

## Westwood Ornamental Pond Concept Phase Summary

The ornamental pond in Westwood Park (12139 – 105 Street) has been a popular amenity for many years. While not intended for wading, it has been used by park users as a wading pool. In 2011, Alberta Health Services reviewed the use of the pond and found it did not meet health and safety regulations as a wading pool. The City is now looking at options for a new water amenity in the park. This would provide a place for park users to actively enjoy the water while ensuring health and safety regulations are met.

### Process:

In 2012, Westwood Community League surveyed the community and presented the City with its three preferences for the redevelopment of the site. In summary, these were:

1. Convert the existing ornamental pond to a wading pool.
2. Retain the northern portion of the existing ornamental pond as a reflective pond and install a spray deck at the southern portion of the pond.
3. Retain the existing ornamental pond as a reflective pond and install a spray deck elsewhere on site.



These preferences formed the road map for the project team's next steps. To gauge the practicability of each option, FOCUS Corporation assessed the pond and surrounding parkland and examined case studies in other cities. Using this information and the identified project budget, FOCUS came up with a recommendation for Westwood Ornamental Pond's redevelopment. The recommendation includes both a calm reflective space for ornamental water enjoyment as well as an interactive water feature within the footprint of the existing pond.

Based on this recommendation, two concept options were presented to the Westwood community at an open house on June 23, 2014. The community was provided with a questionnaire/comment sheet in order to respond to the presented concepts. Based on these comments, the concept options were further refined into the approved concept, which will again be further refined through the Design Phase of the project.

### Community Open House:

Two concept options were presented at the open house in order to receive feedback from the community: [Concept Plan A](#) and [Concept Plan B](#). The design philosophy of both concepts included a tranquil gathering space and fountain at the north end of the project area, connecting to the community league hall, and active water play at the south end of the project area. The primary differences between the concept options were the type of ornamental fountain, the design of the tranquil gathering space, and the type of spray deck.

For more information visit: [edmonton.ca/westwoodpond](http://edmonton.ca/westwoodpond)

### Consultation Feedback:

Overall feedback was very positive for the two concept options presented to the community. 86% of respondents supported the overall direction. The most common feedback was:

- The proposed berm between the spray deck and the playground blocks sightlines between the two features. In summary, the design should ensure Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.
- Ensure that all features are safe to use and do not promote conflicting uses.
- Park lighting should be improved and the park should be accessible.

This feedback has been incorporated into the approved concept and will be further refined in the Design Phase of the project.

### Approved Concept:

The [Approved Concept](#) is a refinement of the concept options presented at the open house and takes the community's feedback into account. The approved concept envisions:

- A tranquil space with an ornamental fountain on the north end of the project area. This space will be designed to be used in both summer and winter and provide an idyllic setting for community league events to spill outdoors.
- A spray deck at the south end of the project area with ground sprays that provide a playful environment to enjoy the water and adjacent grassy areas to sunbathe.
- A tranquil and accessible pathway through the project area that links the north and south amenities.
- A restored concrete path around the project area and restored concrete stairs leading to the community league facility.
- Unobstructed sightlines from the spray deck to the playground and fountain in accordance with CPTED principles.
- Increased seating, including accessible picnic tables.
- Updated mechanical infrastructure to meet current standards. The existing concrete structure will be used as a subgrade for new amenities where possible.



### Next Steps:

The project has entered the Design Phase. Refinement of the design will occur throughout 2015. Construction is anticipated in 2016. Project updates will be provided through the City of Edmonton website and Westwood Community League.