

NO: R041

COUNCIL DATE: **MARCH 10, 2014**

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council** DATE: **March 5, 2014**
FROM: **General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture** FILE: **6140 - 20/H**
SUBJECT: **Hazelgrove Park – Preferred Concept Plan**

RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report as information; and
2. Approve the Concept Plan for Hazelgrove Park attached as **Appendix I** in principle as described in this report.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to provide information regarding the planning and design process for Hazelgrove Park and to recommend the approval of the Concept Plan for the park.

BACKGROUND

Hazelgrove Park was designated as a combined school and park site within the East Clayton Neighbourhood Concept Plan (NCP). The NCP identified the park as community level, with a program to serve the outdoor recreation needs of the community, including amenities for team sports, active play and youth. A park location map is attached to this report as **Appendix II**.

The park site is located between 190 and 191 Street north of Hazelgrove Elementary and south of the Metro Vancouver Clayton water reservoir. Metro Vancouver is planning to expand the water reservoir to serve the needs of the growing community. The site is at the highest point in Clayton and as such is the optimal location for a reservoir to serve the community. To maximize the utility of the park site and to facilitate the reservoir expansion, the City and Metro Vancouver are coordinated a land exchange. This exchange resulted in a park site of 3.5 hectares (8.6 acres) which will make it the largest park in East Clayton. The resulting boundary of the land exchange is reflected in the Concept Plan for Hazelgrove Park. Details of the land exchange were approved at the February 24 Council meeting (R029: 2014 - Purchase of an Area of Land at 19080 – 72 Avenue, the Sale of Land at 19010 & 19050 - 72 Avenue and 7124 - 190 Street and the Closure and Sale of 71A Avenue East of 190 Street).

The existing site is undeveloped and characterized by new growth of Black Cottonwood and Red Alder saplings with a combination of blackberry and native shrub understory. There is a grove of

Douglas Fir, Western Red Cedar and Big Leaf Maple trees at the east end of the site which will be retained. The surrounding neighbourhood is characterised as single family and multi-family residential development.

DISCUSSION

A comprehensive Engagement and Communication Plan was developed for the project to ensure that stakeholders and the public were involved and had opportunities for meaningful engagement in the design process. The Engagement and Communication Plan included two phases to provide opportunities for ideas gathering, concept development and concept refinement.

Summary of Phase 1 Engagement

Phase 1 of the Engagement and Communications Plan was developed to gather community ideas and preferences regarding park features and design. The following engagement opportunities were provided during September and October, 2013:

- Online CitySpeaks survey sent to East Clayton area residents
- Online CitySpeaks survey open to the public
- Public Open House on September 10, 2013
- Hazelgrove Elementary Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting, September 30, 2013
- Youth Outreach
 - Youth Fest on September 21, 2013
 - Youth engagement sessions on October 9, 2013 with two groups of grade 7 classes at Hazelgrove Elementary School

A total of 79 online survey respondents, over 200 open house attendees and over 100 youth participated in the preliminary consultation and provided their ideas for the design of the park. The first open house was advertised through mail-outs to 1,200 households, large on-site signs, local newspapers, City of Surrey website, as well as the City Facebook and Twitter pages. The information presented at the Phase 1 open house is attached to this report as **Appendix III**.

The results of the first phase of engagement indicated a strong desire for active amenities. The preferred park amenities chosen by participants were a playground, water spray park, walking loops and trails, picnic areas, a washroom building and tennis courts. Preserving the grove of trees at the east of the site was also a priority. There was a slight preference for completing the north end of 191 Street as a cul-de-sac as a means to preserve the tree grove. The top youth amenity identified was parkour which is a relatively new sport that involves running, jumping or climbing over obstacles in an urban environment.

Concerns were expressed related to traffic congestion and parking, particularly around the intersection of 191 Street and 70 Ave adjacent to Hazelgrove Elementary. There was support for a dedicated parking lot to serve the park. It was noted that Hazelgrove Elementary is well over capacity, and that some of the associated parking and traffic issue will be alleviated with the opening of Katzie Elementary in March, 2014.

Three preliminary park options, attached as **Appendix IV**, were developed based on the ideas generated through the Phase 1 engagement process. These preliminary park options were presented for feedback within the Phase 2 engagement process.

Summary of Phase 2 Engagement

Phase 2 of the Engagement and Communications Plan was developed to gather feedback and preferences on park options and design. The following engagement opportunities were provided during November and December, 2013:

- Public Open House, and
- Online CitySpeaks survey open to the public.

Over 70 people attended the public open house on November 19, 2013 and 37 completed a survey. The second open house was advertised through mail-out to 1,200 households, large on-site signs, local newspapers, City of Surrey website, as well as the City Facebook and Twitter pages. Additionally, direct emails were sent to a project list of consenting participants that was collected through the first phase of engagement. The information presented at the Phase 2 open house is attached to this report as **Appendix V**.

Three park options were presented through the second phase of engagement. Park Options A and B showed a single soccer field with a balance of active amenities, passive open space and natural areas. Option C showed a second soccer field to maximize opportunity for organized field sports, however with less variety of active amenities and reduced space for passive park use. All options showed a parking lot and additional on-street parking on 190th and 191st Street adjacent to the park.

Participants were asked to rank each park option and provide feedback on the specific design elements of each. Respondents were largely in support of Options A and B, which provided a similar balance of amenity, while Option C, which featured two soccer fields and less overall amenity, was ranked as least favourable. Respondents also provided preferences on the type and location of each amenity. Based on the feedback and preferences received through the second phase of engagement, the design team have combined the preferred elements of Options A and B into the single preferred Concept Plan for Hazelgrove Park presented within this report. A full summary of Phase 1 and 2 Engagement is attached to this report as **Appendix VI**.

Final Concept Plan

Amenities for the Community

The final preferred Concept Plan includes a centrally located regulation size soccer field, which compliments the existing soccer field on the adjacent school site. Open lawn is located on either side of the soccer field to provide spectator and warm-up areas, as well as spaces for family picnicking. An active amenity node is located west of the soccer field, featuring a playground and water spray park, two tennis courts, a basketball and ball hockey court, a youth parkour course and a washroom building. A parking lot for 35 vehicles with access off of 190 Street is also planned in this area. The eastern portion of the park, north and east of the soccer field, features a natural area node located around the existing grove of Douglas Fir, Western Red Cedar and Big Leaf Maple trees. This area will be naturalized with additional tree plantings and pathways will be constructed to provide opportunities for residents to enjoy the forest. In total, over 100 large canopy trees will be planted within the park site and on adjacent street boulevards.

Park amenities, including the washroom building, have been placed with consideration to public safety. Maximum site-lines from adjacent roads will minimize areas of concealment within the park and the design of structures will reduce graffiti and vandalism as much as possible. Amenities have also been placed with optimal adjacencies; for example, the water spray park and the playground adjacent to the washroom building and picnicking areas, to make the various park spaces as comfortable and user friendly as possible.

In addition to providing a variety of active and passive park amenities, the final preferred concept plan also addresses the objective of the East Clayton NCP to promote natural drainage through the use of on-site storm water management practices. A bio-swale along the western edge of the park will infiltrate and detain storm water run-off from the parking lot, reducing the flow of water into the storm water system. The bio-swale will also reduce the burden placed on the sanitary system by filtering and de-chlorinating run-off from the water spray park through infiltration and diversion to the storm water system.

Traffic and Parking

Traffic and parking provisions were important considerations for the community. The parking demand for the park was determined through a comparison of community level parks with similar amenities. The final preferred Concept Plan includes a parking lot for 35 vehicles with access from 190 Street. An additional 27 on-street parking stalls will also be added to 190th and 191 Street, for a total of 64 new parking stalls in the area. These new parking stalls will add to the existing 62 stalls within the adjacent Hazelgrove Elementary parking lot, which will serve as overflow parking during high demand events within the park.

The north end of 191 Street will be completed with a cul-de-sac, providing for increased traffic movement and circulation adjacent to Hazelgrove Elementary while protecting the adjacent tree grove. A dashed line at 191st Street on the plan indicates a planned future local road connection to relieve traffic congestion at the intersection of 70th Ave and 191st Street. Any future planning for the connection would be subject to further public consultation if it was required in the future. The planned connection must wait for future development of a private property to the northeast of the park. In addition to the added parking and cul-de-sac, existing school related traffic and parking demand adjacent to Hazelgrove Elementary is anticipated to drop following the Spring 2014 opening of Katzie Elementary.

Next Steps

The Concept Plan for Hazelgrove Park was reviewed by the Parks, Recreation and Sport Tourism (PRST) Committee on February 19, 2014. The Committee supported the preferred Concept Plan.

Detailed design will begin following Council approval of the preferred Concept Plan. Construction of Hazelgrove Park is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2014, funded through Park Amenity Contributions collected throughout the East Clayton NCP area. Site clearing is underway prior to the bird nesting season.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The Hazelgrove Park project responds to several objectives and actions in the Sustainability Charter, including:

- SC8: Facilitating and encouraging meaningful public engagement;
- EN12: Enhancing and protecting natural areas and wildlife habitat;
- EN13: Enhancing the public realm through the creation of comfortable, safe and beautiful public space;
- SC11: Enhancing public safety by applying Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles; and,
- EN8: Applying sustainable engineering standards and practices.

CONCLUSION

The Concept Plan for Hazelgrove Park includes the desired amenities for the East Clayton community including a new playground, water spray park, tennis courts, walking paths and a sports field. The final Concept Plan, attached as Appendix I to this report, delivers the park amenities most requested by the community in the most appropriate location and efficient manner.

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council approve the Concept Plan for Hazelgrove Park as generally illustrated on Appendix I attached to this report and request that staff proceed with detailed design of the park.

Laurie Cavan
General Manager
Parks, Recreation and Culture

Attachments:

- Appendix I – Hazelgrove Park Concept Plan
- Appendix II – Hazelgrove Park Context Map
- Appendix III – Open House #1 Presentation Boards
- Appendix IV – Preliminary Park Concept Plans
- Appendix V – Open House #2 Presentation Boards
- Appendix VI – Engagement Summary

Appendix I – Hazelgrove Park Concept Plan



HAZELGROVE PARK
PREFERRED REVISED
SCHEMATIC PLAN

Appendix II – Hazelgrove Park Context Map



Appendix III – Open House #1 Presentation Boards



Help Shape the Design of Hazelgrove Park

1. Place a coloured dot to indicate where you live on the map.

If you live outside the area shown on the map, please place your dot in the white space around the map.

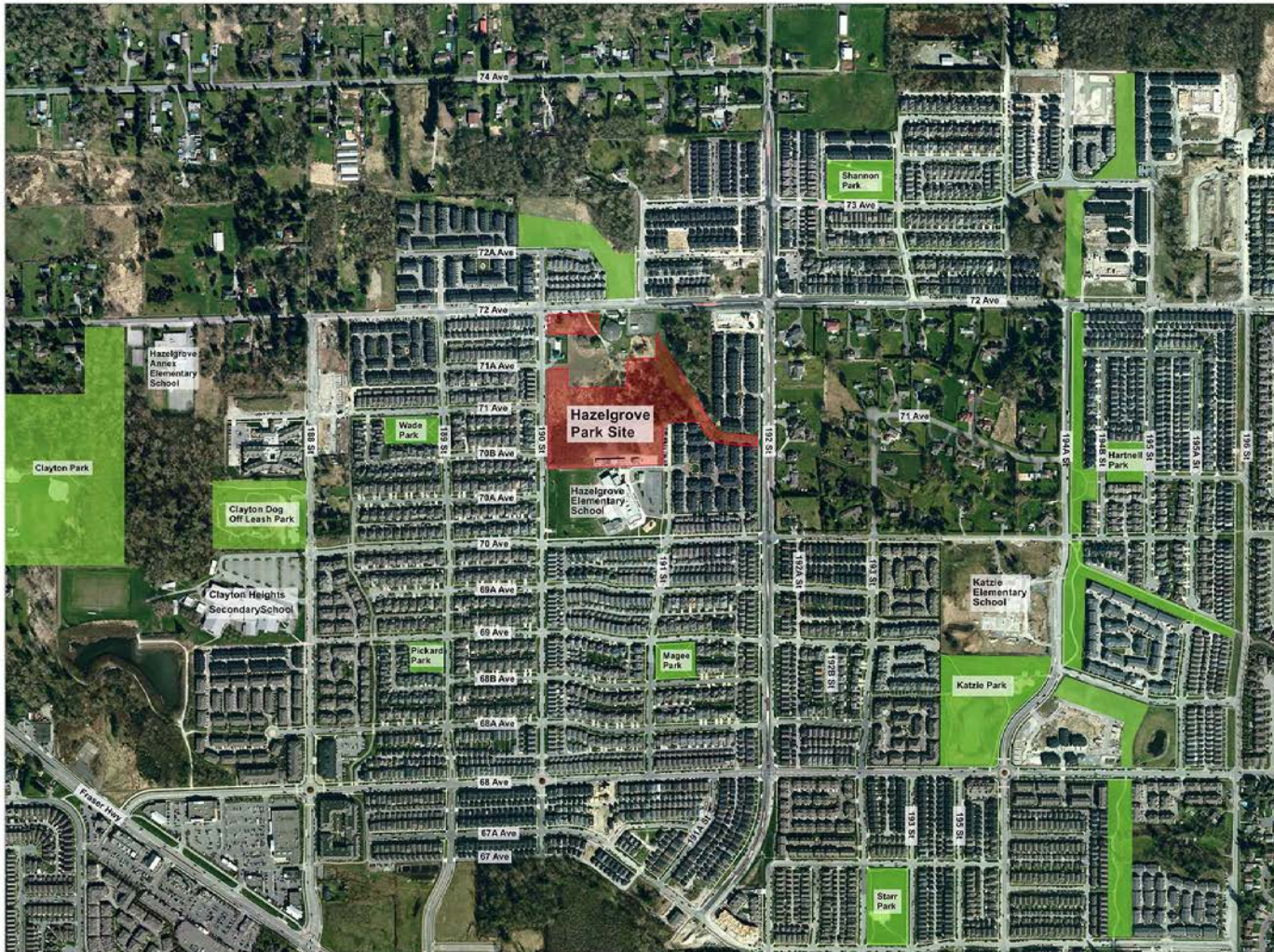
2. Sign in, take a comment form booklet and view the displays. We encourage you to provide your ideas and input by completing the survey booklet and on the display boards with questions using the markers provided.

Project team members are available to provide you with information and answer your questions about the project.



Show us Where you Live

1



Project Description

2



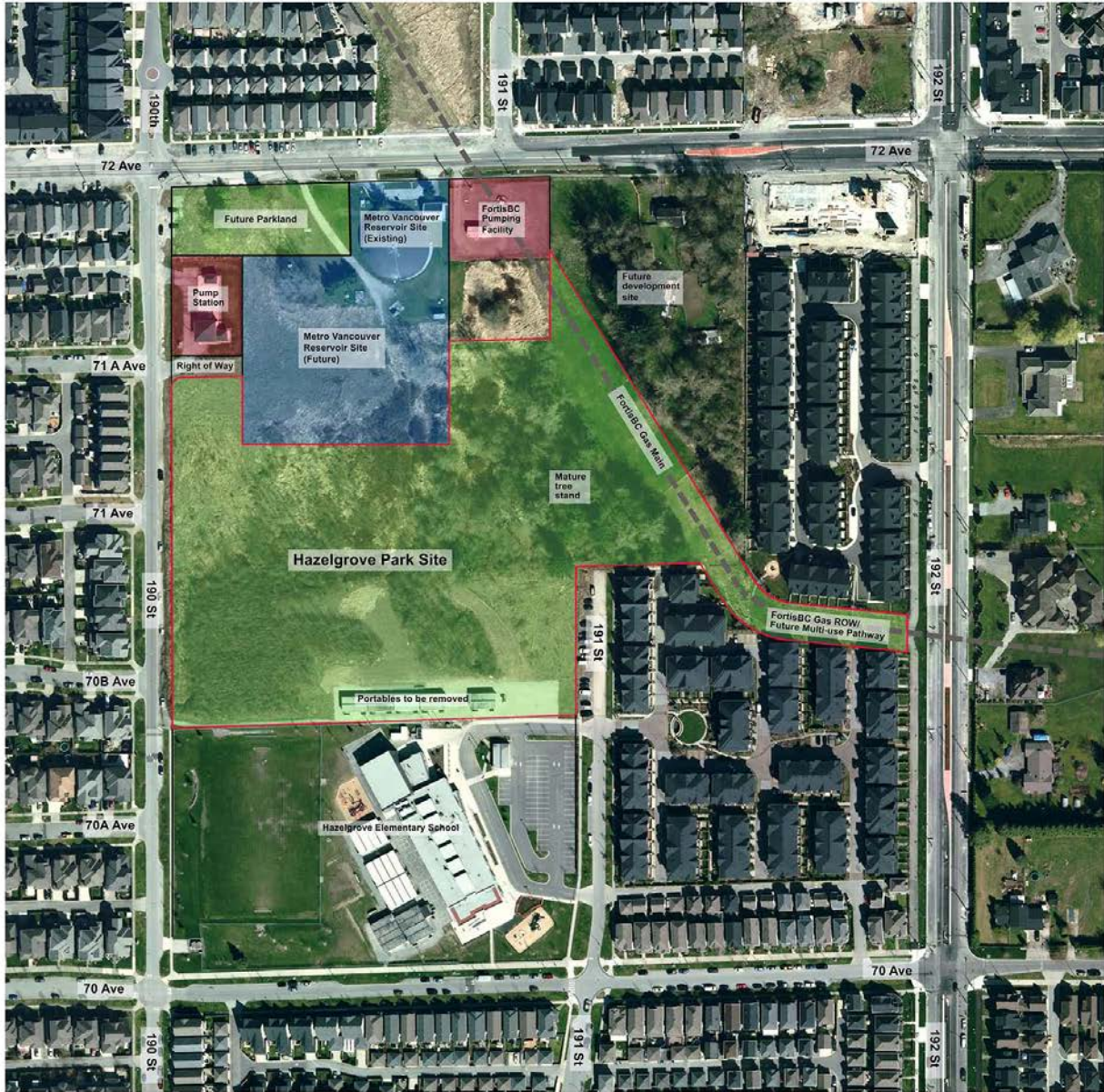
Hazelgrove Park was identified as a new park site within the East Clayton Neighbourhood Concept Plan. The site, located between 190 and 191 Street north of Hazelgrove Elementary, will be developed as a community park with outdoor recreation and green space, including features for team sports and play.

The future park will be approximately 3.5 hectares (8.65 acres) in size, making it the largest park in East Clayton.

The City of Surrey, together with ISL Engineering and Land Services and PUBLIC Architecture, are working to complete the design of Hazelgrove Park. The Team is coordinating their planning with Metro Vancouver to align plans for the Clayton Water Reservoir Expansion and Hazelgrove Park.

Ideas and input from community members, residents, stakeholders and potential park users are needed to help determine park concept options that will be presented at a public open house in November 2013.

Site Context Map



Project Background



- Hazelgrove Park is one of two joint school/park sites within the East Clayton Neighborhood.
- Hazelgrove Elementary School, developed in 2010 to the south of the park, occupies approximately 2.36 hectares.
- The park site is approximately 3.5 hectares (8.65 acres) and is centrally located within walking distance of the surrounding community.
- North of the park is Metro Vancouver’s Clayton Water Reservoir that provides water for the growing community.
- The proposed park space has been reconfigured to optimize the layout of the park features while ensuring adequate space for future reservoir expansion.

Park Vision

Hazelgrove Park will be a major destination within East Clayton and will serve as an active and passive recreation space as well as a gathering space and social heart of the community.



Design Considerations **5**

planning

- City of Surrey Land Use Plans
- 2008 Parks, Recreation and Culture Strategic Plan
- Metro Vancouver Reservoir Expansion plans

community

- Provide public amenities (e.g. Civic and recreation centre, sports fields, etc.)
- Input and ideas in park design

youth

- Provide neighbourhood youth activities and amenities
- Input and ideas in park design

environmental

- Provide greenspace and natural areas in neighbourhood
- 30-35% park tree canopy coverage (East Clayton Neighbourhood Concept Plan goal)
- On-site stormwater drainage (East Clayton Neighbourhood Concept Plan goal)
- Wildlife, including bird and small animal habitat areas.

shared use

- Opportunities for shared use facilities between Hazelgrove Park and Elementary School

connectivity

- East Clayton as a walkable community
- Neighbourhood greenway connections

safety

- Potential park vandalism
- Public perceptions of safety in park

traffic and parking

- Planned 72nd Ave road widening
- Traffic congestion along 191st St at Elementary School
- Car parking required for new park

construction

- Costs

maintenance

- Long term feasibility including costs

universal access

- Usable by the broadest range of users, regardless of their age or ability.

Tell Us Your Ideas!



All ideas and input received at the open house, upcoming stakeholder events and the CitySpeaks survey will be compiled, analyzed and considered in determining park concept options. An open house for the public review of the concept options will be held in November 2013. The preferred concept will be presented to Council in early 2014.

Write your ideas and input using the markers provided on the following question board displays.

Your ideas and input are important to shaping the design of Hazelgrove Park.



Tell Us Your Ideas!

7

What aspects do you like most about your neighbourhood and should be considered in the design for Hazelgrove Park?

Tell Us Your Ideas!

8

I want Hazelgrove Park to be...

Tell Us Your Ideas!

9

Please review the proposed property lines to consolidate park land and preserve space for future reservoir expansion.



Do you have any comments or concerns?

Tell Us Your Ideas!

10

What are your "Top 5" park features?



Tell Us Your Ideas!

11

Do you have any concerns about the park development? If so, please explain below.

Tell Us Your Ideas!

12

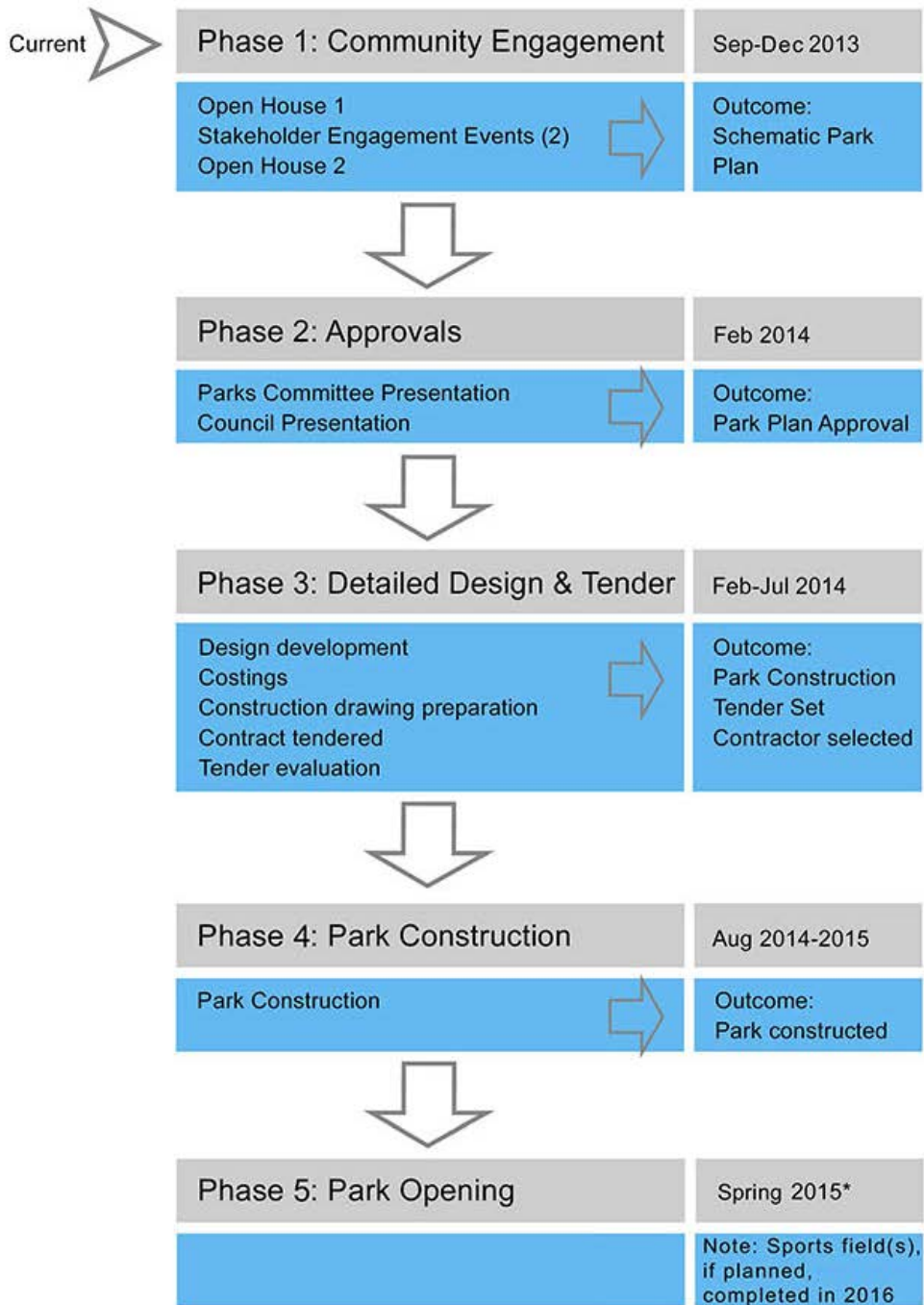
What park features belong together and why?

Tell Us Your Ideas!

13

Do you have concerns regarding traffic, congestion and parking along 191 Street and at the intersection of 191 Street and 70 Avenue? If so, please explain below.

Project Schedule



Next Steps

15

1. Community and youth stakeholder events

During September/October 2013 to gather additional ideas and feedback.

2. A public open house and CitySpeaks survey

November 2013 to present and gather feedback on park concept options and share how the community's ideas informed the park design.

How to Stay Involved

For more information or to join the contact list:

- **Visit** the project website at: www.surrey.ca/newparks
- **Email:** Parks Planning & Design at: parksrecculture@surrey.ca
- **Call:** 604-501-5050
- **Visit** the CitySpeaks site at: www.cityspeaks.ca
- **"Like"** the City's Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/thecityofsurrey
- **"Follow"** the City's Twitter page at: www.twitter.com/cityofsurrey or @cityofsurrey hashtag #Surreyparks

Option A



Option B



Option C



Appendix V – Open House #5 Presentation Boards



Help Shape the Design of Hazelgrove Park

1. Place a coloured dot to indicate where you live on the map.

If you live outside the area shown on the map, please place your dot in the white space around the map.

2. Sign in, take a survey and view the displays.

We encourage you to provide your feedback by completing the survey provided.

Project team members are available to provide you with information and answer your questions about the project and design options.



Show us Where you Live

1



Project Description

2



Hazelgrove Park was identified as a new park site within the East Clayton Neighbourhood Concept Plan. The site, located between 190 and 191 Street north of Hazelgrove Elementary, will be developed as a community park with outdoor recreation and green space, including features for team sports and play.

The future park will be approximately 3.5 hectares (8.65 acres) in size, making it the largest park in East Clayton.

The City of Surrey, together with ISL Engineering and Land Services and PUBLIC Architecture, are working to complete the design of Hazelgrove Park. The Team is coordinating their planning with Metro Vancouver to align plans for the Clayton Water Reservoir Expansion and Hazelgrove Park.

Feedback from community members, residents, stakeholders and potential park users are needed to help develop the recommended design for the park. The recommended design will be posted on the project website in January 2014.

Project Background

3

- Hazelgrove Park is one of two joint school/park sites within the East Clayton Neighborhood.
- Hazelgrove Elementary School, developed in 2010 to the south of the park, occupies approximately 2.36 hectares.
- The park site is approximately 3.5 hectares (8.65 acres) and is centrally located within walking distance of the surrounding community.
- North of the park is Metro Vancouver's Clayton Water Reservoir that provides water for the growing community.
- The proposed park space has been reconfigured to optimize the layout of the park features while ensuring adequate space for future reservoir expansion.

Park Vision

Hazelgrove Park will be a major destination within East Clayton and will serve as an active and passive recreation space as well as a gathering space and social heart of the community.



Design Considerations **4**

planning

- City of Surrey Land Use Plans
- 2008 Parks, Recreation and Culture Strategic Plan
- Metro Vancouver Reservoir Expansion plans

community

- Provide public amenities (e.g. Civic and recreation centre, sports fields, etc.)
- Input and ideas in park design

youth

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- Input and ideas in park design

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- 30-35% park tree canopy coverage (East Clayton Neighbourhood Concept Plan goal)
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- Car parking required for new park

construction

- Costs

maintenance

- Long term feasibility including costs

universal access

- Usable by the broadest range of users, regardless of their age or ability.

What We Heard

Phase 1 of the project included several public, youth and stakeholder engagement opportunities during September and October 2013 to gather ideas and preferences regarding park features and design. Below is a summary of our key consultation findings.

Most Popular Park Features

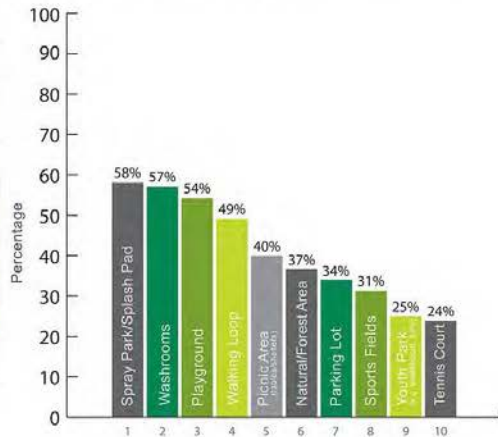
- walking loop should have little impact on the natural environment
- washrooms located near a spray park, picnic area and playground in the south portion of the site
- sports fields and courts kept together, soccer field(s) south west of site
- trees, green space, walking trails and picnic areas grouped together

Online Survey and Public Open House Survey Results – Top 5 features area residents, members of the public and open house attendees indicated as important to include in Hazelgrove Park.

1	2	3	4	5
Spray Park/Splash Pad	Washrooms	Playground	Walking Loop	Picnic Area (tables/shelters)
58%	57%	54%	49%	40%
				

Note: Survey participants were asked to identify their top 5 park features (out of 17 options) to be considered in the design of Hazelgrove Park.

Online Survey and Public Open House Survey Results – Top 10 features area residents, members of the public and open house attendees indicated as important to include in Hazelgrove Park.



Note: Survey participants were asked to identify their top 5 park features (out of 17 options) to be considered in the design of Hazelgrove Park.

Tree Preservation/Nature

- preserve existing mature trees or keep as many trees as possible
- expand existing tree stand with natural open/green space in the area

Park Entrance

- Majority indicated slight preference for park entrance on 72 Avenue

What We Heard

6

Through Road or Cul-de-Sac at 191 Street

- mixed views on 191 Street as a cul-de-sac (dead end) vs. a through road to 72 Avenue, with slight preference for cul-de-sac.

Traffic Management

- park access should be off 72 Avenue
- Concern regarding increased traffic and speeding in residential areas especially on 190 Street and 70 Avenue.
- traffic lights or a pedestrian crosswalk at 72 Avenue and 190 Street

Parking

- high priority for parking lot due to lack of on-street parking
- support for parking lot of limited size
- slight preference for parking lot at corner of 72 Avenue or along 190 Street rather than 191 Street.
- shared use of the existing school parking lot

Most Popular Youth Feature

- most popular: parkour/climbing, skate park, BMX and soccer fields.
- park space at 190 Street and 72 Avenue preferred location for the skate park/BMX park.

Park Features to be Kept Separate

- youth features (e.g. skate park) separate from younger children for the safety
- off leash dog area separate from children and other park amenities

Reservoir Expansion

- concern regarding fractured green space
- screened and fenced for safety and protection against vandalism

Key Transportation Considerations for Follow-up

7

Below are concerns and ideas raised by the community that are not part of the scope of the park project but have been forwarded to the City's Transportation Department for consideration and follow-up.

- designated crosswalks all around the park
- more crosswalks/crossings between blocks to prevent jaywalking
- traffic calming speed bumps near parks and schools
- patrol and enforcement of traffic speed
- wider roads
- no parking on the south side of 70 Ave between 190 & 191 St
- parking on 190 St only, not 191 St
- parking on 191 St for residential only
- resident only on-street parking
- residential parking permits
- increased traffic volumes and flow in area, especially during school hours and peak times
- no traffic lights



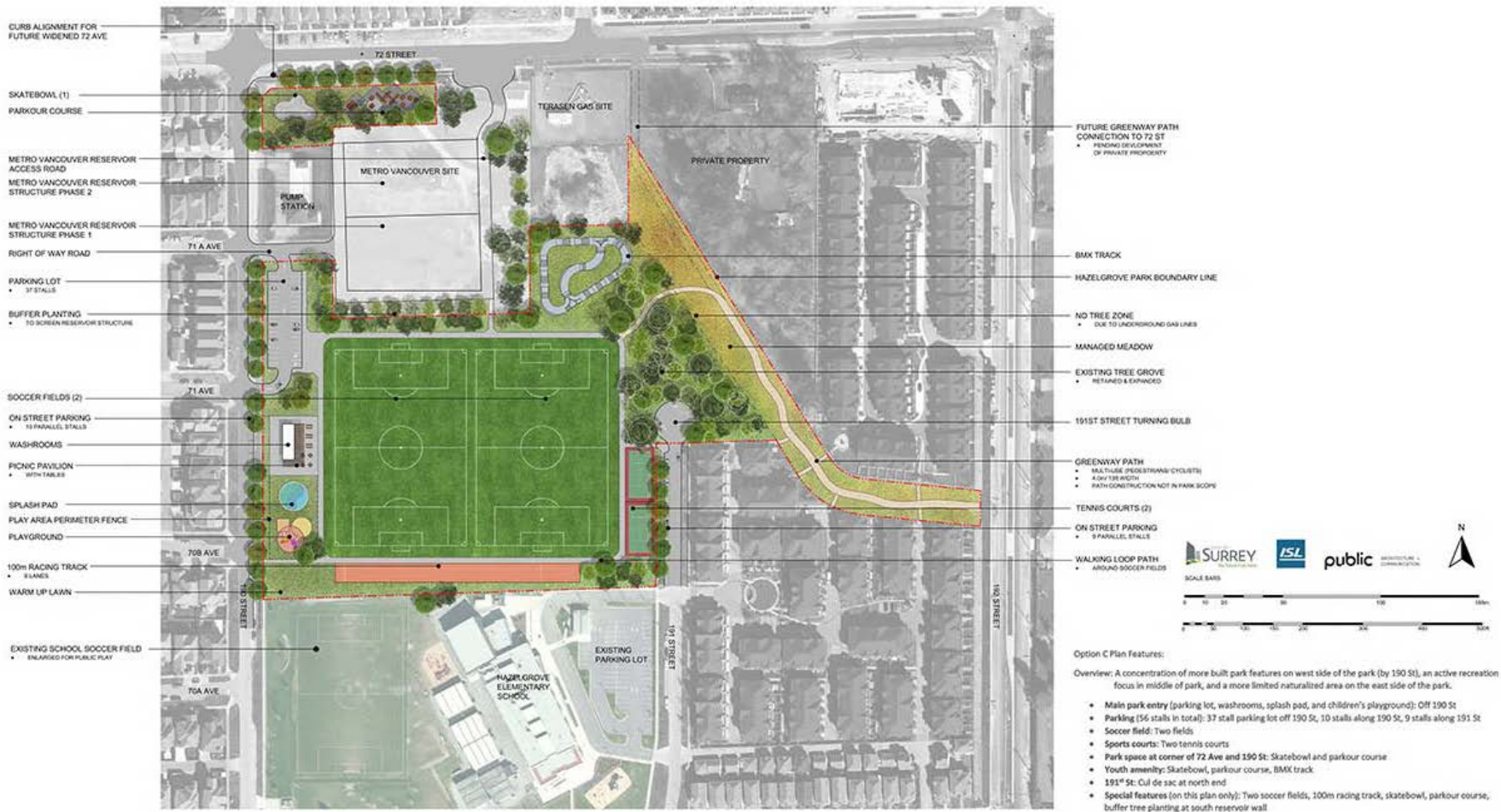
Option A



Option B



Option C



Ecological Assessment of Existing Forest Area in Park

The natural area in Hazelgrove Park is part of an ecosystem corridor that connects remnant natural areas and assists with the local migration of songbirds and small mammals.



The current natural area has:

- an undisturbed native shrub underbrush,
- a minimal percentage of invasive plants and
- numerous significant and healthy deciduous and coniferous tree

The open field (alder, blackberry) area, has limited significant species and is predominantly invasive species underbrush.

This natural area currently provides high value habitat for small mammals and songbirds.



Primary natural area native underbrush with the canopy



(Alder, blackberries, invasive species)
Main field, non-natural condition



Primary natural area with native underbrush, from southern sidewalk

Impacts of Potential Roadway Options on Existing Forest Area 12

Through Road Option



Road Format

- 2 lane road through the park
- No additional on-street parking through the park (to minimize impact)
- Right turn only at 72 Ave. No left turn onto 191 St from 72 Ave

Pros

- Provides greater vehicle connection to 72 Ave
 - May alleviate school related congestion at 70 Ave and 191 St
- Note: school related traffic will be reduced regardless in 2014 when Katzie Elementary opens

Cons

- Fractures natural habitat area & removes more trees
- Separates the park into two portions
- Creates additional road crossing for pathways
- Places a portion of the road on the private property to the north
- Road constructed would be delayed (due to the above point)

Cul-de-Sac Option

Road Format

- Standard cul-de-sac road end
- No additional on-street parking within the cul-de-sac

Pros

- Keeps the natural area better intact
- Provides greater habitat and protects more trees
- Allows for more pathways and less road crossings
- Cul-de-sac would be constructed with the park

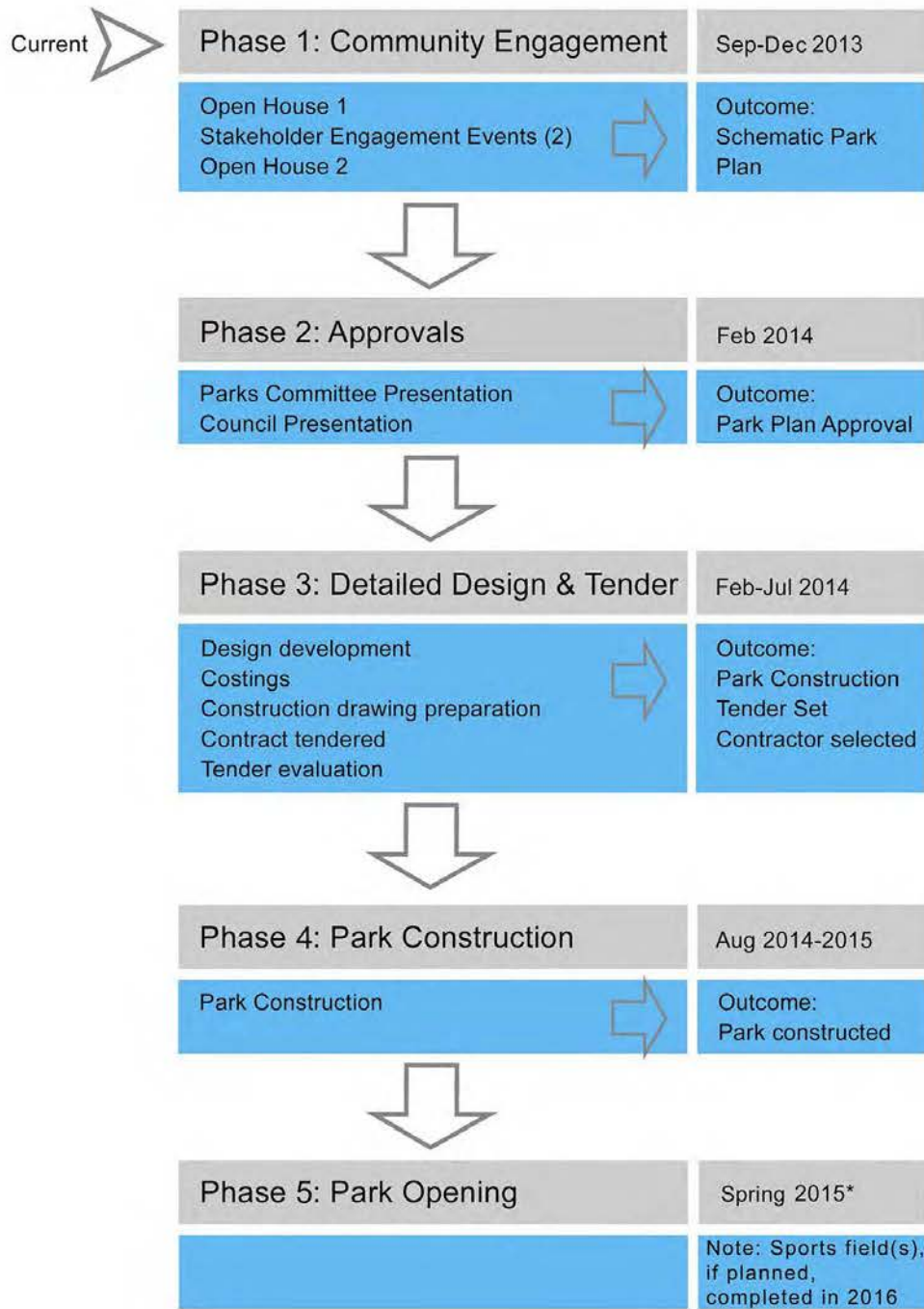
Cons

- No vehicle connection from 191 St to 72 Ave
- No change to potential school related congestion at 70 Ave and 191 St

Note: school related traffic will be reduced regardless in 2014 when Katzie Elementary opens



Project Schedule



Next Steps

14

1. Hazelgrove Park Recommended Design

The recommended design will be posted on the project website www.surrey.ca/newparks in January 2014.

Feedback from the community at the open house and via the paper and online surveys as well as technical considerations will be considered in the recommended design.

2. Clearing of the Open Field Area

The City will need to clear the open field (alder saplings and blackberry) area in January or February (2014), before bird nesting begins. This will allow for the construction of the main park site later in the summer. The primary natural area will not be impacted until a decision regarding 191 Street is made.

How to Stay Involved

For more information or to join the contact list:

- **Visit:** the project website at: www.surrey.ca/newparks
- **Email:** Parks Planning & Design at: parksrecculture@surrey.ca
- **Call:** 604-501-5050
- **Visit** the CitySpeaks site at: www.cityspeaks.ca
- **"Like"** the City's Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/thecityofsurrey
- **"Follow"** the City's Twitter page at: www.twitter.com/cityofsurrey or @cityofsurrey hashtag #Surreyparks

Appendix VI – Engagement Summary



Summary of What We Heard

The City of Surrey is conducting a concept planning and design process for Hazelgrove Park, a new park site, within the East Clayton Neighbourhood Concept Plan. The park site, located between 190 and 191 Street and north of Hazelgrove Elementary School, will be developed as a community park with outdoor recreation and green space, including features for team sports, youth and children's play. The future park will be approximately 3.5 hectares (8.65 acres) in size, making it the largest park in East Clayton.

A comprehensive Engagement and Communication Plan has been developed for the project to ensure that stakeholders and the public are involved and will have a meaningful voice in the development of the park.

Phase 1 Engagement

Phase 1 of the project provided the following engagement opportunities during September and October 2013 to gather community ideas and preferences regarding park features and design:

- Online CitySpeaks survey sent to East Clayton area residents
- Online CitySpeaks survey open to the public
- Public Open House on September 10, 2013 that included:
 - a survey,
 - map exercise, and
 - opportunity for attendees to share their ideas to key questions on display boards
- Youth Outreach
 - Youth Fest on September 21, 2013 that included a dotmocracy exercise
 - Hazelgrove Elementary School Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting on September 30, 2013
 - Youth engagement sessions on October 9, 2013 with two groups of grade 7 classes at the Hazelgrove Elementary School that included:
 - presentation,
 - brainstorming session,
 - question sheets, and
 - map exercise

Key Consultation Findings:

A total of 79 online survey respondents, over 200 open house attendees (84 of which completed an open house survey) and 70 youth have participated in the process to provide their ideas for the design of Hazelgrove Park. The findings below reflect the majority view of comments received and will help to guide the design of the park site.

Tree Preservation/Nature

The preservation of the existing mature tree stand or keeping as many trees as possible in the park was a priority for the majority of respondents. There were also comments that the existing tree stand be expanded and that a natural open/green space near the tree stand be incorporated into the park design.

Through Road or Cul-de-Sac at 191 Street

There were mixed views on whether 191 Street should remain as a cul-de-sac (dead end) or be a through road to 72 Avenue. However, there was a very slight preference for keeping 191 Street as a cul-de-sac. The Hazelgrove Elementary School PAC didn't express a preference regarding a cul-de-sac or through road for 191 Street.

Park Entrance

The majority of respondents indicated a slight preference for the park entrance to be from 72nd Avenue.

Parking

The majority of respondents indicated that a parking lot in the park for park users was a high priority due to the lack of on-street parking available. There was a slight preference for a parking lot on the west side of the park site at the corner of 72 Avenue or along 190 Street rather than 191 Street. Other ideas received for a parking lot indicated a south east location in the park site, north of the Hazelgrove Elementary School parking lot. The Hazelgrove Elementary School PAC was supportive of a parking lot being included in the park design as long as it was not an excessive amount of parking, and was also open to shared use of the existing school parking lot. Area residents had a similar view that an excessive amount of park space not be dedicated to parking.

Traffic Management

Respondents indicated that park access should be off 72 Avenue and noted increased traffic in residential areas and speeding on 190 Street and 70 Avenue. Respondents also indicated that traffic lights or a pedestrian activated light /controlled crosswalk is needed on 72 Avenue and 190th Street, to improve safety. Other ideas received to improve safety included the provision of designated crosswalks all around the park, traffic calming speed bumps near parks and schools, and patrol and enforcement of speed, and wider roads.

Most Popular Park Features

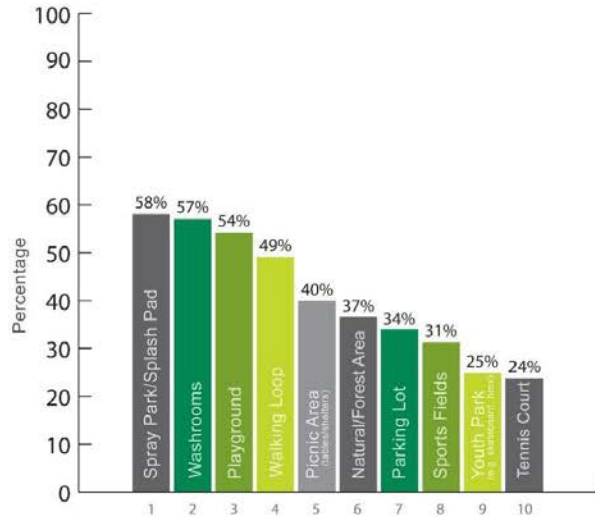
The most popular park features identified included spray park/splash pad, washrooms, playground, walking loop, picnic area/shelters and natural/forest area. It was indicated that walking loop/nature trails should have as little impact as possible on the natural environment. Comments were gathered on the locations for these features and the majority view was to locate washrooms near a spray park, picnic area, and playground in the south portion of the site; to keep sports together with like sports, with the south west portion of the site (north west of the elementary school) being a preferred location for soccer field(s); and to have trees with green space, walking trails and picnic areas together. The Hazelgrove Elementary School PAC was open to shared use of school washrooms by park users during non-school hours and for special events.

Online Survey and Public Open House Survey Results – Top 5 features area
residents, members of the public and open house attendees indicated as important to include in Hazelgrove Park.

1	2	3	4	5
Spray Park/ Splash Pad	Washrooms	Playground	Walking Loop	Picnic Area (tables/shelters)
58%	57%	54%	49%	40%
				

Note: Survey participants were asked to identify their top 5 park features (out of 17 options) to be considered in the design of Hazelgrove Park.

Online Survey and Public Open House Survey Results – Top 10 features area residents, members of the public and open house attendees indicated as important to include in Hazelgrove Park.



Note: Survey participants were asked to identify their top 5 park features (out of 17 options) to be considered in the design of Hazelgrove Park.

Most Popular Youth Feature

The most popular youth features identified include parkour/climbing, skate park, BMX and soccer fields. Several respondents indicated that the intersection of 190 Street and 72 Avenue would be a good location for the skate park/BMX park. The preferred location for soccer fields was the south west area of the park near the school. In the online and open house surveys, sports fields were not identified in the top '5' ranked park features but were in the top '10' ranked park features.

Park Features to be Kept Separate

Respondents noted that youth features such as parkour/climbing, skate park, BMX and soccer fields should be kept separate from park features provided for younger children for the safety of younger children. There were mixed views on whether dogs should be allowed in the park however, more respondents commented that dogs should not be allowed in the park. Respondents also indicated that if dogs were allowed in the park they should be kept separate from park features and children.

Reservoir Expansion

A few respondents indicated concern that the reservoir expansion fractured green space and crosswalks affecting the safety of pedestrians. The majority of respondents' comments wanted the reservoir expansion to be screened and fenced for safety and to protect against vandalism.

Other

The Hazelgrove Elementary School PAC wanted policies identified for any shared use of school facilities such as the playground, parking lot and washrooms.

The Hazelgrove Elementary School PAC indicated that they would introduce gates in the fencing on the north boundary of the school site to control access to the park and that they wanted signage implemented near the school identifying the hours for public use of school amenities.

There was not a lot of support from the Hazelgrove Elementary School PAC for a tot lot feature in the park however a small, fenced play area dedicated for younger children was desirable while older children play sports in the park space.

Questions were raised about how the park space in the north west portion of the park near the reservoir facility would be used.

Detailed information on stakeholder and public responses to the information presented about the project and the survey questions posed is provided in Section 1 - Online Surveys, Section 2 - Public Open House, and Section 3 - Youth Outreach of this report. All feedback received from respondents is included in the respective appendices.

Phase 2 Engagement

Phase 2 of the project provided the following engagement opportunities during November 2013 to gather feedback and preferences regarding park options and design features proposed:

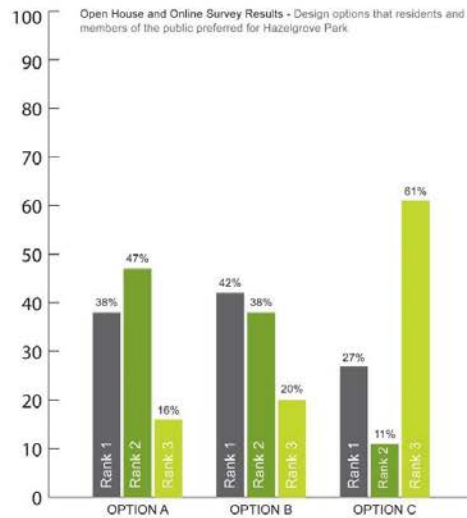
- Public Open House, and
- Online CitySpeaks survey open to the public

Key Consultation Findings

Over 70 people attended the public open house on November 19, 2013 and 37 completed a survey. Nine people completed the online survey available via CitySpeaks. The findings below reflect the majority view of comments received and will help to guide the design of the park site.

Preferred design options for Hazelgrove Park

Respondents indicated that Option B was the most favourable, followed closely by Option A. Option C was ranked as the least favourable by respondents. The park design options are included in Appendix H.



Concept A likes and dislikes

The most favourable features were the splash pad, playground, movie wall, green space, community garden, parking on 190 Street, tennis courts and soccer fields.

The least favourable features were the multiuse lawn (which is seen as unused space), lack of parking, basketball court location, too many soccer fields (as the school already has one), and not enough focus on youths.

Concept B likes and dislikes

The most favourable features were the BMX track, the 191 Street through road, tennis courts, parking lot location, trails and natural elements.

The least favourable features were also the 191 Street through road, small parking lot size and location too far from park, too much focus on tennis, and that only one soccer field is needed.

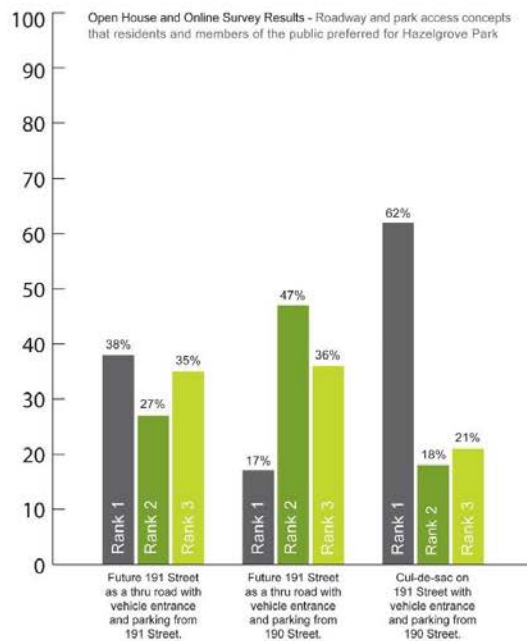
Concept C likes and dislikes

The most favourable features were the running track, BMX track, skate bowl, tennis courts, and parking location.

The least favourable features were the double soccer fields as most felt only one was needed, the lack of nature and trails, the BMX track location and the skate park.

Preferred roadway and park access concepts

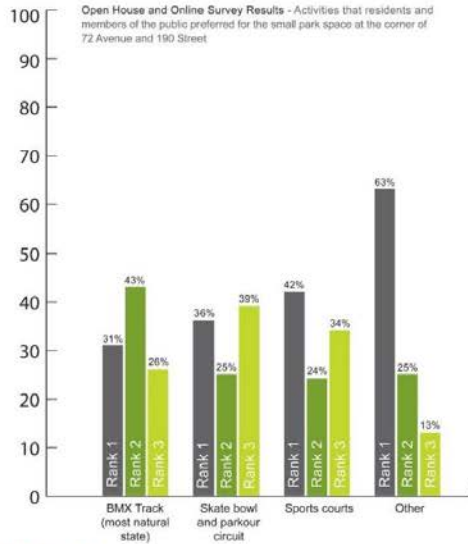
Respondents were in favor of the cul-de-sac on 191 Street with vehicle entrance and parking from 190 Street, followed by the future 191 Street as a through road with vehicle entrance and parking from 191 Street while the future 191 Street as a through road with vehicle entrance and parking from 190 Street was the least favourable.





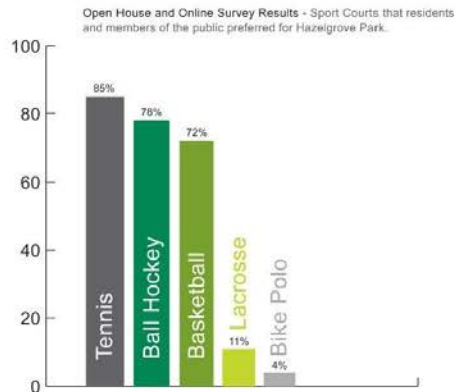
Preferred activity for the small park space at the corner of 72 Avenue and 190 Street

Sports courts were most favourable, followed by the BMX track and the least favourable was the skate bowl and parkour circuit for the small park at 72 Avenue and 190 Street. Results also indicated that playgrounds and natural elements such as gardens were important while graffiti and noise were concerns.



Top 3 sports courts

Key consultation findings from the open house and online surveys indicated that the tennis, ball hockey and basketball courts were the highest priority for respondents.



Playground features

Youth at the open house developed drawings and buildings and discussed their preferred playground features which included swings, slides, monkey bars, climbing web, benches, ladder, stairs and grass/trees.

Detailed information on resident and public responses to the information presented about the project and the survey questions posed is provided in Section 4 – Second Public Open House and Survey Feedback Highlights. All feedback received from respondents is included in the respective appendices.