with 1 being the most important.

| | % of responses | % |
|--|---|-----|
| Children's playground |  | 26% |
| Misting water feature |  | 18% |
| Informal stage |  | 16% |
| Adult exercise equipment (suitable for all ages) |  | 16% |
| Parkour physical challenge |  | 8% |
| Skateboarding feature (one piece) |  | 8% |
| Other (please describe) |  | 7% |

****Note - The following are responses from those who answered “Other (please describe)” (7% of total respondents).***

Overall, the feedback emphasizes a desire for a well-rounded park that includes ample green space, diverse recreational activities, inclusive facilities, and specific amenities for both dogs and people.

Summary

1. Seating and Relaxation:

- Numerous requests for various seating options, including shaded seating, benches, dining tables, and quiet areas for relaxation.

2. Dog Park and Off-Leash Areas:

- A strong demand for a dedicated dog park and off-leash areas, with emphasis on the need for shade and protection for dogs.

3. Green Space and Nature:

- Desire for more green spaces, native plants, pollinator gardens, and open grassy areas for informal activities like ball games, yoga, and tai chi.

4. Water Features and Facilities:

- Suggestions for splash pads, wading pools, water fountains, and rain shelters. There is also a request for 24/7 accessible washrooms and drinking water facilities.

5. Sports and Activities:

- Interest in basketball courts, tennis and pickleball courts, a disc golf practice basket, and exercise equipment for the elderly. Some suggestions for interactive art, musical instruments, and a space for public markets.

6. Specific Design Elements:

- Suggestions for inclusive design elements, like a community vegetable garden, a food stand, and walking paths. Comments also mentioned the need for environmentally friendly areas and protection from dogs in landscaped areas.

7. General Comments and Concerns:

- Some respondents expressed concerns about the park's size and the need for a larger space or expansion. There were also suggestions to avoid overly prescriptive designs and to consider the needs of different demographics, such as teenage girls.

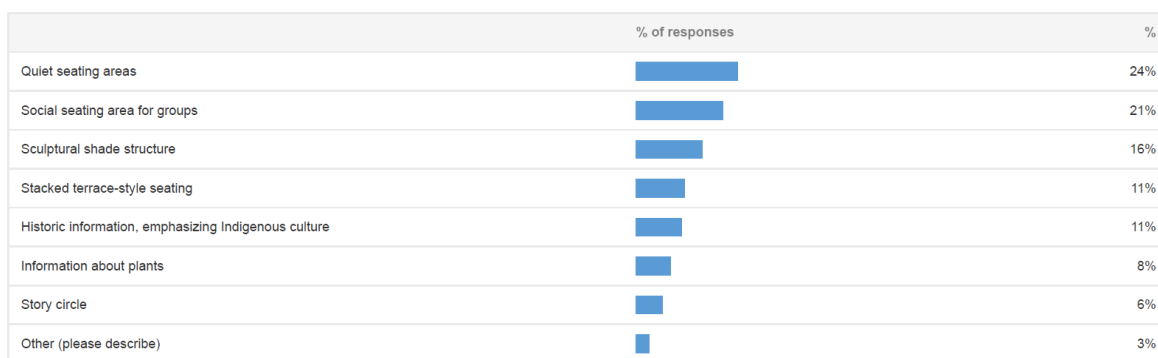
All comments:

- Seating options with little library boxes.
- Interactive art.
- Wading pool.
- Call it Bloordale Beach Park.
- Walking path – measured.
- Quite Relaxing Areas.
- We need basketball courts and other sports and place for elderly.
- I am glad for the washrooms. I worry that neither choice looks enough like a park.
- Dog park.
- As much seating as possible, gardens, plants.
- Rain shelter please!
- Off leash dog area.
- How about some unprogrammed space that doesn't need miles of paving around it?
- Splash pad.
- Dog area for shade.
- Colour.
- Community garden.
- Water fountains.
- Dog park.
- Community vegetable garden.
- Put in a discgolf practice putting basket.
- Area that converts into a skating path during the winter.
- Plants.
- Lots of seating/benches for seniors.
- Seating variety in shade.
- DOG PARK! You are replicating everything we already have multiples of within a 5min walk and not providing for any unmet needs!
- Larger grass fields.
- These designs lack protection from dogs! You have to stop designing parks in Toronto like it is a small town. Learn from NYC and other high-density cities. Dogs and desire lines will DESTROY landscaping without railings to protect.
- Open flat grassy areas for ball games, tai chi, badminton, yoga.
- Pickle ball court.
- Splash pad or wading pool.
- Off leash dog park.
- Area where people can informally engage like play chess.
- Pickle ball court. There is a playground across the street for kids so you don't need one here.
- Parkour is lame.

- General seating.
- Space for market and outdoor theatre.
- Green Space for nature/pollinators.
- Off leash dog area.
- Flexible use green space.
- Exercise equipment for the elderly.
- Washroom and drinking water.
- Cycling path.
- Quite area.
- The park is too small. Make it bigger or make part of Croatia pedestrian.
- Dog park.
- Indigenous plants/green space.
- No idea.
- Dog park.
- Washroom and fountain.
- Off leash dog park!
- Green space.
- Tennis and pickleball court.
- Shade quiet seating.
- A food stand.
- Natives Pollinators Garden.
- Off-leash dog area.
- Washroom and fountain.
- No place to park your bike as far as I can tell.
- Seating.
- Various walking paths and loops.
- Inclusive seating and shade.
- Why not pickleball, table tennis or chess?
- Green space.
- Tables for dining.
- Chess table.
- More seating please, also water fountain and toilets.
- Washroom.
- None stop being so prescriptive about how people choose to use space.
- Public restrooms.
- Something people do not have to climb or sit on.
- Off leash pet area.
- Washrooms.
- Design for teenage girls.
- Where is the seating?
- Environmentally friendly areas pollinator garden, trees that will last/flourish, etc.
- Space for market.
- Quite space.
- Green space and actual activities (table tennis, public garden plots, off lead dog park, enough space to throw a frisbee somewhere).
- 24/7 accessible washroom.
- Dog area.

- Green space.
- Musical instruments.
- Quiet Seating.
- Shaded social/meeting areas for all times of day.
- Open lawn for play.
- Seating/ eating tables.
- Dog run off leach area.
- Splash pad for kids.
- Dog Park.
- Dog park.
- Actual green space with trees.
- Dog off leash area.
- Water fountain with water bottle filling station.
- Green space.
- Dog off leash area.
- Bike Racks.
- Green space & native plants for pollinators.
- Informal open green grass space.
- Seating areas.

How important is it to include these passive park elements? Rank at least 4 of your top choices from the following options, with 1 being the most important.



N 410

****Note - The following are responses from those who answered “Other (please describe)” (3% of total respondents).***

Overall, the feedback emphasizes the need for a balance of green spaces, practical amenities, inclusive design, and thoughtful consideration of both natural and cultural elements.

Summary

1. Seating and Social Spaces:

- Preference for shady seating areas, especially around playgrounds, and various seating options, including picnic tables, benches, and seating that allows reclining. Suggestions include non-hostile architecture and seating visible for safety and sheltered for year-round use.
- 2. **Green Space and Natural Elements:**
 - Strong emphasis on creating green spaces with native plants, trees (preferably large ones like maple or oak for shade), and more open grassy areas for various activities. There is a call for natural shade structures like trees instead of artificial ones.
- 3. **Dog Park and Facilities:**
 - Multiple requests for a dog park and amenities like dog fountains. There is also an emphasis on the need for protective railings and barriers to preserve landscaping from potential damage by dogs and people.
- 4. **Amenities and Facilities:**
 - Suggestions for public washrooms, drinking water fountains, and a water feature. Additional amenities mentioned include little library boxes, public art, and garden areas.
- 5. **Educational and Cultural Elements:**
 - Interest in incorporating educational elements about trees, plants, and Indigenous culture, although there is a preference for acknowledging Indigenous peoples in the present rather than through token symbols.
- 6. **Design Considerations:**
 - Desire for high-quality, simple, and durable materials in park design. There is also a call for open spaces suitable for groups and activities like picnics and star gazing.
- 7. **General Feedback:**
 - Some respondents feel that the park design should focus on practical elements like more trees and shade rather than complex structures. There is also a call for more public art, sculptures, and ensuring biodiversity through planting.






All comments:

- Shady seating around playground.
- Little Library boxes.
- Art.
- Seating where you can lay or recline.
- Green space.
- Sports facilities and workout and place for the elderly.
- We need picnic tables or places where a family or a group of friends could meet AND look at one another.
- Greenspace.
- High quality materials, simple and durable design.
- Can a dog fountain please be included?
- Open space for groups.
- Sky viewing area/ star interpretation.
- A lawn for picnics.
- Just use regular picnic benches you don't need to waste money in this others stuff.
- Non-hostile architecture (i.e. a bench a person could comfortably sleep on).
- Public washrooms are desperately needed across the whole city. Water fountains. Lots of trees to buffer the noise of a MAJOR intersection and privacy from the condos above.

- Open grass.
- You MUST include railings, benches, barriers, etc. In an attractive way to defend the landscaping, grass and trees or dogs and people will destroy all in fall, winter and spring.
- Natural shady seating.
- Greenery native plants.
- Giant maple or oak tree shade, not smaller trees.
- Education about trees, plants, indigenous culture.
- Chess tables, like there are in Dovercourt Park.
- Funky seats that are distinctive and used for friends or reading.
- Thick tree coverage to quiet down the space.
- Seating / social space that is visible/safe and sheltered from the elements for year-round use.
- More PLANTS and habitats before “information about plants!!!” Shade can be provided by TREES. Historical about indigenous culture sounds token, indigenous peoples are here in the PRESENT and we don’t pay homage to them with circles and stars.
- Washroom and drinking water.
- Bigger park please.
- Dog park.
- Picnic tables.
- Natural shade from plants and trees.
- Seating to see your children play
- How about just grass area?
- Greenery tree.
- More green space.
- Water feature.
- Natural shade (tree cover) and greenery.
- More open areas of grass for running and games.
- Natural shade structure likes trees.
- Public art.
- Garden area.
- Off leash pet area.
- More seating, water fountains! Who is designing these parks???
- Public restroom.
- Green areas.
- Local art sculptures.
- Picnic benches. I feel like we're overthinking things here folks. Terrace seating, comfortable for like, 2 months of the year. I need more trees and shade action!
- Planting to ensure biodiversity.
- Dog park.
- Trees and actual green space.

Which children's play equipment do you prefer?

- The preferred children's play equipment:
 - **Hexagonal play tower (48%)**
 - Large play tower (23%)

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|-------------------------|-------|--|-----|
| Large play tower | 93 |  | 23% |
| Hexagonal play tower | 195 |  | 48% |
| Climbing play structure | 65 |  | 16% |
| Swing play structure | 42 |  | 10% |
| Other | 15 |  | 4% |

N 410

If you answered Other: What other type of play equipment do you prefer?

****Note - The following are responses from those who answered “Other” (4% of total respondents).***

Overall, the feedback highlights a desire for accessible, natural play options while also questioning the necessity of additional playground facilities in the area. There is also a call for more focus on amenities for older demographics.

Summary

1. **Accessibility and Inclusivity:**
 - There is a call for accessible options, including ramps, to accommodate children of different abilities.
2. **Natural Elements and Play Equipment:**
 - Preferences for natural play elements like fallen logs and natural play equipment. Some respondents suggest incorporating unique features like a Gravity Rail™ Playground Trackline and being inspired by designs like the Jamie Bell Adventure Playground in High Park.
3. **Play Equipment Preferences:**
 - Requests for traditional playground equipment such as swings, climbing structures, and slides. There's an appreciation for innovative designs, though some concern about visibility and safety in enclosed structures.
4. **Criticism and Alternative Suggestions:**
 - Several respondents express that there are already enough playgrounds in the area, with nearby parks providing adequate facilities. Some comments suggest that the park

should focus on amenities for adults and teens, such as fitness areas or pickleball courts, rather than additional playgrounds.

5. **General Observations:**






- Mixed opinions on the need for playgrounds, with some enthusiastic about certain designs while others believe the space could be better utilized for other purposes.

All comments:

- A mix of the above.
- Accessible options, including ramps, for children of different abilities.
- Be inspired by the play structure at Jamie Bell adventure playground in High Park.
- Climbing and swings.
- Dog park.
- Fallen logs, much more natural.
- For older and younger children.
- Grass.
- Gravity Rail™ Playground Trackline.
- I don't get why the kids get so much space and I'm a mum. They have a huge one across the street. What the area is missing is places for adults and teens to do physical fitness like pickle ball. Kids will get bored on such a small playground.
- Lg play tower best but too tall, needs more landings/platforms on rope part. Swing/climbing structures are good as secondary features. Hexagonal design is most beautiful but seems too enclosed - worry about drug use, etc.
- Name it Bloordale Beach, as everyone in the neighbourhood wants.
- Natural play equipments.
- No informed opinion on this subject.
- None.
- None. There is already a huge children's park across the street.
- Play house and sand box.
- Swing.
- Swings are important. Hexagonal design you can't see into. Not great for parents.
- There are multiple nearby parkettes with climbing structures and swings but the only slides around are at Dufferin Grove park.
- These actually look pretty cool!!!!
- We do NOT need anymore playgrounds in this area!!! We already have so many that they're empty more than in use. This will be a COMPLETE WASTE OF A PARK!!!

Which type of outdoor fitness equipment do you prefer? Click or tap on each image to enlarge.

- The preferred outdoor fitness equipment:
 - **An outdoor fitness circuit (44%)**
 - Parkour obstacle course (33%)

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|-------------------------------|-------|--|-----|
| Parkour obstacle course | 136 |  | 33% |
| Net climbing structure | 22 |  | 5% |
| Monkey bar climbing structure | 41 |  | 10% |
| Outdoor fitness circuit | 180 |  | 44% |
| Other | 31 |  | 8% |

N 410

If you answered Other: What other type of outdoor fitness equipment do you prefer?

***Note - The following are responses from those who answered “Other” (8% of respondents).**

Overall, the feedback reflects a division between those who see value in including fitness equipment and those who prefer the park to focus on other amenities or maintain open space.

Summary

1. Mixed Support for Outdoor Gyms:

- Some respondents support the idea of an outdoor gym with equipment like ellipticals, swinging ellipticals, shoulder pulls, and other hybrid fitness stations. There are mentions of equipment suitable for all ages and a preference for features that accommodate seniors, referencing successful models from other locations.

2. Alternative Suggestions:

- Suggestions include incorporating a walking path around the park's perimeter with exercise stations for different workouts, like step-ups or low bars. There are also proposals for other recreational facilities, such as volleyball nets, ping pong tables, and a skatepark.

3. Concerns and Criticism:

- Some respondents are against the idea of fitness equipment, feeling it is not a priority, will not be used, or will take up valuable space. There's concern that the proposed equipment is not suitable for elderly people and does not meet the community's needs. Some respondents emphasize the importance of open, flexible space instead.

4. Alternative Preferences:

- A few comments suggest that other amenities, like a dog park or swimming pool, should take precedence over fitness equipment. There's also mention of avoiding climbing features and keeping the park's design simple and accessible.





All comments:

- A walking path around the perimeter of the park with different exercise stations ie. step ups or low bars / platforms for squats or other exercises. Reference the wonderful park in Huntington Beach, CA that circles the library.
- Avoid climbing features.
- Combined (hybrid) fitness stations.

- Do what they have at the park on Westmoreland north of Bloor. Adult extreme area but not on concrete and with shade.
- DOG PARK.
- Dog park.
- I don't want the park to be a gym at all.
- Ideally anything for all ages.
- Lawns. For whatever people want to do - stretch, frisbee, etc.
- Name it Bloordale Beach, as everyone in the neighbourhood wants
- None. No one uses these things.
- None. Why are we prioritizing adult fitness equipment over the actual needs of the community
- Not a priority. Will take up a lot of space and not get used.
- Oh no. None of these are suited for elderly folks, this is NOT all ages. Look to public park elderly exercise equipment in Asia.
- Skatepark.
- Something more suited to seniors as well.
- Swimming pool.
- Swinging elliptical, shoulder pulls etc.
- The outdoor “gym” with playground elliptical etc.
- This should not be a use contemplated for this park.
- Volleyball nets or ping pong tables.
- Would prefer more open space to this kind of equipment.

What sculptural shade feature do you prefer?



- The preferred sculptural shade feature:
 - **Moon arches – type 1 (34%)**
 - Canoe frames – type 1 (27%)

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|-----------------------|-------|---|-----|
| Canoe frames (type 1) | 111 |  | 27% |
| Canoe frames (type 2) | 81 |  | 20% |
| Moon arches (type 1) | 140 |  | 34% |
| Moon arches (type 2) | 78 |  | 19% |

N 410

Which ramp and stair design do you prefer?






- The preferred ramp and stair design:
 - **Seating terrace with stairs and straight ramp (73%)**
 - Seating terrace with stairs and bent ramp (27%)

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|---|-------|--|-----|
| Seating terrace with stairs and straight ramp | 298 |  | 73% |
| Seating terrace with stairs and bent ramp | 112 |  | 27% |

N 410

Which type of bench do you prefer?





- The preferred type of bench:
 - **Steel supports with thick wood seating platform (35%)**
 - Steel frame and slatted wood modular benches (29%)

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|--|-------|--|-----|
| Type 1: Armour stone seating | 27 |  | 7% |
| Type 2: Steel frame and slatted wood that can be joined together | 49 |  | 12% |
| Type 3: Steel supports with thick wood seating platform | 139 |  | 35% |
| Type 4: Steel frame and slatted wood with armrests | 71 |  | 18% |
| Type 5: Steel frame and slatted wood modular benches | 114 |  | 29% |

N 400

Which type of outdoor table & chairs do you prefer?

- The preferred type of outdoor table and chairs:
 - **Square tables with backless bench seating (36%)**
 - Accessible picnic tables (33%)

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|---|-------|--|-----|
| Type 1: Fixed table and chairs made of wood and steel | 67 |  | 17% |
| Type 2: Bistro style | 58 |  | 15% |
| Type 3: Square tables with backless bench seating | 145 |  | 36% |
| Type 4: Accessible picnic tables | 130 |  | 33% |

N 400

Which type of seating platform do you prefer?

- The preferred type of seating platform:
 - **Stacked platform seating with tree planting (74%)**
 - Rounded steel and wood modules that can include an opening for trees and plants (13%)

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|---|-------|----------------|-----|
| Type 1: Steel and wood modules | 19 | | 5% |
| Type 2: Rounded steel and wood modules that can include an opening for trees and plants | 52 | | 13% |
| Type 3: Terrace style platforms | 30 | | 8% |
| Type 4: Stacked platform seating with tree planting | 299 | | 75% |

N 400

Which type of casual seating do you prefer?

- The preferred type of casual seating:
 - **Lounge chair (67%)**
 - **Block seating (26%)**

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|-------------------------|-------|----------------|-----|
| Type 1: Lounge chair | 268 | | 67% |
| Type 2: Block seating | 105 | | 26% |
| Type 3: Stepped seating | 27 | | 7% |

N 400






Of the design options presented above, which one do you prefer overall?

Design Option, **Design 2 (41%)** was the popular choice, followed by **Design Option 1 (31%)**. 18% of respondents liked both options equally, 9% didn't like either option, and 2% didn't know or preferred not to answer.

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|---|-------|----------------|-----|
| Design Option 1 | 122 | | 31% |
| Design Option 2 | 162 | | 41% |
| I like both design options | 73 | | 18% |
| I don't like either of the design options | 34 | | 9% |
| I don't know or I prefer not to answer | 6 | | 2% |

N 397

Overall, how satisfied are you with the design options for the new park?

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|----------------------|-------|---|-----|
| Very satisfied | 158 |  | 40% |
| Somewhat satisfied | 154 |  | 39% |
| Neutral | 37 |  | 9% |
| Somewhat unsatisfied | 23 |  | 6% |
| Very unsatisfied | 25 |  | 6% |

N 397

What is missing from the design options that will help to create a welcoming, accessible and flexible park for the community? (optional)

****Note - These responses are from those who answered “somewhat unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied” to the question “Overall, how satisfied are you with the design options for the new park?” (12% of total respondents).***

Overall, the feedback indicates a strong preference for a simpler, more practical design focused on green space, accessibility, and essential amenities.

Summary

1. Desire for Dog Parks:

- Many respondents emphasize the need for a dog park or off-leash area, noting that the current plans do not adequately address the needs of dog owners.

2. Critique of Design Elements:

- There is widespread criticism of the proposed shade structures (described as "hideous") and other whimsical design elements. Respondents express a preference for practical and functional designs over decorative features.

3. Concerns About Park Size and Use:

- Several comments highlight the park's inadequate size relative to the anticipated population growth due to nearby developments. There are calls for more green space and fewer hard surfaces, as well as concerns about the park becoming overcrowded or unusable due to competing interests (e.g., playgrounds vs. dog areas).

4. Need for Practical Amenities:

- Many respondents request basic amenities like washrooms, water fountains, and ample seating with shade. There is also a strong preference for more natural elements, such as trees for shade, over built structures.

5. Inclusivity and Accessibility:

- Some comments stress the importance of making the park welcoming and accessible to all, including unhoused community members and people of different abilities.

6. General Dissatisfaction:

- There is a general sentiment that the current designs are overcomplicated and not well-suited to the community's needs. Many feel that the designs lack practical features and do not adequately prioritize green space or community engagement.

7. Environmental and Practical Considerations:

- Concerns are raised about the amount of concrete, potential heat issues, and the need for durable materials that can withstand weather and wear. Some suggest designing with future climate conditions in mind.





All comments:

- A larger park with a sports field. Nice to have more green space in the area but this is completely inadequate in terms of size for the large influx of residents once the towers are built.
- An off-leash dog area. Sheltered areas (from rain and snow accumulation) that will allow for year-round use. Prioritizing materials that will resist/survive damage from the elements/users and minimize maintenance/disruption.
- Bloordale has a significant number of dog owners and no small dog parks in the area and really nothing accessible near a subway station. This park will not service families with children and pets, it will become the next tent city with homeless people (of which the neighbourhood has many) and drug users. Can't wait for the place to be full of garbage.
- Both of these designs are just absolutely awful. It's like the designers have never been to a park before. It has all of Toronto's greatest hits: not enough seating, no direct walking paths, patches of grass that will turn into dog toilets, no real shade, and no protection for plantings.
- Central focus on comfortable accessible seating, and shade. The shape sculpture renders shown clearly demonstrate how little shade they will create! Rethink these!
- Choose practicality over whimsical designs: does this feature look comfortable and inviting? Have we truly considered the diverse perspectives of Toronto's population and done our best to accommodate as many physical and mental needs as possible? Knowing how Toronto's public facilities can degrade over time, how can we design a space to ease maintenance work and prevent damage or closures? What will our parks need to look like if temperatures continue to rise? Is it possible that this area will experience flooding if rainfall becomes heavier? If so, how can we design for it? Will these materials/colours get too hot in direct sunlight? Are these paths easily walkable, or will desire paths be created which reduce the green spaces?
- Different looking shade structures. The canoe and moon structures are both hideous.
- Do not duplicate existing amenities that are literally 5min walk away i.e. the kid's playground. And if you make it a skate park acknowledge that it isn't going to be a quiet park and have a plan for the off season. We REALLY need a dog park in this area. Toronto needs public washrooms.
- Dog park.
- Dog park.
- Dog run / off leash dog area.
- Dogs off leash area.
- Firstly this entire park is gonna be trashed within 5 minutes due to the housing crisis, so you may as well make more open spaces. I know these round but relatively narrow design elements are supposed to be limiting tent structures etc, but you might as well just embrace it.
- It's full of concrete that will conduct more heat into the space and not make it an actual cooling centre. This ain't a park, but another concrete square. No where in this survey does it talk about the green spaces or the gardens.
- It's all doing too much and misses what's needed in local parks.
- Keep it simple.

- Less hard scape please! More green +shade.
- Looks like more concrete than green space.
- Many comfortable places to sit. These benches and bistro-chairs should be organized so that people seated will be in shade, comfortable, and have something to look at as they sit. Both of the proposed designs fail at this.
- More green space needed. There appears to be too much paved and hard.
- more natural shade, accessibility needs to clearly include space for our homeless community members.
- More play area for kids and less social areas where adults where drink and use.
- More seating for socializing, more shade and green space.
- More seating options, more shade options, lots of useless space (unconnected green space isn't large enough to use).
- Off leash dog park!
- People like to go to parks to sit in the grass under a tree. Way too many structures in these options.
- Public art. All shade structures are hideous. The whole park is just generally trying to be too much.
- Start with something designed by the city, with city residents in mind. Currently it looks like part of the condo pre-sales material for Minto or whatever developer is building the adjacent condos. Green space is paramount, as are activities (not just for children). Garden plots, table tennis, a pool - these are things that help and foster a community, not a concrete 'story circle'.
- Straight pathways.
- The park drawings are extremely difficult to understand, weird drawings. Stay away from wood elements to support less wear and tear. Have seating areas for under 4 people to discourage large single group gatherings, allow for singles or small groups.
- The park project must engage with existing conditions and new development conditions. Trying to show the park isolation is not useful. You must display and inform residents of surrounding context and how a pedestrian might navigate through the park and use the park.
- The size of the park is too small.
- There's too much going on in a small space. Not enough seating. Where are the fountains and toilets? Overall, it's just too busy and doesn't seem to know what it's there for.
- Washrooms.
- What community are we referring to? See how successful Dufferin grove next door is. Your ratio of greenery in both options is abysmal. Too many resources are being put into compensating through overdesign of built elements. Don't make giant canoe shaped shade structures, add TREES. Make the place overall more open, less walkways, more places where people can actually sit down and stay and program themselves. This neighbourhood is great, you don't have to patronize us and corral us with all this overdesigning. Allow people to self organize and make the park themselves. What the city should spend resources on are up keep and land stewardship. Make community stewarding programs if it's too hard to maintain more naturalized plant areas. Add elderly exercise equipment if any.
- You have forgotten that people are now having pets over children. Consider adding some space designated for them.
- I thought the "private street" was a pedestrian path, so I don't understand why there are cars on it.
- People want places to sit. Give people more places to sit. Make the seats comfortable.
- I don't believe that in such a small park, parkour is what the space should be used for.



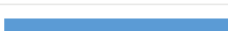




- Plant actual trees that will offer shade -- Trees in the picture but it's hard to believe this will actually happen, based on other new parks I've seen around the city. And it doesn't mention trees.
- Misting corridor might be suitable for Bloordale Beach Park, however, I don't know a single person who would opt to go to a park to get misted.
- In drawing 2, if you don't have an actual path closer to the corner of the pedestrian street and Croatia, people are going to make a desire line in the grass.
- Please no skateboard feature.
- Nobody wants to sit in terrace-style seating unless they're watching their own kids play sports.
- Put in a space where people can sell things to eat, like the shipping container in Mary McCormick Park.

How far will you be travelling to get to the new park at 70 Croatia Street?

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|----------------|-------|--|-----|
| 0 to 0.5 km | 167 |  | 42% |
| 0.5 to 1 km | 118 |  | 30% |
| 1 to 5 km | 101 |  | 26% |
| More than 5 km | 10 |  | 3% |

N 396

If you were to visit the new park at 70 Croatia Street, who would you go with most often? Select all that apply.

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|-----------------------|-------|--|-----|
| Spouse or partner | 201 |  | 51% |
| Friends | 186 |  | 47% |
| Alone | 140 |  | 35% |
| Family | 117 |  | 30% |
| Children | 111 |  | 28% |
| Pets | 89 |  | 22% |
| Other, please specify | 5 |  | 1% |









N 396

****Note - The following are responses from those who answered “Other” (1% of total respondents).***

All comments:

- It sucks there's no free text input in this survey. Overall, both options feel overdesigned - trying to do too much in too little space. I can't help but feel: why not just grass & seating, washroom near the play structure?
- Neighbours.
- Not sure depends on safety in the park.
- Community for events.
- Many people will be travelling through in the way to the mall. Is this being taken into consideration???

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

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|--|-------|--|-----|
| Ad or post from a City of Toronto social media account | 243 |  | 61% |
| Word of mouth (including non-City of Toronto social media account) | 93 |  | 23% |
| Email from the project team | 20 |  | 5% |
| Information shared at an event | 20 |  | 5% |
| I don't know/Prefer not to answer | 17 |  | 4% |
| The project webpage | 13 |  | 3% |
| Councillor's Office communications | 12 |  | 3% |
| Park sign | 6 |  | 2% |

N 396

Appendix B

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

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|-----------------------|-------|----------------|-----|
| 0 to 4 years old | 1 | | 0% |
| 5 to 12 years old | 0 | | |
| 13 to 18 years old | 3 | | 1% |
| 19 to 29 years old | 43 | | 11% |
| 30 to 39 years old | 147 | | 38% |
| 40 to 55 years old | 157 | | 40% |
| 56 to 64 years old | 25 | | 6% |
| 65 to 74 years old | 8 | | 2% |
| 75 years old or above | 0 | | |
| Prefer not to answer | 5 | | 1% |

N 389

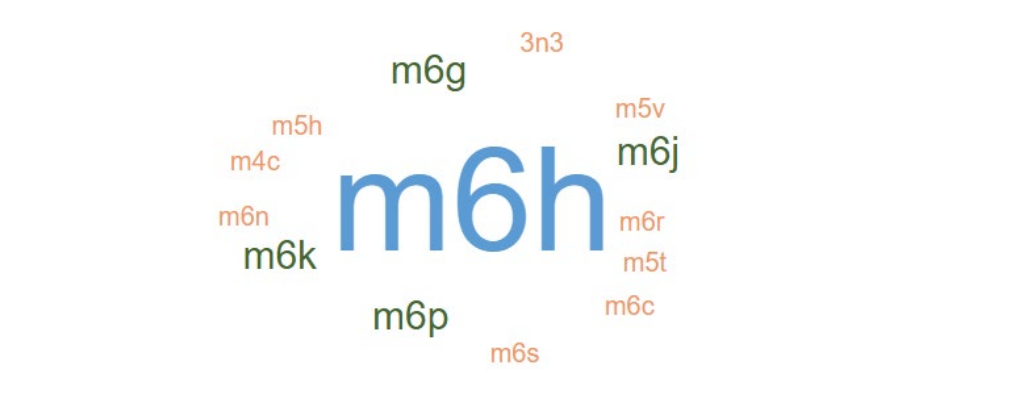
Excluding yourself, how many of people of each age group participated in this survey?

| | Average | Count | % of responses |
|-----------------------|---------|-------|----------------|
| 65 to 74 years old | 5% | 389 | |
| 75 years old or above | 5% | 389 | |
| 13 to 18 years old | 5% | 389 | |
| 19 to 29 years old | 5% | 389 | |
| 0 to 4 years old | 5% | 389 | |
| 56 to 64 years old | 5% | 389 | |
| 5 to 12 years old | 6% | 389 | |
| 30 to 39 years old | 8% | 389 | |
| 40 to 55 years old | 8% | 389 | |

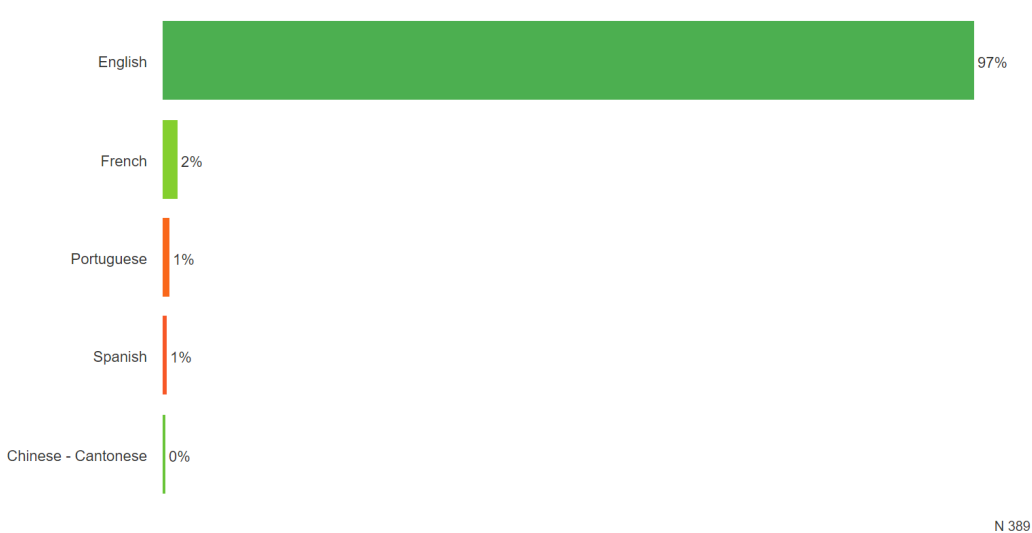
0
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5+
 Prefer not to answer
 Not applicable

N 389

Please provide the first three characters of your postal code (e.g. M5H).



What language do you prefer speaking?














N 389

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 | 5 | <div></div> | 1% |
| No | 373 | <div></div> | 96% |
| Prefer not to answer | 11 | <div></div> | 3% |

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

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|--|-------|--|-----|
| White (e.g. English, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Slovakian) | 269 |  | 69% |
| Prefer not to answer | 44 |  | 11% |
| More than one race category or mixed race | 24 |  | 6% |
| East Asian (e.g. Chinese, Japanese, Korean) | 23 |  | 6% |
| Arab, Middle Eastern or West Asian (e.g. Afghan, Armenian, Iranian, Lebanese, Persian, Turkish) | 12 |  | 3% |
| Latin American (e.g. Brazilian, Colombian, Cuban, Mexican, Peruvian) | 11 |  | 3% |
| South Asian or Indo-Caribbean (e.g. Indian, Indo- Guyanese, Indo-Trinidadian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan) | 10 |  | 3% |
| Other, please describe | 8 |  | 2% |
| Black (e.g. African, African-Canadian, Afro-Caribbean) | 5 |  | 1% |
| Southeast Asian (e.g. Filipino, Malaysian, Singaporean, Thai, Vietnamese) | 4 |  | 1% |
| First Nations (status, non-status, treaty or non-treaty), Inuit or Métis | 3 |  | 1% |





N 389

***Note -** These were the responses from those who answered "Other, please describe" (2% of respondents).

All comments:





- Ashkenazi Jewish.
- Jewish.
- Eurasian.
- Jewish.
- Jewish.
- Canadian, white, British ancestry.
- Portuguese.

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 | 62 |  | 16% |
| No | 287 |  | 74% |
| Don't know | 8 |  | 2% |
| Prefer not to answer | 32 |  | 8% |







N 389

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

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|----------------------|-------|---|-----|
| Yes | 47 |  | 12% |
| No | 304 |  | 78% |
| Don't know | 3 |  | 1% |
| Prefer not to answer | 35 |  | 9% |










N 389

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

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|--|-------|---|-----|
| Woman | 196 |  | 50% |
| Man | 128 |  | 33% |
| Prefer not to answer | 35 |  | 9% |
| Gender non-binary (including gender fluid, genderqueer, androgynous) | 29 |  | 7% |
| Trans woman | 4 |  | 1% |
| Trans man | 3 |  | 1% |
| Two-Spirit | 0 | | |
| Not listed, please describe | 0 | | |

N 389

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

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|-----------------------------|-------|--|-----|
| Heterosexual or straight | 222 |  | 57% |
| Prefer not to answer | 56 |  | 14% |
| Bisexual | 46 |  | 12% |
| Queer | 35 |  | 9% |
| Gay | 23 |  | 6% |
| Lesbian | 14 |  | 4% |
| Not listed, please describe | 5 |  | 1% |
| Don't know | 3 |  | 1% |
| Two-Spirit | 1 |  | 0% |







N 389

****Note - These were the responses from those who answered “Not listed, please describe” (1% of total respondents).***

All comments:

- Pansexual.
- Pansexual.

What best describes your current housing situation?

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|--|-------|--|-----|
| Home owner | 213 |  | 55% |
| Renting | 144 |  | 37% |
| Permanently living with parent(s) or other family member(s) | 13 |  | 3% |
| Temporarily staying with others (no fixed address) | 1 |  | 0% |
| Unhoused (staying outside, in a shelter, in a 24-hour respite) | 0 | | |
| Prefer not to answer | 17 |  | 4% |
| Not listed, please describe | 1 |  | 0% |









N 389

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

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|--|-------|---|-----|
| I have access to private outdoor space like a yard | 216 |  | 56% |
| I have access to semi-private/shared outdoor space | 73 |  | 19% |
| I only have access to public spaces like parks (I do not have access to private or semi-private outdoor space) | 88 |  | 23% |
| Prefer not to answer | 12 |  | 3% |

N 389

What was your total household income before taxes last year?

| | Count | % of responses | % |
|----------------------|-------|---|-----|
| 0 - \$29,999 | 20 |  | 5% |
| \$30,000-\$49,999 | 16 |  | 4% |
| \$50,000-\$69,999 | 32 |  | 8% |
| \$70,000-\$99,999 | 56 |  | 14% |
| \$100,000-149,999 | 72 |  | 19% |
| \$150,000 or more | 126 |  | 32% |
| Don't know | 6 |  | 2% |
| Prefer not to answer | 61 |  | 16% |

N 389

Acknowledgements

City of Toronto

Parks, Forestry & Recreation

Helen Luu – Senior Public Consultation Coordinator

William Skura – Senior Public Consultation Coordinator (Indigenous)

Andrey Pravosoudov – Project Coordinator Landscape Architect

Consulting Team

Engagement Specialist: StrategyCorp

Cassandra MacLellan – Engagement Consultant

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Landscape Architect: STUDIO tla

Yvonne Battista – Principal, Landscape Architect

Lok Tim Chan – Project Manager

Indigenous Design Advisor: Trophic Design

Terence Radford – Principal, Landscape Architect

James Miller – Indigenous Project Specialist

Agata Mrozowski – Landscape Designer

Developer: Hazelview Investments

Chloé Valcin-Wright – Associate, Planning & Real Estate Development

Community Members

We appreciate all the community members who engaged with us for the online survey. Your questions, insights, and feedback have been invaluable in refining our materials and enhancing the overall experience for all participants.

To learn more about the project, visit the project webpage: toronto.ca/70croatiastreet.

