

What We Heard Report

Edgemont Community Park Development

September to October 2024

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Public engagement summary and results

Project overview

Information boards used at in-person public engagement event



The City of Edmonton is developing a community park in the Edgemont neighbourhood. The site will be the future home of a Kindergarten to Grade 9 school for Edmonton Public Schools. In preparation for this school, and for the use and enjoyment by all residents, the City of Edmonton will undertake base-level development of the park.

Base-level park development will include grading, seeding and landscaping and adding sports fields, park furniture and shared-use paths. A new playground will also be built in the park.

The project includes public engagement feedback during the planning and design phase which began in the spring of 2024 and ended in the fall of 2024. In spring 2024, the City met with interested parties and the public to share the two approaches to the park design and gather feedback on select design

elements. The [What We Heard report](#) for Phase 1 can be viewed at edmonton.ca/EdgemontPark.

In the fall of 2024, the City similarly met with interested parties and the public and shared the recommended design plan to gather further feedback. A meeting was held with parties such as Edmonton Public Schools, Alberta Infrastructure and the local developer, Brookfield Residential. Opportunities for the public to provide input included an online survey and a drop-in public engagement session held in partnership with the Edgemont Community League. Members of the public were also able to share additional comments, and concerns, or ask questions by emailing EdgemontCommunityPark@edmonton.ca. The following report summarizes public input from phase two of the engagement.

What we heard - interested parties



The project team met with Edmonton Public Schools, Alberta Infrastructure and Brookfield Residential to ensure the recommended design aligns with the existing plans and policies of these parties. The discussions, which continued from those in spring of 2024, focused on site access, utility servicing, site grading, the number and sizes of sports fields and active transportation connections.

The project team collaborated with the community league to plan the drop-in public engagement session and promote the Edgemont Park project. The

community league is leading and responsible for amenities within the Community League Licence Lease Area (CLLA), which is outside this project's scope. For this reason the team did not conduct any meetings with the league, but did work with the league to engage the public in the league's activities.

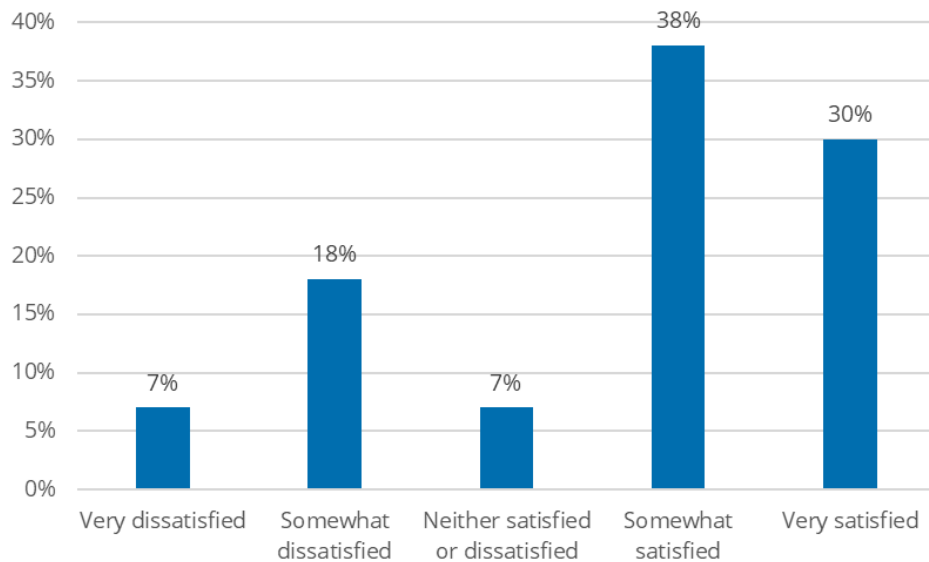
What we heard - public engagement



The following section summarizes what we heard and learned from the public in fall 2024 through the in-person public engagement session as well as the online survey.

Satisfaction with the recommended design

We asked people to share their level of satisfaction with the recommended design plan for Edgemont Park. The majority were satisfied with the design, with 30 per cent being very satisfied and 38 per cent being somewhat satisfied. A small percentage were neutral about the design, whereas 18 per cent were somewhat dissatisfied and seven per cent were very dissatisfied.



We then asked people to share the reason for their rating and what they liked or disliked about the recommended design.

Support for the recommended design

Those in support of the recommended design appreciated that it offered a variety of amenities, while also maintaining open spaces for gatherings and picnics. Some people felt it would be a welcoming place for Edgemont and meet the needs of the community. A few noted they will no longer have to leave the community to access park amenities. A few people also shared they appreciated the trees that were kept in the park as shade is much needed.

Additional amenities

Many people had additional suggestions for amenities they would like to see or ideas for improving the park. Some people thought the park was too small and wanted additional amenities like another playground for younger children, basketball courts, tennis courts, pickleball courts, an ice rink, a

spray/splash park and a fenced off-leash area for dogs. A few people were not in support of the sports fields and would prefer to have a forested walking path, however sports fields are required to meet future school standards.

Some people shared ways to make the park more accessible, which include having a playground with a hard surface instead of gravel or wood chips, building washroom facilities, installing more benches and positioning the park closer to the parking or having more pathway access to the park from the neighbourhood. Some were also concerned about shelter and shade, particularly for the playground, and wanted to see more shaded areas to protect from the elements.

Parking and congestion

Concerns were raised that there's insufficient parking to support the new park and that the existing school parking lot won't meet the demand. This could lead to overcrowding on nearby streets when the park opens.

Public engagement approach



The City of Edmonton seeks input from residents of Edgemont and the public to help guide the project. The City's Public Engagement Spectrum, shown above, illustrates the four levels of influence the public can have on decisions made by the City throughout the project. In this phase of engagement, the public was invited to provide input that would help **ADVISE** and **REFINE** the development of design options and the recommended design for Edgemont Park.

In addition to public input, the project team makes decisions using a combination of policy and program information and technical requirements. This process helps to ensure the decisions made are fiscally responsible, follow best practices, consider the existing infrastructure, land uses and activities in the neighbourhoods and result in the best outcomes for our city.

How we engaged



One virtual group meeting with Alberta Infrastructure, the Edmonton Public School Board and Brookfield Residential was hosted by the project team to further inform about and refine the recommended design for Edgemont Park.



The online survey was open for public input from September 19 to October 4, 2024, and gathered feedback from **239** people.



In partnership with the Edgemont Community League, an in-person engagement session was held Sunday, September 21, 2024, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. near the community of Edgemont at River West Christian Church. A total of **23** people attended the event.

The public was informed about the engagement opportunities through the following means:

- + **Two** road signs
- + **16** yard signs
- + **5,519** postcards delivered
- + **68,200** social media ad impressions
- + **1,752** views on the project web page

Who was engaged

The key groups (Alberta Infrastructure, the Edmonton Public School Board and Brookfield Residential) helped **REFINE** the project plans. These groups reviewed the recommended design and provided detailed feedback. Through these virtual discussions, the recommended design is aligned with the existing Alberta Infrastructure and Edmonton Public Schools plans and policies and with existing Brookfield Residential plans. The

Residents of Edgemont and the general public helped **ADVISE** the project by providing feedback on the recommended design plan through the online survey and public engagement session.

What we asked

For the second phase of engagement, we shared the recommended park design and asked three questions. The first question asked people to rate their overall level of satisfaction with the design, from very satisfied to very dissatisfied. We then asked people to explain their rating and to specify what they liked or disliked about the recommended design when answering. Finally, there was an opportunity for people to share any other comments or concerns with the project team. The same questions were asked in the survey and during the in-person public engagement sessions.

What happens next?



Thank you to all who shared their input during the first and second phase of engagement for the Edgemont Community Park Development project. The project team will use the feedback received from engagement to create a final park design. The final design will be shared on the project web page when available.

Planned project timeline

- + Planning and design - 2024
- + Construction - 2025 to 2026
- + Park opening - spring 2027

For more information about the project and upcoming engagement events, visit edmonton.ca/EdgemontPark or contact the project team with the information below.

Contact us

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