

Open House Summary Report

New Park at 70 Croatia Street – Phase 3: Setting the Direction

January 2025



Contents

- Introduction 2
- Overview 2
- What We Heard..... 3
- Next Steps 4
- Appendix A: Quantitative and Qualitative Feedback 5
- Appendix B: Interactive Boards 7
- Appendix C: Attendance..... 9
- Acknowledgements 10

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 Phase 3 of the community engagement process, the project team is sharing the preferred design for the park with the community, with the goal of developing a refined preferred design at the end of the phase. The community engagement activities in this phase include:

- A Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting
- An Indigenous Advisory Circle (IAC) Meeting
- An Open House
- An Online Survey

Overview

The Open House for Phase 3 of the project was held on Saturday, November 30, 2024, from 1 to 5 p.m. at Dufferin Mall, with approximately 80 community members attending.

The Open House provided community members with an opportunity to ask questions, share feedback on the preferred design,



and learn about the online survey, where they could review more park renderings and provide additional input. Five members of the project team were present to answer participants' questions and provide more information about the project.

Participants were invited to share feedback at the Open House by placing sticker dots on interactive boards to show how satisfied they were with the preferred design, the planting and green spaces proposed, and the quantity and variety of seating options. Sticky notes were also provided for community members to share other comments and suggestions to improve the design. Photos of the interactive boards can be found in Appendix B.

What We Heard

Overall, participants' feedback on the preferred park design was extremely positive.

Key Feedback Summary

Feedback collected through the interactive boards included:

- A large majority of participants “very satisfied” (29 dots) with the preferred design.
- A large majority of participants “very satisfied” (28 dots) with the planting and green spaces proposed.
- A large majority of participants “very satisfied” (25 dots) with the variety and quantity of seating options.

Participants also provided verbal or written feedback. These comments and suggestions included:

- Satisfaction with accessible seating options, fitness area, play structure, and native plants and trees.
- Prioritize park maintenance and safety (e.g. more garbage cans, safe crosswalks for children).
- Include game tables (e.g. chess, checkers).
- Acknowledge the site's history and promote multiculturalism through the park's design.
- Provide programming for seniors.

A more detailed summary of the feedback captured on the interactive boards can be found in Appendix A.

Next Steps

The project team will refine the preferred design using the community feedback received through the Phase 3 CAC and IAC meetings, Open House, and Online Survey, which closed on December 20, 2024. The refined park design will be shared with the community along with an updated construction timeline at the end of the phase.

To learn more about the project and stay up-to-date, visit the [project webpage](#) and [sign up for email updates](#).

Appendix A: Quantitative and Qualitative Feedback

The feedback captured on the interactive boards during the Open House is detailed below.

Question 1: Overall, how satisfied are you with the preferred design for the new park at 70 Croatia Street?

- **Very Satisfied:** 29 dots
- **Somewhat Satisfied:** 7 dots
- **Neutral:** 0 dots
- **Somewhat Dissatisfied:** 0 dots
- **Very Dissatisfied:** 0 dots

Question 2: How satisfied are you with the planting and green spaces proposed for the park?

- **Very Satisfied:** 28 dots
- **Somewhat Satisfied:** 6 dots
- **Neutral:** 1 dot
- **Somewhat Dissatisfied:** 1 dot
- **Very Dissatisfied:** 0 dots

Question 3: How satisfied are you with the variety and quantity of seating options proposed for the park?

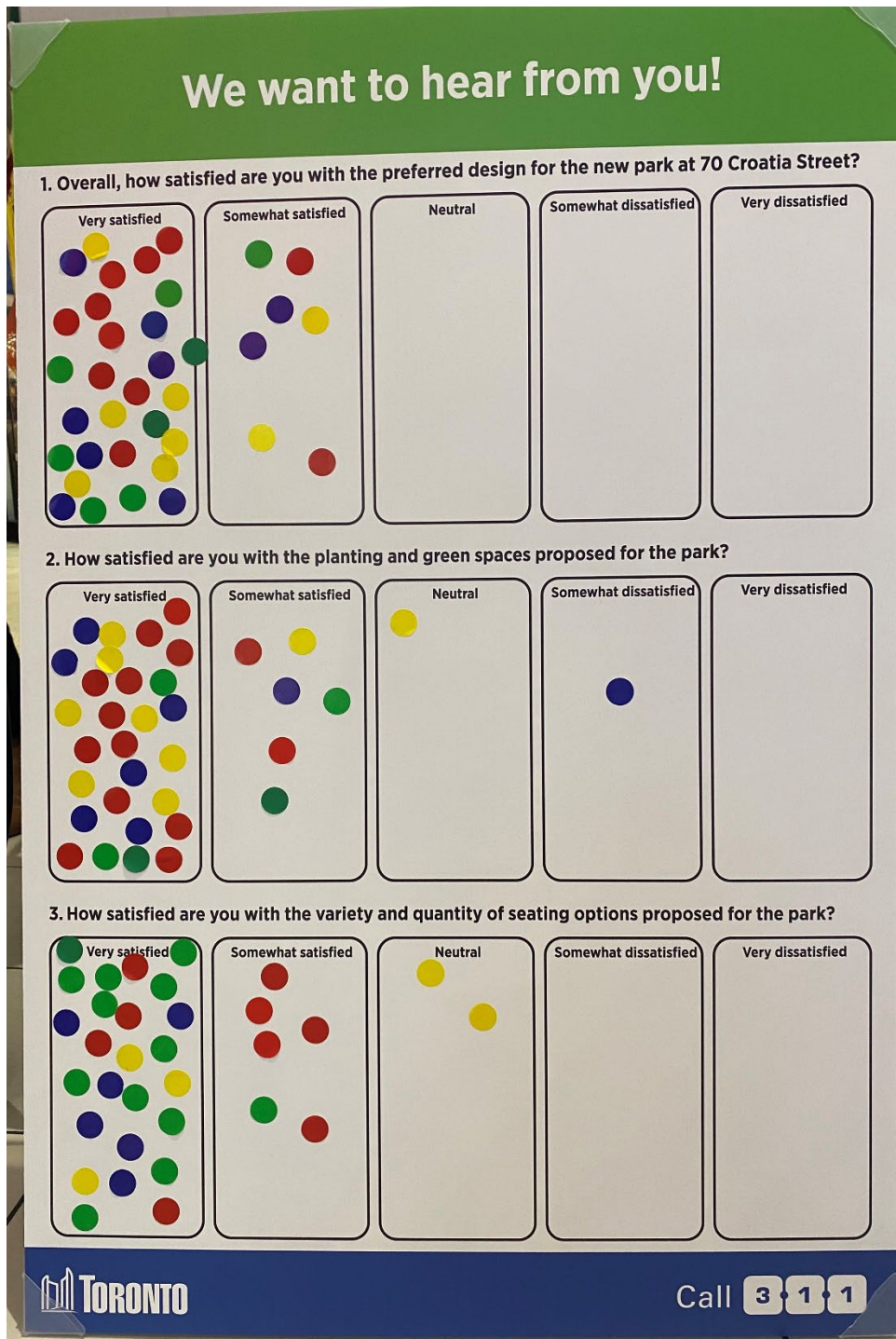
- **Very Satisfied:** 25 dots
- **Somewhat Satisfied:** 6 dots
- **Neutral:** 2 dots
- **Somewhat Dissatisfied:** 0 dots
- **Very Dissatisfied:** 0 dots

Question 4: Do you have any comments or suggestions for how to improve the park design?

- Amazing job, folks.
- Sand pit.
- Maintain the history.

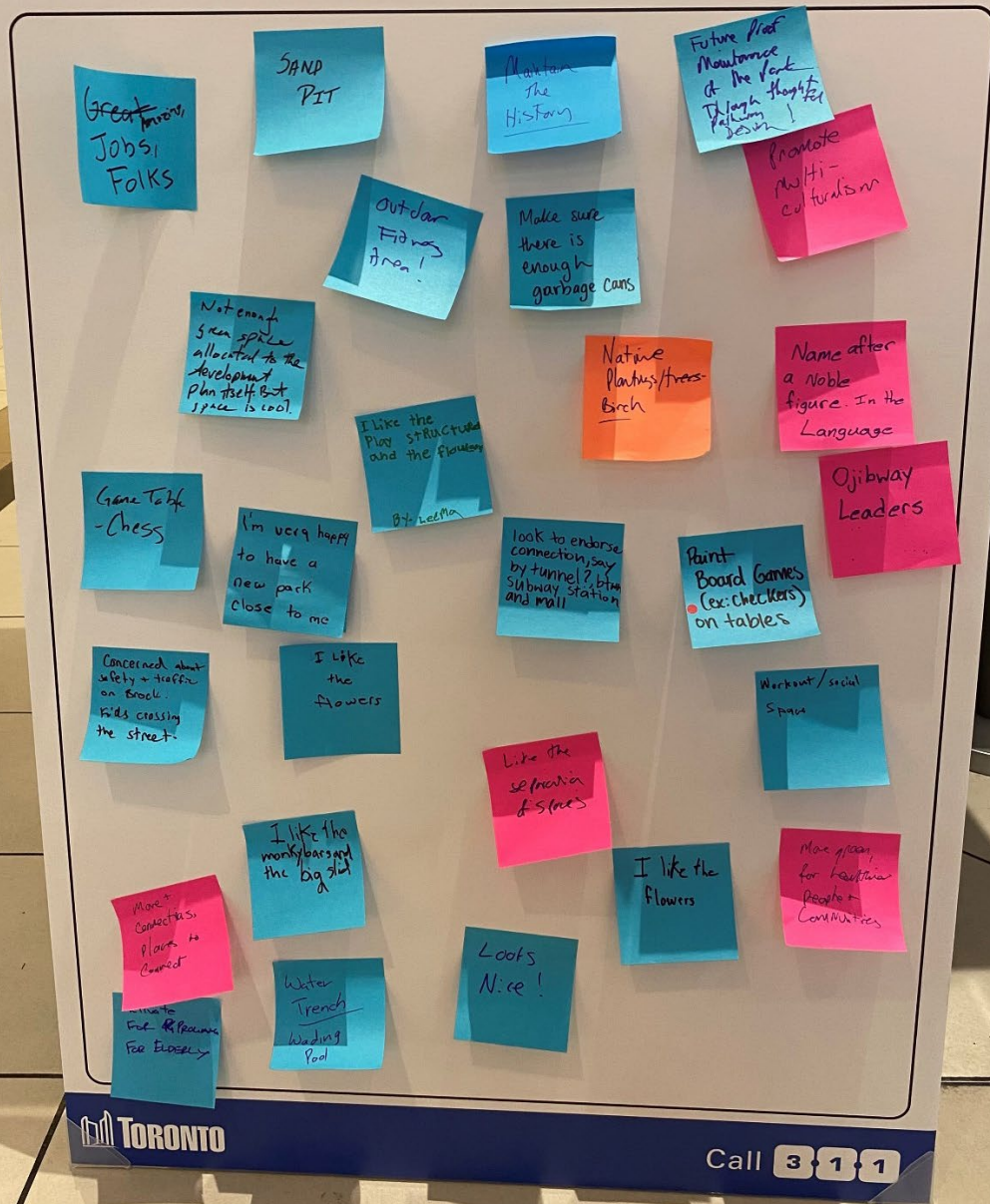
- Outdoor fitness area.
- Make sure there are enough garbage cans.
- Future proof maintenance of the park through thoughtful pathway design.
- Promote multi-culturalism.
- Name after a noble figure. In the Language.
- Native plantings/trees – Birch.
- Ojibway Leaders.
- Look to endorse connection, say by tunnel? Between subway station and mall.
- Paint board games (ex: checkers) on tables.
- I like the play structure and the flowers.
- Not enough green space allocated to the development plan itself. But space is cool.
- Game table – Chess.
- I'm very happy to have a new park close to me.
- I like the flowers.
- I like the flowers.
- Concerned about safety + traffic on Brock. Kids crossing the street.
- Workout/social space.
- Like the separation and spaces.
- I like the monkey bars and the big slide.
- Looks nice!
- Water trench, wading pool.
- Elevate programming for elderly.
- More connections, places to connect.
- More green for healthier people and communities.

Appendix B: Interactive Boards



We want to hear from you!

4. Do you have any comments or suggestions for how to improve the park design?



Appendix C: Attendance

The following members of the project team attended the Open House:

- City of Toronto – Parks, Forestry and Recreation
 - William Skura – Senior Public Consultation Coordinator (Indigenous)
 - Andrey Pravosoudov – Project Coordinator Landscape Architect
- STUDIO tla
 - Lok Tim Chan – Project Manager
 - Adrienne Mariano – Landscape Designer
- StrategyCorp Inc.
 - Cassandra MacLellan – Engagement Consultant

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

Design Team

Landscape Architect: STUDIO tla

- Yvonne Battista – Principal, Landscape Architect
- Lok Tim Chan – Project Manager
- Adrienne Mariano – Landscape Designer

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 would like to thank all the community members who attended the Open House and provided their time and feedback.