

ST. JAMES COMMUNITY PARKS AND RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS

Public Engagement Summary

September 2019

Background

Proposed funding in the amount of \$1.4 million, representing the appraised value of the Vimy Arena lands, has been identified in the City of Winnipeg's (City) 2019 Capital Budget forecast for 2020 to provide new, enhanced, or refurbished park and recreation amenities in the St. James community.

The project encompasses the Sturgeon Creek, Lakewood, Crestview, Heritage Park, and Buchanan neighbourhoods.

Engagement

In Phase 1, the City asked for feedback from St. James area residents to determine the community's parks and recreation needs. Engagement included an online survey available from July 3 to August 5, 2019 and was completed by 1,139 respondents, mostly residents (876 of 1,010)

The community's input will help determine parks and recreation options available for public feedback this fall as part of Phase 2 of public engagement.

Promotion

Public engagement opportunities were promoted using the following methods:

- City of Winnipeg website – launched July 3, 2019;
- News release – July 3, 2019
- Facebook posts with over 21,00 followers - July 3 – 22, 2019
- Twitter posts with over 90,000 followers - July 3 – 22, 2019
- City of Winnipeg public engagement newsletter with over 5,300 recipients - July 4, July 18, & August 1, 2019
- Postcard mailed to 9,450 residences - July 9, 2019

Key Findings

Are there any parks or recreation amenities you feel are missing from the area?

843 responses (only top 5 amenities shown below)



Are there any parks or recreation amenities that are currently available but requiring updating?

795 responses (only top 5 amenities shown below)



*Updates would include adding pickleball lines.

To learn more about the St. James Community Parks and Recreation Improvements, please visit winnipeg.ca/stjamesrec

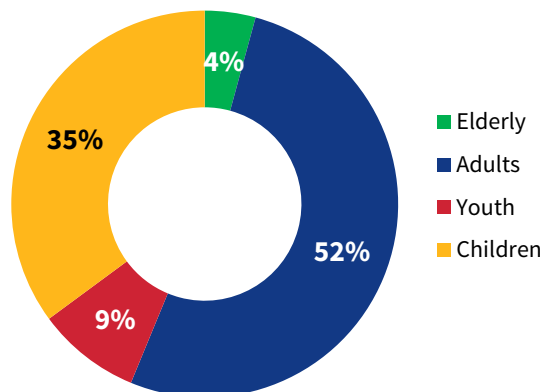
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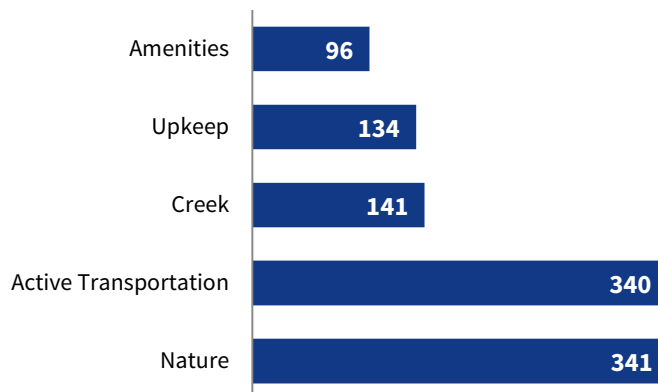
Who in your family uses recreation amenities most?

1,108 responses



What do you like most about parks and recreation in your neighbourhood?

1,139 responses (only top 5 responses shown below)



What We Heard	How It Was Considered
The top three parks identified by respondents that require updating were Corbett Park (26), Bernadine Stradford Park (25), and Voyageur Park (18).	Options to improve the three parks have been developed. The public will have the opportunity to provide further input on the options in Phase 2 of public engagement.
The top three recreation facilities identified by respondents that require updating were Crestview Village (125), Vimy Arena site (62), and the Assiniboia West Community Centre (C.C.) (55).	Options to improve Crestview Village and Assiniboia West C.C. have been developed for Phase 2 public engagement. Residents can access the St. James Civic Centre following the closure of the Vimy Area.
The top five parks and recreation amenities identified by respondents that are missing from the area were a spray pad, dog park, extended pathways, outdoor fitness equipment and indoor rink.	Options to add these amenities to the neighborhood have been developed for Phase 2 public engagement. An indoor rink is not included as an option because the cost would exceed the \$1.4 million allocated for this project.
The top three parks and recreation amenities identified by respondents that require updating were tennis courts (151), pathways (99), and play structures (64).	Options to improve these amenities have been developed. The public will have the opportunity to provide further input on the options in Phase 2 public engagement.
Respondents indicated that walking paths (83 percent), cycling paths (62 percent), open space (61 percent), benches (53 percent), and play structures (50 percent) were the most used amenities in St. James.	The types of amenities that St. James residents currently use have guided the development of options to ensure the improvements meet residents' needs, including improvements to the most commonly used amenities.

Next Steps

A public workshop will be held in fall 2019 to discuss parks and recreation options that were developed using the community's input. Along with public feedback, the City will consider levels of service in the area, available operating budgets, and existing recreation amenities to make final recommendations to Council in winter 2019/20. Construction of the final recommended parks and recreation amenities is expected to begin in 2020, subject to Council approval and funding.

Appendices

- Appendix A – Promotional material
- Appendix B – Survey results
- Appendix C – Qualitative Data Analysis

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