

Engagement summary

Hammill Park Master Plan

Summary of feedback

Between June 15 and July 7, 2021, we launched a survey to present two master plan designs for the community to consider for Hammill Park. The green flow concept was preferred by 64.2 per cent of community members. Over 146 responses were received through haveyoursay.guelph.ca.

Participants most often provided positive comments about the green flow concepts:

- nature-inspired play equipment, traditional swings being suitable for the community,
- central shade structure with picnic tables provides good observation of the entire site,
- abundant shade and natural vegetation,
- pathways providing good flow within the park and to the greater community,
- large unprogrammed lawn space provides opportunities for unstructured play/sport,
- pollinator and rain gardens.

Participants also provided comments to improve the green flow concept to best suit the community's needs, the most common comments were to include:

- a splash pad/water feature,
- larger and more diverse playground equipment,
- activities suitable for a more diverse age groups (young children through seniors),
- benches need to have backs,
- a basketball/sport court.

A revised green flow concept is presented based on community needs, however there are spatial, financial and operational limitations that prevent a splash pad or basketball/sport court from being included.

Splash pad

Hammill Park is not a good candidate site for a splash pad due to the lack of parking onsite, lack of washroom building and the neighbourhood park designation intended to serve the local community, not the entire city population.

Basketball courts

Due to the small size of the park, including a basketball/sport would eliminate several other activities. The nearest basketball courts are located at Joe Veroni Park located 650 metres from Hammill Park and Lee Street Park located 750 metres from Hammill Park.

In addition, two of the most popular activities from the community circle concept, games tables and the ping pong table, will be included in the revised green flow concept.

Community gardens

The community gardens proposed in the green flow concept demonstrate how the gardens fit with the overall park design. Construction of the gardens will only proceed when a community volunteer group(s) meet the City's standard community garden application requirements. More information on the application process for a community garden can be found at <https://guelph.ca/living/recreation/parks/community-and-pollinator-gardens/get-involved-in-community-gardens/>.

Space will be allocated for community garden plots, and volunteer groups can submit applications using the link above so community garden implementation can occur once park construction is complete. In the meantime, the proposed location will be a mowed grass area.

Many participants provided comment on the playground equipment in the two master plan concepts. Playground equipment will be subject to a separate procurement process and final selection of the play equipment will be based on the comments received from the community. Participants have shown preference for multiple traditional swings and traditional, nature inspired junior and senior play equipment with opportunities for children of differing abilities to interact with each other.

Next steps

- Final master plan for community engagement, summer 2021
- Detailed design, fall 2021
- Playground equipment pre-selection, fall 2021
- Tendering process, winter 2022
- Award of contract, winter 2022
- Park construction, summer 2022

For more information

Jyoti Pathak, Park Planner
Park and Trail Development, Parks
City of Guelph
519-822-1260 extension 2431
jyoti.pathak@guelph.ca