

# What We Heard Report: Beaver Hills House Park & Michael Phair Park Renewal Preliminary Design

ADVISOR

June 2023

Open Spaces Planning & Design,  
Integrated Infrastructure Services  
[www.edmonton.ca/BeaverHillsMichaelPhairRenewal](http://www.edmonton.ca/BeaverHillsMichaelPhairRenewal)

**SHARE** YOUR VOICE  
**SHAPE** OUR CITY

**Edmonton**

# Table of Contents

Project background	3
How we engaged	4
Who we engaged	5
Public engagement summary	7
What happens next?	16
Appendix	
· Demographics summary	
· Survey questions background	
· Stakeholder engagement meeting minutes	
· Public engagement verbatim responses	

# Project Background

Beaver Hills House Park and Michael Phair Park are connected parks embedded in the urban fabric of downtown Edmonton. Located on the north side of Jasper Avenue between 104 and 105 Street, they provide important services to the residents and businesses of the dense city core and positively impact the quality of life in the city.

This project will see the renewal of aging infrastructure and improve the overall design and function of both parks. The goal of the renewal, in addition to repairing or replacing the existing infrastructure, is to improve safety and accessibility and increase the use of these open spaces in downtown Edmonton.

Next steps include refining the detailed design during fall 2023 and winter 2024. Construction is planned for spring 2025.

The Downtown Public Places Plan provides a contextual framework for the significance of Beaver Hills House Park and Michael Phair Park as important civic spaces. The study notes:

*"As Downtown's population grows, so does demand for a vibrant and interconnected network of public places. Public places serve as the living room for Downtown residents. They provide respite, relief, and room to socialize, celebrate, and recharge. Public places support public life. They host amenities that support various wellness, celebration, and ecological functions." (Downtown Public Places Plan, 2020)*

Additional policies related to the project (which can be found on the City's website) include:

- + The City Plan
- + Capital City Downtown Plan (2011)
- + The Downtown Public Places Plan (2020)
- + City of Edmonton Public Engagement Policy
- + City of Edmonton Access Design Guide
- + Winter City Design Guidelines (2011)

# How We Engaged

Online and in-person stakeholder engagement sessions for the preliminary design phase occurred between April and May 2023 using a variety of engagement tools.

## Engagement & Communications Tools

### Engage



#### Online public survey

The online survey was the primary means to share information and collect feedback during this phase of engagement.



#### Online

Online engagement sessions with stakeholder groups.

### Inform



#### Project webpage

The City's online hub for all project information, including the public survey, park design plan updates and engagement materials – [www.edmonton.ca/BeaverHillsMichaelPhairRenewal](http://www.edmonton.ca/BeaverHillsMichaelPhairRenewal)

### Communications



#### Social media

Posts on the City of Edmonton's Facebook and Instagram accounts.



#### Posters

Signage was posted around the site to inform area residents and promote engagement.



#### Qr codes

QR codes on all posters and handouts, to stay informed on project updates.



#### Postcards

Postcards promoting public engagement opportunities with links to project web page were distributed to neighbouring postal codes.



#### Roadside signs

Roadside signs promoting public engagement opportunities were placed in adjacent communities.



#### Direct emails

Direct emails to identified stakeholder organizations and property owners.

# Who We Engaged

The City is committed to involving the people affected by the decisions it makes and seeks diverse opinions, experiences and information so that a wide spectrum of perspectives are represented in the process. For Beaver Hills House Park and Michael Phair Park engagement this included:

## Stakeholder groups:

A variety of internal City groups, departments and external organizations including community associations, local area property owners, Indigenous elders and special interest individuals and groups were invited to provide their feedback in either online or in person engagement sessions.

## General public:

Engagement opportunities were open for all Edmontonians to participate and were promoted widely through social media, postcards distributed to neighbouring postal codes as well as signage in both parks, along nearby roads and in surrounding businesses.



# Stakeholder Engagement Summary

The online engagement session was the primary tool used to collect feedback from external stakeholders with **12 groups or organizations**.



The format for the online stakeholder engagement sessions included:

- + Presentation on the preliminary design, including an overview of key design decisions (by City and O2)
- + Questions about the revised park design, improvements to accessibility and pathway slopes and wall removal (open discussion)

The City invited the following participants:

- + Dreamspeakers Festival Society
- + Bear Clan Patrol Beaver Hills House
- + Indigenous Elder Jo-Ann Saddleback
- + The Works International Visual Arts Society
- + Edmonton Downtown Business Association (EDBA)
- + Arts Activation Group
- + Downtown Edmonton Community League (DECL)
- + Building Owners and Managers (BOMA)
- + Coast Edmonton Plaza Hotel
- + El Beso Restaurant
- + Michael Phair
- + EPCOR

**Internal stakeholder groups:** City of Edmonton staff from a variety of departments were invited to participate in dedicated engagement sessions. The City invited the following participants:

- + Open Space – Operations
- + Park Maintenance Crews

## Summary of discussion

Participants were enthusiastic to discuss the key decisions made during this phase to renew the park to improve safety, accessibility and programming. While the detailed notes from meetings can be found in the What We Heard report, a summary of responses can be found here:

- + Strong support for the wall removal
- + Understanding of the need for tree removal for accessibility
- + Strong support for washroom facility
- + Request for on-site storage for multiple organizations
- + Continued emphasis on supporting event needs, including power and lighting and food trucks
- + Interest in respectful and careful decommissioning of art pieces
- + Identified the need for Indigenous ceremony during park design
- + Desire to keep water feature or provide new water feature
- + Request for use of natural materials in BHH
- + Varying opinions on climbing wall and fire feature

# Question 1: Park Design Updates

Please take a look at the revised park design, including perspective renderings for each park and a revised park design plan. **Overall, what do you like and/or dislike about the park design?** (Open-ended)

Total Respondents: 260

Total Comments: 231



Beaver Hills House Park rendering



Michael Phair Park rendering

We asked this question to see if the Preliminary park design meets the public's expectations. Overall, there are common themes through responses that are repeated in the responses to other questions as well. Themes include:

- + Concern about drug use and safety. Strong feeling that the park will not be safe or successful without a strong plan for frequent, on-site City maintenance, management, and/or security.
- + Very strong dislike that existing water feature is being removed.
- + Strong support for adding another water feature.
- + Strong support for wall removal.
- + Strong support for washrooms.
- + Strong support for lighting

## Quotes \*

- + "I love the proposal for a playground structure, bouldering wall, and washroom. I can imagine going to this park for a takeout picnic."
- + "I have concerns about the success of [this] work without greater support for the inner city population"
- + "Water features are being removed!!! This is something I believe the city shouldn't remove. I understand maintenance issues as well as safety concerns but our parks should keep water features as much as possible, water is life"
- + "There are a few pinch points on park paths which become a safety issue if you are walking alone and get trapped."
- + "The kids play feature seems awfully close to the road. Can it be moved at all?"
- + "The concept design looks good. The key to any rejuvenated space is will there be upkeep for it?"
- + "I would prefer some more green space as opposed to concrete."

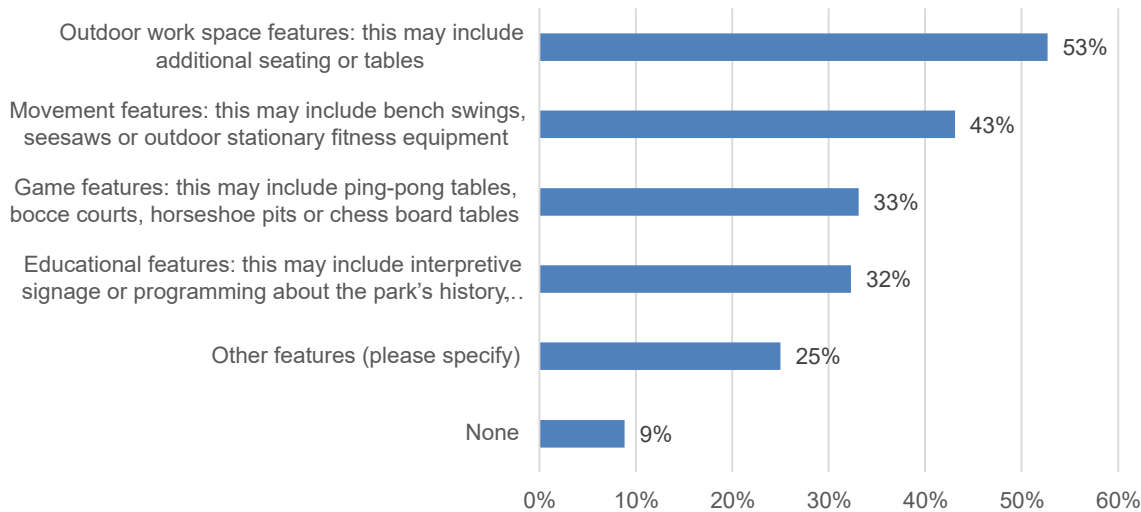
# Question 2: Interactive Features

The park design for Michael Phair Park may include interactive features and amenities to provide opportunities for all ages and abilities to enjoy the park. If budget allows, we may also include additional features.

**Which type of features are you most likely to use?** Select up to three.

**Total Respondents: 260**

**Total Comments: 64**



We asked this question to gauge preference for the types of additional interactive park features and amenities that may be added to the park. Over half of respondents indicated outdoor work spaces as a feature they would most likely use. Movement features were selected by 43 per cent of respondents as their second most likely used amenity. About one-third of respondents indicated either game features or educational features as their third choice for an additional interactive amenity.

## Quotes \*

- + "Anything that could be appropriate for skateboarding!"
- + "Combined children and fitness equipment in the same area would be great!"
- + "Educational features not operated by button. Buttons will break so quickly and are germ magnets otherwise."
- + "Drinking fountain (bottle filler, at the very least) & public toilet. Vote for bocce ball."
- + "Shade/cover - more trees if possible, but awnings/umbrellas or something for extreme sun or rain."
- + "Regular attendants and cleaning is more important to me than accessing additional features."



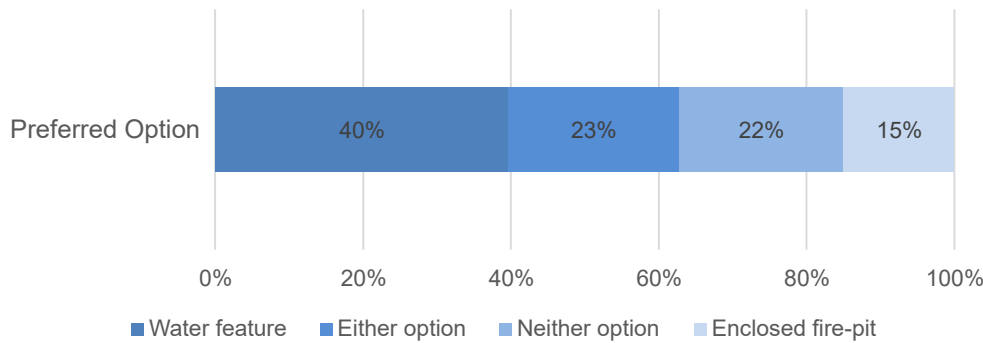
# Question 3: New Park Features

The existing waterfall and pools are being removed due to its aging infrastructure and the level of maintenance required. **The two new park features being considered are an interactive water feature or an enclosed fire pit.**

(Single Choice)

Total Respondents: 260

Total Comments: N/A



We asked this question to help guide options for a new park feature. All survey participants provided a response to this single-choice question.

Many respondents indicated their preference for a water feature. A total of 260 responses were received indicating :

- + About half of respondents selected a preference, the majority of whom preferred an interactive water feature over an enclosed fire-pit
- + About a quarter of respondents informed either option as acceptable
- + About a quarter of respondents informed that they preferred neither option

(There are no verbatim responses because this question did not provide an open text response.)

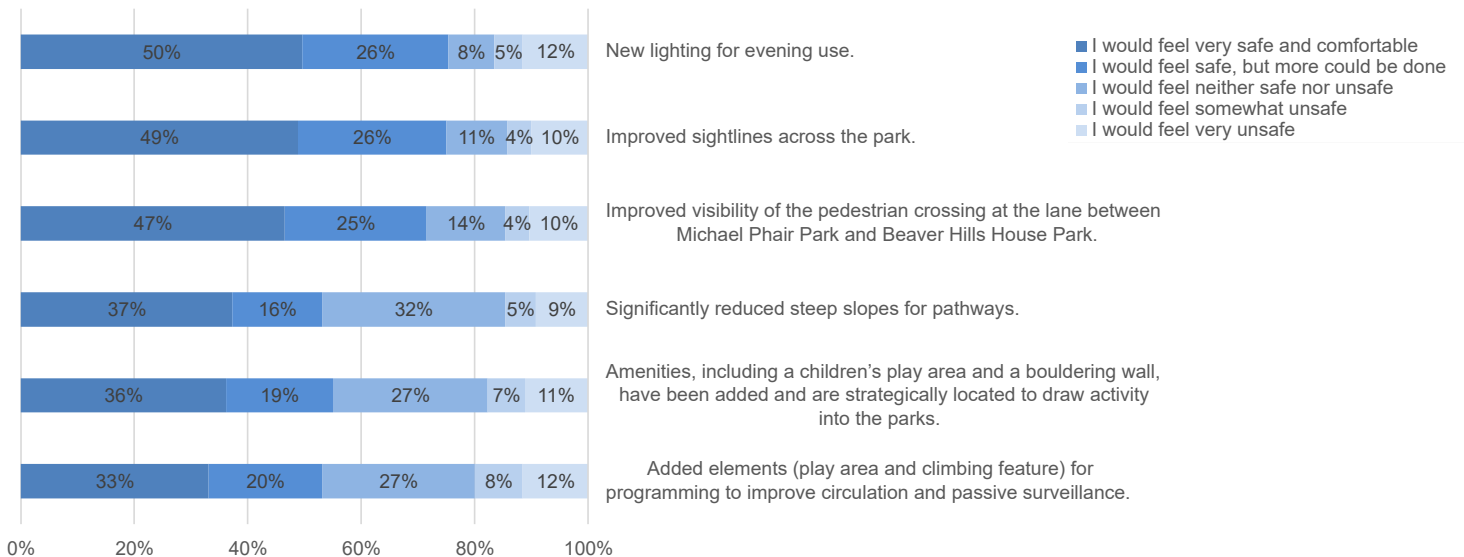
# Question 4: Design Response

During public and stakeholder engagement in summer 2022, key priorities were identified. Below are examples of how each was addressed through the park design. **Please review the information and consider how well the design responds to the input provided.** (Multiple-choice)

In Phase 1 engagement, we heard safety or perception of safety required the most improvement (Rank 1). The following items were included in the preliminary park design to improve safety in the parks. **For each, please tell us how it would impact your perception of safety.** (Open-ended)

Total Respondents: 260

Total Comments: 172



We asked this question because we know that safety and perception of safety is one of the most significant challenges for the park and the greater downtown area. The preliminary design attempts to address safety through a number of improvements and we wanted to hear from the public how the new design would improve their perception of the site.

## Quotes \*

- + "I have walked these areas for years and see the changes proposed as a giant step to improving safety and allowing for integration. Great job"
- + "Love adding different uses to attract a wider range of users through the day. Removing the retaining wall will be awesomeness for CPTED."
- + "Interactive options are the key to safety and livelihood in the DT core."
- + "I don't think adding children's play areas will really work because there are not many children using the area day-to-day."
- + "Safety is a major concern and a security team in some form would be beneficial. "
- + "Design elements seem good. Feeling safe downtown is more dependent on socioeconomic elements - eliminating poverty and homelessness would do more."
- + "I feel the sightline and lighting will greatly improve the perception of safety. I'm unsure the features will draw activity in the way this describes."
- + "Visibility is extremely important to my perceptions of safety, and I believe these improvements are excellent."

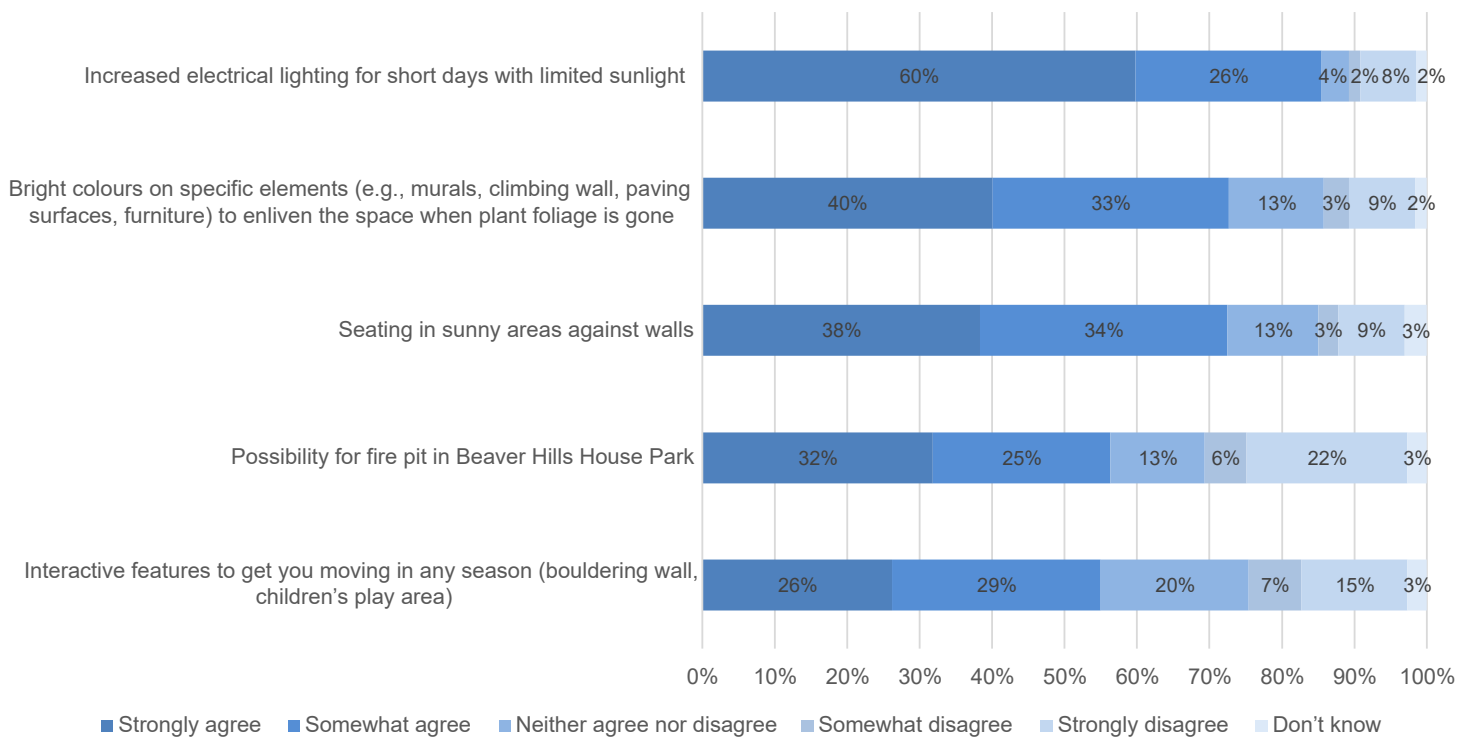
# Question 5: Winter Programming

During Phase 1 engagement, we heard “winter programming needs should be incorporated.” The park design aims to be a space used year-round and includes winter-oriented improvements mentioned below.

**Do you agree or disagree that these improvements will enhance winter programming?** (Multiple-choice Grid) **Are there any other changes that could be made to the park to increase winter use?** (Open-ended)

Total Respondents: 260

Total Comments: 133



We asked this question to gather feedback on preference of design strategies for winter-use. The majority of respondents agree on the use of increased electrical lighting. Over 70 per cent of respondents either strongly agree or somewhat agree over the use of bright colours on certain elements in the park, and the placement of seating in sunny areas against walls. Over half of respondents agree with the addition of interactive features, and the possibility of a fire pit in Beaver Hills House Park.

## Quotes \*

- + “Ensure seating areas are not exposed to significant wind gusts or snowdrifts, consider downdraft from adjacent buildings. Heated washrooms”
- + “Space for ice skating”
- + “Heating lamps at patio tables on the Michael Phair side”
- + “Flat area to put in Crokicurl!”
- + “I’d add one giant Christmas tree so people can decorate or sit around and read a book on a bench”

# Question 6: Additional Comments

Do you have any other ideas or considerations about this park renewal project? (Optional)

Total Respondents: 260

Total Comments: 148

As the final question of the survey and last opportunity to provide a comment response, this question received many comments. Common or similar comments are summarized below:

- + The existing water feature in Beaver Hills House Park is a popular feature and many respondents do not want to see it removed. People feel this is an important reason why they visited the park and is what makes the park a unique, natural space downtown. If it is removed, many respondents requested a new water feature to keep the identity of the park.
- + Strong support for wall removal.
- + A number of respondents worry the renewal project may not be the best use of taxpayer money in light of larger issues in the city, especially safety, homelessness, drug and alcohol abuse, vacant spaces, etc.
- + Strong support for washrooms but many respondents requested ongoing maintenance and monitoring.
- + Strong support for lighting.
- + Improvements to parks require regular maintenance and care to be successful.

## Quotes \*

- + *"I would prefer to see Beaver Hills Park as a more subdued park, for eating lunch or meeting someone for a coffee because it is convenient to many workplaces."*
- + *"Add a crosswalk over 105 Street to create a direct east-west connection between the park and the alley on the west side of 105 Street."*
- + *"Information/Peace Officer with a Kiosk Office to keep community together, active and informed."*
- + *"This is a waste of money and should not move forward until we address the issues that are effecting all Edmontonians. Mental health and Housing for the homeless."*
- + *"No it's just not a good time to be thinking about this due to other more serious world issues."*
- + *"The only way to get people to use the park is to clean up the downtown area. Otherwise it is a waste of money to make these improvements."*
- + *"I just wish the city had a central location for skateboarding."*
- + *"Activation, cleanliness, and interactive uses. Fruit trees like at Alex Decoteau are great. Garbage receptacles that can separate garbage, bottles, and organics would be ideal. Plug ins would also be a good idea for lighting additions or events."*
- + *"Some type of art or an overhead structure in the Jasper Avenue plaza could help it feel less 'flat'."*
- + *"A schedule of family friendly events all throughout the year to encourage attendance and awareness of the space."*

# What Happens Next?

The next phase for the project is to produce the final park plan, obtain approvals and produce the detailed design drawings based on final input received from this engagement as well as technical studies, feasibility and input from The City of Edmonton.

## Engagement Timeline

<b>Phase 1 Concept Design Spring 2022</b>	<b>Phase 2 Preliminary Design Spring 2023</b>	<b>Phase 3 Detailed Design Fall/Winter 2023</b>	<b>Phase 4 Construction* 2024 - 2025</b>
<i>Stakeholder Meetings Public Engagement</i>	<i>Stakeholder Meetings Public Engagement</i>	<i>Information only</i>	<i>Information only</i>
Insights on issues and opportunities	Feedback on park design options	Project updates	Project/ construction updates

## Stay informed!

Visit the project website for more information and project updates:

[www.edmonton.ca/BeaverHillsMichaelPhairRenewal](http://www.edmonton.ca/BeaverHillsMichaelPhairRenewal)

# Appendix

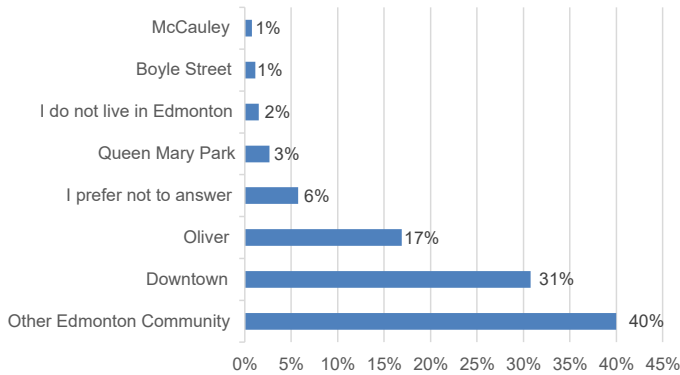
# Demographics Summary

The City is committed to inclusive engagement to ensure diverse perspectives are represented in the process. Engagement opportunities were widely promoted and open for all Edmontonians to participate.

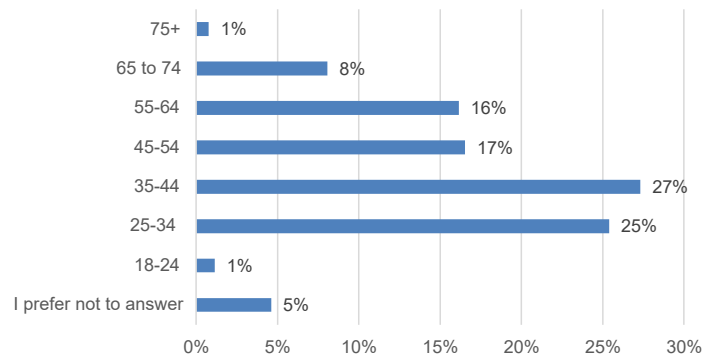


The graphs below represents the demographics of survey respondents, and diverse groups of people participating.

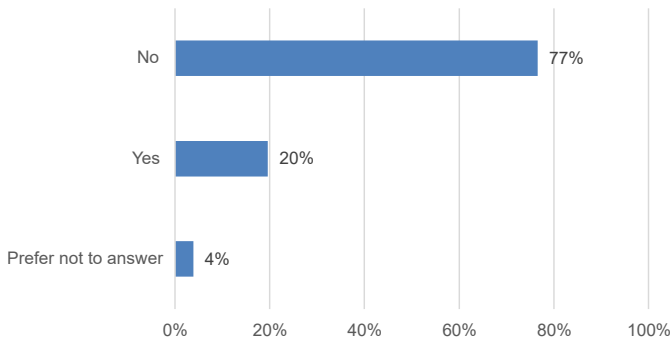
Where do you live?



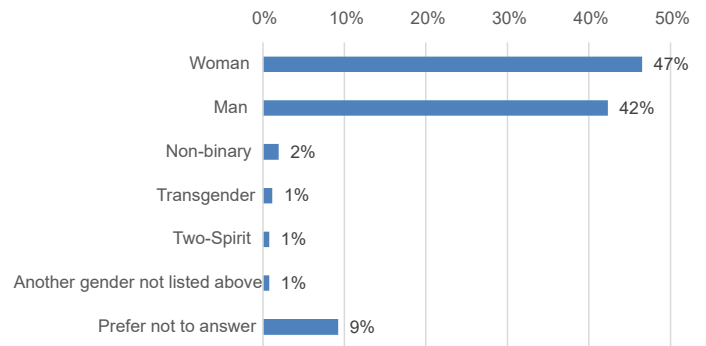
Age



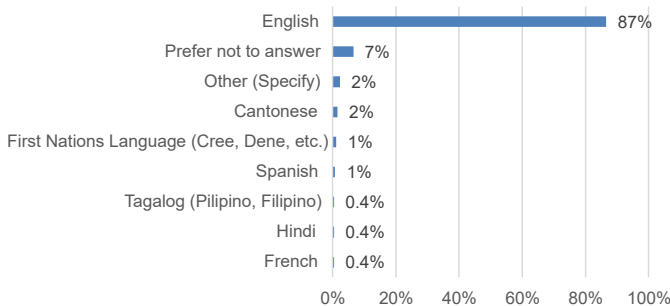
Do you have children under 18 living at home?



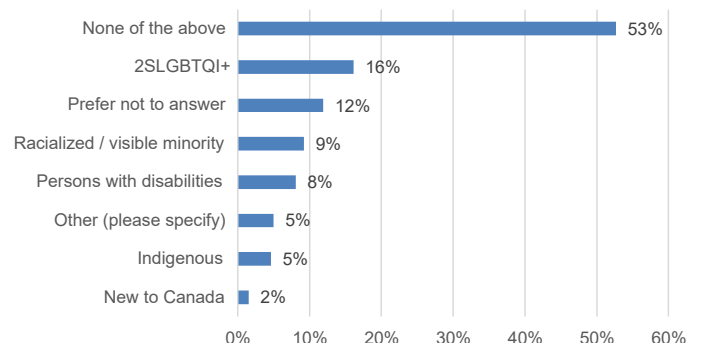
What gender do you identify as?



What is the primary language spoken in your household?



Do you identify as any of the following?



# Survey Questions Background

## What We Asked

The online survey was the primary tool used to collect feedback from the public with **260 participants**. Below is an overview of the survey questions.



### WHAT WE ASKED

### WHY WE ASKED

#### Q1 – PARK DESIGN UPDATES

Please take a look at the revised park design, including perspective renderings for each park and a revised park design plan. Construction of the park design is dependent on future funding.

To gauge opinion on park design and gather additional comments.

- + Beaver Hills House Park: The renewed park design provides a central gathering space or “heart” of the park surrounded with amphitheatre seating in grass. Accessible pathways with new paving, flexible seating, new lighting and trees as well as a washroom building will be provided. Playful elements such as a children’s natural play structure and a bouldering wall will provide interactive elements within the park. Near Jasper Avenue, an open area will allow flexible space for events and will re-integrate the existing Aboriginal Walk of Honour.
- + Michael Phair Park: The park design includes a busking stage with string lighting, designated space for food truck parking, playful seating and games area as well as new trees.
- + Wall Removal: Based on Phase 1 engagement and stakeholder feedback, the Project Team examined the feasibility of removing the existing large wall between Beaver Hills House and Michael Phair Parks. The City has allocated a portion of the project budget to partially remove the existing large wall. This will open up the space between the two parks to allow more light and views and will help the two parks feel more connected. It will also improve safety near the lane because of improved sight lines for both cars and pedestrians. The existing large wall is currently home to a sculptural mural entitled “Amiskwaciw Waskayhkan Ihtawin.” The Project Team is working with the original artist to incorporate ideas from the mural into the park design.

Overall, what do you like and/or dislike about the park design?

#### Q2– INTERACTIVE FEATURES

The park design for Michael Phair Park may include interactive features and amenities to provide opportunities for all ages and abilities to enjoy the park. If budget allows, we may also include additional features. Which type of features are you most likely to use? Select up to three

To gauge the preference for type of interactive park features and amenities

- + Outdoor work space features: this may include additional seating or tables
- + Movement features: this may include bench swings, seesaws or outdoor stationary fitness equipment
- + Game features: this may include ping-pong tables, bocce courts, horseshoe pits or chess board tables
- + Educational features: this may include interpretive signage or programming about the park’s history, setting or culture (operated by push button)
- + Other features (please specify)
- + None

#### Q3– NEW PARK FEATURES

The existing waterfall and pools are being removed due to its aging infrastructure and the level of maintenance required. Two new park features being considered are an interactive water feature or an enclosed fire pit.

To discern the preference for type of new park feature

- + I prefer the water feature
- + Either option is acceptable
- + Neither option is preferred
- + I prefer the enclosed fire pit



## WHAT WE ASKED

## WHY WE ASKED

### Q4- DESIGN RESPONSE

During public and stakeholder engagement in Summer 2022, key priorities were identified. Below are examples of how each was addressed through the park design. Please review the information and consider how well the design responds to the input provided.

In Phase 1 engagement, we heard safety or perception of safety required the most improvement (Rank 1). The following items were included in the preliminary park design to improve safety in the parks. For each, please tell us how it would impact your perception of safety. (Multiple-choice Grid)

- + New lighting for evening use
- + Significantly reduced steep slopes for pathways
- + Improved sight lines across the park
- + Amenities, including a children's play area and a bouldering wall, have been added and are strategically located to draw activity into the parks
- + Added elements (play area and climbing feature) for programming to improve circulation and passive surveillance
- + Improved visibility of the pedestrian crossing at the lane between Michael Phair Park and Beaver Hills House Park

Tell us why you chose to answer as you have. (Open-Ended)

To gauge opinion on the design response to improve safety and comfort in the parks

---

### Q5- WINTER PROGRAMMING

During Phase 1 engagement, we heard "winter programming needs should be incorporated." The park design aims to be a space used year-round and includes winter-oriented improvements mentioned below. Do you agree or disagree that these improvements will enhance winter programming? (Multiple-choice Grid)

- + Increased electrical lighting for short days with limited sunlight
- + Seating in sunny areas against walls
- + Interactive features to get you moving in any season (bouldering wall, children's play area)
- + Bright colours on specific elements (e.g., murals, climbing wall, paving surfaces, furniture) to enliven the space when plant foliage is gone
- + Possibility for fire pit in Beaver Hills House Park

Are there any other changes that could be made to the park to increase winter use? (Open-ended)

To obtain feedback on design response to winter programming and improvements

---

### Q6- COMMENTS

Do you have any other ideas or considerations about this park renewal project? \*Optional (Open-ended)

To allow additional feedback on the design

# **Stakeholder Engagement Meeting Minutes**

**Preliminary Design**

# Beaver Hills House & Michael Phair Parks Engagement Summary

<i>Project Phase</i>	Phase 2: Preliminary Design – Spring 2023
<i>Meeting Date</i>	May 5, 2023 at 11:00am
<i>Stakeholder</i>	Downtown Edmonton Community League (DECL)
<i>Attendees</i>	Ramsey Hajar (City of Edmonton) Lynnette Postuma (O2) Chris Buyze (Past-President, DECL) Cheryl Probert (President, DECL)

## Discussion Summary

<b>Background</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>O2 shared a slideshow presentation with a project update on key decisions for wall removal and the revised park design, including plan rendering and perspective renderings.</li> </ul>
<b>Comments from DECL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General support for the project including wall removal and looking forward to implementation</li> <li>Understand the removal of water feature</li> <li>Appreciate the lighting ideas presented in MPP</li> <li>Discussion about the signage for the parks and requests for durability and maintenance</li> <li>Discussion about the threshold between two parks with wall removal and what each park becomes</li> <li>Washroom is very needed and requires careful attention to position and materials</li> <li>On-site storage would be beneficial</li> <li>Downtown residents have lots of knowledge about specific use of park and park elements</li> </ul>

# Beaver Hills House & Michael Phair Parks Engagement Summary

<i>Project Phase</i>	Phase 2: Preliminary Design – Spring 2023
<i>Meeting Date</i>	May 10, 2023 at 10:00am
<i>Stakeholder</i>	Michael Phair
<i>Attendees</i>	Ramsey Hajar (City of Edmonton) Matt Sloan (City of Edmonton) Heather O’Hearn (City of Edmonton) Lynnette Postuma (O2) Sara de Korte (O2) Michael Phair (as himself!)

## Discussion Summary

<b>Background</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The City provided an update to share the decision to remove the large wall between the parks: input from public engagement, stakeholders, and EDC. Project now anticipates funding (although construction is contingent on final funding).</li> <li>O2 shared a slideshow presentation with a project update and the revised park design, including plan rendering and perspective renderings.</li> </ul>
<b>Comments from Michael Phair</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports wall removal, loves it and had previously requested this. Likes that the entrance and connection between the parks is created. Needs an entrance focus, such as a big arch and to show its open for travel between the two parks</li> <li>Climbing wall: very difficult to see into this park, worried that we will encounter same poor behaviour here. A small dog area here would really activate the space. HO noted the adjacent hotel is dog-friendly and needs an outdoor space for this. HO noted there is still concern from people about the back area of the park and unwanted behaviour.</li> <li>Bus stop at BHHP – create a sense of bus stop and enhance that bus.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports overhead lighting and ‘the more the better’. Adds magic. Opportunity for colour programming in lights and creation of movement (wind).</li> <li>• Ribbon skirts of Indigenous women have many colours. Suggests this be integrated into the park and used to enhance the park with it.</li> <li>• Requested a pedestrian crossing across 105 Street from BHHP to get to the next alley. City Transportation would find challenges but example at Whyte Ave and 106 is good precedent. HO noted that the corridor has come up at Warehouse Park meetings as well. City noted they support the enhancing that pedestrian alley connection.</li> <li>• MPP lighted sign: may feel ostentatious and interesting but the existing sign needs to go. Existing sign takes away from visibility into the park.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Comments from Heather O’Hearn</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plastic bags tend collect in trees along 104 St because of the wind. Consider how wind direction and wind tunnelling is affected with the wall removal.</li> <li>• HO receives many requests for food trucks, especially for BHHP. Recommend extra garbage cans. Unlicensed food trucks tend to jump curbs. Designated spot for parking may help with compliance/control.</li> <li>• There are many events requiring sound systems. Many groups will mount speakers on wall and building. Need careful placement of outlets. Avoid trees if possible.</li> <li>• Some user groups use the existing building space for storage, including DECL, indigenous groups, and DBA. City noted they will connect with user groups to manage this.</li> <li>• BHHP has many indigenous events, many requests for tipis and sacred fires. Please ensure there is space for this, both horizontal and vertical. LP requested detailed dimensions, HO to share with RH.</li> <li>• Water / fire feature are both great and acknowledged both may not be possible. City noted they have challenges with maintenance, operations, and sanitation of water features, and they are useable only May – Sept (5 months) with a good year.</li> <li>• Lighting could have more opportunities for artist or indigenous-created lighting.</li> <li>• Requested power outlets and noted their placement will be important. Big request for events. Requested convenient way to turn power on/off (ie. Code given to event organizer). Currently it is a longer process for City to manage since operations has to go out and do it on site. Good locations for</li> </ul>

outlets are where sound systems are located. Artistic lighting show typically need outlets across the park.

- Supports bright lights in MMP and adjacent to 104 St. This area is an attraction for many people in the City because of the lights. Supports lighted MPP sign. Likes how it matches the Neon Sign Museum.

# Beaver Hills House & Michael Phair Parks Engagement Summary

<i>Project Phase</i>	Phase 2: Preliminary Design – Spring 2023
<i>Meeting Date</i>	May 17, 2023 at 1:00 – 3:00pm
<i>Stakeholder</i>	Dreamspeakers
<i>Attendees</i>	Ramsey Hajar (City of Edmonton) Lynnette Postuma (O2) Christine Fredericks (Executive Director, Dreamspeakers) Jo-Ann Saddleback (Indigenous Elder) Aretha Greatrix (Program Director, Dreamspeakers) Dennis Allen (Walk of Honour Committee, Dreamspeakers) Jason Carter (Artist) Destiny Swiderski (Artist)

## Discussion Summary

<b>Background</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City provided updates on project timeline and key decisions.</li> <li>• O2 shared a slideshow presentation with a project update on key decisions for wall removal and the revised park design, including plan rendering and perspective renderings.</li> </ul>
<b>Comments from Jo-Ann Saddleback</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the process of mural artwork removal? Discussion about careful removal of birds and desire to keep syllabics and/or reuse within BHH.</li> <li>• Desire to keep a water feature as source of drinking water for homeless people.</li> <li>• Desire to include blueberries as “the medicine of children” in the planting around children’s play area.</li> <li>• Park entrance and orientation of features is important. East is for healing; south is for purification.</li> </ul>
<b>Comments from Aretha Greatrix</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there an opportunity to include audio / music as a method of crowd-control (eg. Speakers in the park)? This may deter</li> </ul>

	<p>sleeping on benches / within the park and speakers could be positioned on adjacent buildings.</p>
<p><b>Comments from Christine Fredericks</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the role of Dreamspeakers? What are their obligations to this project? What are their contributions to the park? They have some capacity to apply for funding and/or fund some pieces of design (eg. Aboriginal Walk of Honour).</li> <li>• Love the presentation. Designs are exciting and presentation looks awesome.</li> <li>• Identified a need for ceremony – as respect to the process of park design and to open up possibilities for the park. Ceremony should occur throughout the design phase, not just prior to mural decommissioning.</li> <li>• The word decommission is problematic – a better word should be determined for mural removal ceremony.</li> <li>• Discussion about preliminary designs for Aboriginal Walk of Honour. In 2014, Dreamspeakers opened up the requirements from filmmakers to anyone in the Arts industry. So the filmstrip reference may be too constraining. However, loves the playfulness and transparency of images which could be incorporated. Bronze plaques are unsustainable (as a material). There are currently 19 inductees and 15 plaques. They are waiting to nominate many more (spreadsheets of names!). The challenge for design will be to consider 30 years ahead when there may be 50-60 names.</li> <li>• Could the birds from mural be repurposed into the archway or low wall with bench? Could the poles be reincorporated into the design?</li> <li>• Identified the message heard from Indigenous people over last 15 – 20 years: we want to see ourselves within the landscape of Edmonton. This park has that opportunity.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Comments from Jason Carter</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is happening with “7 Norther Beavers” (flagpole wraps)? Discussion around EAC’s decision to support removal from park due to BHH park redesign. Jason had not heard anything from the EAC / City.</li> </ul>



# Beaver Hills House & Michael Phair Parks Engagement Summary

<i>Project Phase</i>	Phase 2: Preliminary Design – Spring 2023
<i>Meeting Date</i>	May 30, 2023 at 2:00pm
<i>Stakeholder</i>	Bear Clan Beaver Hills House
<i>Attendees</i>	Ramsey Hajar (City of Edmonton) Lynnette Postuma (O2) Judith (Bear Clan)

## Discussion Summary

<b>Background</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City provided brief update outlining key decisions in recent months.</li> <li>• O2 did not share slideshow since stakeholder had limited time and wanted to provide ideas / feedback on park design</li> </ul>
<b>Comments from Judith</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appreciate that design team did listen</li> <li>• Suggests removing the climbing wall, as it's not ideal</li> <li>• Replace with a water wall feature with plaques behind water for Edmonton's Missing &amp; Murdered Indigenous women. Names can be included as a memorial where families can connect to their loved ones and even touch the water where the names appear. Water wall could be lit at night.</li> <li>• Four elements of earth / air / fire / water should be incorporated into park design</li> <li>• Washroom is greatly needed downtown. Visibility is really important for safety, like at Whyte Ave washroom. Baker Clinic is only facility nearby this park that is free to access, but is only open 9-5pm. Washroom opened 24-hours would be ideal. Our brothers and sisters need a safe place to go!</li> <li>• Bear Clan is operating a food trailer this year and will locate occasionally in Michael Phair Park. Trailer contains food services (and chef) as well as office station</li> </ul>

(wifi/power/phone) with outreach worker. Parking for the vehicle in MPP is ideal.

- Need to create friendly places for brothers and sisters to build community.
- Lots of events occur in BHH including daytime activities and evening events such as All Children Matter. Lighting is important for such events.

# Beaver Hills House & Michael Phair Parks Engagement Summary

<i>Project Phase</i>	Phase 2: Preliminary Design – Spring 2023
<i>Meeting Date</i>	June 1, 2023 at 2:00pm
<i>Stakeholder</i>	Edmonton Downtown Business Association
<i>Attendees</i>	Ramsey Hajar (City of Edmonton) Lynnette Postuma (O2) Puneeta (Executive Director) Alex (Operations) Mikayla (Partnerships & Events Coordinator) Tracy (Marketing & Communications)

## Discussion Summary

<b>Background</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City provided brief update outlining key decisions in recent months.</li> <li>• O2 shared a slideshow presentation with a project update on key decisions for wall removal and the revised park design, including plan rendering and perspective renderings.</li> </ul>
<b>Comments from EDBA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EDBA is super supportive of 2 key decisions (wall removal and tree removal) from a safety perspective and accessibility perspective.</li> <li>• Concern about Washroom location. Whyte Ave washroom works because of increased visibility and increased traffic around it. EDBA tried to get washroom on 105<sup>th</sup> (west side) but it's no longer happening.</li> <li>• Washroom could receive a mirrored façade to prevent loitering.</li> <li>• El Beso may be moving so new tenant anticipated.</li> <li>• EDBA currently uses existing building in BHH for storage. Having on-site storage is very helpful for events such as El Fresco festival. They could use double the amount of existing storage.</li> </ul>

- Power is needed but would appreciate ability to turn on/off. They experience a lot of social disorder with plug-ins (eg. Breaking the locks on boxes) so controlling the supply would help.
- Climbing wall – tree removal and grading changes will improve the back area.
- Could storage be incorporated behind climbing wall?
- EDBA's sea-can will be located in MPP. Sea-can is used as self-contained stage and/or storage. Discussion on the possibility of locating sea-can in MPP longer-term as design team considered this option during Concept phase.

# Beaver Hills House & Michael Phair Parks Engagement Summary

<i>Project Phase</i>	Phase 2: Preliminary Design – Spring 2023
<i>Meeting Date</i>	June 1, 2023 at 4:00pm
<i>Stakeholder</i>	Arts Activation Group
<i>Attendees</i>	Ramsey Hajar (City of Edmonton) Geoff Smith (City of Edmonton) Lynnette Postuma (O2) Chris Henderson (Arts Activation Group)

## Discussion Summary

<b>Background</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>O2 shared a slideshow presentation with a project update on key decisions for wall removal and the revised park design, including plan rendering and perspective renderings.</li> </ul>
<b>Comments from Chris Henderson</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed the online survey and reviewed the updated design. Condo views directly into back corner of BHH.</li> <li>Supports wall removal, connecting parks makes sense. Too bad about the artwork, but it was not a great location anyways.</li> <li>Removing trees makes sense with changes to grades within park. Park can use open sight-lines to address safety concerns.</li> <li>Removal of water feature is disappointing but makes sense.</li> <li>Amphitheatre is a great idea, like the flexibility of the space to host events. Regarding power requirements at amphitheatre or stages - requests 220V power for performances and option for lighting at night, including ability to hang lights from structures if possible.</li> <li>Wifi requested for performers. Discussion around whether this could be possible from Washroom Building?</li> <li>There has been a stage strategy, assessing opportunities for performances within downtown – in conjunction with other</li> </ul>

arts organizations (eg. Winspear, Fringe Theatre, EDBA, Ballet Edmonton, etc). Cited Wilber MacIntyre Park which can accommodate 2100 people.

- Washroom is a great idea, very needed.

# **Public Engagement Verbatim Responses**

**Preliminary Design**

Paragraph breaks indicate the start of a new comment, except where quotation marks are used. Quotation marks indicate the beginning and end of a single response for comment using multiple lines or several paragraphs. [Sic] is used to hide offensive or inappropriate language.

## Question 1

Total Comments: 230

Overall, what do you like and/or dislike about the park design?

Brilliant

Looks good. Like the busker stage. Hopefully the parks won't be turned into tent cities and a homeless and drug users hangout

"1. Love the plaza! Entrance to the park is more inviting and obvious. Lots of space and opportunity for passive interaction (tables and chairs to place to play chess, read, people watch, etc)

2. Enhancing existing artwork and reimagining it if it is to be moved is great, keeping mature trees

3. Will the amphitheatre compete with the busking stage?

4. YES! A bouldering wall is perfect here and invites a different demographic/user to the park

5-6. Awesome.

7. 100% on board

8. Looks great!"

"Strongly endorse: natural amphitheatre, Aboriginal Walk of Honour, bouldering wall, maintain existing large trees, Children's play feature, busker stage and string lighting, cafe seating, notion of 'street food's.

Strongly dislike: emphasis on food \*trucks\*. I would prefer the city stop doing things that promote or enable climate damaging activities. Why not make this a place for greener bicycle and push cart-based food sellers? That would not compete with nearby restaurants."

I like how much more open and inviting the space feels. The lights and additional landscaping are great. Space for activities like food trucks, music, festivals is a huge asset.

"I like everything about the Michael Phair park, it needs some attractions like the food truck or stage to make it appealing to stay awhile.

I was surprised the Beaver Hills park was being renovated. It seems like it would benefit from more connections with MP, removing the wall, connecting to adjacent businesses, and an overall feeling of care and safety. I think a public washroom is necessary, it will however need strong ongoing support and supervision so it doesn't become gross and scary. "

"Like: Aboriginal Walk of Honour, planting beds will maintain current trees, and the removal of the dividing wall.

Dislike: really dislike that you would remove the current water feature and level it. The current structure provides such a sense of solitude and connection to nature in the middle of downtown."

Like

All of it sounds great

I like that safety is being considered! Would have been nice to have some sort of water feature.

Does it really matter? Are you going to do it screw it up, make it worse, and then do it again in five years

I like the children's play structure. I don't love that the park will lose the water feature, but I think it will be a nice addition to have an event space for the community and businesses to use.

"more trees more colour

make the park as beautiful in the winter as it looks in the summer renders. we are a winter city"

I like the idea of making it more easy to see through to the lane, because I'll feel safer walking through, although that sculpture of the birds is so wonderful. I hope it is moved somewhere with good visibility.

Overall I like it. I question if folks will actually use a bouldering wall if installed in this park.

Like the overall design but would love some sort of water feature or spray fountain location

Love the designs! I live downtown and this is very welcomed!!

"I have concerns about the area noted as #4. This is a problematic spaces from a safety perspective and a boulder wall can only be used when weather considerations are favorable. To truly activate this corner of the park, it would be great to see a commercial space like a coffee shop or small business that has regular activity and 'eyes on the park' on a more frequent basis.

The removal of the wall between Beaver Hill Park and Micheal Phair Park is a welcome addition"

"Like: the water feature, the benches/ places to eat lunch, the trees

Dislike: does not have a feeling of safety, this park seems to be a hub for Edmonton's unhoused population. "

"Like: Aboriginal Walk of Honour. Heart of the Park. Bouldering wall. Michal Phair Plaza (seating, wood surfaces, and string lighting). Public washroom. Children's play feature.

Dislike: Lack of water feature. Missing home for the existing sculptural mural entitled "Amiskwaciw Waskayhkan Ihtawin" (could move it onto the north wall of Michael Phair Park). Missing naturalized planting bed (some

small patches of sod may not survive due to dog owners letting their dogs pee there frequently). "

"Getting rid of the wall is an awesome idea. Remove the whole wall!

I love the amphitheatre concept.

Washroom is huge! Yes! Yes! Yes!"

Overall, I like the design and appreciate the effort made to connecting the two parks- I think it will be quite successful. The scheme is cohesive and fun. I worry about the amount of sod used in the design because I am skeptical that it will be maintained. I walk past Alex Decoteau Park every day and the landscaping there was nicely designed, but now the grass is very patchy and full of weeds. I would prefer to see a landscaping material that is less high maintenance.

I really don't like the removal of the water feature. The last redesign got rid of some of the more natural features and this just pages over the rest, I'm disappointed. I've lived and worked around this park for 30 years and I would like to see the water feature remain. I like the rest of the design.

like the mixed use - spaces for kids, buskers, bouldering wall etc.

As long as the indigenous element remains and educates the public, I think it will be wonderful.

Like the opening up

I think the design is really playful and engaging, I like it a lot.

The design looks interesting and functional. However my concern these days in downtown (where I live) is safety. If the park is full of drunks and drug users, it's a waste of time and money.

I really like the natural look of it and the incorporation of play and child friendly elements like the weave dam and bouldering wall. The washrooms are very important. Using existing trees is really important too. the stage and improved sightline to Michael Phair park make sense.

Not taking into account the location and homeless in the area and that it's another bench to sleep on. Maybe we should do something about that

Lets waste more money on dumb things downtown. Mow it all to the ground, sell the land off and develop it. No normal person will use them. The crack heads and junkies will love it. Mind you those low lifes are the only people this idiotic city council seems to care about. Not fiscal responsibility. If that were true the Irt would be cancelled. Doesn't matter what any tax paying citizen thinks. You're gonna ram this junk through and stick us with yet another bill.

No one except drug addicts will go there and new name is unpronounceable no thanks

"Removing part of the wall to open it up more is a nice idea.





crash mats will look like to prevent injuries from falling. I also like how open it will look and the addition of a performance area

"Overall I like the new design, feels more modern and usable.

Sadly I see the idea of the half basketball court didn't make the cut as well as a water feature."

Looks good. Need budget for maintain it.

"I extremely dislike the removal of the water feature. It is what makes this park unique and also a calm relaxing environment. The water feature also ties into the history of beaver hills, because beavers build around water.

I like the idea of a outdoor bouldering wall, and the removal of the existing wall between the two parks.

I am concerned for the trees in the park and hope they are not disturbed because they are heritage trees."

Yes this plan sounds good. The problem is the homeless people seem to damage public property so if can be considered in the design process (make improvements not easily destroyed). There need to be more garbage cans downtown and have them emptied more often. If there is public washroom there it will be used as a shower and will be very dirty and unsafe. Edmonton's downtown is very dirty and littered with garbage.

"Improved sight lines and busker stage and lighting look good.

Planning for food truck parking good idea. Unsure of the washroom building, are you thinking of one like on Whyte and 103 str in old Stathcona?

Must be safe if children use the park."

Definitely like removing the wall and opening the space up. The plazas sound like an amazing value add. Making it a better space for kids is also wonderful.

I like it a lot, better connecting the two parks is very important, keeping as many existing trees as possible is also very important! would love to see proper bike parking/storage

"Why is this City wasting my tax dollars on this ""fantasy""? Unless it's going to have police patrol 24/7, in 2-33 years it will end up being waste dump for needles, garbage, human waste and be home to drug dealers, street gangs and the homeless."

Looks great

More trees, play structure

We'll thought out!

There are a few pinch points on park paths which become a safety issue if you are walking alone and get trapped. Removing the wall was a good move. Remove more trees to make it safer.

I like all elements that are being proposed within the design.

"I like the wall being removed between the two parks (although definitely want care taken for the existing artwork). Having a washroom installed is needed. Children's area and maintaining trees and said is also good.

I'm uncertain about the bouldering area, will it be used?

I dislike the removal of the water feature. Yes, it needs some work, but it was so nice to have running water in the middle of downtown. It was the only feature of its kind between the legislature and Churchill Square."

Looks more peaceful and folk-friendly

Love that the wall will be removed and connectivity between the spaces will be created

Love the bouldering walls, the wood plank flooring, the circular elements portraying unity. Appreciate the open space designed to encourage gathering. Like the incorporation of art and use of colour. This looks like such a fresh nice space that people would enjoy gathering in! Love the string lights, plants, and flowers.

Not the greatest pics to see what this could look like but feels like too much is going on. I think less is more and you should strive for parks to look more like nyc

HOW MANY FRICKIN TIMES ARE YOU GOING TO REDO THIS DUMP PARK...? MORE FOR THE DRUG USERS TO SEE... YOU ALWAYS WAIST DO MUCH OF THE TAXPAYERS MONEY....

"Waste of time and money

I hate this city and the city council. Sarah Hamilton is a [sic] and removes freedom of speech from her constituents"

Sounds like a lovely, interactive setting during the day. There have not been any descriptions on how to improve safety for individuals at night when the park inevitably because more dangerous. Light and sight lines without obstruction are required. .

"It seems to be trying to address too many needs. I like the idea of two parks becoming one. Is this path to meet the needs of the people who live downtown and attract families who have children and pets. Or is this space for entertainment and adults mostly?

..

Removing the water feature is unfortunate, yet wise. Adding a small spray deck could be fun. I like how it will be more open onto the alley.

"Love the interactive play areas and the open feel of the park.

Wish there was a plan for a central water feature and maybe some fire pits or gas fire (similar to Ice District plaza) for all-season use.

Though likely not the responsibility of the city, I'd love if the building that houses El Beso could open up onto the park with sliding glass walls that could then facilitate an incredible patio."

"Like: connecting the two parks, and opening up Beaver Hills Park in a way that will encourage use of/travel through the park.

Dislike: The buskers' stage and food truck parking are located in a place that is not very visible and does not receive much foot traffic. I think those spaces will go unused. Buskers will likely play at the Jasper-105 corner rather than Michael Phair Park."

"I like the bouldering wall and the children's play area. I wish you would not remove the water feature. Could it not be integrated into the play space that is beaver dam themed? The presence of water is such a good element for connecting to nature.

I also like tree preservation. I hope as many as possible will remain in place.

I also like a variety of seating areas, and the lighting in the Michael Phair space. Will there be any creative lighting in the main portion?"

Definitely remove some of the existing wall.

The actual design is nice but what are the plans for security? Will it be monitored around the clock with surveillance camera's? Will it just be security guards or will police be used and will the mayor and council give back the money they defunded from the police which helped create the unsafe criminal chaos we now have downtown?

Love knocking down the wall and space for entertainment, not sold on the necessity or safety of a children's play area in that particular neighborhood. I see the vision and hope for vibrance, just not sold on the necessity of building another area that will no doubt be destroyed often. Spend the money on security and social programs. Addicts just gonna set it on fire anyway.

Removing the wall is needed for sure. Perhaps a resource officer/peace officer, with a kiosk office, can be stationed to monitor the area. Even better if the assigned officers are the same all the time (where possible of course), they become familiar and trusted. Resources (for the residents, tourists and business owners), park play (yard dice, ladder golf, etc.) can be stored in the kiosk. If the kiosk and washroom are side by side, the washroom becomes a safe place as well.

I like the attention to the wall that currently causes safety concerns and the attention to honouring the Indigenous aspect of Beaver Hills Park. It is nice to see attempts to make the space more family friendly, however, I have concerns about the success of that work without greater support for the inner city population - safe consumption sites, expanded hours of access for daytime support services, etc.

Overall I like the openness and the connecting of both spaces. A couple features you might think to add...Since this is a downtown park space close to Rogers Place and City Hall etc. it attracts lots of visitors from out of town. It might be nice to have a designated photo stop with materials and backgrounds for selfies. Also a fountain or water feature would be nice.

Looks great so far, has good flow and I love the hanging lights – they add a cozy glow

great idea, why do we always do artist renditions focusing on summertime, what will it look like with snow, and cold, reality in YEG

“The removal of the wall to improve sightlines

String lighting, cafe seating

The fact you're working with the existing artist

The play structures”

I like everything proposed. But adding a washroom I assume means adding a significant amount of security presence. Any changes made without keeping the drugs out is a waste of money. I walk through this existing park weekly. Always needles and sketchy activity no matter what time of day.

Agree with integration of both parks which are both small and needed in the core. The original Beaver Hills parks was incredible beautiful. Unfortunately, it was later changed a few decades ago which destroyed the secluded beauty that was created in the centre of a city of concrete. Needs to go back to it's original design using paving stones and keeping the water feature. If safety is a concern that's what cameras and the police are hired to do.

Water features are being removed!!! This is something I believe the city shouldn't remove. I understand maintenance issues as well as safety concerns but our parks should keep water features as much as possible, water is life

Honestly it's less than the design and more about the maintenance. The city is good at building and poor at protecting what they build. Funicular sounds familiar.

There is no talk of security at these parks and given the current state of the downtown core and abundance of homeless people and drug users worries me that these parks will become run down and vandalized as we have seen in church hill square and LRT Stations in the area. Yes its great to make our city better but not if a bigger issue still exists. I work downtown daily and see these issues daily. Drug Users dont even hide the fact they are shooting up on the street corners/parks/ Train stations.

The active features and removing the wall.

How much money are we putting into this to make it look THIS SIMILAR, only to have the crackheads turn it into their park again w/in two weeks

I am reticent about the public washroom. I foresee bad things happening inside it. Like, baby change table being used to do drugs. People passed out inside the bathroom. That kind of stuff. I have concerns about the ongoing cost for maintenance.

“– Its is open and family oriented

–it is flexible

–the new lighting

–connecting two parks

–busker stage for rather than band stand”

“Like: keeping the trees, activating the back corner, play feature

Concerns: amphitheatre–style seating may encourage increased use of the park as a comfortable place to sleep; i fear the lighting in MP Park will be problematic from a vandalism perspective, resulting in broken glass & live wires in the park.”

Misleading renderings: all people in renderings must only be Edmonton homeless drug addicts and prostitutes with mental disorders screaming and assaulting by-passers with impunity as happens now for a decade in this area of downtown extended to east and south to river valley. Park named Phair only attracts homosexuals and LGBTQXX+ to occupy and settle there in dumps as homeless...

“Being from the Maritimes I did enjoy the water feature and felt sad that some type of water sound could not be incorporated in the design. Overall I feel the City of Edmonton does a fantastic job with the green spaces within the downtown core and was the first feature I observed upon moving here. I do wish we as citizens would be mindful of the wonderful supply and maintenance of garbage disposal cans– another great feature in this ever evolving City.

Keep up the great work! “

Design is great , area isn't safe

“The overhead lighting will create great atmosphere in the evening.

How will you address homelessness? Downtown is overrun with homeless people and they will continue to stay in this park without intervention. “

“The kids play feature seems awfully close to the road. Can it be moved at all?

I would love for “Amiskwaciw Waskayhkan Ihtawin” to be preserved and incorporated into the new park

Please make sure the busker stage has a close power plugin”

I think it looks fantastic!

I'm sad to lose a water feature, nothing activates and entertains all ages quite like being able to watch kids play with water.

Looks nice, wish there was more actual grass for people with dogs. Or a specific dog park section.

I enjoy the more open design and “natural” feel of the park. Additional activated spaces is a huge plus.

I like the removal of the wall to open up both parks. Most of what is shown I like about 85%.

It looks like a lovely, creative & well thought out design.

Really enjoy the inclusion of wildflowers/ native grasses as well as increased tree cover. I'd love to see the inclusion of gender neutral washrooms if possible, it would make the park so much more welcoming for LGBT patrons as well as make it easier for parents of all genders to change diapers/ assist kids going to the bathroom. Disabled patrons who need assistance with toileting from someone of a differing gender would benefit as well.

Deal with the homeless, drug problems and mental illness in city center. People are scared to walk the streets downtown how can you blame them.....

“I like the children's play area. Also very pleased the Aboriginal Walk of Honour will be maintained. Love that they will be connected. Food truck space is great.”

I like the removal of the wall and that the original mural artist is involved in the redesign. I like that there will be washrooms.

The design seems fine

I am concerned about the car access to the back alley, as this is frequently required when delivery trucks, moving trucks, or LRT construction block the 102 Ave exit to the condo garages that exit here. However, if that car access is not restricted at all, this plan otherwise looks like an improvement.

I like all the suggestions and particularly like the care and respect shown to the current Indigenous art and influences. Incorporating as much Indigenous work into the new design would be a plus! Seating for Elders must be comfortable and allow for circle talks. New trees are also beneficial and perhaps Indigenous plants can be utilized as well.

“The amphitheatre and beaver dam play structure are a great addition. I like the updated Walk of Honour area but it should be able to expand and not be confined to one spot.

I don't like the climbing wall, I think it should be a water wall but not like the previous water structure but something more modern and contained. More trees please, and a pergola on the amphitheatre. And something that represents fire to cover the 4 elements of the medicine wheel.”

It is more accessible

“I like the open sight lines. As it is now there are areas where you are unable to see if and where others may be lurking.

Public washroom is needed in the downtown area. As many are in Europe, they must be monitored and kept safe and clean.”

Looks great!

The concept design looks good. The key to any rejuvenated space is will there be upkeep for it? If you are encouraging children to play there, the spaces will need to be cleaned up daily as there is always the concern of drug paraphernalia laying around. It would also be great to put in something of a strong and permanent UV shade above the playground. Australia commonly does that with their playgrounds.

"The city is so out of touch with the reality of the city. An upgraded patch of grass will not bring people back into the city nor business.

This place will just become another hangout/camping spot for the homeless and drug users.

Put in enforcement of laws to first stop the drug dealers and their peddlers.

Freeze their assets. Hit them where it hurts

For every dollar they sell on the street That damage should be recovered inversely from their assets.

Lifetime bans on drivers license."

"miss the water and the mural on the wall like the activated back corner and Michael Phair plaza"

"Like: integration of the two parks. A variety of building materials, textures, colours and areas with different purpose.

Dislike: I'm not sure some of the building materials will hold up given the populations of people who frequent the park. For example, I love wood but I don't know if it will age nicely. There is also a lot of hard pavement. This will probably age better. I hope the green spaces feel prominent when actually in the space. "

It looks very nice and well thought-out. I would love to see more designs like this that incorporate both Indigenous artists as well as provide an area for small businesses to set up shop and bring in traffic (food trucks, farmer's markets, etc.). The possibility of running trams on Jasper Ave a la Toronto's TTC could allow this area to be a small community hub in the heart of Downtown.

"Please make the north east corner open to the rest of the park so there are no places to hide. Downtown is not safe, and having dark out of the way green space does not help.

I wouldn't emphasize a play area for kids. This is not a kid friendly area. Rather, I would suggest you focus on the actual users who are there, workers! Make it a safe space for outdoor eating and gathering. Shade is important, as is a clean space to sit, but balanced with the need to feel that you won't be assaulted."

"LIKES: that the space is opening up through, removal of the wall, working with the original artist, removing the water feature

DISLIKES: bathroom will there be a washroom attendant or frequent and regular cleanings? amphitheatre seating reduces visibility of the activities occurring on the lower levels of seating when you are approaching the park

New park plan does not address the drug use and Tom foil and needles often left behind.

Increasing the comfort of this park will increase the use"

I love the idea of opening up the space and making it a cleaner area in a place with such potential.

"I appreciate the lighting level, the public washroom, natural furniture design, and trees.

Accessibility improvement:

- The walkways should be the highpoint and green areas should absorb water.

- Add truncated dome mats.

- Add real bollards to define clear space for people

- bike parking

Space:

- Why not shorten intersection crosswalk through curb extension on Jasper Ave? It's unsafe for an area with lots of pedestrians.

This design goes against Safe Mobility Strategy design principles."

I like how two parks are more connected

I like the idea of breaking down the big wall, also making the space makes it feel a bit safer

Like the idea of the wall removal to join the parks and increase safety, also love having a children's play area. The public washrooms are critical- will there be operating SS to keep them clean and safe?

"Bouldering wall & children's feature are more likely to be vandalized than used.

Approve removing the wall to improve sight lines & safety. Approve removing water feature, seemed like safety hazard (slipping on boulders) and sanitation issue.

Good idea for busking area on plaza, better for 105 st market. But also need to find use during non-market times."

I think the park design is great

Great job I'm making it feel accessible to all ages.

Beaver Hills Park was "redeveloped" once before because the hills and privacy attracted homeless people and no-one else wanted to be in the park except maybe lunch time during the work week. Shaving off the hills changed nothing. The proposed redevelopment will change nothing. The City have created a situation in which the homeless take over City property with impunity, and the downtown is less and less desirable a place to live or work.

I am very disappointed with the inclusion of the center are for large events. Downton core residents are inundated with noise, which is shown to increase stress and reduce life

expectancy. The last thing we need is concerts every weekend and evening all summer adding to the constant noise we already live with. I wish the park was more focused on giving the core a peaceful nature experience. Studies have shown green spaces and nature are so beneficial to health (physical and mental).

yes

"Opening of the wall to allow better connection

New benches

Activated spaces"

I like the design very much, for both parks. Practicality, questionably, as it will offer temporary tent shelters for homeless people. I live on the East side of 104 Street and quiet frankly I fear for my safety taking a short cut through the parks to cross the street at Jasper Ave. and 105 St.

Why are we wasting money on a park that will only be used by people doing drugs?

The bouldering area is not a good idea at all. Where is all the art? Where is the indigenous representation and presence within the park design? The children's play area with the beaver damn lacks imagination. Overall disappointing.

"Water features added on the perimeter of the park, close to Jasper Avenue, will assist with canceling traffic noise. Any barrier designed to reduce traffic noise will promote park usage and provide a wonderful respite during the lunch hour.

Cool light colors like green or blue can provide a quiet or balanced mood during the evenings.

Just a couple ideas,

Shane"

"The removal of the water feature is unfortunate. waste of money as the park is challenging to use when the homeless are sleeping, panhandling, etc.

why not put the money towards social supports and low income housing? That'd do more to redesign downtown than any park will."

I love the proposal for a playground structure, bouldering wall, and washroom. I can imagine going to this park for a takeout picnic.

I appreciate the opening up of the space between the two parks, connecting them across the alley with integrated paving stones (in the renderings) really makes them feel as if they're one space. I am concerned about traffic along that same corridor through the alley west of 104 Street.

I like the improved sight lines across the entire park. The rendering for Michael Phair looks amazing, but having loose chairs like that won't work- they'll disappear in hours. Is there a way to parter with local businesses to have them operate in the park and take

responsibility for furniture/activating the space with entertainment? That would help drive traffic to the space and prevent it from being the sleeping space for unhoused people like it is now.

The idea looks great. A water fountain would be a very nice addition to any park especially when there are going to be areas to sit down to eat and drink and enjoy the outdoors.

I like the position of the bathrooms and alley way is great, what I would like to see in area 4 is a water wall feature. The circle seating is great. I like that you kept lots of trees. The play area for kids is nice addition. All in all it's a wonderful improvement. ty

I like the aspect of wall removal. I think string lighting in the Michael Phair Park will create a more welcoming ambiance. I think facilities are needed as long as there is safety and patrol around those areas.

The design is terrible and quite boring, to be honest. Also, the washroom will attract drug addicts which will cause regular people to avoid the area and be a safety concern. Why not do something cool like Rainbow Park in Vancouver?

I think the park design looks great overall but I am concerned that only having one Indigenous cultural reference at the Jasper Avenue Plaza area is not enough. This is a gathering area for many Indigenous people and protests concerning Canada's continued mistreatment of Indigenous people. We can do more as settlers to make this a welcoming space for Indigenous folks.

Like the connection between and making the park feel bigger. I enjoy the idea that it is a community space where events can happen. Creating a performer space is great for this. Designating more seating areas. Keeping trees for shade so that individuals can use the park during the day will be important. And most important, the plaza, where businesses can set up will be super important to bring people to the park. I would support building a permanent kiosk structure for coffee and evening drinks

This is a waste of tax payers money they require a build with housing for the homeless.

I would prefer a more direct route for pedestrians to cross diagonally from the south-east to the north-west corner of the park - with the current renderings there are a few features that one would have to navigate around. Essentially, a clearer, wider pathway.

Like idea of plants but only if it's maintained. This area of downtown is overrun with homelessness and any walls or artwork will be vandalized- need plan to address this for this option to be successful long term

I like the idea of the wall taken down to share open space and embrace better lighting for further both safety and events. Being that it is close to Jasper Avenue, I support the concept of a child friendly, tasteful and safe boundary "fence" along the sidewalk on the Avenue side.

I imagine something earthy and wood ie 5-foot totem poles or something connected to the purpose of the park. I hope there is more lighting for sure. Leave no dark place unlit in that area. It will be fabulous!

Is there room to place a permanent structure (or shipping container) to create a year round coffee/food business which would assist the park in having year round use.

Like it. We were long overdue for a facelift. I would prefer some more green space as opposed to concrete.

"Currently the parks have been taken over by homeless people. The design doesn't appear to do much to address that. It appears that the hills in the Beaver Hills park will be left intact, unfortunately this allows ""hiding spots"" for people to congregate in there, especially after dusk and not be really seen until you are inside of the park. I think this keeps a lot of people from walking through there."

Getting rid of the wall is smart and the renders look nice.

"I like:

- The partial removal of the wall to better connect the spaces

- Continuous surfacing in the open spaces and alley to signify the ""people first"" messaging

- Better access into Beaver Hills House Park

I do not like:

- The amount of hard space at the Jasper Avenue entry. It would be nice to see it softened more.

- The placement of the Aboriginal Walk of Honour wall as it obstructs the major movement into the open space from Jasper Avenue/105 Street.

- The vast removal of green in MPP"

I like the overall design. A large focus should be placed on increasing lighting and visibility since this area historically has had many issues with vagrants and this tends to discourage usage by other members of the public, especially families with young children.

I think removing the wall makes a huge difference. It's a path a use frequently, and it looks like I will feel a lot safer cutting through to 104 st.

We should not be putting money into parks until we address and reduce the houseless situation in Edmonton.

I like that the existing trees are being maintained and enhanced. I also like that the two parks are integrated better,

I like it! That's an exciting idea of removing part of the wall to make them feel more connected and a better way to get to 104th Street

The existing Beaver Hills Park has a beautiful water feature in the heart of the park. It is profoundly disappointing that this is being removed. I don't support the new park design.

Lighting, trees, play area for children

"For Micheal Phair Park, I like the busker stage location, string lighting, and wood decking which will be great for dancing. Partial removal of the wall is good for design and safety but the city must ensure the artist is happy with changes. It was an important Indigenous project and we can't take a colonial approach to removing it without full collaboration.

For BHP, I Like the bouldering wall, the flattening of the site, the additional lighting, washrooms, and the 105 st mid block crossing. "

DO NOT TOUCH BEAVER HILLS PARK!!! At all. There are many old trees & beautiful water features: maybe keeping things the way they are is more important than constantly renovating & changing things that work!!!! This is infuriating, why the heck does a downtown park on Jasper Avenue need a children's playground???? PLEASE SPEND MONEY ON CONVERTING CITY OWNED BUILDINGS INTO HOUSING OR RBUILDING HISTORIC TORN DOWN BUILDINGS!!! What is going on in city planning???? This is ridiculous: total fail.

"Will it be safe? Will there be security?"

I like all of it, only wishing there was something like this on the Southside. "

"lots of lighting at night - hopefully solar powered"

I like everything about it!

"I like the removal of the wall that currently separates the two parks. I also quite like the integration of space designed for busking/ other entertainment.

I am quite concerned about the security issues that a washroom building will present."

Looks like a great plan.

Design is fine, safety is key, as the area is not the most comfortable space/ area to walk through. A water feature would be nice though, maybe a fountain instead of a pond. public rest room is a good idea. Make the area difficult to pitch a tent.

It's great, but how do we prevent vagrants from overrunning the park?

Good for people downtown but if it's not feasible to be kept safe or clean then why? There needs to be a plan in place for that before any work is done

We don't need a new park design we need a safer downtown. I go to other parks because they are safe not because they are the most pretty. Fix that issue first.

Very nice upgrade to a downtown spot that has so much potential

Needs more trees, shaded areas, wildflowers for bees and insects

Looks pretty good. Removing the wall to improve connectedness and sightlines sounds like a good idea, but is there any reason not to remove the wall completely, rather than partially? The washroom building will be a public asset, provided it isn't allowed to

become a de facto homeless shelter and/or drug parlour. The design does seem needlessly conversative, in that there's no reason to incorporate either features from the mural or the Walk of Honour unless they work well on their own terms.

the only suggestion i'd make is to ensure there are shaded areas for people to sit. at this time, the picnic table area is unusable during hot days (i.e., the way our summers are looking like in the foreseeable future)/

I like that the wall will be removed.

"I really like the bouldering wall. I like taking down the wall between the parks.

Not sure about flexible furnishings if it makes it not usable during the winter. As well I'd like to see more about how the bus stops on the south and west side will be accommodated."

Good, I love the removal of the wall separating the two. I personally liked the water feature so i might miss that, maybe there could be a water feature at the back. Washroom building great, not sure about how security will be maintained.

I like that it's multi-use and very inviting

Overall very good. Only potential dislike is it's cramming too many different things into the space.

I like the activated design concept that make the park a social gather place for cultural entertainment, complete with public washrooms and children play area to support more family focus use. The public realm must be a safe, welcoming, and inclusive space if we are to hope to attract young families to live downtown.

"Do not like the idea of the water removal. This was a lovely feature for Moms and Tots

This will now become a homeless hangout. "

"Looks like a great place for more homeless to set up camps

Honestly give your heads a shake. Open you eyes and have a look at what you created around city hall. No this is a bad idea. This is the same ill conceived idea as the Mary Burlie. It won't be used because you have no ability to keep homeless from destroying everything that is supposed to be enjoyed by those of us who pay for it. Where are you setting up toilets so we are not stepping in [sic]. Oh ya that the pond. Nice."

Please just keep my taxmoney for maintenance not anything mor

"Like:

- beaver dam children's play feature
- Park connection and washroom building
- String Lighting and keeping the planting beds in Michael Phair Plaza

Dislike:

- Missing water feature. Please keep waterfall.
- All seating options are not ideal for weather. Please add wood to the bench/cement seating

- Please add fence to children's playground

- Missing bike parking"

"I like your ideas! I think it's an important statement you are making, by contacting the original Indigenous artist who's art is on the wall that will be removed. In order to make sure that her artwork be recreated and included in the updated changes to the park. It's important that it is not lost!"

I'm sad to see the water feature go but understand it is a maintenance cost. Back corner May still be a hangout, sleeping, drug sales zone. Climbing wall should help a lot. Same with some removal of wall.

like

I like the addition of a children's area and the removal of the wall.

The openness and user friendly aspects

I'm not seeing anything I dislike about it. I like that the sight lines from Jasper Ave and 105 St into Beaver Hills House Park are going to be improved. The current layout is sort of a pit that is deeper and darker the further you get from the sidewalk - not inviting in the day, worse at night. The wall removal, opening up the connection to Michael Phair Park, will be a HUGE improvement that will have positive effects beyond the two parks, eg. it will connect BHHP to 104 St.

"Overall, it's a beautiful design. Is it suitable for where it is actually located? Will it really attract more people to downtown Edmonton if nothing is done to clean up the litter, drug debris, people doing drugs, etc?"

Wood decking will need lots of upkeep. Can composite decking be used?

Sod will also require lots of upkeep to keep it looking good. Can artificial turf be used?"

I love the amphitheater idea, a gathering spot for music and performance. Room for food trucks is great as well. Native art installations would be wonderful!

"Overall design is good but City should add more play area for kids, like a spray park or some other outdoor activity area for kids."

"Likes - removing the wall, adding washroom building, string lighting, new trees

Dislikes - removing the water feature :( ("

"Please, if there could be even just a small area that could be appropriate for skateboarding. The downtown area is sadly lacking in areas appropriate/friendly towards skateboarding. All the skateparks are located prohibitively far from downtown.

That's my only suggestion/wish. I don't need anything extravagant but downtown really needs even a small area with flat concrete that's friendly towards skateboarding. "

I liked the string lights and designated food truck parking.

"Dislike: Make sure that these hard surfaces are not equipped with homeless people

Like: I love the water feature and crossing the path through stones and water. Its a unique feature that this park has. Do not loose it or may be change the location. "

Overall I am neutral. It's hard to tell of the changes will help make this area safer. What's being done to dissuade homeless and drug addicts from hanging out in the park? Hopefully better lighting.

Until crime and disorder are effectively addressed in the area these upgrades are pointless. The idea of public washrooms in this area is extremely concerning.

## Question 2

Total Comments: 64

The park design for Michael Phair Park may include interactive features and amenities to provide opportunities for all ages and abilities to enjoy the park. If budget allows, we may also include additional features. Which type of features are you most likely to use?

Other features (please specify)

Yes to bocce ball! Also Pickelball is popular. Or ball hockey /shinney

Based on what input?

Would love water feature

Place to eat lunch!

Public are light installation to activate the space in the evening and during the early winter evenings.

The water feature

Mural

None.

None

Walkways

Bring habitats for birds, Rabbits

Natural features (treed/planted areas)

Shade/cover - more trees if possible, but awnings/umbrellas or something for extreme sun or rain.

Educational features not operated by button. Buttons will break so quickly and are germ magnets otherwise

bouldering wall along condo side

Grassy areas

Drinking fountain (bottle filler, at the very least) & public toilet. Vote for bocce ball.b

Never going down town again

Small stage area for street performers?

WHAT A WAIST OF MONEY...MORE SPACE FOR DRUG USERS

Water feature

Bouldering / clumbing wall. Get the Alpine club of canada Edmonton branch to consult

Washroom available 24/7, drinking water fountain

Old school nyc style benches less about families and more about hip business peo00e who want to read a book and have a cigarette like it's the 50's

It's for the drug uses and encampments

There should be a rotating food truck within – creates extra security and safety for the area – more use, more eyes in the park.

Spray deck

A fire feature of some sort. Something to provide warmth in the winter.

Community gardens

Downtown information board – events, live music, festivals, etc.

You might ask the students at the Michael Phair school what they might like to see there.

It's a very small space that should be reverted back to it's original design. Additional features belong in a large park located at 107th and 108th street.

Bocce ball would be sweet

Tents for LGBTQXX+ drug addicts and whores...with multiple containers for syringes and lockers for homeless to safeguard their drugs while searching dumpsters for empty cans and cigarette butts...

Deal with the homeless, drug problems and mental illness in city center. People are scared to walk the streets downtown how can you blame them.....

Indigenous plants identified with signage.

Projection wall for outdoor presentations. A living wall or a greenhouse (food sovereignty)

Definitely tables where one can enjoy lunch or coffee.

Ensure there is proper lighting so that the space can be used in the evenings when it is darker. The park is surrounded by tall buildings, so lighting is critical.

Areas for Musicians/Artists to busk and work

Think about who the actual users of the park are when designing, not who you think might use it if you build it.

Regular attendants and cleaning is more important to me than accessing additional features. Can't bring a child somewhere that isn't safe for them to run around because of garbage, use needles and tin foil, please ensure the park stays dog friendly

Grass space!!!

The food from stores nearby. The mobility system needs to change to improve user experience. (I.e. curb extensions along Jasper Ave, truncated dome mats, secure bike parking with lights)

Community garden

Only the dog park.

Art. Lots of art of all types created by and representing and celebrating indigenous people. And free wifi and charging stations.

Led lights that cycle through ROYGBIV

Playground to attract families

Small business kiosk! Has seating, and stand up area at bar top. Designed for high traffic and commuting individuals. They grab their coffee/flowers, etc. during the day, and come back for drinks in the eve. Multipurpose kiosk! Would also use the park for meeting friends during the day/eve

You are waisting money this will be build in 3 years and trashed in 30 days yup 30 days!

Keeping it traditional to First Nations culture! Use their color theme A spot for smudge ceremonies. Plaques commemorating their Leaders, Advocates, etc. Incorporate child friendly park with the same concept. Mother Earth, 4-Winds, Water and Fire. Seek council with our local Tribal Council.

Crime prevention through environmental design features

Housing for the homeless

QUEERNESS, Stonewall, rainbows, resistance to cisgendered heteropatriarchy, places for homeless to sleep, TREES/GREENERY, WATERFALLS/WATERFOUNTAINS, PUBLIC RESTROOMS (maybe specifically designed for gay cruising). Stop trying disneyfy everything & keep Edmonton trashy, weird & REVOLUTIONARY

water feature for birds, trees and shrubs or some type of misting water spray feature

Trees, lots of trees.

Keep the water park

Pre fab homes. For the homeless.

Please just keep my taxmoney for maintenance not anything mor

Combined children and fitness equipment in the same area would be great!

I like the birds on the wall. I hope they can stay or be moved nearby.

Spray park for kids or outdoor educational activities for kids.

Water Feature

Anything that could be appropriate for skateboarding!

### Question 3

No verbatim comments because open text response was not provided.

### Question 4

Total Comments: 172

In Phase One engagement, we heard safety or perception of safety required the most improvement (Rank 1). The following items were included in the preliminary park design to improve safety in the parks. For each, please tell us how it would impact your perception of safety.

Tell us why you chose to answer as you have.

It needs to be safe especially at night

Love adding different uses to attract a wider range of users through the day. Removing the retaining wall will be awesomeness for CPTED.

Improving sight lines, accessibility features and providing more options for people to spend time in the park will all increase ppl in the park

I'm there every day. I don't find it unsafe but sightline improvement will help for a lot of people.

The city has no money, why don't you just leave things alone instead of constantly screwing them up

The location of the park and the vagrants that tend to convene around the area are the number one factor that impacts how safe the park will feel.

lights and color

I live west of the parks, during the day maybe OK, I encounter unhoused people day and night. worse since the ice district pushed them out to my area

Some of the proposed amenities are great, but given the history of the perception of safety in this park I am a bit more skeptical if they will work

Proposed items would encourage more people to use the spaces during different times of the day. This would help increase the safety of the space.

It's so dark an inaccessible now. Walking across the creek is dangerous. Opening it up and lighting it better will help make it more open and friendly

Safety seems important here. It's the only place I've ever know someone to be mugged. I think due to darkness and the difficult sightlines.

I don't think adding children's play areas will really work because there are not many children using the area day-to-day.

I don't like that all the questions are about safety.

The amenities and what is trying to be achieved with added amenities will only be successful if people regularly use the park.

Safety is a major concern and a security team in some form would be beneficial.

The park design is a minor safety factor. Regular policing & removal of dangerous people is far more important.

Main concern is again, the homeless is the concer. Make it as bright as you want but buddy still stumbling

Explain my answers? Really? Dopeheads, druggies, bums, natives, crackheads and every other lowlife degenerate of downtown.

Beacause Edmonton council has intentionally made downtown a no go zone

Monitoring of the park by police, improved sight lines, and bright lighting at night are the most important things. Keep the riff raff out.

What are these questions about? Most of these ideas remove the natural park or environment from the space.

The park will need to have a very different feel for parents to feel comfortable with children playing.

I feel like the physical infrastructure to improve safety is fine. It is the human aspect that needs improvement: bringing people in.

. I live half a block away and will walk around these parks because I've been accosted several times

Design elements seem good. Feeling safe downtown is more dependent on socioeconomic elements – eliminating poverty and homelessness would do more.

Addresses most of the reasons I have felt unsafe in the parks without resorting to exclusionary design

feels much more safe

Downtown is dirty, windy and dark very unwelcoming and any changes to this park would not ever entice me to spend time there.

The homeless has to be addressed at the core root otherwise you will just be building the homeless a new hangout

Need openness

it would not make any difference

I've never felt un-safe, but would enjoy the more open concept better.

Safety is my Big Concern.

I do not have personal safety concerns with downtown parks as is

Addicts have taken over downtown and they are often brazen about intimidating people and committing crimes.

Not in 150 chars. Who designed this survey? It is very poorly formatted.

Those locations \*need\* public toilets. Maybe one of those auto-danitizing ones, like Paris has. like

Will never use.

For safety to improve there needs to be more police presence. Presently harassment occurs in wide open spaces.

WHY WAIST MY TAX DOLLARS.....

“WHO WILL GO DOWNTOWN?????...DRUG INFESTED EDMONTON....ANOTHER PARK REDO FOR DRUNKS, DRUG PEOPLE ....A PLACE FOR DRUGGIES TO SHOOT UP....

WAIST TAX"

To scary to use at night,

Sight lines, separation of pedestrians and other forms of traffic, and gentle lighting help with safety. I don't see what play areas will do for that

We as taxpayers Do not need this.

I will never feel safe in a downtown park day or night until the area is cleaned up and police patrols are updated.

The Beaver Hills parks feels dark and full of hiding spaces currently. The redesign feels more inviting

Not sure what passive Surveillanve means

Well I've always felt safe as long as the people who cause problems were not there. I don't fancy children being there ever, so that is not a factor

Any improvements will make these parks great

It's not safe being downtown ANYWHERE with the relaxed attitude of police or security related to the addicts and homeless people

STOP THIS WAIST OF MY TAX DOLLARS.... HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU RE DID THIS PARK???

Pedestrians shouldn't have to cross a vehicle lane to go between the parks, I don't trust anything less than physical barriers to keep people safe.

The inactive use of the park is why it's a gathering space for undesirable individuals, leading to safety concerns. the steepness is not the issue

Waste of time and money. No one goes there except possibly homeless people

The homeless people have taken over downtown .. the litter is everywhere. Impossible to clean up! Feel unsafe downtown so dirty. More murals maybe

The comfort and safety are more related to who uses the park and when. Daytime much better than after dark.

investing in this park and opening the space up will make it safer.

Lighting is supper important! that park is surprising dark at night at the moment

Unless it's going to have police patrol 24/7, in 2-3 years it will end up being home for drug dealers, street gangs and the homeless

Good changes.

Any type of program item will cause issues and make it a park. And no fire pit as fire is the last thing the downtown needs for safety.

All of these proposed elements will enhance the park space.

There are a lot of cars that drive down the alley; it remains a concern with no identified path for pedestrians.

Given the downtown locale, visibility is of prime concern.

All of these features used in combination would increase safety of the park. More activity = more safety!

Ugh less about families all they want is to remember when they were single

You do nothing good for Edmonton.,you waist our tax money over and over...how many frickn times are you going to redo these parks?? Get rid of them..

Because this city hates everyone a d likes to waste money instead of listened. Sarah Hamilton needs to be fired.

Light & sight lines & enticing features improve safety, but the area is unsafe. Security, a manned washroom & a business (eg. food truck) may help.

Downtown is not safe at night too many homeless and other trouble

This park is currently a public toilet and place to shoot up. This needs to be improved. Otherwise, it will be much better

It would depend on the kind of lighting and its brightness. Too much lighting can be bad as well. I like the slopes.

More lighting is good! Edmonton is extremely dark during winter. Lights are not only beautiful but also add to the overall feel of safety.

Be ause safety needs to be a priority for all who attend or it will be a colossal waste of taxpayers money!

Visibility, more foot traffic and lights will do nothing to deter the epidemic of drug abuse in public spaces. Desperate doesn't care.

Interactive options are the key to safety and livelihood in the DT core.

Any steps that improve sightlines between the two parks is welcome. I support the addition of children's play area but have hesitations about impact

The open park space downtown is a respite for workers and visitors alike. Hopefully it can be utilized at leas nine or ten months a year.

lighting is so impornt, and we dont need areas for people to hang out, and "play" on

I hope the additions make the park feel safer and more accessible for gen public. What does passive surveillance mean?

Doesn't matter what you can or can't see. Ppl shoot up on bus benches mid day. No police. What are we supposed to police?!

The questions don't match the answers of safe or unsafe. The issue of safety falls on the police to ensure the public are safe.

With improvements safety will improve as well Because the city does a poor job of keeping citizens in check. We build, people destroy or deface

I wouldn't bring my family downtown until i felt safe and that means cleaning up certain elements in the area.

I would still feel a bit unsafe with vehicles crossing through the alley. Could you close the alley ?

I don't understand the question, very confusing. You don't need improved visibility between the two parks for example



The new plan is the most that can be done for safety and still retain the park ambience

These parks will be only dens of Edmonton homeless...no other sane Edmontonian can use these parks due to being garbage dumps by homeless and LGBTQXX+

You have addressed issues for all ages and abilities. More security officer presence would be helpful

the safer the better

The park idea is nice, but everyone knows it will just be over run by homeless. What is the city actually doing to solve this problem?

Lots can be done through design to mitigate safety issues, however if City policy is to allow drug dealers to hang out in the park nothing will change

Downtown in general no longer feels safe. People have to feel safe to be downtown in the first place - but these are great designs.

I love the inclusion of amenities that encourage adults to play as well, I think it helps everyone feel safer in the city when they feel welcomed.

Deal with the homeless, drug problems and mental illness in city center. People are scared to walk the streets downtown how can you blame them.....

"Better lighting and visibility could only add to safety. Being able to supervise children also would."

I guess we'll see. It's hard to know how it will work out. Drawing people downtown and enjoying outside is important but tricky to achieve

Downtown seems a focal point for homeless and begging. Nothing here convinces me that this will limit either in the park

I'm not sure many children are in the area that would be using play areas, especially in the hours when additional activity would be useful for safety

There is always room for improvements!

Some of the ideas may not improve safety. I think opening up the parks to each other will create more traffic though. Climbing wall seems unsafe.

I live and work downtown and like the plans for creating liveable outdoor spaces.

Definitely a big improvement

Can the park be sponsored but a community group to ensure the beautification of it stays consistent and welcoming? Unused areas are misused areas

The city as a whole is no longer safe. A person attacked / assaulted 7 women in my neighborhood of Cumberland. There are beggars on every street light

More needs to be done by governments to resolve issues of homelessness and drug use, abuse and poisoning to increase feelings of safety.

Having an area where children can play in the downtown area is not needed until the safety and security of individuals can be guaranteed.

Downtown parks are sketchy af. Any elevation change or design that allows for people to hide makes it unsafe.

Passive surveillance helps capture assailants after a crime. It is not a deterrent or active safety measure. The community and children need more.

The homeless population abusing the space is a concern

Lighting is great and all that but the homeless is clearly the biggest issue and none of that is discussed here

I have walked these areas for years and see the changes proposed as a giant step to improving safety and allowing for integration. Great job

Lots of drug usage in area, not a place where I would longer if solo

"seems good"

Anywhere we go in a city there is risk. The openness and lighting is a great adjustment.

No one is going to take children to play at Beaver Hill park. That's ridiculous.

Adding noise to increase safety is not a good trade off in my opinion.

no additional feedback

How can these parks be possibly safe under any circumstances. During this summer the design team should spend a 7 day observation period there.

You don't need to level the park, just make it a bit lighter and brighter and do things that make people feel welcome. Especially so indigenous people

All of these improvements will draw more park users, creating a sense of community

Put the \$ toward social supports and low income housing. Then people might feel safe downtown

I think these design choices all support increased park safety, but the underlying causes of people living/loitering in the parks remain.

I love the idea of the light features for the evening I think it's amazing to go somewhere downtown to hangout.

You guys did a fantastic job!

I am not sure what is meant by passive surveillance. The unhoused people residing downtown, specifically in these parks needs support not surveillance

Share stats on crime in the area currently, not just on public perception and stigma. Creating a space for ALL our community members is important

Do you see who is there needles everywhere people so stoned they are passed out all over the place

Visibility is extremely important to my perceptions of safety, and I believe these improvements are excellent.

The area attracts homelessness which leaves me feeling unsafe. These changes will not change this without increasing security

I don't like the climbing feature unless it was attached to the backside of the building and properly lit.

Until downtown is totally devoid of the drug & chronic alcoholics are off the streets it will always feel unsafe at anytime to be downtown alone.

Safety will always be an issue with the amount of homeless around the neighbourhood.

As I said earlier, leaving those hills intact obscures sightlines and allows for people to hide out in there.

These all seem nice, I do wonder why they're essential

The proposed elements address the visibility and access issues of the park which make it feel unsafe today.

As I mentioned previously, I believe increased visibility and lighting will attract more people and help deter anti-social behavior.

I feel the sightline and lighting will greatly improve the perception of safety. I'm unsure the features will draw activity in the way this describes.

Housing for the homeless

Because of the many activities for people to do/use.

You continue to use fear mongering in your surveys!!! "Concern" "safety"... can you start beautifying the areas like alleys, parking lots: PARKS R SAFE!

No where is really safe anymore.

It's one thing to see and avoid trouble, but when trouble comes to you, there isn't enough security (personnel) to ensure safety in the area.

Reducing the ability for troublemakers to loiter.

There needs to be a presence there to dissuade criminal or unhoused people's activities

There are too many sketchy people and who knows what drug paraphernalia they will leave behind or graffiti they would tag

The area is nice but can be very unsafe at times due to aggressive people

I've answered for each item based on how much I expect it would contribute to improving safety. However, I suspect the parks are reasonably safe now.

Reducing steep slopes takes away from the park's character. Deal with the destructive elements of society, don't pave/flatten the park.

more people who make downtown part of their daily lives, the better.

These are good improvements. I think the best way to make it safer is more supports to homeless or drug use such as safe injection sites or shelters.

We need more people around in order to feel safe - if the new design encourages more people then it's working.

Improving viz good; increasing activities also good but not sure how effective as planned (eg kids not playing at night; not wanting to go to back)

All the suggested improvements add utility to enhance the amenity of the public space.

Add a climbing feature and that's not considered a liability?? May want to reconsider that one.

Homeless drug addicted violent people won't care. Fix the transit and the current parks before making new camp grounds.

Please just keep my taxmoney for maintenance not anything mor

Anything that increases the daily use across all ages is beneficial. Working in collaboration with El Beso and keeping all spaces clean.

I made my choices based on the updated changes provided in the renderings.

It's a bit of a concern that we will address spaced out addicts or crime by sending kids into the area, currently inhabited by scary people.

I do not generally feel unsafe downtown. The more people the park can attract, the safer everyone will be.

They are all good ideas

Basically this design has checked off all the items I said needed attention in the phase one survey.

The only people using the park for its intended purpose now sit at the very edge of the park close to Jasper Avenue. Because of safety.

The more people that frequent and enjoy parks, makes it safer for everyone

N/a

Downtown overall feels very unsafe at night, but these things are definitely a step in the right direction.

I'm not sure - intuitively I don't think I'd feel unsafe in a dedicated park.

I think little bit of slopes adds levels and dimensions to the space.

I do not fell safe overall while downtown, so wwith homelessness and drug activity as downtown as a whole.

adequately staff the EPS. At the end of the day it's another example of tax payer dollars being wasted as the root causes are not addressed

## Question 5

Total Comments: 133

Are there any other changes that could be made to the park to increase winter use?

Ensure seating areas are not exposed to significant wind gusts or snowdrifts, consider downdraft from adjacent buildings. Heated washrooms

Have the children's beaver lodge be translucent rainbow colours in winter

Skating rink. Ability for events to happen in the parks during winter too

Winter sculpture

Lighting is so important- especially at night. Hope the trees are lit up!

The park is used to generally by homeless people. Ask them what they want so that they can comfortable

parking space for a coffee wagon

Use landscaping and design features to mitigate wind impacts would help the parks usability.

Interactive public art installation to create visual interest during the early evenings of winter.

Better paths that get cleared by the city.

Shoveling the paths when it snows...

Make sure to keep the paths clear or snow and ice. If there is too much snow or ice, I won't go in winter.

Increase safety by removing dangerous people from the park - drunks, drug users etc.

the washroom should be open year round.

Homeless population

Mow it down and sell off the land

the fire pit must be accessible and provide heat if it is fenced or fully enclosed it would be merely decorate and serve no purpose

A water feature that could be turned into a skating park.

Making sure paths and seating areas are kept free of snow and ice

Having a reason to be there (food trucks, entertainment, hot drinks)

Heating lamps at patio tables on the Michael Phair side?

Events need to be planned weekly or they will not come, especially in the cold and the existing clientele will dominate

No need for fire pit as it will be a draw for the homeless to keep warm

You couldnt care less

flat area to put in Crockicurl!

There needs to be washroom facilities for the homeless people.

Fire pit is best

24 hour police presence 7 days per week.

Heated sidewalk so that snow clearing is less necessary.

Put our money into Boyle area

Wind brakes.

AGAIN STOP WAISTING MY HARD EARNED MONEY....TAX MONEY

STOP WAISTING TAX MONEY.....SPEND MY HARD EARNED MONEY FOR TAX DOLLARS TO WAISTED....YOU DRUNK SAILORS...SOHI'S WORDS.....HES RIGHT

None

Clear the snow and ice from ground and seating and tables. Heaters, active fire pits. Hot beverages nearby open late.

Yes. Build park and leave taxpayers alone.

A fire pit down town and what do you think they will be burning? Definitely a bad idea and one that is just asking for trouble.

A heated area by the frosty water feature that served hot beverages and all around glass seating for winter to be seen and loved

Wading pool?

YOU ARE ACCOUNTABLE FOR THIS WAIST OF MY TAX MONEY.....AND WHY DO YOU DO THIS SURVEY WHEN YOU HAVE YOU MIND MADE UP?ANOTHER WAIST OF MONEY

Heat lamps or a way for people to dry wet mitts would be nice to have.

This park is generally unsafe and night. Needs active patrols

Flood and freeze water feature into small skating or outdoor curling pond. Flood boulder wall or waterfall for ice climbing.

More lighting and more garbage removal more surveillance

The idea of a closed fireplace is good. Outdoor heaters on a timer by some seats.

Quit wasting tax dollars on urban fantasies!

Washroom available 24/7, with a water-bottle filling machine inside.

N/A

Heating fixtures like those found on restaurant patios.

Space heaters around seating areas if possible

I'd add one giant Christmas tree so people can decorate or sit around and read a book on a bench

Nothing..stop WAISTING our tax money

Yeah. Put money towards things that are actually needed

Weekly events, eg winter market, ice-sculpting, etc. Keeps the area envisioned as active and safe. It has to invite but also Deter certain activities

This is important for people who live it that area that use it most

Add a temporary skating path

Be careful with lighting. Do not overdo it. Perhaps the lighting can be programmable to make it more of an attraction.

Some sort of skating rink Or a trail for either snowshoeing or cross country skiing (mini ski's) for kids.

Skating rink or small hill for sledding lighting!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

No, all wonderful ideas. Having space so small gatherings could be held around the fire pit. I like that a food truck could be there for coffee etc.

Love the idea of a fire more a winter market as long as there is a POLICE PRESENCE

Refresh design but revert back to the original secluded park it once was. Paving stone paths with seating and water feature.

reduce crime and drug use in the area before I will use it.

need to properly clear the playground and bouldering area for it to be useable

I strongly disagree with a fire pit and/or water feature. Although these would be lovely to have, they require maintenance and are a heavy cost.

Transform these two parks into multiple public toilets configurations for LGBTQX++ homeless drug addicts as well as non-LGBTQXX+ homeless drug addicts

Again the concern is homelessness.

Solar heaters? I personally don't think we should be polluting our air with wood firepits, we have enough particulate matter and asthma issues already.

The lighting needs to be decorative, not just randomly placed street lamps. Fire pit could be a safety issue.

Again, the downtown area must feel safe. If there is drug use happening then no families will want to use the space regardless of these features.

I'd also love to see community programming in the winter (like the marshmallow roasts and free skates they used to do at the city hall skating rink)

Deal with the homeless, drug problems and mental illness in city center. People are scared to walk the streets downtown how can you blame them.....

The Michael Phair portion will be very difficult to make enjoyable in winter because of lack of light.

Events - such as Ice sculpture

Seating and room for a food truck in the Beaver Hills side might also help

Budget for snow & ice removal

Clearing the park paths of snow. Keeping a natural feel will bring people there, no one wants to visit flat concrete spaces.

Who would monitor safe use of a fire pit? No, no, no!

Some sort of cafe/food truck

Permanent "coffee cabin" for warm drinks and seating

Ice district will be the main draw of the city. Jasper ave is dead. No family will want to come there.

Bouldering walls or children's play areas won't be heavily used in winter. Bright colours will be masked by snow. Incorporate colourful lights.

Adding areas where small businesses can operate regularly and drive users into the area

Some of these features will increased the unsafe use of the park during winter as they add indoor comforts outside those those without housing.

Improving accessibility to access the park such as curb extensions along Jasper Ave, truncated dome mats, secure bike parking with lighting.

Space for ice skating.

None that have not been measured

Fenced-off Off leash area for dogs (similar to area next to Rogers place)

more snow

Great job. Will there be a washroom?

Seating in sunny areas is just going to attract vagrants.

Art installations like Wâpos are good for drawing people in winter, although having people have to pay for events is not ideal for inclusivity.

no additional feedback at this time

Brighten it up with colourful art like INIW Rover Lot 11

Cover the park with glass, like a conservatory, and add a cafe/seating area/play park/games tables

Have the firepit running all the time so the homeless can get warmed

Is there risk that fire pit might draw a lot of vagrants?

Mentioned in first comment - partner with local businesses to activate the space with enclosed fires/heaters in shoulder/winter seasons?

less planted areas we need more green space for people to sit and picnic if they want or sun bathe not all want to sit on chair

Hoping the public bathroom is open year round!

Shelters in place. Fire huts (rentable) community members can use and have coverage from wind/snow

Worry about fire pit being draw for homelessness and no children will use space

A small skate rink with room for vendors trucks.

Permanent coffee/food facility.

If the park is used heavily by homeless / sketchy people, firepits and seating are going to drive away the people you are hoping to bring in.

Cover and electric heating assuming the other problems downtown could be solved. Nothing would make me use that park more right now.

I'd love to see a connection built/maintained/plowed to either of the E/W bike lanes for winter biking. It would be a great stop w/ a firepit & racks.

Housing for the homeless

Fire pit can't be optional. Ability to warm up in washroom building. Keep some flexible furniture rather than taking it away in winter.

BIGGER WATERFALL: been PROVEN that classical music played on loudspeakers & the sound of moving water makes spaces safer & brings people & wildlife

Propane lights

Heat lamps (of some sort)

Planned activities? More trees or tree sculptures?

Make it safe.

Not sure about the fire pit. Could be nice. Right now though, I can only picture it full with homeless people and drunks.

Structures that reduce wind

Global warming!

more businesses open onto the park would make it more usable year round

Easy plan for snow removal, maybe railing if necessary for icy sloped areas.

making sure the surface material has good traction and prevents icing (the current surface already does)

A sun/shadow and wind study be used to optimized winter landscape design (plantings and park structures) in the context of the surrounding buildings.

what are you doing? Security in a park is needed and what a nice and relaxing way to

Please just keep my taxmoney for maintenance not anything more

A warming hut, wood seating materials, considerations on the ground for ice/freeze/thaw, gentle warm lighting throughout, a slide + interactive art.

Provide area for a skating rink

Also have shaded seating for super hot days

Good path to 104th street from Jasper and 105th street corner and places to sit for lunch or coffee

Sound like good winter aspects

When finalizing design of walkways and open spaces, do not forget to consider how it will affect snow removal. It must be made easy to clear the snow.

Winter festival location..ice sculptures..ect



Yes I do. My property taxes and all others are too high. Quit spending money.

Simple and clean lines, lots of lighting and clear sightlines. Keep it simple and costs down as everyone is struggling to make ends meet especially the tax payers that help pay the city's bills...

"Again I highly do not recommend a children's space. It will attract the bad people 100%

As for the water feature I will stand tall on this, there is a need for that beautifully situated desirable spot in the core of the work area downtown!

There are no children in the WORKING downtown! People need a serene space to break free from their day, please I strongly disagree with its removal "

There was nothing wrong with the original Devonian Park. It was an escape from city life but it needed to have a fence that could be locked at 11pm. Personally I do not think anything will help to improve this lot other than flattening it and bringing in food trucks with seating.

YOU DO NOTHING BUT WAST MONEY .....

Make it more safe

"Aboriginal consultation and inclusion. They currently have a small area of pavement with a film rewards or some such it could be larger and more attractive/attention grabbing. More sculptural artwork. What is the plan for the existing bike sculpture?

Nature scape and hills and waterfall and large trees make this park one of my current favorite downtown parks. I really hope you can redevelop it with out ruining what makes it unique and special. A place of natural significance in downtown."

Leave it alone, save money and forget about it. No one goes there anyway

A downtown multi-dimensional park/ playground like Vancouver did in Yaletown area (Smithe and Richard's) which appears vandal proof and weather resistant. Includes a coffee shop which opens to the park.

Bright colors on lower perimeter walls would help make it welcoming.

Bike parking

Why does City council continually waste tax dollars on this kind of "pie in the sky, urban fantasy" stupidity?

A fire pit will just encourage more arson in downtown.

Not at this time.

Keep it simple in terms of keeping the area clean and SAFE.

I want you to think more classic like lol at nyc parks and less modern as edmonton always does some horrid current modern thing that goes out of style and looks dated after 10 years. We tore our gorgeous buildings down when edmonton boomed and look at Calgary. The city didn't boom until later and kept its

historic gorgeous buildings and now looks like a metropolis while edmonton is its ugly tacky cousin

Stop this [sic]

Get rid of sohi. Fire everyone in city council and hire everyone new. No more knack no more sohi no more sarah Hamilton. Hire people that don't love to leach off the citizens and pat themselves on the back for doing so. This city doesn't care about the people anymore. I'm not looking forward to being stuck in a classed society where I won't be able to leave my 15 minute district.... where I'll be forced to have a digital bank B.S where I'm limited to how much I have in a week....

I encourage you to seriously consider safety, in particular from a woman's point of view. Ask women How they would walk through that park at night, what steps they would take - and that will give you good information on what needs to be done to improve safety

Engaging local business close to the park. Policing strategy for keeping the space safe. Actively engage local condo boards and community on needs for them.

I feel the City of Edmonton in general focuses too much on "features" to try and draw people into the park. The features typically detract from the overall layout, usability, and enjoyability of the park and make it less appealing.

Do not remove all slopes/ hills from the park to improve safety. They add visual interest and a more natural feeling. If you sanitize the park from any risk, you also might damage the strength of this asset as a natural space.

The bouldering wall should be co-created with the local bouldering community. There is a gym down the street full of routesetters (Boulders Climbing) who would probably love to be involved. I would hate to see an engineering/ design firm put something forward that no one will actually climb.

Just get it right. Make Edmonton look better and feel more inviting and safe. More lighting needed threw out dt

Don't waste the money. The desperate and addicted will just set it on fire anyway. Spend the money on making the streets safe before you worry about making more areas to smoke meth and set things ablaze.

Edible fruit trees or bushes

Information/Peace Officer with a Kiosk Office to keep community together, active and informed.

There should be Indigenous consultations to ensure any changes work with how the city's Indigenous community currently uses Beaver Hills Park as a meeting space and site for peaceful protests. As a settler-ally, I like how the the Indigenous community has claimed this space for their own use and want to see that respected and supported in any changes to the area.

Already stated.

The toilets worry me a little as currently lots of houseless people congregate in the park, I'm worried this could still be the case like with the toilets on Whyte Ave. I hope they'd be manned at all times

Have more police downtown and remove homeless people from the existing park so people can use it right now? Last time I walked through it for lunch. Needles, condoms, garbage everywhere. Someone had a fire, people passed out in the open. This was at noon on a Tuesday. Putting a pig on lipstick doesn't get rid of the fleas.

Revert back to original design keeping it secluded from the streets. Simply refresh with paving stones and greenery as originally created.

Water features... the sound, the flow.. it's needed

Nothing I haven't already stated

Clean up the downtown Core.

Need better sight lines from the streets to keep the crackheads out

Keep as many trees as possible and add as much lighting as possible. Lights should be wrapped around trees if possible to create beauty. This park cannot have enough light!

Edmonton downtown as a dumpster by homeless drug addict criminals with all types of mental disorders is expanding in all directions encompassing City Hall to 20 blocks in all directions...no mother ever bring her kids to play a second in these areas...

Thank you for all you have put forward to enhance the parks in downtown.

Not a safe area, waste of money to be honest

I can see sex acts in the park from my office window, so if this could cut down on that, that would be great.

Flowers are appreciated

We need downtown to be a safe place. There cannot be so much tolerance for uncivil behaviour, or it won't matter how lovely the parks are.

The city needs to focus on safety and security of these parks. What's the point of building a new park where no one can use it because it is over run by homeless... Will parents really let their kids play in there if needles are dropped on the ground. This is the real problem that needs to be solved...

This is a well thought out & planned design. It needs to be a part of a broader City strategy to provide support for those experiencing homelessness & addiction. Our family used to love taking the LRT downtown for events but we no longer feel safe riding it. Likewise the City needs to do a better job of making downtown safe again so businesses & citizens feel comfortable enjoying it.

I'd love to see some consideration given to solar panel lighting/renewable energy sources for the electric lighting, and/or landscaping

that includes native grasses/wildflowers to give local pollinators a habitat. It would also be amazing to see an urban food forest or some edible plants/fruit/berry bushes supported by the city.

Deal with the homeless, drug problems and mental illness in city center. People are scared to walk the streets downtown how can you blame them.....

Will the park and washrooms be monitored? I can see them being used for drug use etc.

A police or security presence, call box to report unruly or intruding behavior

Much needed

Good work done – be open minded for all suggestions

Indigenous murals, new indigenous art installations, instead of a climbing wall maybe a natural style obstacle course. Fruit trees (food sovereignty) and living wall. Enclosed propane fire feature that can be turned on for events. Community garden beds (not too many). A water tap accessible to events.

A schedule of family friendly events all throughout the year to encourage attendance and awareness of the space. Have community groups or not-for-profits host different interactive engagement events. They don't need to be festivals or big things but a summer read in the park by EPL, or a winter puppet stage by any theatre group. Host a Diner en Blanc type evenings for adults. Host a community BBQ. Invite dance troupes to practice / perform in the park. (re: Canada's Got Talent)

"The city lacks a plan. The Mayor lacks the leadership to correct this sinking ship. City employees need to tackle this problem as a number one priority because otherwise it won't be fixable pretty soon."

These parks won't be successful unless governments act to solve issues related to homelessness and drug use, abuse and poisoning given that the population who frequents both parks is largely composed of these folks.

Yes, I believe the area in general needs to undergo a light renewal. This park that is proposed is great; however, there are plenty of negative influences in the area, including a gentlemen's club, relatively unsafe nighttime activities from the homeless population nearby, and a drug use problem that leaves used paraphernalia on the ground. I understand that this is a difficult situation to tackle, but if the City wants people to come and spend time Downtown, it needs to be safer for everyone.

Whatever you do, please make it safe.

Focus on safety, active surveillance and supervision and attendants, will the bathrooms be accessible during winter? That is a safe and warm place for people to use for unintended purposes. Create safe spaces for illicit drug use outside the park and help

reduce the use inside of the park. The community deserves better than a paint job and new grass.

Needs constant maintenance and cleaning of area

"I wish the space was bigger. We need more parks or open spaces in the downtown area. I believe there is a huge demand as proven by the outdoor Oilers watch parties.

For this park specifically, I wish we could make it bigger by reallocating some parking spots for more spaces for people."

There needs to be some level of active security, most parks in Edmonton do not feel safe due to the amount of homeless and drug activity

None

More trees to provide shade, possibly in enclosed planters which incorporate seating around it.

nope

Love it. Thank you.

Its time for the City to admit that by condoning tents and encampments throughout the greater downtown and river valley, has made the downtown core a very undesirable place for anyone, except vagrants, to live and spend time.

I just wish it was more focused on a peaceful nature experience and less on bringing more noise to the core.

No but I am happy to see the park being renovated thoughtfully

Continuous security will have to be in the area. How will this effect my taxes?

The climbing wall is a horrible idea. This park design needs to value indigenous presence and representation, otherwise why does the park have its name? Fundamentally missed the mark and reeks of poor planning and exclusionary practises that overtly sanitize our colonial histories.

"Nice things are never inexpensive to build or maintain.

All the best and good things,

Shane"

Ridiculous project when we have an increasing population of homeless and vulnerable. Talk about a tone deaf city!

There is a lot of residential traffic through the alley from the high-rises north of the parks, and this will (temporarily) get worse with 102 Avenue LRT construction. Further, there is a lot of commercial traffic along the alley between delivery, moving, and garbage trucks, and residential vendors (plumbers, elevator technicians, etc.) Any design elements that can make the traffic corridor safer and discourage commercial traffic from parking in the area (bollards?) would help.

"Kiosk! Opportunity for a small business to have permanent set up and provide services for the park. They provide a meeting place that serves food/drink to patrons. Shipping containers (eg The Backyard) has hatch on one or both sides with stand up or sit down seating. This could be winterized with an enclosed patio space with heaters inside.

Please keep lots of trees for shade so people can use the park during the hot days

Provide food, drink, shelter, beauty, bathrooms and activity (events)."

A building for the homeless

"Glad to hear plans to clean up downtown but safety has to

Come first when people don't feel safe these plans are spending money for nothing"

The more earthy it looks, the more culturally focused and highlighted, the more safe it IS.. will be absolutely fantastic.

Street beat cops making a presence in the area to discourage homeless activities.

Find a solution to eliminate homeless tenting in these areas

Probably some sort of security staff at first, until people can establish routines of using the park, at least. No one is going to take their kids to a place where homeless people are sleeping behind the hills and shooting up in the washrooms. It doesn't matter how nice it is, if there isn't active eyes on it until it is established as a safe place, it's just going to become a run-down, garbage pit. People are scared to go downtown right now. I live down here and hear it constantly.

The park is fine. It's the people allowed to open use drugs and destroy the existing park that is the problem. Fix that first.

"Some type of art or an overhead structure in the Jasper Avenue plaza could help it feel less 'flat'.

I prefer the reinstallation of the Aboriginal Walk of Honour to be in ground rather than on a wall."

I believe that incorporating design elements that place a focus on increasing the perception of safety and vibrancy are the most important elements since the biggest issue this park faces is the perception that it is unsafe and attracts a lot of anti-social behavior that tends to discourage wider public usage.

This is a waste of money and should not move forward until we address the issues that are effecting all edmontonians. Mental health and Housing for the homeless

Ensure sufficient garbage cans. Space must be comfortable for those in poverty. Design to allow for a mix of users. Electricity available for protest groups gathering in the centre.

A bit more intimate Lighting, improvement & update of the once majestic water features, a climbing wall & a fire pit are the only acceptable alterations. We need trees

downtown; so please don't cut any down!!! I'm still confused why there isn't money being poured into converting the countless empty buildings downtown into affordable housing & maybe even giving incentives on rent for small businesses; as many small businesses are leaving downtown or can't stay afloat, making not difficult to live

Just make sure you have seating in shady areas as well especially during our 30 degree heat waves.

smoking, vaping, marijuana, injection ban in and around the park.

Fire pits and heat lamps for winter use.

No it's just not a good time to be thinking about this due to other more serious world issues

No one is going to go if they don't feel safe or feel as though they won't be attacked. Attacks have been on the rise downtown and that is why it's so dead. Also parking is a huge issue.

Trees, lots of trees. Coffee/snacks/hot wine kiosks?

Making the parks beautiful should be a high priority.

without increased security, none of this will matter. I live downtown and am tired of the endless garbage and tweakers. Compassion shouldn't just go towards the homeless but also those of us who actually live here and are increasingly being pushed away from recreational uses. The city, which I love, is becoming a garbage dump.

signs around the city about it

"Love the bright colours.

Perhaps a bike rack (if there isn't one already). And I really like outdoor fitness equipment."

I like that the business on the corner of the beaver could have seating that takes up area into the park, I think that encourages people to view and enjoy the park.

Thank you for the opportunity to give input of this matter.

"Without continuous surveillance, it will be a drug hangout & a homeless catch. The park near Jasper Ave and 105st is already

Those who frequented the water park will not return to a climbing feature or a teeter totter.

You've made a decision based on maintenance issues rather than functionality and useage.

Not a great feeling to be asking for opinions after the main feature has already been turfed. That's no way to garner collaboration. Leaves you with a feeling you've been patronized."

"As a City, you really have your priorities messed up The downtown core is dangerous. The transit is dangerous the ravines are a filthy disgrace, fires are burning and ruining hotels. You can't go to the City Centre as everyone has moved out except homeless. Poor neighborhoods completely abandoned by you

who allow violence and violations or every bi law And then hold the law abiding tax payer accountable for the clean up

the mess. A pretty park is not hiding a slum downtown. Fix the problem!"

Please just keep my tax money for maintenance not anything more

Activation, cleanliness, and interactive uses. Fruit trees like at Alex Decoteau are great. Garbage receptacles that can separate garbage, bottles, and organics would be ideal. Plug ins would also be a good idea for lighting additions or events.

Allow live music events

No

Again, the only way to get people to use the park is to clean up the downtown area. Otherwise it is a waste of money to make these improvements. Nobody wants to visit a park only to see people having sex, doing drugs, urinating everywhere, asking for money and more. And until these activities are stopped, nobody will come downtown or to a city park.

Always alot of ART!! Not just for Parks but the whole downtown. Free Parking downtown. It is so expensive, people avoid going there, therefore making it feel scary and empty!

Everything has been already mentioned in my previous comments. Would love to see a indoor heated water park for kids.

I'm beating a dead horse at this point but I just wish the city had a central location for skateboarding. Even some small square of flat concrete, as long as it's explicitly friendly towards skateboarding. As of right now the only options are to go far, or to skateboard in risky area such as next to busy streets, or on private property where one runs the risk of getting kicked out/prosecuted.

No, it's a shame that a great Edmontonian's name will be attached to a homeless encampment and drug den.

