Coronation Community Recreation Centre

What we Heard and What we Did
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I. INTRODUCTION

Planning for the Coronation Community Recreation Centre as an addition to the Coronation District Park site started in 2007 when City Council approved the Medium Term Recreation Facility and Sports Field Plan. Extensive engagement was conducted between 2011 and 2014 as the program for the facility, its design, and the design of how it would be integrated into the park was developed. In 2014, the project was put on hold to give the facility partners time to fundraise their portion of the contribution toward the project.

In December 2018, funding was approved by City Council to complete the design of the Coronation Community Recreation Centre and refine the project estimate to a pre-construction level of accuracy.

II. ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Four rounds of public engagement were completed for the Coronation Community Recreation Centre. Those engagement opportunities confirmed what amenities are included in the recreation centre design plans, and helped to shape how the centre will fit in district park site.

WHAT WAS DONE

Feedback gathered during public engagement was used to help:

- Refine and advise on the building plans and park master plan throughout the design phase
- Re-validate the public priorities and proposed facility uses identified in the Medium Term Recreation and Sports Field Plan
- Create the facility program (decide what activities would be accommodated in the new facility) through engagement for this project, and engagement for the development of the Medium Term Recreation Plan and Sports Field Plan

Public engagement involved drop-in sessions, phone surveys, and online surveys to gather input from the general public.
The communications activities used to raise awareness of the public engagement opportunities included:

- Direct invitations to community and sports organizations
- Advertisements in multiple papers, such as the Edmonton Journal and Examiner
- Mail delivery
- Road signs on Coronation District Park site
- Edmonton Sports Council e-newsletter

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**Schematic Design Completed Coronation District Park Master Plan**

- In-person Event, March 4, 2014, Telus World of Science
- Online Survey, March 4-17, 2014, City website

**Preliminary Plan**

**Updated Park Master Plan**

- In-person Event, June 18, 2012, Central Lions Senior Recreation Centre
- Online survey, June 18-24, 2012, City website

**Preliminary Concept Plan of the Park**

**Facility Program Elements**

- In-person Event, November 3, 2011, Central Lions Senior Recreation Centre
- Online survey, November 2-3, 2011, City website
- Phone survey of area residents (400 interviews completed) to validate findings from Medium Term Recreation and Sports Field Plan

**Workshop**

**Triathlon and Cycling Communities**

- In-person Event, May 16, 2011, Central Lions Senior Recreation Centre
Needs Assessment for development of the Medium Term Recreation and Sports Field Plan, used to determine locations for future recreation facilities and community needs for multi-purpose recreation facilities and district parks.

- 2006 public meetings, stakeholder forums and youth focus groups
- 2006 phone survey of households in neighbourhoods surrounding Coronation District Park

A Park and Facility Advisory Committee was also formed to inform the project at regular intervals during design. This committee included representation from non-City organizations currently operating on the Coronation District Park site and in the surrounding community.

III. ENGAGEMENT RESULTS AND FINDINGS

WHAT WAS SAID

Participant survey results:
96% support animation of the park space referred to as the Outdoor Recreation Room

For those in support of animating this space, the focus areas for this park space were:

- 65% Adult fitness: fitness equipment, bootcamp training, yoga, tai chi
- 56% Winter playground: kids tobogganing, skating, snow play, x-country skiing
- 54% Bike skills: novice BMX, bike polo, novice mountain bike skills, linkage to city greenway system and park loop trail system
- 37% Children’s play area: destination playground providing opportunities for outdoor play
- 37% Court facilities: tennis courts, multi-use courts, basketball, volleyball, roller hockey
- 21% Other

[Note: Multiple responses were allowed.]

The largest groups of respondents were from Westmount (13%) or Woodcroft (11%)

Participants identified as:

- 52% Current park and/or facility user
- 50% Future park and/or facility user
- 34% Member of a cycling or triathlon club

[Note: Multiple responses were allowed.]

Synopsis of general participant comments:

Facility:

- Support for the indoor cycling track, gymnasiums and fitness centre components
- Support for the proposed connection to Peter Hemingway Leisure Centre
- Concern over whether there is enough parking to support all activities on site

**Park / Outdoor Spaces:**
- Desire to maintain tennis courts in the park
- Support for additional trails on site to support walkability
- Support for concept of the Outdoor Recreation Room
- Concern over loss of green space

**WHAT WE HEARD**

The main themes of input heard include:
- Support for the proposed facility design, including an indoor cycling track
- Support for the Park Master Plan
- Concern over how the additional traffic and parking requirements will affect the site and surrounding neighbourhoods

**AS A RESULT, WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THE PROJECT?**

**Traffic:**
- The road that connects the Woodcroft Community League parking lot to the Peter Hemingway Leisure Centre parking lot will be closed. This will eliminate short-cutting through the community from the north
- Additional access out to 135 street has been added to the site plan in its place
- The arena will be demolished as part of the project so parking on site can be reduced (earlier suggestions had it in place until a later phase)
- A new pathway will provide connections to transit to reduce parking requirements on site

**Tennis Courts**
- Will not be removed completely, however the number of courts will be reduced

**Lighting**
- Direct light toward the parking area and away from passive park spaces to ensure ‘Dark Skies’ protocol is followed
Park Master Plan implementation
(Work not in the scope of the current recreation centre project) will include:

- Better trail connections between site amenities
- Addition of a perimeter trail system in the park to maximize walking opportunities
- Outdoor recreation room

IV. WHAT'S NEXT
The next step in the Coronation Community Recreation Centre Project is to review regulation and policy changes over the 5 years that the project has been on hold, and to determine how that impacts the current design. That work is required to update the project budget and prepare the design plans for construction.

Following review and update of the current design plans, the City will evaluate whether there is a need for further public engagement. If the changes are technical in nature and do not change the user experience of the park or facility, no further public engagement will occur and the project will be completed as previously designed and communicated.

Thank you for participating in sharing your voice and shaping our city.

Follow the project at edmonton.ca/CoronationRecCentre