

What We Heard Report

Allin Park Playground Renewal

Phase Two Public Engagement

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PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY AND RESULTS

Project Overview

Allin Park, located in the Glenwood neighborhood at 15901 96 Avenue NW, has been selected for playground renewal. This project aims to replace the playground while ensuring alignment with the City's strategic objectives, plans, and policies, using input from the public. A renewed playground will better serve the needs of residents, their families, and local organizations. The City of Edmonton will fully fund the project.

The scope of this playground renewal project includes:

- Removing existing playground equipment
- Replacing the sand playground base with engineered wood to improve accessibility
- Adding new play equipment
- Adding an accessible sidewalk curb at the 96 Avenue entrance to the park
- Adding a concrete pathway from the 96 Avenue park entrance to the playground for improved accessibility
- Adding an accessible concrete pad area with a bench, picnic table, and waste bin
- Keeping mature trees and adding new trees throughout the park
- Keeping the existing playground border, light pole and lighting within the park

The project does not include:

- Any other improvements to Allin Park, including:
 - The decommissioned building on the north side of the park
 - Renewal of the baseball fields in the park
 - Development of an off-leash dog area

The first phase of engagement for this project was completed in July 2024.

During this phase, the project team gathered feedback from the community on preferred play elements, playground colours, accessibility and other insights.

The Phase 1 What We Heard Report is available at

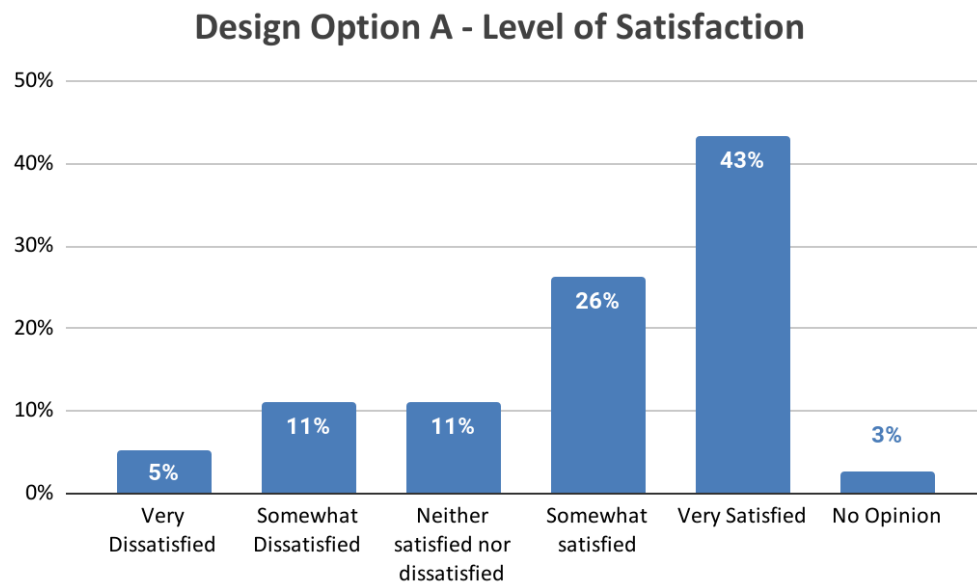
edmonton.ca/PlaygroundRenewal. Phase 1 engagement results, along with City policies and other requirements, informed the development of three playground design options presented in the second engagement phase.

What we heard

In this second and final phase of public engagement, completed in October 2024, 152 residents completed an online survey. The survey presented three playground design options. The design options are shown in [Appendix A](#).

Design Option A

Sixty-nine per cent of survey respondents indicated they were somewhat satisfied or very satisfied with Design Option A. A smaller portion (16 per cent) were somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied and 14 per cent were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied or expressed no opinion.

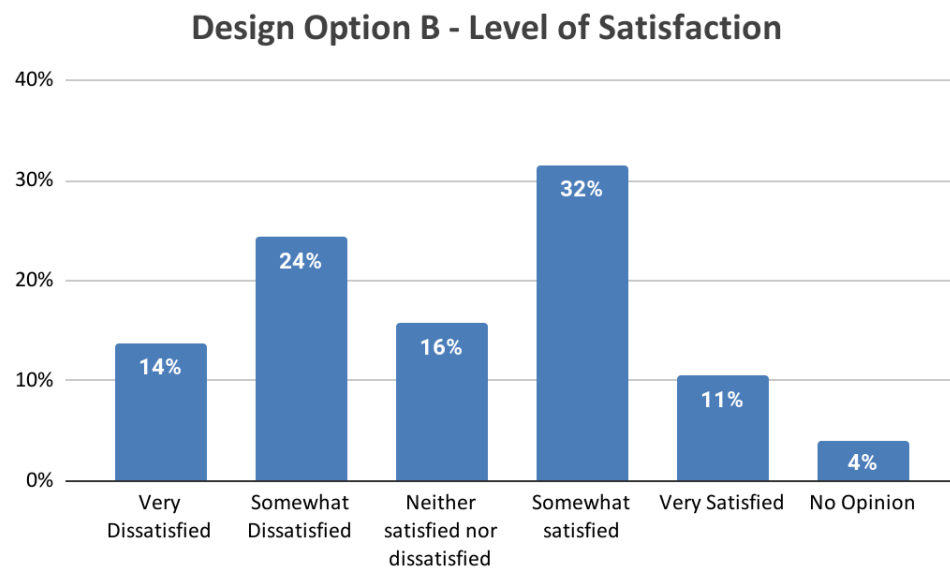


Many respondents commented the design offered a variety of play options, was inclusive of different ages and abilities and appeared “bright and fun.” While satisfied, some respondents recommended better use of the middle section of the space and suggested more equipment, especially swings for infants and older children. Respondents who were dissatisfied with the design had similar comments, noting the playground appeared small and needed more play options and swings.

Design Option B

Survey respondents had mixed views about Design Option B. Forty-three per cent of respondents were somewhat satisfied or very satisfied, while 38 per cent were somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the design. The

remaining survey respondents were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied or expressed no opinion (20 per cent).

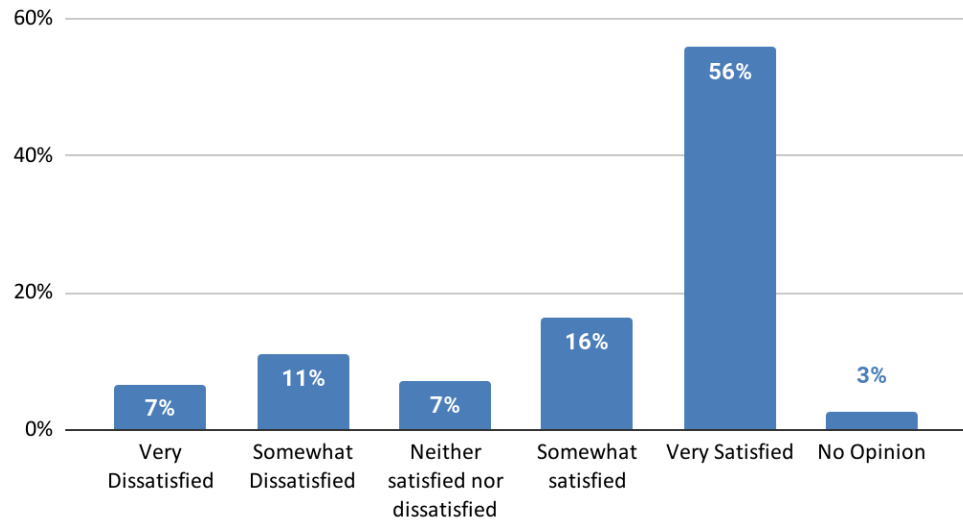


Several respondents liked the space between play areas and specific equipment such as the climbing wall, seated merry-go-round, slides and the shade opportunities offered within the design. However, respondents who were both satisfied and dissatisfied commented the design appeared minimal and did not have enough and varied play equipment, especially swings.

Design Option C

The majority of survey respondents were somewhat satisfied or very satisfied with Design Option C (72 per cent). Few respondents (18 per cent) expressed dissatisfaction with the design. The remaining respondents were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied or had no opinion (10 per cent).

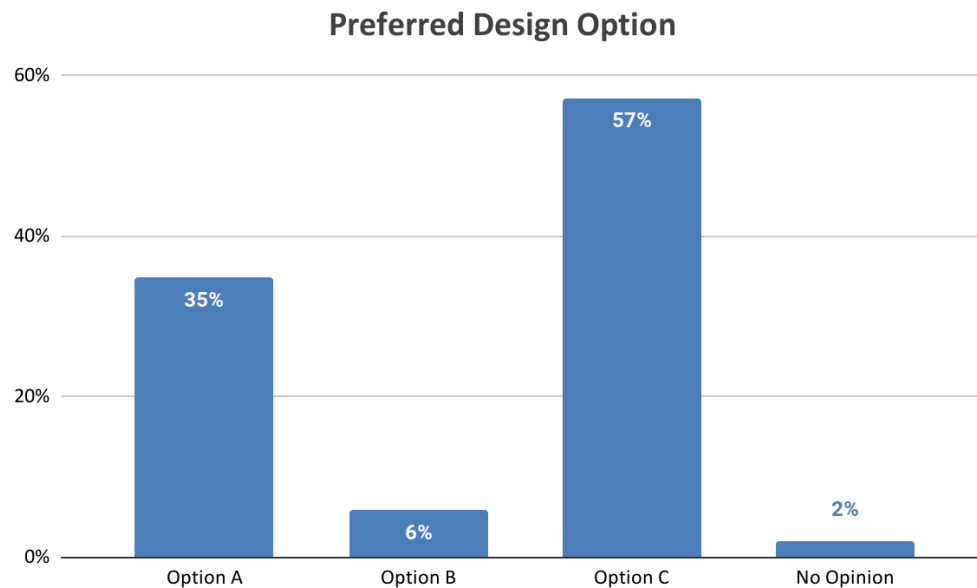
Design Option C - Level of Satisfaction



Respondents commented that Design Option C offered variety, challenge and used the playground space well. Many expressed enthusiasm and believed it would appeal to all ages. Some respondents thought the design could be improved with additional focus on equipment for all ages and abilities. Several commented they would like the design to include more swings for all age groups, including infant swings.

Overall design preference

Respondents were asked to consider all three designs and indicate which they most preferred. Most respondents (57 per cent) preferred Design Option C, which is consistent with this design's high satisfaction ratings in the previous question. Some respondents (35 per cent) preferred Design Option A. Few respondents (six per cent) preferred Design Option B and a small portion (two per cent) had no opinion.



Respondents who most preferred Design Option C (57 per cent), commented that the design used space well, and presented a variety of play options, including those for active play and interaction across age groups. Many commented that Design Option C was also unique and visually appealing.

Respondents who most preferred Design Option A (35 per cent), appreciated this design's nature theme, colours and play elements for all ages and abilities. These respondents felt Design Option A used space well and liked the design's separation of older and younger play areas.

Respondents who preferred Design Option B (six per cent), liked this design's layout, and safety considerations and believed it would allow adults to easily supervise children at play.

Other feedback

Respondents were asked to share any other feedback for the project team's consideration.

Many commented on elements they would like to see included in the playground no matter which design option goes forward. A desire for swings was often included in these comments. Other elements mentioned such as a spray park, bike pump track and retaining the existing wood structure at the park cannot be included in this project.

Some respondents focused on amenities beyond the playground such as adding picnic tables and shade areas, trees and “animal-proof” waste bins. A few respondents worried about social disorder and safety at the park and recommended security cameras and increased park maintenance. One respondent cautioned about glass within existing playground sand.

Several respondents highlighted the park’s use as an informal dog park. Some advocated for the development of a dog park, while others wanted greater enforcement of leash bylaws and responsible pet ownership. These issues are beyond the scope of this project but have been shared with relevant City departments. Information about City off-leash areas, dog parks and responsible pet ownership, including leash bylaws, can be found on edmonton.ca/Pets.

A few respondents were concerned about project costs and did not believe the project should be a City priority, but most respondents expressed enthusiasm for the project and are looking forward to a new playground at Allin Park.

How the engagement results will be used

Results from this public engagement phase will be considered by the project team to develop the final design and equipment options for the playground. Design and construction standards, costs and operational considerations are also key decision-making factors.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

What, when, how and who we engaged

Members of the public were asked for their views on:

- Three playground design options
- A preferred playground design option
- Any other feedback that could inform the project

This second and final engagement period occurred from September 24 to October 6, 2024, through the use of an online survey.

The public was informed of the engagement opportunity through postcards delivered to postal codes surrounding Allin Park. The postcard informed recipients about the project, the opportunity to complete the online survey and to learn more about the project at edmonton.ca/PlaygroundRenewal.

The engagement opportunity was also promoted through a social media ad on Facebook and Instagram, the City of Edmonton Public Service Announcement and Public Engagement Calendar, as well as through yard signs placed around Allin Park.

A total of 152 people completed the survey. The majority of respondents had children under the age of 18 years living at home (57 per cent), 69 per cent were from Glenwood and neighbourhoods near Allin Park and 59 per cent used the park once per month or more.

Other respondents did not have children at home (34 per cent) or chose not to answer this question (nine per cent). Some respondents were from Edmonton neighbourhoods further away, but worked at or had children attending the daycare near the park (15 per cent). A few survey respondents chose not to specify their Edmonton neighbourhood or indicated they did not live in Edmonton (16 per cent), but many of these respondents indicated they used Allin Park on a weekly to an annual basis.

NEXT STEPS

Construction of the new playground is anticipated in 2025.

The project team thanks community residents, children, and daycare providers for their feedback and insights to support the playground renewal at Allin Park.

For more information on the City's playground renewal program and this project, please visit edmonton.ca/PlaygroundRenewal.

Appendix - Design Options for Allin Park Playground

Option A



Option B



View 1



View 2



View 3



View 4

Option C

