

An aerial photograph of downtown Vancouver, British Columbia, is shown with a semi-transparent red overlay. The map displays a grid of streets and various buildings. The title text is centered over the map.

Engagement Summary Report: Step 2

Richards and Smithe Downtown Park

DIALOG

City of Vancouver
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

December 11, 2015

CONCEPT A - back deck



Stay involved:
#NewParkatSmith
@NewParkatSmith
New Park at Smith and Richard

CONCEPT B - back deck

Here are some ideas and elements to consider
The following are illustrative examples that demonstrate what may be possible:

- Coffee Kiosk**
Include a small coffee kiosk at the upper west corner of the park or a pavilion, incorporate a large water wall and the existing building that backs the park to the north.
- Overhead Light and Art Canopy**
Provide an overhead canopy system that could be used to accommodate art or lighting installations.
- Large Sculptural Decks and Landforms**
Use engaging edges and seating to invite people to hang out and enjoy everyday park activities - the "Theatre of Life".
- Activity Terraces and Water Feature**
Provide outdoor courts or terraces that culminate in a large open paved area at the southern portion of the park where there is the most sun access. Associated with Community Pavilion, this space could be used to hold a variety of formal and informal events.
- Market**
Use existing structure at the southern corner of the park as a market. It could host a year and offer the space for farmers used in the adjacent market space. Its location would also help block traffic.

DIALOG
New Park at Smith

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1

ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

During the Community Ideas Fair in June 2015, we asked people of all ages to draw on a chalkboard and share what they would like to see at the future park. Here is what they drew...



Zip Line



Water Feature Safe for Children



Spider Web



People Using/Making things with their Hands



Native Plants



Swings



"But the City is not just a ... it ..."

PRINCIPLES GUIDING THE

Four key principles were developed that have shaped the development. The principles are based on:

- early community input;
- other park precedents and ideas from the design team, which
- the Vancouver Park Board's vision to connect people in Vancouver
- unique site characteristics and other contextual, technical, and

...uring the site a

...aim to reference the p... cultural and environm... that once blanket... properties that e... stories and attrib... the new park.

flexible a

...maintain a b... flexible and a... diverse uses... will provide... nature.

e a

1.1 Project Background

The future park at Smithe and Richards Streets will be a public place that is owned, used, paid for, and enjoyed by the community. As such, a meaningful and robust public engagement process is an important aspect of the process.

The purpose of the public engagement is to host a two-way dialogue with the public –including both broad and diverse stakeholders – on the design of the future park in order to:

- inform the public about existing conditions and context, diverse perspectives and users, and precedents for park spaces, programs, and art integration; and
- obtain input from the public on priorities, issues, and aspirations to meaningfully influence the design of the park.

This engagement process is laid out on the following page, and includes three steps: 1) Visioning; 2) Concept Options Review; and 3) Final Concept Review. This report provides an overview of engagement activities and outcomes of Step 2.

1.2 Step 2 Activities Undertaken to Date

Step 2 engagement activities built on a Public Ideas Fair, online questionnaire, and a stakeholder meeting in Step 1, and included the following:

Park Design Focus Group Meeting #2 – October 8, 2015

This meeting brought together members of the Park Design Focus Group (PDFG) for the second time to provide early input on early concepts. PDFG members represent diverse stakeholder groups in the neighbourhood, ranging from residents and business owners, to youth and artists (refer to page 9). The session included a facilitated discussion.

Public Open House – October 22, 2015

This was the second major public event that sought input from the broad community. The open house was a drop-in event, held near the future park site at ArtStarts, from 5 until 9pm. The event presented four early park design concepts on panels and included several interactive activities designed to obtain input from participants, including: interactive panels, an “imagine” chalkboard, and a “park design sandbox”. Walking tours to the site were also offered. Participants were directed to the online questionnaire to provide more detailed input, and hard copies were also available at the event.

Online Questionnaire – October 22 - November 15, 2015

The materials presented at the Public Open House were posted on the “Talk Vancouver” webpage, which included an online questionnaire in which participants could provide detailed input on their perspectives and ideas for the future of the park.

Snapshot of the Engagement Process

	Step 1 Visioning June - July 2015	Step 2 Concept Options Review September-October 2015	Step 3 Final Concept Review Dec. 2015 or Jan. 2016
Major Public Event	Public Ideas Fair June 26 and/or 27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive information panels • Scheduled walkshops • Sketch-it-yourself booth + other activities 	Open House: Concept Options Sept/Oct date TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive panels presenting concepts • Scheduled walkshops and possibly other activities 	Celebration Event: Preferred Concept Dec/Jan date TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive panels presenting concept
Online	Talk Vancouver Survey #1	Talk Vancouver Survey #2	
Stakeholder Meetings	PDFG Mtg 1 Mid-Late June	PDFG Mtg 2 Sept/Oct	PDFG Mtg 3 Dec/Jan

2

WHAT WE HEARD

CONCEPT A - connections

Key ideas and elements for consideration

The following are illustrated in the plan to demonstrate what they might look like

- FOOD TRUCKS
- INCORPORATED LAKE
- LARGE OVERHEAD PROJECTION SCREEN
- SECRET GARDENS
- PLANTED BUFFERS
- GREEN GREEN SPACE
- PLANTED BUFFERS



DIALOG

CONCEPT A - connections

Key ideas and elements for consideration

The following are illustrated in the plan to demonstrate what they might look like

Best Possible Landscape Connections

Through linear and thematic ideas, create a bold and aspirational landscape that would provide opportunities for multiple uses such as a parkway, amphitheater during special events, or just being out spaces for watching the daily activities.

Use	Location	Notes
Amphitheater	Central	Open area with stage
Parkway	Perimeter	Wide pedestrian path
Open Space	Various	Grass and paved areas

Creative Studio / Play Space

Incorporate a pocket or site able to provide opportunities for creative and performance such as projects in fabrication/technology, etc.

Use	Location	Notes
Creative Studio	East	Workshop area
Play Space	West	Open area for play

Working with the Lake

Embrace the lake as an important pedestrian amenity and integrated feature within the park. This would allow local events and seasonal events to be easily accommodated.

Use	Location	Notes
Events	Lakefront	Open area for events
Amphitheater	Lakefront	Stage area



Station

CONCEPT A - connections

What it might look like



2.1 Overall Themes

While engagement activities were diverse, several common themes emerged. They are:

PREFERRED CONCEPT

In both the questionnaire and at the open house, the most strongly liked concept was Concept A - Connections. While the other concepts received equal approval in the questionnaire, Concepts C (Here and Now) and D (Constructed) received more favourable responses than Concept B (Back Deck). However it is important to note Concept D (Constructed) was somewhat polarizing at the open house.

CONCEPT ELEMENTS

Generally, participants respond very favourable to elements involving green or water qualities. Specifically:

- **CONCEPT A - CONNECTIONS** - Participants like “working with the lane”, “secret garden”, and “open green area” the most.
- **CONCEPT B - BACK DECK** - Participants like “activity terraces and water feature” the most. The Park Design Focus Group responded favourably to “Coffee Kiosk” and other food-related destinations within the park.
- **CONCEPT C - HERE AND NOW** - Participants like “captured and celebrated rain water” the most, and they like “elevated journey and views” the least. However the Park Design Focus Group responded favourably to this and other bold park elements.
- **CONCEPT D - CONSTRUCTED** - Participants like “hidden bike and/or car parking” the most, however several participants also like it the least.

2.2 Park Design Focus Group Meeting #2

PARTICIPATION

Representation from the following stakeholder groups and project team were in attendance:

- Vancouver Police Department
- Artists in Schools
- Nearby Strata
- City of Vancouver Planning Department
- Vancouver Park Board
- DIALOG and Project Artist

OUTCOMES

The concepts were presented and there was an open/unstructured discussion that followed. Participants were generally favourable of all of the concepts, including those elements that were not as strongly well-received at the open house and in the questionnaire (e.g. coffee kiosk and other food-related destinations, bold and more playful elements, etc).

Participants provided input into how each concept could be improved (e.g. how the back lane could be made more feasible, how to clarify green areas, how to encourage safety, etc), and they also offered ideas on how to better communicate complex ideas to the broader public at the open house.

The concepts were presented and there was an open/unstructured discussion that followed. Participants were generally favourable of all of the concepts, including those elements that were not as strongly well-received at the open house and in the questionnaire (e.g. coffee kiosk and other food-related destinations, bold and more playful elements, etc).

Participants provided input into how each concept could be improved (e.g. how an activated back lane could be made more feasible, how to encourage safety, etc), and they also offered ideas on how to better communicate complex ideas to the broader public at the open house. Other comments included:

- This should be a really different park from any other park
- It has the potential to be very memorable and a very special place
- It should be simple and contemporary, and not too busy
- There are concerns about whether a food kiosk would survive
- There is enthusiasm around having programmed structures on the lane to improve safety
- Consideration could be given to depressing or sinking the park to buffer from traffic noise
- Videoing/documenting the design team's ideas and process would be an effective way of conveying intent

2.3 Open House: Concept Options

PARTICIPATION

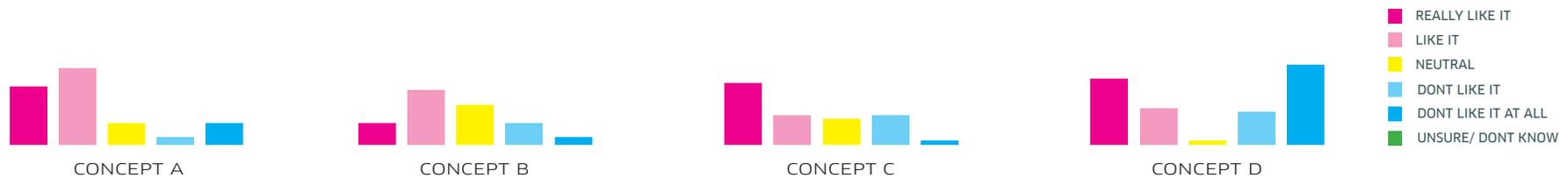
Approximately 150 people attended the open house. On the interactive panels, participants left 1271 stickers or “votes” indicated preferences.

FOUR CONCEPTS

The first interactive panel introduced all four concepts, and invited participants to indicate how they felt about each. The four concepts are as follows:

- Concept A - Connections
- Concept B - Back Deck
- Concept C - Here and Now
- Concept D - Constructed

Participants responded most favourably to Concept A and, to a lesser extent, Concept C. Concept D was the most polarizing, with almost as many participants responding favourably as unfavourably. This concept also produced the most negative responses across concepts. Concept B did not elicit strong responses, with most indicating that they like or feel neutral about it.

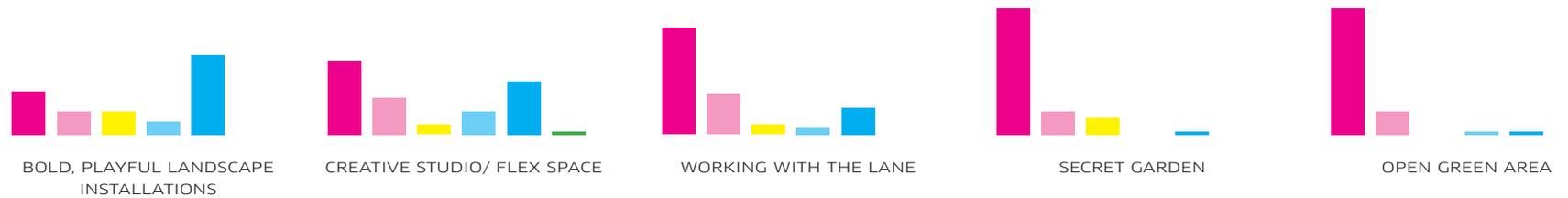


INDIVIDUAL CONCEPTS

Participants also had the opportunity to identify which elements of each concept they liked or disliked. The results for each element for each concept are as follows:

Concept A - Connections

Strong themes emerged for this concept. Participants most strongly liked the “secret garden” and “open green area” elements. They also strongly liked “working with the lane”. Preferences were somewhat mixed for the “creative studio / flex lane” element, and participants tended to dislike the “bold, playful landscape installations” element.



Concept B - Back Deck

Participants tended to strongly like or like “activity terraces and water feature”, “overhead light and art canopy”, and “large sculptural desks and landforms”. Participants did not react strongly to the “coffee kiosk” and “community pavilions” elements, however the former received more favourable responses while “community pavilions” received more unfavourable responses than the other elements.



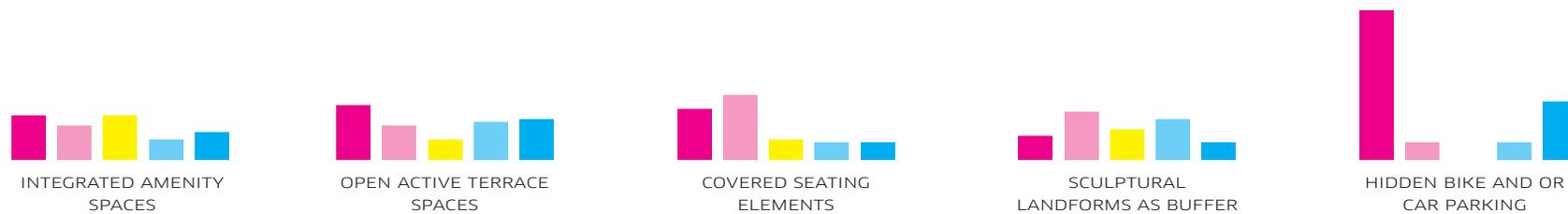
Concept C - Here and Now

Participants most strongly liked the “captured and celebrated rain water” element. The element of “lush and diverse playscapes” was also well liked. Participants are mixed on “big and bold playscapes” and “park rooms and terraces”, while generally disliking “elevated journey and views”.



Concept D - Constructed

Participants very strongly liked “hidden bike and/or car parking”, however this element was also strongly disliked by a several participants. The “covered seating” element was well liked, while the other elements did not produce strong responses. Participants were slightly divided on “open active terrace spaces”, and were generally more neutral about “sculptural landforms as buffer”. Participants were slightly favourable toward



2.4 Talk Vancouver Questionnaire #2

PARTICIPATION

291 people participated in the Talk Vancouver questionnaire, which was advertised through the following outreach mechanisms:

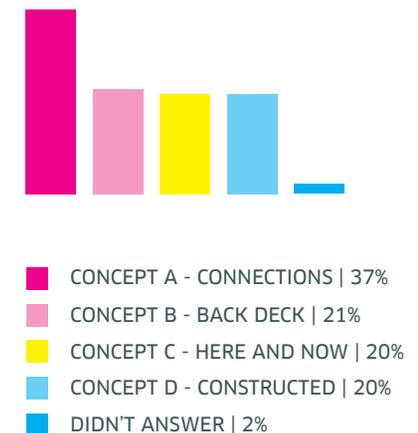
- Information provided at the open house event held October 22, 2015;
- Email invitation sent to Talk Vancouver panel members living in FSAs close to the park, V6V and V6Z;
- Emails sent to community residents on Park Board’s contact list
- Notifications sent by mail to all residents within 2-3 blocks of the site;
- On-site signage posted to direct community-members to the survey for 3-weeks following the October 22nd open house; and
- Open invitation to the general public via the Smithe and Richards Street park project page on the City of Vancouver website.

Demographic information was collected through the survey, which included the following themes:

- For the majority of respondents, it was the first time they were sharing their views on the new park – 59% were not involved in previous consultation activity. (Among those that had, 11% had attended the previous event, and 29% had completed a survey)
- Most lived in the neighbourhood (67%) - with some owning (49%) and others renting (18%) their home. Similarly, 79% reported living Downtown/West End.
- Respondents came from a variety of age groups, with the greatest proportions being 30-49 (54%) and 50-69 (31%) years of age.
- Most did not have children under the age of 18 in their home (83%).

PREFERRED CONCEPT

More than one third of participants indicated that their preferred concept is Concept A - Connections. The other concepts received equal amount of support, each with 20-21% of participants indicating that this is their preferred concept.



INDIVIDUAL CONCEPTS

Similar to the open house, questionnaire participants also had the opportunity to identify which elements of each concept they liked or disliked. The results for each element within each concept are as follows:

Concept A - Connections

Participants were generally favourable of all elements, and were almost entirely favourable of the “open green area” element. The “creative studio / flex space” element also received several responses that were neutral, and more unfavourable responses than the other elements (though overall this element was still favourable).



Concept B - Back Deck

Again, participants were generally favourable of all elements, and particularly for the “activity terraces and water feature” element. However for each element, there were a number of participants who also responded somewhat unfavourably.



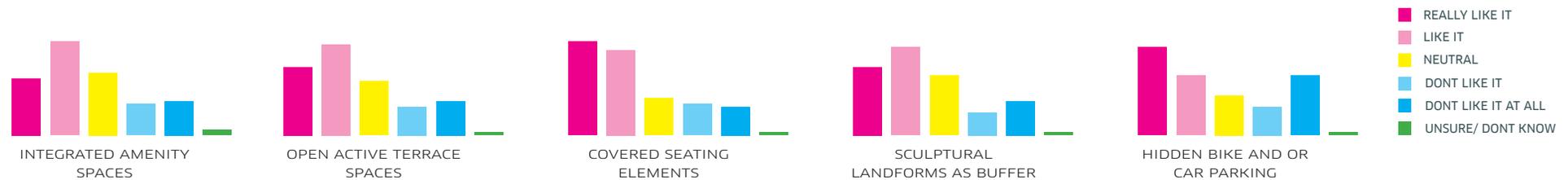
Concept C - Here and Now

Again, participants were generally favourable of all elements, except for the “elevated journey and views” element, for which there was not a strong response either direction. Participants are particularly favourable of “captured and celebrated rainwater” and “lush and diverse landscapes” elements.



Concept D - Constructed

Again, participants were generally favourable of all elements, however there were more neutral responses for this concept compared to the others. The element of “hidden bike and/or car parking” produced more unfavourable responses than the other elements.





appendix

A1. Public Ideas Fair Panels

WELCOME

to the Public Open House for the future park at Smithe and Richards

We are transforming a PARKING LOT into a PARK...

The Site



The Vancouver Park Board is undertaking an exciting design process that will create a new park at the intersection of Smithe and Richards Streets by 2017. We've undertaken the early stages of Public and Stakeholder engagement and are now at the second stage of the process, sharing 4 concepts.

We want to hear your input on these concepts!

We've created 4 Conceptual Park Design Options and we would like to hear your feedback as we continue to develop these designs into an ultimate park concept that will incorporate the preferred elements from each of these 4 options.



Elements of the Vancouver Park Board's Strategic Plan

How will the park fit into the bigger picture?

The new park will help meet the Vancouver Park Board's vision to connect people in Vancouver to green space, active living, and community.

Have your say!

Online Questionnaire: vancouver.ca/SmitheRichards

@ParkBoard #SmitheRichards

SmitheRichards@vancouver.ca

facebook.com/ParkBoard #SmitheRichards

3-1-1

New Park at Smithe and Richards



THE PROCESS

Your Input in the Process

Thank you for attending today's open house! We value your time and contributions to this process.

The community input we receive today will help to create a final concept that brings together the best elements from one or more of the conceptual designs shared here today. We are also gathering input through an online questionnaire and our stakeholder discussions with a formed Park Design Focus Group.

PDFG* (Park Design Focus Group)

The Park Design Focus Group is a selected group of individuals and representatives who reside, work or have involvement within an organization in proximity to the new Park site.

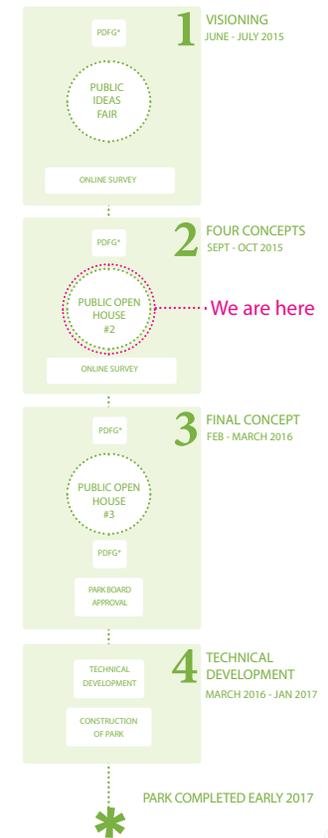
Throughout the Park design process a number of meetings have been scheduled with PDFG to allow the Park design team to share ideas and considerations and listen to valuable insights and experiences for their local knowledge of the site and surrounding area.

List of representatives that form the-

- Downtown Vancouver BIA;
- Downtown Vancouver Association;
- Downtown Vancouver Police Department;
- Vancouver Public Space Network;
- ArtStarts Youth Art Organization;
- Contemporary Art Gallery;
- Family Services of Greater Vancouver;
- Vancouver Second Mile Society;
- Roundhouse Society;
- Gathering Place;
- Strata President at 989 Richards Street; and
- Strata Representative for 855 Homer Street.

In a few months, we will come back to the community to present the draft final concept and seek final input before the park gets built.

The Process



New Park at Smithe and Richards



THE SITE

Looking back...



Intersection of Smith and Richards (1970s)



These photos and map are from around 1900. They depict the location and types of events that took place at Recreation Park. Located at the corner of Smith and Homer Streets, this park was just a stone's throw from the future park location.



Demolition of the building at the south part of the site at Smith Street (early 2000s)

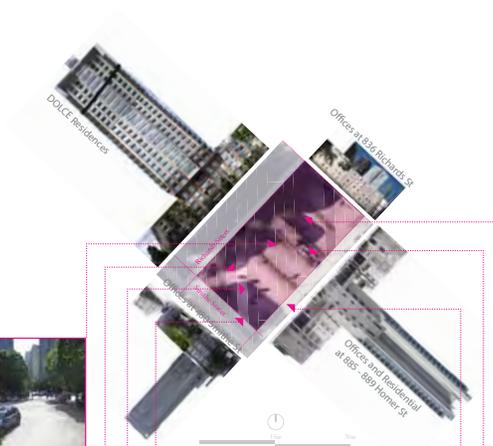
New Park at Smith and Richards



THE SITE

Today...

The site is a parking lot surrounded by condo towers and retail units at street level. A service lane, which is a prominent characteristic of the site, runs along the eastern edge.

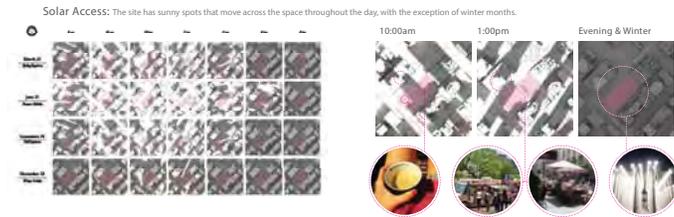


New Park at Smith and Richards

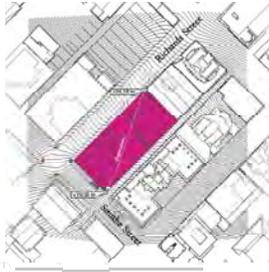


THE SITE

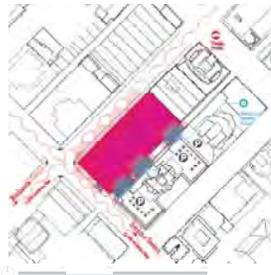
Characteristics



Slope: The site slopes significantly from Richards down toward the alley at Smithie.



Noise: There is considerable traffic noise on the site.



Vehicular Circulation and Traffic: Thousands of vehicles pass by the site via Smithie and Richards Streets.



Vegetation: There are 12 mature trees on the site, primarily along Richards Street.



New Park at Smithie and Richards



WHAT WE HEARD

5 TOP THEMES FROM PUBLIC INPUT

Hundreds of residents attended the first public event and participated in the online survey to share their priorities and ideas for the future park. The top themes relating to park qualities are:



GREEN

Participants would value green spaces and lush landscaping including tree canopy, biodiversity, and use of indigenous plant species in the future park.



PLAY

Participants would value opportunities for play, including for young children. Examples provided include interactive art, physical play, performance spaces, and other ideas.



SCALE AND COMFORT

Participants like the idea of a comfortable park scale and opportunities for lingering (e.g. seating).



FOOD AND ENGAGING EDGES

Participants like the idea of being able to purchase a coffee or food in the park, and they favour other activities and design elements that serve to draw passersby into the park.



PROGRAM

Participants support the idea of having a range of organized activities take place to activate the park space.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Potential revenue-generating opportunities can help establish and sustain different activities in the new park. Participants most strongly supported the following funding opportunities:

- hidden parking (i.e. beneath the park);
- food (e.g. coffee shop, food kiosk, restaurant); and
- rent-able event space.

New Park at Smithie and Richards



WHAT WE HEARD

During the Community Ideas Fair in June 2015, we asked people of all ages to draw on a chalkboard **what they would like to see at the future park**. Here is what they drew...



Free Ice Cream



Zip Line



Water Feature Safe for Children



Spider Web



Stage for Fun Community Events



People Using/Making Things with their Hands



Native Plants



Swings



Performance Space



Café



Café Seats & Shade



Beer Water Fall

New Park at Smithe and Richards



PRINCIPLES for the future park

**“But the City is not just a place in space,
it is a drama in time.”**

- Patrick Geddes, 1895

PRINCIPLES GUIDING THE PARK DESIGN

Four key principles were developed that have shaped the development of early concepts for the future park. These principles are based on:

- early community input;
- other park precedents and ideas from the design team, which includes the local artist Gareth Moore
- the Vancouver Park Board's vision to connect people in Vancouver to green space, active living, and community; and
- unique site characteristics and other contextual, technical, and financial considerations.



honouring the site and defining a place

Reference the unique characteristics of the site's historic, cultural and environmental make-up, whether past or present. Such as the indigenous forest that would have once blanketed this neighbourhood or the smaller scale residential properties that existed here until relatively recently. Seek out stories and attributes that will help build identity and a sense of place for the new Park.



non-static, flexible and evolving

While maintaining a bold and well defined identity to the overall Park, incorporate flexible and adaptive spaces into the Park design that will allow for new and diverse uses, needs, and priorities to be included over time.

Provide the optimal environment for trees and plants to thrive and mature.



both introspective and socially dynamic

Provide opportunities for moments of quiet and solitude, as well as for moments of social interaction and vibrancy.



multiple layers and experiences

Create spaces that offer more than a singular prescribed use or function. Maximize the usability of the available Park space to offer multiple opportunities to be activated, during day and night, Summer and Winter.

New Park at Smithe and Richards



FOUR CONCEPTS

Four distinct conceptual frameworks for the future park have been developed.

The composition and frameworks for each of the four CONCEPTS below have been inspired and influenced by certain site-specific characteristics and by the 4 design PRINCIPLES, upon which further park ingredients and ideas will be incorporated.

The community input we receive today and in the online questionnaire will help us prioritize these frameworks and park designs towards creating a final Park concept that brings together the best elements into one proffered option.

<p>CONCEPT A - connections</p>				
<p>CONCEPT B - back deck</p>				
<p>CONCEPT C - hear and now</p>				
<p>CONCEPT D - constructed</p>				

Stay involved!

- Fill out the online questionnaire: [vancouver.ca/SmithRichards](https://www.vancouver.ca/SmithRichards)
- @ParkBoard #SmithRichards
- facebook.com/ParkBoard #SmithRichards
- 3-1-1

New Park at Smith and Richards



CONCEPT A - connec-

Developing the Park Framework

- FOOD KIOSK
- ACOUSTIC BARRIER
- BOLD, PLAYFUL LANDSCAPE TREATMENT
- ARTISTS STUDIO POD/ PROJECTION BOOTH
- CENTRAL SPINE BOARDWALK
- FOOD TRUCKS
- INCORPORATED LANE, LARGE OVERHEAD PROJECTION SCREEN
- SECRET GARDENS
- PLANTED BUFFERS
- OPEN GREEN SPACE
- PLANTED BUFFERS

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New Park at Smith and Richards



CONCEPT A - connections

Key ideas and elements to consider:

Bold Playful Landscape Installations
Through colour and material choice, create a bold and sculptural landscape that would offer multiple forms of use, such as a playscape, amphitheater during special events or just hanging out watching the daily activities.

Strongly Dislike Dislike Neutral Like Strongly Like

<input type="checkbox"/>				
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

Creative Studio Pod
Incorporate a modest on site studio structure that would provide secure storage and servicing requirements for programmed activities and performances such as poetry readings, art fabrications/ installations or movie nights in the park.

Strongly Dislike Dislike Neutral Like Strongly Like

<input type="checkbox"/>				
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

Working with the Lane
Embrace the lane as an important pedestrian connection and integrated feature within the park. Allowing for food trucks and special events to be easily accommodated.

Strongly Dislike Dislike Neutral Like Strongly Like

<input type="checkbox"/>				
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Secret Gardens
Smaller garden spaces or 'outdoor rooms' situated along the edge of the park, allowing for quieter more intimate park experiences. Their location and size would reference the earlier historic residential homes once situated on the site.

Strongly Dislike Dislike Neutral Like Strongly Like

<input type="checkbox"/>				
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

Open Green Area
Provide an open lawn area that would accommodate typical passive park activities such as sun bathing, picnics and the occasional Frisbee game.

Strongly Dislike Dislike Neutral Like Strongly Like

<input type="checkbox"/>				
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Stay involved!

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- @ParkBoard #SmithRichards
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- 3-1-1

New Park at Smithe and Richards



CONCEPT A - connections

What it might look like



Stay involved!

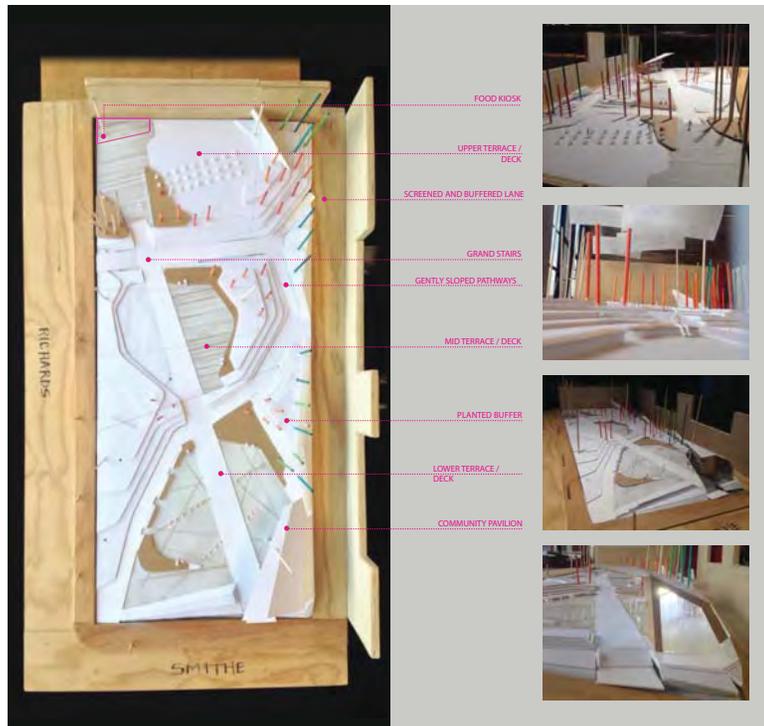
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- 3-1-1

New Park at Smithe and Richards



CONCEPT B - back deck

Developing the Park Framework



Stay involved!

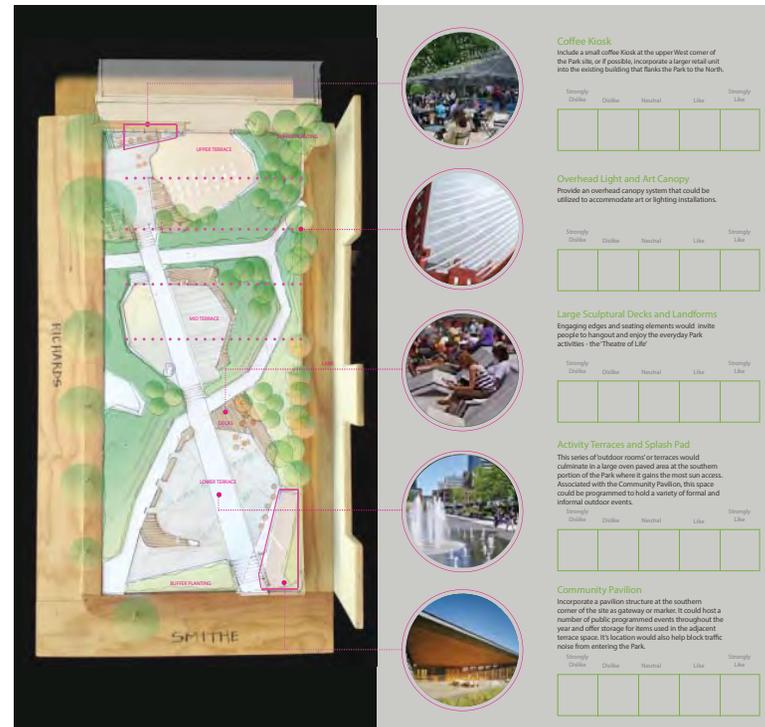
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- SmithRichards@vancouver.ca
- facebook.com/ParkBoard #SmithRichards
- 3-1-1

New Park at Smith and Richards



CONCEPT B - back deck

Key ideas and elements to consider:



Coffee Kiosk
Include a small coffee kiosk at the upper West corner of the Park site, or if possible, incorporate a larger retail unit into the existing building that fronts the Park to the North.

Strongly Dislike	Dislike	Neutral	Like	Strongly Like
<input type="checkbox"/>				

Overhead Light and Art Canopy
Provide an overhead canopy system that could be utilized to accommodate art or lighting installations.

Strongly Dislike	Dislike	Neutral	Like	Strongly Like
<input type="checkbox"/>				

Large Sculptural Decks and Landforms
Engaging edges and seating elements would invite people to hangout and enjoy the everyday Park activities - 'the Theatre of Life'

Strongly Dislike	Dislike	Neutral	Like	Strongly Like
<input type="checkbox"/>				

Activity Terraces and Splash Pad
This series of outdoor rooms or terraces would cater to a large open paved area at the southern portion of the Park where it gains the most sun access. Associated with the Community Pavilion, this space could be programmed to hold a variety of formal and informal outdoor events.

Strongly Dislike	Dislike	Neutral	Like	Strongly Like
<input type="checkbox"/>				

Community Pavilion
Incorporate a pavilion structure at the southern corner of the site as gateway or market. It could host a number of public programmed events throughout the year and offer storage for items used in the adjacent terrace space. Its location would also help block traffic noise from entering the Park.

Strongly Dislike	Dislike	Neutral	Like	Strongly Like
<input type="checkbox"/>				

Stay involved!

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- @ParkBoard #SmithRichards
- SmithRichards@vancouver.ca
- facebook.com/ParkBoard #SmithRichards
- 3-1-1

New Park at Smith and Richards



CONCEPT B - back deck

What it might look like

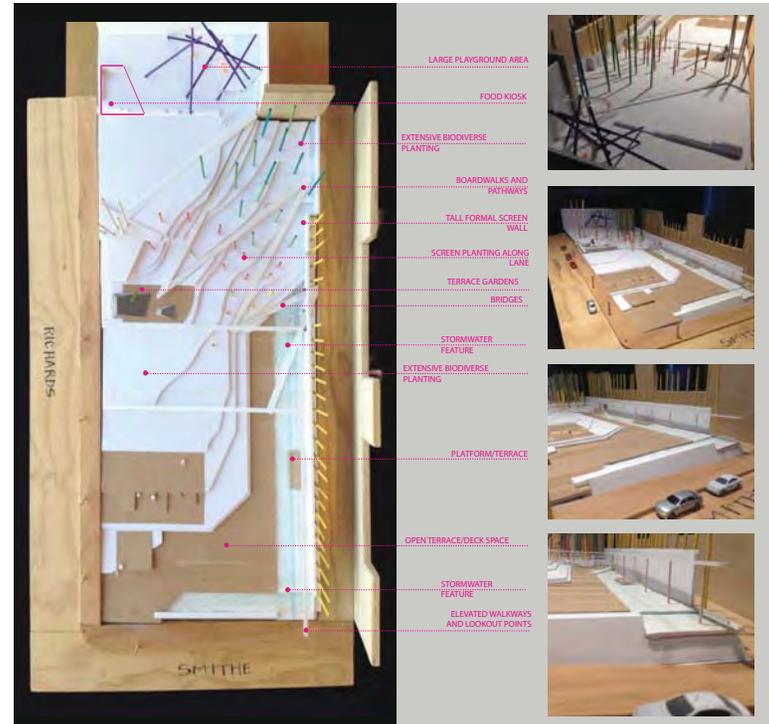


New Park at Smithe and Richards



CONCEPT C - here and now

Developing the Park Framework



Stay involved!

Fill out the online questionnaire: [vancouver.ca/SmitheRichards](https://www.vancouver.ca/SmitheRichards)
 @ParkBoard #SmitheRichards SmitheRichards@vancouver.ca
 facebook.com/ParkBoard #SmitheRichards 3-1-1

New Park at Smithe and Richards



CONCEPT C - here and now

Key ideas and elements to consider:

Big and Bold Playscapes
Design and install the most exciting and fun playground in the city. Incorporate current playcape practices and integrate natural materials and custom play equipments to produce a unique experience that becomes a city-wide destination.

Strongly Dislike	Dislike	Neutral	Like	Strongly Like

Lush and Biodiverse Naturoscapes
Design an area of the Park to accommodate a substantial biodiverse planting of native plants and trees, and provide a walkway or boardwalk system to allow safe and controlled access through.

Strongly Dislike	Dislike	Neutral	Like	Strongly Like

Elevated Journey and Views
Incorporate a series of sculptural walkways that allow park visitors a unique experience through the park and dramatic vantage points of the adjacent city streets.

Strongly Dislike	Dislike	Neutral	Like	Strongly Like

Captured and Celebrated Rain Water
Employ sustainable practices by capturing, cleaning and storing on-site storm water for future uses such as irrigating plants.

Strongly Dislike	Dislike	Neutral	Like	Strongly Like

Park Rooms and Terraces
Along the Richards St edge of the Park, incorporate a series of smaller terraces or rooms that will offer a variety spatial experience and programmatic opportunities.

Strongly Dislike	Dislike	Neutral	Like	Strongly Like

Stay involved!

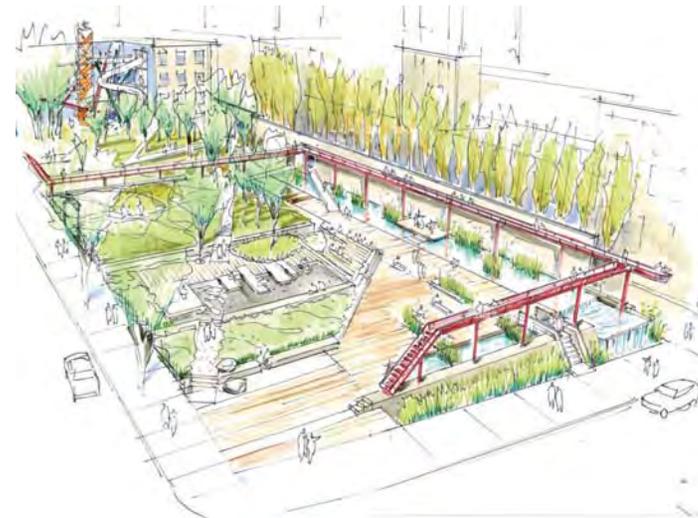
- Fill out the online questionnaire: [vancouver.ca/SmithRichards](https://www.vancouver.ca/SmithRichards)
- @ParkBoard #SmithRichards
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New Park at Smith and Richards



CONCEPT C - connections

What it might look like

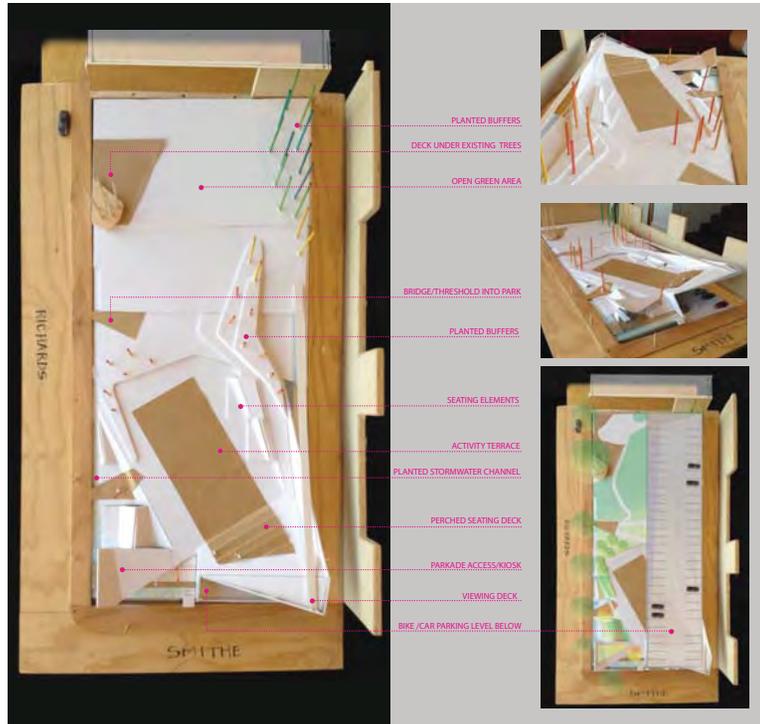


New Park at Smith and Richards



CONCEPT D - constructed

Developing the Park Framework



Stay involved!

- Fill out the online questionnaire: vancouver.ca/SmithRichards
- @ParkBoard #SmithRichards
- SmithRichards@vancouver.ca
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- 3-1-1

New Park at Smith and Richards



CONCEPT D - constructed

Key ideas and elements to consider:



Stay involved!

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- SmithRichards@vancouver.ca
- facebook.com/ParkBoard #SmithRichards
- 3-1-1

New Park at Smith and Richards



CONCEPT C - connections

What it might look like



New Park at Smithe and Richards



WHAT'S NEXT?

Using Your Input

Thank you for attending today's open house! We value your time and contributions to this process.

The community input we receive today will help to create a final concept that brings together the best elements from one or more of them. We are also gathering input through an online questionnaire and stakeholder discussions.

In a few months, we will come back to the community to present the draft final concept and seek final input before the park gets built.

Stay involved!

Fill out the [online questionnaire: vancouver.ca/SmitheRichards](http://vancouver.ca/SmitheRichards)

@ParkBoard #SmitheRichards

facebook.com/ParkBoard #SmitheRichards

SmitheRichards@vancouver.ca

3-1-1

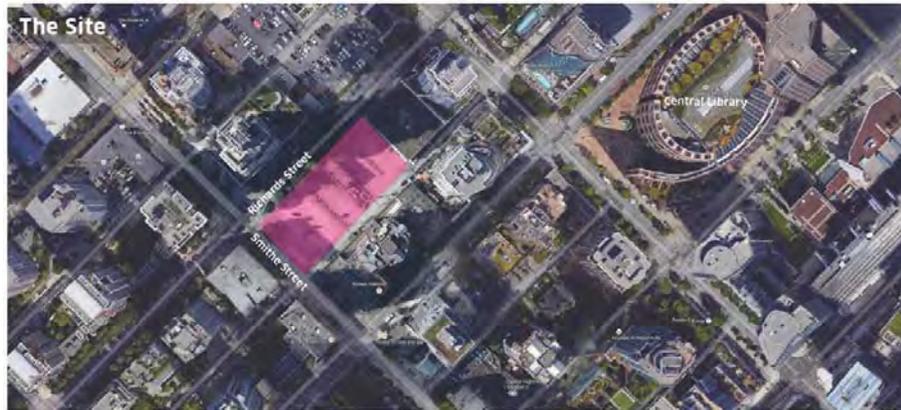
The Process



New Park at Smithe and Richards



A2. Online Questionnaire - Detailed Results



NEW PARK SMITHE & RICHARDS OPEN HOUSE #2

Consultation Summary
November 2015

Background:

- The Vancouver Board of Parks is developing a new park in the downtown core. The 0.8-acre park will be located at the intersection of Smithe and Richards streets, and will serve the bustling neighbourhood as a place of recreation, culture and tranquility.
- Four concepts were developed for the new park based on public input received during the first stage of consultation held in June, 2015. These concepts were presented to the public at an open house event and online in October, 2015, as part of the 2nd phase of consultation.
- A total of 291 respondents shared their thoughts on the concepts, completing a feedback questionnaire that was made accessible in the following ways:
 - Open house event held October 22, 2015;
 - Email invitation sent to Talk Vancouver panel members living in FSAs close to the park, V6V and V6Z;
 - Emails sent to community residents on Park Board's contact list;
 - Notifications were sent by mail to all residents within 2-3 blocks of the site;
 - On-site signage was posted to direct community-members to the survey for 3-weeks following the October 22nd open house; and
 - Open invitation to the general public via the Smithe and Richards Street park project page on the City of Vancouver website

Who did we hear from?

- For the majority of respondents, it was the first time they were sharing their views on the new park – 59% were not involved in previous consultation activity. (Among those that had, 11% had attended the previous event, and 29% had completed a survey)
- Most lived in the neighbourhood (67%) - with some owning (49%) and others renting (18%) their home. Similarly, 79% reported living Downtown/West End.
- Respondents came from a variety of age groups, with the greatest proportions being 30-49 (54%) and 50-69 (31%) years of age.
- Most did not have children under the age of 18 in their home (83%).



Summary of Results



Overall the four concept designs were well-received, with elements of each garnering positive reactions from the public, and one design emerging as a moderate favourite.

Ratings of Concept-Specific Elements

- Concept A – “Connections”: Received the most positive response for its “Open Green Area” feature, followed by “Working with the Lane”;
- Concept B – “Back Deck”: More favoured elements were “Activity Terraces and Water Feature” and “Large Sculptural Decks and Landforms”;
- Concept C – “Here and Now”: The elements “Lush and Biodiverse Naturescapes”, and “Captured and Celebrated Rainwater” were the most liked; and
- Concept D – “Constructed”: “Covered Seating” and “Open Active Terrace Space” elements were liked most.
- The top five most popular elements (across concepts), were: “Open Green Area”, “Lush and Biodiverse Naturescapes”, “Activity Terraces and Water Feature”, “Working with the Lane” and “Secret Gardens”.

Preferred Concept

- All of the concepts had some fans among those surveyed, but the greatest proportion, approximately 37%, selected Concept A – “Connections” as their overall favourite.
- Consistent with respondents’ top pick, Concept A – “Connections” included three of the top five rated elements.



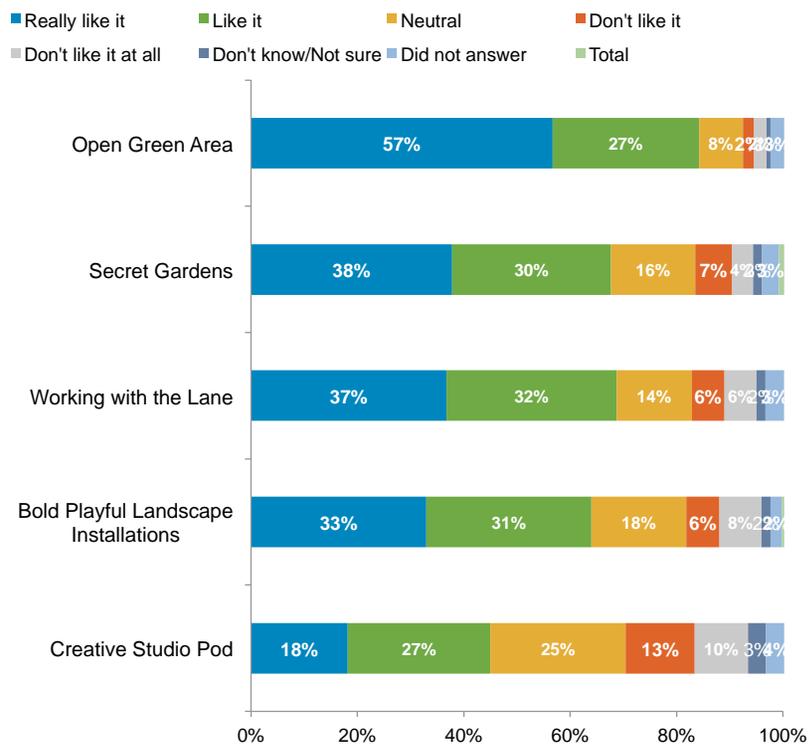
DETAILED QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS



Perceptions of Concept A : "Connections"



- All key elements of Concept A – "Connections" received some positive response, but with the "Open Green Area" being the most popular (84% like it), and eliciting the strongest reactions (57% really liked it).



Base: All respondents (n=291)

How do you feel about the five (5) design elements included in Concept A – "Connections"?

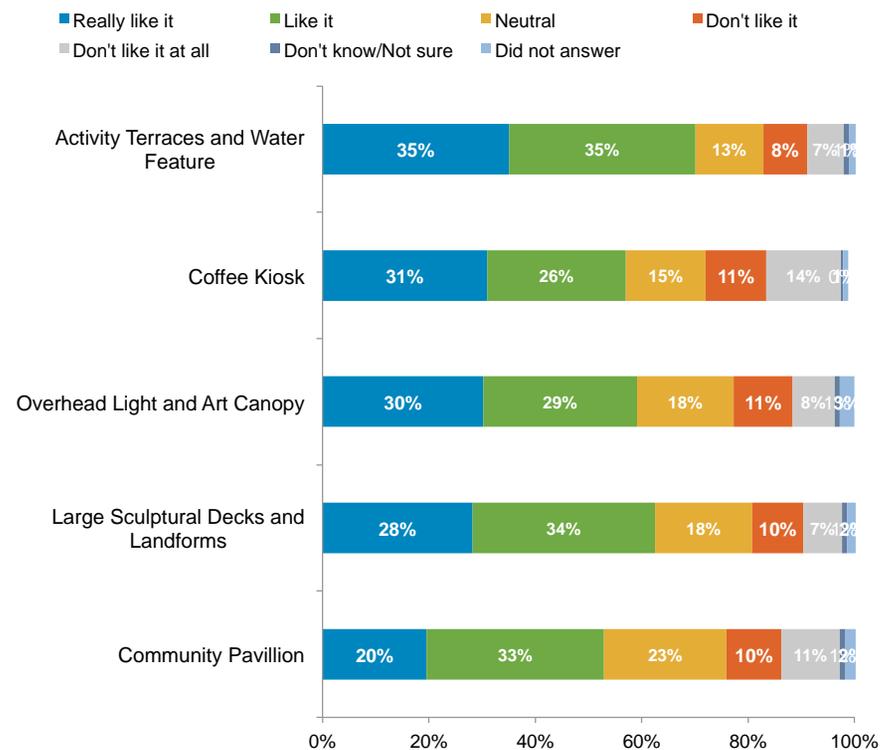
New Park Smith & Richards Open House #2 – Consultation Summary (Nov., 2015)



Perceptions of Concept B: "Back Deck"



- Elements of Concept B – "Back Deck", that were liked relatively more than others were, "Activity Terraces and Water Feature", "Large Sculptural Decks and Landforms" and "Overhead Light and Art Canopy".



Base: All respondents (n=291)

How do you feel about the five (5) design elements included in Concept B – "Back Deck"?

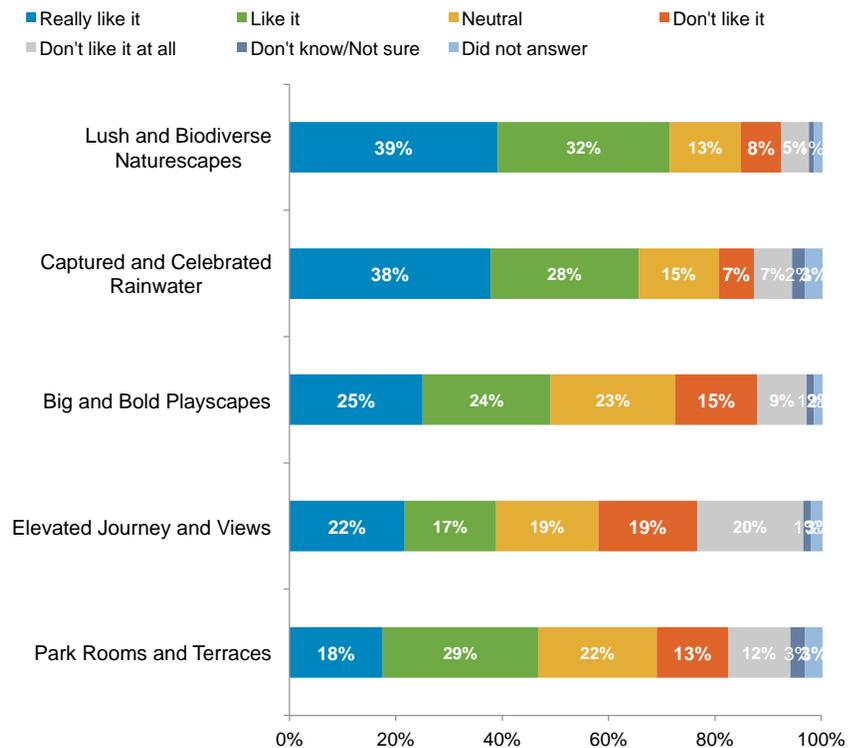
New Park Smith & Richards Open House #2 – Consultation Summary (Nov., 2015)



Perceptions of Concept C: “Here and Now”



- For Concept C – “Here and Now”, the “Lush and Biodiverse Naturescapes” and “Captured and Celebrated Rainwater” elements were the most well received, liked by two-thirds or more of the respondents.



Base: All respondents (n=291)

How do you feel about the five (5) design elements included in Concept C – “Here and Now”?

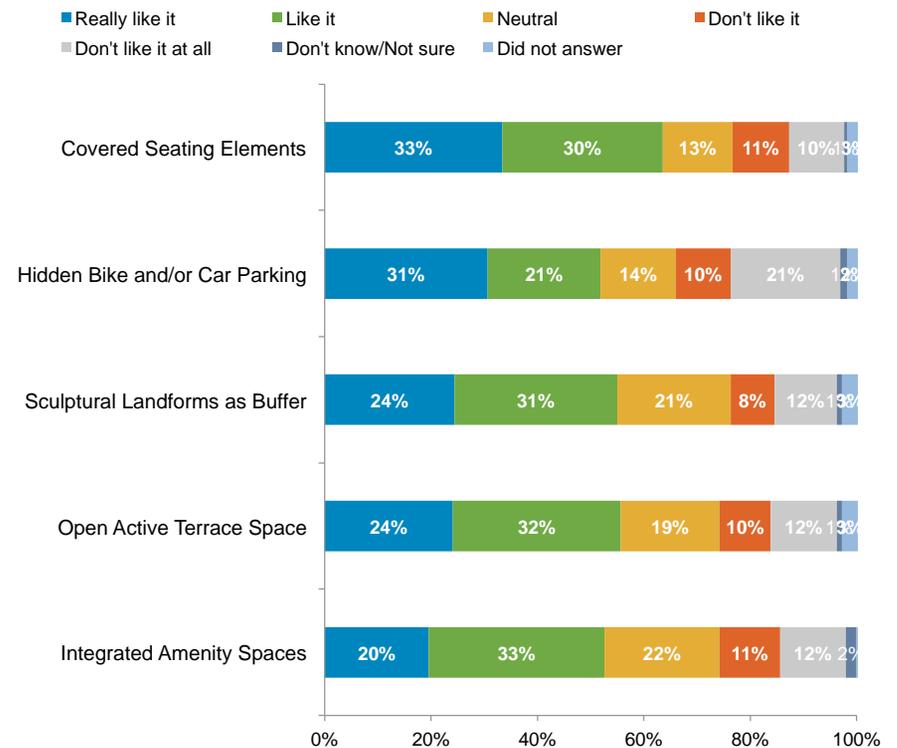
New Park Smithe & Richards Open House #2 – Consultation Summary (Nov., 2015)



Perceptions of Concept D: “Constructed”



- The most liked aspect of Concept D – “Constructed”, were its “Covered Seating Elements”, identified by almost two-thirds of respondents.



Base: All respondents (n=291)

How do you feel about the five (5) design elements included in Concept D – “Constructed”?

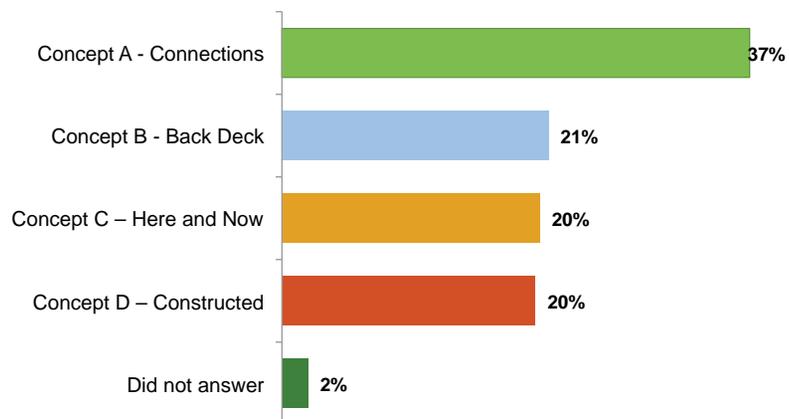
New Park Smithe & Richards Open House #2 – Consultation Summary (Nov., 2015)



Preferred Concept Design



- All of the concepts had some fans among those surveyed, but the greatest proportion, approximately 37%, selected Concept A – “Connections” as their overall favourite.



Base: All respondents (n=291)

Which of the four concepts do you prefer?

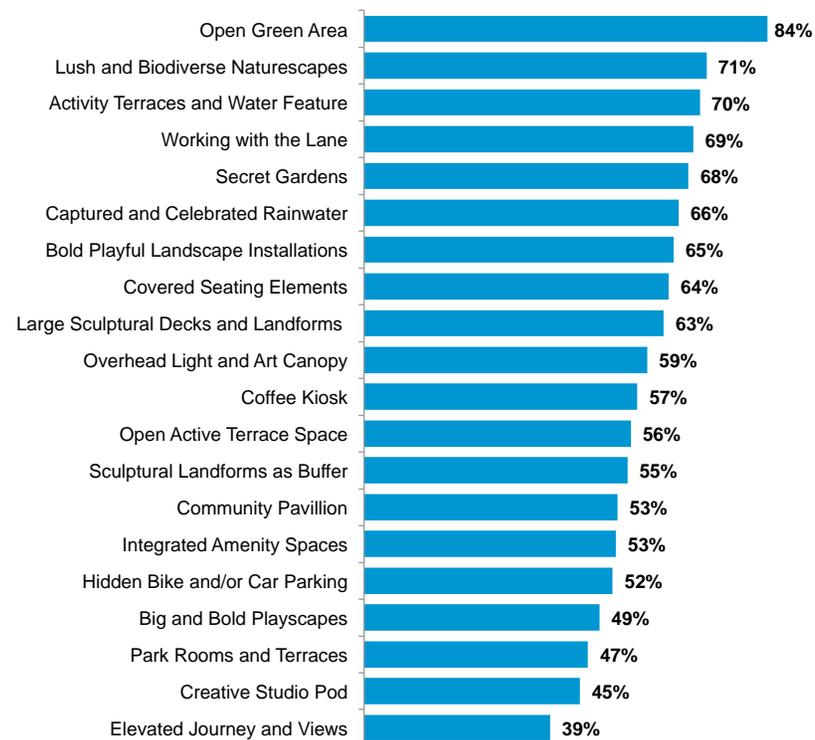


Most Popular Elements Across Concepts



- Consistent with respondents' top pick, Concept A – “Connections,” had three of the top five rated elements.
- The top five most popular elements (across concepts) were: “Open Green Area”, “Lush and Biodiverse Naturescapes”, “Activity Terraces and Water Feature”, “Working with the Lane” and “Secret Gardens”.

Liked the Element (Rated Really like/Like)

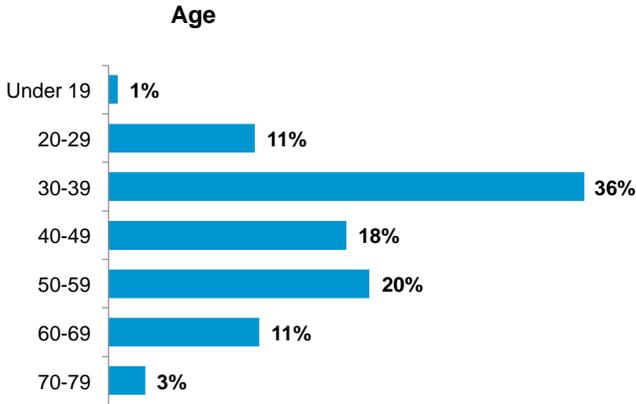




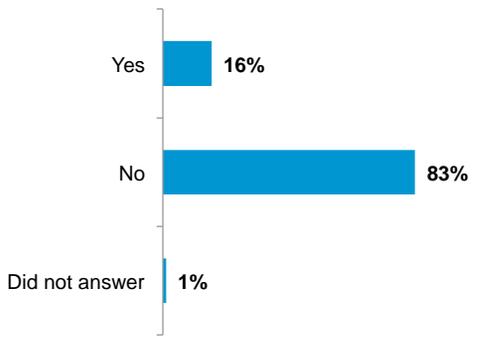
DEMOGRAPHICS



Demographics



Children at Home Under 18 years



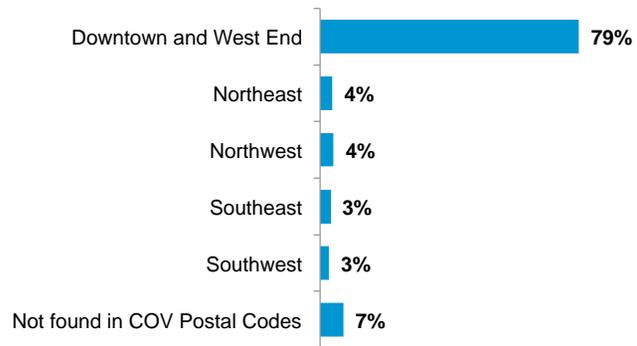
Base: All respondents (n=291)



Demographics



Residential Zone



Base: All respondents (n=291)

New Park Smithe & Richards Open House #2 – Consultation Summary (Nov., 2015)

