

OLESKIW

RIVER VALLEY PARK

MASTER PLAN

What You Said
Phase 2: Vision, Principles & Identity
September 2017

What You Said

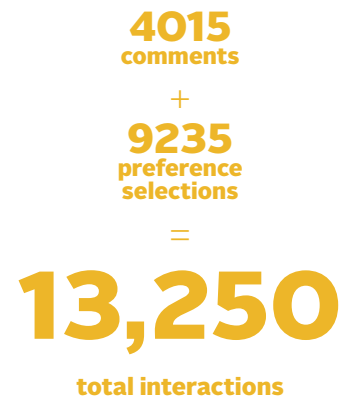
The following report provides a detailed summary of raw data in the form of comments that we received during the second phase of engagement (Vision, Principles & Identity) for the Oleskiw River Valley Park Master Plan. Comments are presented from the following engagement opportunities:



The following comments accompany the What We Heard report that provides a more visual summary of the information listed here. The What We Heard report also summarizes the work that has been completed thus far, including an environmental sensitivity analysis. The report can be found on the website at:

edmonton.ca/oleskiwparkmasterplan

This What You Said report documents the individual comments we received during the Phase 2 engagement activities at the open house, external stakeholder session and online. The comments are presented according to engagement activity.



External Stakeholder Workshop

Monday, June 26, 5:30–7:30pm
Westridge Wolf Willow Country Club Community League
9 attendees

Representatives of city-wide and community organizations with an interest in planning Oleskiw River Valley Park attended a focused engagement session to help develop the vision and program for the park. The presentation and discussion provided a strong foundation for conversations around the opportunities and constraints.

Comments were not recorded verbatim, but recorded as discussion notes that will be taken into account during concept development for the park. Participants were also invited to participate in the online survey and/or attend the public open house that would be taking place the following evening.

Represented organizations included:

- » Edmonton Country Club and Golf Course
- » Edmonton Nature Club
- » Edmonton Mountain Bike Association
- » Sierra Club Canada
- » Edmonton Native Plant Group
- » Westridge Wolf Willow Country Club Community League

Help Name This Park!

Additional comments:

- » Name should reflect a space w/ many uses! Could be an Indigenous word for this? Diverse history

How do you get to the park?

- » Car: 45%
- » Transit: 0%
- » Walk: 45%
- » Bike: 9%
- » Other: 0%



Open House

Tuesday, June 27, 2017, 5:30–8:30pm
Westridge Wolf Willow Country Club Community League
91 attendees

The public was provided with a drop-in opportunity to learn about the project and provide input into the park's vision and program. The open house was generally set up into five distinct areas: one for background information, and four stations for engagement questions. People generally spent over 30 minutes at the open house and were highly engaged in providing feedback at the engagement stations and through discussions with staff.

Reactions collected at the open house through event feedback forms and conversations with staff indicated very positive experiences. The staff was knowledgeable, available and friendly, and the event was well laid out and interactive. Participants were welcomed and encouraged to understand their views. We will continue to communicate how feedback will be used, and make sure concerns are heard and understood.

Comments were made using sticky notes on the open house presentation boards as well as in the Vision Statement Activity and the event feedback forms.



Open House Presentation Boards

Accessing the Park Board

- » Erosion control along west bank - what will we do re: this?
- » Concern re: fire pits in the park. Nearby residents don't want fire pits bc fire can't get down to put it out
- » Woodward Cres. Concerns over it becoming parking lot. Concern ppl parking + fire truck access to homes (if on fire) @ top of Woodward Cres.
- » Illegal to park 2015 no signage indicating this. Police dept. 72 hrs only had one experience yelling @ lady + daughter
- » Need for bike access from Lessard
- » Some of these comments are out of scope but some relate to Oleskiw
- » Twin trails as the best method to reduce conflict like Hawrelak
- » Hawrelak park - ppl on bikes + horses. Location of sign doesn't make sense.
- » Have to put \$\$ into effective enforcement
- » Wild Sarsaparilla (Whitemud) (ginseng) commercial purposes report to park rangers (out of scope) there is no signage saying no pick
- » Keep bicycles out of the riparian informal trail! Use signs, monitor + enforce. The valley field could see some different uses, all geared to vegetation appreciation (native + non-native), e.g. a mini arboretum, beds of nature plants, restored native grassland, interpretation. (Also winter interest). Would sanction trails elsewhere in field, pit toilets, new bridges. Gradual removal of caragana and replacement with natural shrubs + trees. Native nursery for CoE.
- » I hope the large, dead trees in the middle of the meadow are remaining. Management and removal of invasive weeds (caragana especially) should be of prime concern. Develop interpretive signage with emphasis on local archaeological / agricultural / biodiversity significance

How do you get to the park? Board

- » Car: 16%
- » Transit: 0%
- » Walk: 35%
- » Bike: 45%
- » Other: 0%

Next Steps Board

- » The focus AREA is extremely environmentally SENSITIVE (+ therefore, activity should be limited to minimal / passive). Note that in the Nat. Parks, the WILDLIFE corridors are being (very) negatively affected by too many humans + dogs, using the same area. There's already ALOT of that activity on the SOUTH side of river. Keep the NORTH side, PROTECTED.

- » Please keep the area natural and limited to day use only. We do not want this to become a Hawrelak Park. We would like better security and police present to assist with problematic park users. Too many people are currently there at night.
- » Access to the park is problematic. Woodward Crescent cannot accommodate the car traffic + parking.
- » Only access from west side is through Wolf Willow Ridge -> very problematic -> need alternative and better planning
- » Access needs to be improved, so more users at all hours and easier access for security services and emergency services
- » Allow food service
- » Hot dog cart
- » Ice cream cart
- » Portable liquids card - water, juice
- » PLEASE no cars, no fire pits, leave it natural
- » Keep it natural; no fire pits, no lookout points on top of bank, no food service
- » Concerned about fires in park. Have had brush fires in past + fire trucks have had a problem getting down to put it out.
- » Concerned about bush parties after hours, drinking + loud drunks exiting the park in middle of night. 311 and/or park rangers do not patrol in time
- » Appropriate levels of law enforcement and maintenance have to be part of the overall plan.
- » Our house backs on to Wanyandi. There is a need for more wayfinding signage once users have reached the Wanyandi road. Folks don't know where they are or where to go from there. We are already hearing bikers commenting on this + have had users asking for directions
- » Water fountain at the Wolf Willow staircase
- » Need vision for field area. Appreciation for natural vegetation
- » Many people will want to park + then access the park. Without better alternatives, they will park in the surrounding housing area + walk (ride) down. If there can't be devoted parking, then the area should not be developed.
- » Keep cyclists off riparian trail.
- » Traffic issues, safety issues, noise, parties
- » ON LEASH!! Terw -> huge off leash. Laurier -> huge off leash. Leave this unique natural area as is!!
- » ON LEASH SIGNAGE!! High priority before people get used to the current state.
- » Designated off leash area for dogs please with access to river
- » Alternative access on west side. Not through WWR
- » Please put in better signage showing the park as an ON LEASH AREA!
- » Repair the trail from Oleskiw down to Ft. Ed. Bridge - It is a disgrace!

- » Why wasn't there this level of consultation in Chinatown re: safe drug injection sites?
- » Fix the grading of the asphalt trail which floods in certain areas in the spring.
- » SIMPLE NON-INTRUSIVE (non permanent) food service such as coffee carts + FOOD TRUCKS at scenic spots with good seating
- » Tired of dogs running loose in so many parks! Please keep this one as an 'on leash' for dogs.
- » I am concerned about partying, drinking in the park after hours. Presently partying happens at all hours. Concerned about fires as we have already had one in the flats. What is being done to address safety concerns, fire concerns, partying and drugs happening in the park.
- » Get dogs on-leash in the park!
- » We are very concerned about crime in the park. There are many bush parties and young individuals drinking. Hours and security needs to be established.
- » Emphasis should be on maintaining a natural park with habitat restoration. There are lots of manicured parks for those who want that experience.
- » Keep the area natural. Parking, security, fire safety are major concerns.
- » No off-leash dogs
- » No accomodation for motor boats

Vision Statement Activity

Oleskiw River Valley Park aims to be...

- » A home for wildlife
- » Preserve natural features
- » A link in the green network
- » Habitat protection and restoration
- » A refuge from the city
- » Safety for all visitors and neighbours
- » Ecological connections
- » An appreciation of natural and cultural heritage
- » Concerned about crime and late evening attendees
- » Mental well-being
- » Beautiful
- » Safe + partying / loud noise free
- » An important piece in the ecological connectivity puzzle
- » Nature reserve

It will inspire / promote...

- » Conservation
- » Winter
- » Nature
- » Health
- » Wellness
- » Active recreation
- » Solitude

- » River
- » Public trails
- » Active
- » Respect
- » Traditional knowledge
- » Photograph
- » Nature appreciation

The park will represent Edmonton's identity as a leader in...

- » Connectivity in the River Valley
- » Ecological connections
- » No fire pits
- » Trails
- » An appreciation of natural and cultural heritage
- » Design for a winter city
- » No vehicles
- » Natural character of the river valley
- » Keep area natural
- » Conservation of ecological values

It will leave a legacy as...

- » Low impact
- » A refuge from the city
- » Ribbon of Green
- » A link in the green network
- » Habitat protection and restoration
- » Passive recreation
- » Mental well-being
- » No vehicles
- » Safety for all visitors and neighbours
- » Ecological reserve
- » Highlighting Edmonton's leadership in biodiversity efforts
- » An urban nature preserve

Help Name This Park!

Additional name suggestions:

- » Wolf Willow Farm
- » Munson Park
- » Oleskiw Park
- » Indigenous name for "floodplain" or river loop

Create your own park! activity

Comments and notes

- » Enjoy nature, Health, Community, Saskatoon berries
- » lots of seating, maybe passive enjoyment of park? Enhancing existing natural features
Seating at regular intervals; accessible

- » Kite park, Food service, Physical accessibility, Natural Trails, EMS muster pt. 2 locations - by Terwillegar + Ft. Edm bridges, Seating, Winter activity
- » "Mukluk" carnival. Mid-60s
- » Signs showing park closes 11PM, Groomed x-country ski trails, Beach - sun tan - swimming - fishing
- » Nature beach, Swimming
- » Perfect viewing area, Downtown, Uni, Fort Edmonton
- » Wildlife connectivity w/ limited human + dog use., Passive / limited activity (esp. since south side of river is high use)
- » Try to keep bikes of this trail - it is a sensitive area w/ uncommon / rare plants
- » There are those who would respect these restrictions but many cyclists want the off-road experience and a challenging trail ? Short sightlines slow cyclists down This sand bar is a major gull / bird resting area
- » "Civilizing" if as a [indecipherable] is NOT ecologically sensitive"
- » "Well laid out Interactive"
- » Ability to provide input
- » I was able to openly discuss concerns about park use & conflicts between different users - pedestrians...cyclists...runners
- » Opportunity to talk to planners
- » People here (city employees) to answer questions I had. Input requested
- » Map illustrations & supportive staff
- » The information provided, the chance to provide feedback in more than one space, the availability of people to talk to
- » Opportunity to provide input
- » Less chaotic than previous open houses on the park.
- » Ample opportunity to view and read the various information boards - a genuine opportunity was provided to indicate preferences for the various options

Additional Comments

- » Pressure on Woodward funneling traffic thru one point - very concerned would want parking in the park Please consult Woodward Cres. residents directly
- » Concerns w/ people parking on Woodward + undesirable activity - late @ night, alarms, barking dogs
- » XC ski! + snowshoe
- » Leave natural, Already have paved, Very tightly treed Coyote path; pls don't force them onto paved
- » Natural lady's slipper
- » Leave natural single track

Open House Feedback Forms

What did you enjoy most about the open house event?

- » Chance to contribute ideas.
- » Friendly staff
- » Get some insight of what might be done.
- » Building your own park
- » Opportunity to discuss feedback from others.
- » Maps were informative
- » Chance to see + rate activity / feature options
- » Thoughtful displays and aspects of future park. Opportunity to contribute ideas.
- » Chance to have input
- » Opportunity to get an update
- » Seeing the future plans and seeing that most people want to keep it as natural as possible.
- » The update on info and seeing others comments on the park
- » Able to understand information. Opportunity to create map to show personal information
- » Lots of information. Opportunity to map your own ideas

What aspect of the open house event do you think could be improved?

- » Dealing with the parking issue.
- » Larger yellow dots.
- » Concrete information with regards to controlling parking in Wolf Willow Cr. + Wolf Willow Ridge. Proper signs to inform where to park. Also how to control parking violations.
- » Audio slide show
- » ?
- » Very well done. Access to info ahead of time would allow more interaction with "(neighbours)" who aren't here.
- » Nothing
- » BALANCE in options offered for comment. Much of access will be on foot or bike- i.e., long visits. Some form of simple, non-intrusive food + beverage services MUST be offered such as coffee carts or food trucks (licensed) in good view areas with comfortable seating
- » Very well done.
- » Well run. Great job
- » Well run. Good job.
- » Dealing with the parking issue.
- » Sticky dots are hard to use -- too small :)
- » Don't only put what we want on what makes a park great, put what don't want
- » Slide presentations with architect providing concepts
- » Can't think of anything
- » Many views are opposing. Dogs/no dogs, cars/no car parking, washrooms/no washrooms. No suggestion how these views will be addressed.
- » Overall provided adequate scope to provide feedback

I felt that my concerns were understood:



I felt welcome and encouraged to share my views:



I understood why I was here:



I understood how my feedback will be used:



The language was easy to understand:



The event was well-run:



The format of the event made sense for what it was trying to accomplish:



How did you hear about the open house?

- » A notice mailed to me: 12
- » A notice emailed to me: 4
- » A newspaper ad: 3
- » Social media: 4
- » A news story: 2
- » Friend / colleague / word of mouth: 5
- » City of Edmonton website: 1
- » Other: 5

Additional Comments:

- » Please control parking around Wolf Willow Cr. + Woodward Cr. As it is becoming a safety issue. People accessing the park don't use the parking designated instead they are parking on the streets therefore making almost impossible for emergency vehicle access. Also during the night it is impossible to stop violators of the park pass 11:00 closer.
- » As X-country skier would like to ensure signage on multi-use trails so that walkers don't walk on ski tracks. Follow example of signage used in Hawreliak Park -- Emily Murphy area.
- » Time span of the open house is good. Sufficient staff on hand. Refreshments welcome! Well run!
- » I like the idea of a more naturalized space. We need a refuge for wildlife, native plants + a place for people to get "out of the city". I agree this should be "on leash" only for dogs, we have ample offleash parks in the area. I do not think you have addressed access issues to this park from the west end. I don't think you need to have cars there but you do need more than one crescent with minimal parking. The golf course is a major barrier. Cannot a trail access be arranged through a section of the golf course to connect another neighbourhood?
- » Good to see ideas + reassured to see options for keeping it natural + not over-developed

- » Concerns with those requesting an off leash "area / whole park". Very negative experiences at Terwillegar Park with large and/or aggressive dogs. Please restrict off leash dogs to other side of river. Lots of interest from my neighbours in new park.
- » Will enjoy the park (I'm in Garepy) whatever the final decision is. Nice to have some input.
- » Please preserve the natural wildlife and vegetation. It is an area that school kids could come and enjoy nature. There are lots of recreational areas / parks for sports and fast food. Just come for the nature walk or bike ride!
- » I appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback. Thank you. Please keep it as natural as possible for the wildlife. Things like disc golf are not appropriate for this space. This space should be for the enjoyment of nature. Sporting activity can happen elsewhere.
- » I would like to see the facility shared as well as on leash areas. More waste disposal areas. I would be interested in wayfinding signs. Good job.
- » Would be a great area for everyone to enjoy and to share the trails. I would like to see groomed cross country ski trails for people to enjoy. Would like to see an on-leash dog park to avoid chaos like Terwilligar Park. Too many undisciplined dogs.
- » This is a wonderful area + the bridge and paved path are a great addition to the river valley. Because there is little to no vehicle access, keeping hardscaping to a minimum makes sense. Structures attract vandalism, nature doesn't. Disc frisbee for my husband.
- » My key point is to stress that not every location can be everything to everyone. Limitations have to be exercised in respect of each area's diverse features. As an example some systems can easily accommodate: race events, bicycling etc. while other areas cannot
- » Hopefully concerns I mentioned will be forwarded and considered
- » Look forward to the results of this open house. Well done, thanks!

Online Survey

June 29 - July 14, 2017

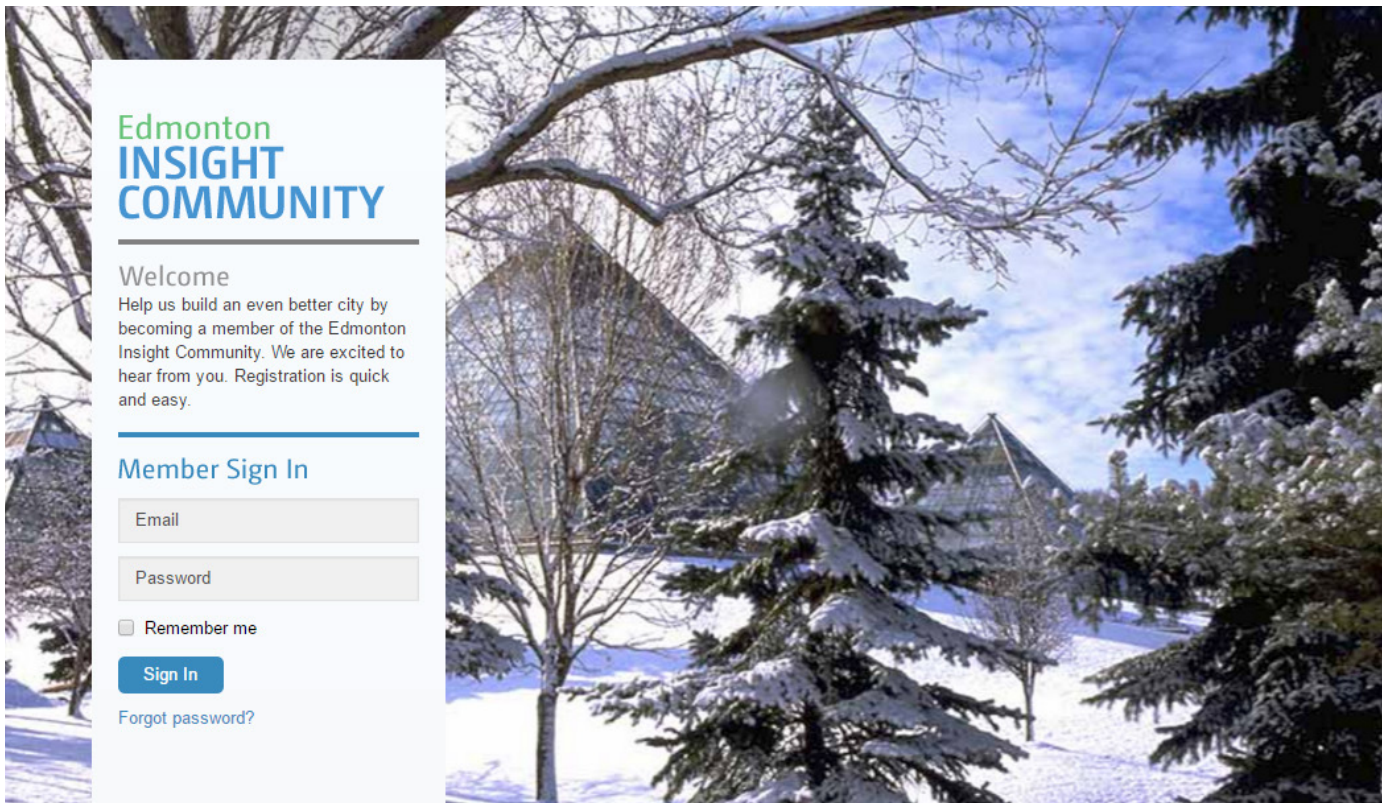
203 participants

<https://www.edmonton.ca/oleskiwparkmasterplan>

To complement the in-person engagement opportunities, the open house presentation and engagement questions were available online. The survey was distributed through the Insight Community and available to the public through the project website [edmonton.ca/oleskiwparkmasterplan](https://www.edmonton.ca/oleskiwparkmasterplan). The opportunity to provide feedback through the project website was advertised at the in-person events and through the City's social media accounts and outreach materials.

The online survey invited participants to answer multiple choice questions related to their mode of transportation to the park, the creation of a vision statement and their preferred park elements. These questions presented the same options that were available at the open house and external stakeholder session.

The following comments were made in addition to the tallies and summaries of comments presented in the **What We Heard Report**.



Vision Statement Activity

Oleskiw River Valley Park aims to be/represent...

- » Natural character of the River Valley
- » A link in the green network
- » A home for wildlife
- » Preserve natural features
- » A refuge from the city
- » A place to protect the environment
- » Mental well-being
- » Harmony among park visitors
- » Traditional knowledge
- » A place for Indigenous and First Nations park use
- » Celebrate history

Additional Comments

- » a less developed area free of meddling socialists.
- » ...with a focus on active transportation (non-motorized)
- » place for quiet contemplation. No signs, no mess, limited human interference.
- » A place for everyone to enjoy.
- » A place for all Canadian's and visitors to harmoniously interact with the environment and nature. An opportunity to catch a glimpse of local wildlife and take a break from city lifestyle.
- » A peaceful refuge where people can go to experience the beauty of the river valley as it protects places for wildlife. Interpretative material about traditional knowledge and biodiversity would enhance the area.
- » I love feeling like I'm out of the city in the river valley. I think that should fit with indigenous people's use, but you should ask them.
- » A place to be active outdoors
- » All Edmonton parks should be a place for Indigenous and First Nations park use.
- » Indigenous and FN park use should not detract from protection of the natural features and environment.
- » Those are all pretty lame choices
- » I've been going to Oleskiw 2-4 times per week for about 5 years. This list has very little to do with how people currently use the park as an interconnected linear trail system, work out area, dog walking area and place for enjoying the valley that has unique geographic/natural features.
- » A park SHOULD NOT be made for the use of one group of people. It should be open for all people, making them feel welcome and safe. If an area in the park where to be used by Indigenous person as a gathering place that would be ok.
- » combat climate change by planting more trees/plants
- » Mountain Bike Trails
- » A place which respects the autonomy of economically and physically displaced Edmonton residents

- » Sustainable with a negligible infrastructure.
- » Multi use for the enjoyment of all park users from physical activity, interaction with one's pet and community, to appreciation of the natural environment and the opportunity to experience the diverse wildlife first hand.
- » a safe place to take children to introduce them to environmental values
- » a great spot for more natural trails/singletrack
- » A natural area in the city to get away from the urbanism and back to nature.
- » It has been an important home to wildlife and natural spaces of all types. The new bridge has turned quiet trails into bike freeways. The shorelines are loaded with littering parties. At least half of all cyclists use narrow trails causing continued degradation of them. The people traffic will destroy this park forever.
- » Love the open grassland with sweeping views and lots of sky. Nice complement to Terwillegar. Would like to see it kept as a natural area and to preserve the grassland from Aspen encroachment.
- » A safe area from dogs off-leash.
- » A place to enjoy physical activities (hiking, trail running and year 'round mountain biking) in a natural setting

The park will leave a legacy in Edmonton as a leader in...

- » Connectivity in the River Valley
- » Habitat protection and restoration
- » The Ribbon of Green
- » Active recreation
- » An appreciation of natural and cultural heritage
- » Passive recreation
- » Community stewardship and responsibility
- » Safety for all visitors and neighbours
- » Design for a winter city
- » Unique character
- » Indigenous and First Nations heritage
- » Multicultural activities

Additional Comments

- » I see the city staff are up to their usual tricks in trying to sway the survey
- » Not clear what passive recreation even is. How about leader in outdoor activity and wellness.
- » Indigenous or First Nations component only if it is an evidenced historical site. It must be Multicultural.
- » Safety makes little sense. In what regard? Parks should not be viewed as safe but rather wild.
- » When you encourage the massive influx of people and provide all the necessary amenities for them you destroy the natural setting you talk about. Wildlife and the landscape are overrun by your vision. You are fully intending to turn it into an amusement park.

Help Name This Park!

Additional name suggestions:

- » Keep it simple.
- » long term upkeep is the best view, the city is full of the decayed remains of past projects.
- » Oleskiw River Valley Park should continue as it has been known and into the future.
- » If an Indigenous name is pursued then the Indigenous community needs to guide name selection. do NOT just use a Cree dictionary as a means to getting an Indigenous name
- » something representing the natural features of the area or the history of it. We need to stop naming things after people, especially politicians.
- » An Indigenous word meaning “natural” or “pure” or “wild” to reflect how the park will not (hopefully) be overdeveloped, over signed, over paved, etc.
- » This park is a great opportunity for protecting the environment.
- » I find the problem with naming it after people is I still don't know anything about them.
- » keep is simple so people can pronounce it and use it. Do not call it Oleskiw park since people do not know how to pronounce it.
- » Why not give it a pronounceable name?????
- » I'm not too particular about the name of the park but the Oleskiw name works well and is already familiar to Edmontonians.
- » Easy to spell, sense of place as related to what already exists around it and possibly include words that indicate use/purpose of the space. EG: “XXX Recreation Park” or “XXX Trails and Park”
- » Really like the idea of having a park named for something in nature, rather than for a person as most of the other parks are.
- » Whatever happens, let's not name another park after another white dude.
- » I think it should be named after me...BUT I haven't contributed enough to the city yet. LOL
- » Keep the park nature and allow space for all residents of Edmonton to come together and enjoy the beauty of the river valley. There is room for small gather area for special groups, but that should not take over the feel of the park.
- » Keep it simple and do not build.
- » Wolf willow is the name all residents refer to the area - not Oleskiw. If you ask a edmontonian where Oliakiw they will not know = refer to the park by its historic name - the same comments apply to the area of the city the only City Hall refers to as oleskiw,
- » Natural heritage is a good way to not put preference on one piece of the human history- it is a common tie to all and ultimately what is being celebrated in the space
- » There have been several incidents around the world where things have been renamed due to a change in historical interpretation of an event/time or the reputation of a person. We can't control the change, but it is something to consider when choosing the name - is there a greater than average chance of this being controversial in the future?
- » Please don't buckle under pressure to avoid a name chosen from a regional Indigenous language. They are not difficult to pronounce, racists are just slow to learn.
- » Why not keep Oleskiw?
- » Please don't name it after a 20th/21st century political figure - the name will get changed when that person's impact fades away
- » It need be relevant.
- » Freebird park, Critter's Heaven, PeacePark, Greenacres, eco-cove, Harmony fields,
- » Combine natural and traditional naming - what is “sturgeon” in Athabaskan?
- » In keeping with the community's desire to keep the park natural, the name should reflect it's natural features.
- » Simple, do not recognize politicians in the name.
- » How about The Beer Gardens? I still like Disney North. Fits your plans. Nature get stuffed really.
- » I believe some of the neighbourhoods (like our neighbourhood Wahstao) come from Indigenous peoples. Would be a good fit.
- » I like the present name, Olwskiw, after Joseph Oleskiw, a Ukrainian scholar who promoted immigration to Canada. That's Historical enough for me!
- » Mountain biking seems to be a fast growing sport in the city. More single track trails, signage and even education on trail etiquette and maintenance would be welcome.
- » Don't spoil it. Leave it the way its is.
- » While I recognize that we're on Treaty 6 land, and that there are a number of native ties to this space, please do not name the park a native name. It's not that I don't like the names, but hearing people butcher the pronunciation of the Anglicized spelling of the name doesn't do any good. Having it named after the neighbourhood (Oleskiw), which is a native name but one that is easy to pronounce as already has a presence in the West End, or Wolf Willow, Westridge, etc, allows people to know exactly where the park is located, thereby increasing word-of-mouth to visit the park. If you name the park a neighbourhood name you can then name smaller areas or features of the park other names (historical, indigenous, etc).
- » The current name for the park is just fine. Any effort or time spent creating a new name is wasted, and better put to use in improving the park in another way.
- » Oleskiw River Valley Park
- » The contest - make it well advertised and inclusive.
- » Already discussed in comment on previous page

- » Keep the Oleskiw name.
- » see previous comment
- » Why does it need a special name at all?
- » Nice name
- » Oleskiw Park
- » Oleskiw Park
- » oleskiw
- » Spite
- » Neighbourhood location
- » Neighbourhood name
- » the current name is just fine
- » Already has a perfectly good name: Oleskiw River Valley Park
- » Keep the Oleskiw River Valley Park name
- » Do a contest - it should merge native and current Canadian values.
- » anything EXCEPT political figures PLEASE!
- » Either name is Munson or Native name. Prefer native name is historic camping site definitely identified. If this is the case, then protect and show the camp site
- » No change
- » Munson Park
- » Keep the Oleskiw name.
- » no need to waste time and money on this
- » Oleskiw River Valley Park
- » Alan Park
- » If it could recognize more than one option that would be good - with signage explaining the meaning behind the name
- » Oleskiw River Valley Park
- » Open to Indigenous, not so much historical or political
- » Oleskiw Park is already a great name
- » Oleskiw
- » Parky McParkFace
- » Oleskiw Park
- » why not just leave it at Oleskiw, or Wolf Willow, Westridge, Woodward, etc? Leave it the community name so it's easy to place in the City.
- » Oleskiw River Valley Park
- » How do you propose to protect these things from Vandalism? I have noticed there is a lot of graffiti etc., broken benches etc in the parks. Group sitting areas always seem to be in use are any planned?
- » The enhanced viewpoint only if it could be done with minimal harm to the natural areas.
- » Edmonton is getting big and gross...I'd like to keep things as natural as possible.
- » Bench seating and enhanced viewpoints should be used where there is maintained green space immediately surrounding the bench structure.
- » i like having support for my back when seated.
- » Seeing as how there won't be anything to do the city should develop some enhanced viewpoints. Otherwise i would rather see million dollar homes generating tax revenue
- » Less intrusive would be nicer!
- » Create decent wind screens for the seats, or even a covered pavilion for people to come and contemplate the space.
- » Wooden benches better fit with the Winter City Design Guidelines!
- » Natural seating is beautiful and low maintenance! Enhanced viewpoint is only good if impact to natural surroundings is minimal. Large areas of grass are boring and provide negligible slope stability.
- » All proposed seating is acceptable; perhaps a mix of all types would be best, based on the existing terrain.
- » A combination of all of them would be nice.
- » Less maintenance
- » a mix of all three might be good depending on where they are located.
- » Natural would be too hot in the summer and too cold in the winter. Also, if they are vandalized, they would be difficult to repair.
- » Please ensure than aggressive design elements which hinder lying down or sleeping aren't incorporated into whichever seating ultimately prevails.
- » Natural or built by the locals and cared for by the locals. Whatever the locals truly love and care for.
- » Seating, in particular if the park will have to be accessed by walking distances is important.
- » The best part of this park is that you are in the middle of a City of a million people, and you would never know it. Keep it that way, we have other parks that preform the function of a busy gathering place.
- » Keep it natural
- » Leave it as is.....
- » More natural with some bench.
- » Leave the space alone. You manicure every one and I mean every one of our "natural" spaces.

Park Elements Additional Comments

Seating

- » Like a mix of natural and bench. Great design on the natural bench shown as it would also make an excellent table
- » Natural benches as presented would seem to have the lowest maintenance cost as well.
- » When I have biked through the park I haven't really seen any views that would warrant an enhanced viewpoint. Positioning a couple of benches so they have shade for a picnic lunch would be nice.

Gathering Spaces

- » The temporary space shown is inadequate. If it is provided by the city it is too small, if it is showing to be brought in by users I don't understand who would haul something like that for up to 1.8 km on foot. A more permanent covered structure would be required both for shelter from the elements and has a meeting and gathering space.
- » Least cost to construct, maintain
- » A selection of spaces
- » I think the small performance spaces are unrealistic considering the limited access points and no vehicle access in to the park.
- » Given the limited vehicular access, who would gather to use the gathering space, other than a group of cyclists?
- » As there is no close vehicle access i.e. parking lots, I don't think it's conducive to transporting tents, tables, etc.
- » There should be option for natural temporary or small performance space too.
- » Some form of picnic tables would be welcome.
- » just leave some open fields
- » I'd like more space that isn't permanently altered by people...leave it natural.
- » If access is restricted there isn't much point in developing a performance area that won't be used much
- » Temporary natural seems to be a better fit with the area.
- » Small gathering places - like a group of seats
- » Workout facilities: platforms for yoga mats, bars for setting up TRX straps. Actually build on what people are already doing in the space, instead of trying to compete with amenities that are already available in other parks
- » I'm not sure.
- » This park should have area where small groups can meet. These areas should be permanent, and fit into the natural landscape.
- » Currently the area has a big natural open space connected to the Terwileger footbridge on the north side. I think it should be left natural, as-is. This area is unique as most of the trails nearby are through trees
- » keep it natural
- » A combination of all of them would be nice.
- » As small and low maintenance as possible
- » Any man-made impact on the environment should be minimal
- » Natural - Natural; safe, stable and not over-designed.
- » Keep it subtle and blending with the landscape
- » again leave it alone.... that is why people use it.... its a respite from the city.
- » Again you contradict wanting a space for natural and wild things and suggesting these spaces. You have zero ability to live up to the natural setting. Again you are asking people to accept an amusement park theme. Disgraceful.

- » Like the park the way it is. Think we have enough manufactured parks already.
- » Please don't make it a 'performance' space. The walk is lovely just enjoying nature, and I would hate to see that disrupted if the park is turned into any kind of performance space.

Nature Play

- » Leave it to park visitors/families to do their own thing.
- » A selection
- » Photography
- » Let's be mindful of the fact that it's okay to enjoy the river valley and its parks, including this one, for the natural space that it is. Too much programming and infrastructure takes away from the natural, peaceful state and it can become as noisy (sound, visual, activity) as any other top of bank park. Let people just get out and enjoy nature with places to rest, use a washroom, get a drink, etc.
- » both are good.
- » Community programming that visits the park but isn't there always
- » - I would like to see a set of street workout equipment installed.
- » There is no point in developing informal play areas if that is what you want to do. Just let nature take over.
- » no preference
- » As long as there isn't infrastructure that needs to be built.
- » Nicely done
- » Low impact interactive community programs on environment, wildlife, river activities and safety would be interesting for participants and beneficial to the preservation of Edmonton's unique relationship with its natural surroundings.
- » I have no idea what community programming is.
- » AMUSEMENT PARK. Ridiculous.

Picnic Area

- » Least costly to construct and maintain.
- » Formalized picnicking will only bring litter and partying.
- » The amount of material needed for a barbecue is too much to be carried on a bicycle, so I can't really see anyone using a barbecue. Are there plans for any kind of toilet facilities? If not, I don't know how much you want to encourage picnics anyway.
- » All of the above will contribute to making the park a destination rather than merely a connector in the river valley trail system.
- » I would like to see restaurants, a venue for music and entertainment, playground for children and open picnic areas.
- » Some tables or simple shelters but not filling the whole area as this would impact the density usage of the area.

- » Maybe a shelter of shade, but nothing elaborate and no BBQs to keep it from being a large group destination
 - » No permanent, human made structures! We already have parks with lots of shelters and structures. Leave this one natural.
 - » Picnic table, shelters and BBQ infrastructure should only be located near roads and not be located more than 50 m from paved roads.
 - » We do not want BBQ's due to the fire hazard. We suggest no picnic tables or shelters due to vandalism which occurs to them in such an isolated area.
 - » No tax dollars should be spent on this. Do fundraisers.
 - » With no decent access one should not be encouraging fires via bbqs
 - » If you want tables and barbeques, use the "dog off leash" area on the south side of the river near the Terwiliger footbridge as there is already a parking lot there. A picnic area can be added here without taking up much of the expansive space.
 - » keep it natural
 - » Absolutely no BBQ's: pollutes the air and smoke is inhaled by people using the park for recreation. Furthermore, all existing BBQ's should be removed from Edmonton parks. Sheltered picnic areas may be useful (if integrated properly with the landscape) to encourage use of the park in inclement weather and to provide shade.
 - » If shelters it should be solar and simple
 - » I would also like to see in the picnic areas places where you can leash a dog to.
 - » Less food, less negative interaction between wildlife, park users; dogs and park users - less garbage and litter.
 - » No fires or BBQs. The grassland in the area would make it too dangerous.
 - » I would be wonderful to have the above options, however; I think due to the more remote location and accessibility it will allow young adults more opportunities to drink, party and start fires after hours. Lack of policing in these areas are already a concern for residence.
 - » Given the lack of access and the beautiful untouched natural area, I would hate to see this become a large group gathering place which might bring litter, erosion, and detract from the untouched nature -- the country in the city idea of an untouched natural area rather than just another urban park like Laurier, Hawrelak, Rundle, etc.
 - » My house currently backs onto a portion of greenspace that would be connected to the park. Due to the most recent fires that occurred last year within that park area I do not wish to see any structures that would encourage the use of BBQs or fires as access for firefighters is difficult and increased usage of this nature poses a potential threat to the neighbourhood due to potential and inevitable reckless behaviour.
 - » Living in Mill Creek ALL these areas have become party places for young people at night. They are totally unsupervised by police and the City as these will be too. Unless a complaint is filed you can be sure that these pits will have fires left burning in them as happens WEEKLY in Mill Creek. Trees are pulled down for firewood and they go so far as to use the cement pads as the fire base - not the container. This is remote from police. Anyone travelling down there late will be subjected to potential groups of partiers as we get in Mill Creek. These concepts for sure will be the death of this park. It is absolutely disgusting to think that you talk of preserving nature and want to do this to the area. Sad days for people who love natural spaces.
 - » If you encouraged eating/picnics, etc there would be a greater need for the parks to have vehicle access to the park to clean up these areas. Would it encourage coyotes to scavenge these sights?
 - » The lack of parking makes picnic use unlikely.
 - » These would be great but only if there are washrooms and drinking water (water fountain) present on-site.
- Active Recreation**
- » single track mountain biking trail on periphery and in trees.
 - » mountain biking
 - » Least cost to construct and maintain. No on-leash dog walking. No dogs period. Leave natures animals have the run of the park.
 - » Trails for cycling, summer and winter i.e. fatbike
 - » Leave the park as natural as possible with only a few seating/viewing areas. Limit intrusion of man-made elements
 - » Should be off leash area with owner's being encouraged to pick up poop (free poop bag stations). There should be a walking and running path.
 - » biking park, play areas and picnic areas
 - » I would like to see it kept a natural area
 - » Need a cycling trail
 - » Would like to see cycling and cross-country skiing.
 - » No structures such as outdoor gym or disc golf should be allowed due to incidence of vandalism and after hours parties.
 - » How about catering to normal people who are not into this fitness stuff.
 - » -For Trail Running I mean singletrack trails for running/ biking. -An outdoor gym is a great idea but would be better suited for a less isolated community park space (eg. Greenfield Park, Gallagher Park).
 - » off leash areas for dogs should be an option
 - » The more activities the better
 - » Mountain biking!! This is primarily what this park is for currently, and it should stay that way.

- » Still disappointed that after years of walking dogs off-leash pre-paved trail that it is an on-leash park. Since this is a winter city, there should be warming huts, and cross-country ski opportunities
- » bike trails
- » Trail Mountain Biking
- » Do not turn this area into a playground please
- » keep it natural
- » cycling
- » Flexible and base on strong community desire and partnership
- » There will be no vehicular access, this does not need to be a programmable space in my opinion, just a place that is natural, beautiful that you transition through on your feet or bike.
- » It would also be nice to have an off leash area
- » I am all for multi use, but not designated to a space (e.g. field; I would also like to see an allowance for some off lead dog walking as an extension of Terwillegar and to increase the "Dogs in Open Spaces Initiative."
- » Bike trails similar to running trails
- » Mountain Biking, XC skiing, Fat Biking in Winter
- » Mountain biking & singletrack
- » No dogs
- » Mountain biking
- » If possible, keep the dogs out or under strict control. I assume there will be spill over of dogs from Terwillegar and that the City will permit dogs on leashes. However, based on recent experience, some of these dog owners allow their dogs to run free Oleskiw. There will need to be better signage, enforcement and fines to prevent the off-leash community from taking over this park ... as they have done elsewhere in the City.
- » You're kidding? Convert natural open spaces to golf and multi use fields? The human traffic alone along with all your planned amenities will destroy any semblance of keeping this natural. You have Hawrelak, Emily Murphy, Rundle and others. Why destroy this setting? This park will be overrun. The ecology and nature will be trampled and destroyed. How can you fathom this is good for the park? The open fields are used by deer and the occasional moose at night. They forage there. You're talking of converting the open meadows to manicured grass. PLEASE DO NOT DO THIS!
- » Outdoor gym would be amazing! Since so many people run the stairs for a workout, this would be a great addition.
- » If you put in short grassed areas, (fields), I think it will encourage people to take their dogs off leash, (like in Terwillegar Park and other off-leash parks). The longer (wild?) grass that exists at the parks centre seems to stop this from happening. Yeah!! And also gives this park it's distinctive feel. It's a beautiful unspoiled vista that you don't get in any other parks in the city.

- » Mountain biking
- » Mountain biking! The trails in this park are particularly good for (1) beginner users and (2) winter Fat bike riding. A number of cycling clubs are using these trails for their youth club rides.
- » mountain biking
- » Single track bike trails

Trail Activities

- » Shared use trails will provide everyone the same access. No discrimination.
- » Hiking!
- » Human powered activities are best in a setting like this.
- » I see all of these activities happen on other trails, except of the shoe shoeing, whether they are permitted or not. I would like to see them planned for to mitigate conflicts.
- » skateboarding and rollerblading may be too fast for the trails mix of people at different speeds of activities.
- » I would not want to see private vehicle access to the park. Since access points right now require travel over shared use paths that should be maintained during the winter, access for cross country skiing and snowshoeing would be difficult. Similarly, since most access points require travel over gravel sections, rollerblading and skateboarding are not suited.
- » I prefer dirt paths over paved multi-use trails in our parks.
- » off leash for dogs
- » The picture you have of "Mountain biking" looks more like "Shared Use Trails". Single track is what should be emphasised.
- » Using the shared use trails in various parks throughout the river valley, it is very difficult to walk as people riding bikes are not using bells to warn of their approach from behind and will quite often almost run over the people walking.
- » Not sure why you ask the question since people already do all but the cross country skiing and the snowshoeing.
- » Gravel NOT paved which seem to quickly degrade and require maintenance. Make wide so foot and bike traffic can easily share.
- » Consider separated walking/cycling trails, rather than shared-use paths.
- » The more options provided the more people will be drawn to use the area.
- » keep it natural
- » education of shared path etiquette and courtesy on a web site and posted on trails with high traffic
- » Mountain bikers are destroying the natural treed area. This activity should be controlled before it looks like Terwillegar Park. Illegal clearing for mountain bike single tracks should be better patrolled by park rangers.

- » Intruding on natural spaces for the sake of leisure is maybe my least favourite aspect of the river valley trail system. Certainly this space can be accessible, but perhaps leaving all but the main thoroughfares unpaved would be the best option?
- » I think skateboarding and rollerblading would be difficult as the access points are barriers to this.
- » Shared use trails become dangerous as traffic increases. There should be a separate pathway for bikes and rollerbladers, and give the mountain biking group back their skinny trail. Look at other cities like Calgary that have had shared use pathways and pedestrians have been hit (worst case scenario died)
- » I would not object to paved trails being used for rollerblading or skateboarding, but as the park has limited access, less paved trail rather than more seems prudent.
- » Minimize the impact of any paving. Prioritize singletrack.
- » Not when you're asking 1000's to overrun this area. You are converting this park to a Hawreluk copy masking it with "Natural" talk. Again you have the intent to completely carve up and reshape this park. The forest trails cannot handle 100's a day tearing them up. Open areas to be converted for games, trails to be developed for more users, amenities everywhere and the destruction won't end. AMUSEMENT PARK!!
- » Built up mountain bike terrain.
- » leave the land as is. we have many parks and trails now and the city cannot afford to keep them in good repair city folk need space to go out to the woods and country side-explore- please leave in natural state
- » There is not too much potential for mountain biking in this park, thank goodness! Terwillegar Park will remain King in this sport because of it's hilly terrain. There is the 'Beginner' single track mountain biking trail along the river that is a great little track that I hope will remain. :) It also affords walking access to the sand bar. It would be nice to keep it 'as is'. Fat bikes are usually used in the winter, and again, this park is too flat to offer them much of a challenge. No problem having them use it as a corridor to other areas.
- » Single track trails
- » Need washrooms to provide for natural pressures impacting the human body. Least costly to construct/ provide maintain.
- » Would like to see heated with running water
- » Both are ugly and do not fit a natural park
- » If you are going to provide a pit toilet (can't really be called a 'wash'room, then my answer to picnic facilities needs to be changed. Is a sewage truck able to gain access to the park to empty the toilet?
- » Washrooms would be great!
- » There are staircases in other parks that are in poor shape - it would be shame to have this type of thing in the park and not be able to maintain it.
- » Bathrooms with heat and running water.
- » The staircase only if needed for access, but I think toilets for people are useful. Unless there are lots of bathrooms are Terwilliger people could use - say a 10 min walk don't need staircases. Pit washroom would be great given the size of the park. Otherwise people will just go in the bushes.
- » Washrooms? Really you would not put washrooms in? Seriously there are so few in the valley people have to use the bush. Lets pretend that we want to be civilized.
- » A washroom wouldn't be the worst amenity to add.
- » Warming huts Emergency phone (many people complain about cell coverage in certain areas) Running water in summer for dogs that require clean water and people who need bottle refills Where would the stairs be required??
- » Pit or compost toilet. Nothing that requires plumbing. No toilets near the water, have these near access points so easier to maintain.
- » Wooden stairs are a great, often overlooked piece of exercise equipment/infrastructure! We should consider this use when we build stairs.
- » A proper washroom with plumbing would be preferred.
- » Toilets are mandatory in a civilized country.
- » Pit smell is gross
- » Washrooms encourage people to stay, but they need to be safe and clean.
- » I am not opposed to a small staircase, but I am not sure where the small staircase would go.. I believe public washrooms near Fort Edmonton bridge and Terwillegar bridges are a great idea; within the park as it is today does not require further washrooms.
- » Ease of access and sanitation are both important, therefore stairs where required on banks subject to erosion if used otherwise and some form of regular washrooms whether Temporary or permanent at reasonable intervals. Public safety, in particular for women around washrooms is important, so I would suggest good visual exposure to minimize risk and a solar g11 station near by.

Amenities / Services

- » Washroom facilities in ALL our city parks are woefully inadequate. Heated buildings, Flush toilets and running water (including HOT water) are A MUST and should be open and maintained YEAR ROUND! (And open longer! 7 am - 11 pm in the summer, 8 am - 8 pm in the winter, later if there are lit x-country ski trails.) If we are to call Edmonton a winter city, we better have the facilities to back it up! Suggesting pit washrooms in any city park is a bad joke!
- » Water fountains or water bottle refill stations

- » Pit washroom would be nice as long as there are no concerns from an environmental standpoint. There do need to be additional emergency boxes. Currently they are too far apart and staff answering on the other end have no idea where the call box is.
- » Wheelchair accessible ramps/switchbacks to go with stairs
- » AMUSEMENT PARK! Call it Disney North
- » It's probably wise to have a pit washroom at the north side of the Ft. Edm. bridge. A better road surface or a staircase? from the Riverbend road access point. It would be nice to have the road paved going down into the park from the Riverbend Road access point. It's very dusty to walk/bike in the summer when vehicles are using it and very slippery underfoot in the winter months.
- » Where in the park are you putting stairs?
- » Staircase is required for better access to the park from the south side of the river, across the Terwillegar Park footbridge. A water station on the Terwillegar Footbridge would be great!
- » I do not think there are any places in the park that would require a 'small staircase'. It would be nice if the grade of the Westridge/Wolf Willow staircase was changed so that it wasn't so steep.

Maintenance

- » Add people! Maintenance workers to keep washrooms clean and serviceable. Park rangers for safety and too keep an eye out for vandalism / improper behaviour.
 - » Waste receptacles are needed. Park visitors are enable to perpetuate their lack of respect for keeping parks clean. Most ignore "leave only your footprints" Signs are a unnecessary COST. Must allow park visitors/patrons to be responsible.
 - » Wayfinding signage!
 - » This will make it look like an inner city dog park
 - » I see too much damage to other multi-use trails from vehicle passage - damage to paved surfaces and ruts where vehicles cannot maneuver turns without going off the paved areas. Please use smaller and lighter vehicles for maintenance.
 - » Given the natural environment of the park, waste receptacles need to be animal proof, not like the one shown.
 - » Particularly if there is picnicking, there should be trash cans
 - » Both are especially important with mixed use activities and large numbers of people.
 - » For sure otherwise there maybe garbage everywhere. The signage should be the same as other parks in the river valley. There should be a cohesive system of signage
 - » No signs!
- » Edmonton Parks have poor ability to maintain signage in parks areas. Across the city, the signs are out of date, inconsistent, and mostly negative (do not do this, closed, regulations, etc) - not encouraging of use or helpful. Don't add to this problem.
 - » waste receptacles would require regular vehicle access to empty them since park employees don't seem to want to walk to empty these in any current parks. To limit vehicle usage in the park, users should be encouraged to pack out everything they bring in.
 - » Maps at park entrances.
 - » Directional signage is important
 - » Waste receptacles on egress points for dog owners. I would suggest trash cans near any gathering place but that is usually a Waste of time - people can't seem to walk 10ft to a water bin. It may be worth trying a pack it out policy.
 - » How dumb do you think people are, that they can't figure out how to use trails?
 - » Please have garbage cans that birds can not access and remove trash from. Like the toilets, have near access points so easier to maintain. Signage should also be at access points and minimal (if at all) in the core of the park to increase feeling of getting away from it all.
 - » Recycling bins
 - » Keep the park clean and safe!
 - » shared path etiquette and courtesy and posted on trails with high traffic
 - » It would be nice if signage fit in with the surroundings - enough to stand out to be noticed, but not because they are an eyesore or blocking a view.
 - » Waste receptacles at the bridges please!
 - » The doggie disposal bag dispensers are great! Absolutely need garbage cans
 - » I understand that the in ground waste receptacles result in less damage to natural trails. Signs are necessary, but need to avoid domination of the environment.
 - » More Emergency call boxes
 - » Especially signage for cyclists
 - » Clear signage ... No Off-Leash
 - » These are " Natural"?
 - » There is a waste receptacle I think at the Ft. Edmonton bridge, and again in Terwillegar park. I don't see a need for more. There are no 'fast food' areas nearby which is the usual culprit for waste. I've seen very little litter there since it opened. Yes, proper signage showing it is an ON-leash area. The small sign on the Terwillegar bridge is barley visible, especially for those that don't really want to see it! Also at the other entrances from the northeast side of the park.

Wayfinding

- » But make it look less like a public toilet
 - » Map kiosk should have seating
 - » I do like the new signs the city has developed, I look forward to seeing them city wide
 - » Only do this if it can be done with excellence (which will mean a departure from how the city approaches wayfinding and signage today). Accurate and detailed maps that show links to the full trail system, distances, directions, etc. would be needed - and in weather resistant materials.
 - » map kiosk is too large and potentially flammable and subject to vandalism
 - » Given the terrible lack of decent signage in our City Parks right now, I'll believe it when I see it.
 - » Map Kiosk at entrance areas only along with interpretive information (historical, environmental, etc.) Directional signs at key junctions in the park interior.
 - » The weird old maps of the river valley park system get a surprising amount of use! They may not be an important wayfinding tool, as much as an important "hey look where we are!" tool.
 - » APP for mapping?
 - » If you do either make it solar
 - » No need for large map kiosks but park map on mobile device would be useful!
 - » Either or both options are acceptable; maps are fun...
 - » Leave this park natural, people will find their way through the park. Signage at Goldbar was excessive and does not have a place here if it becomes a natural space
 - » information signage is good too.
 - » The bigger structure should be solar if built. Wayfinding could be online and virtual. Less obtrusive the better. I am impressed by the low impact nature of these park suggestions! Well done.
 - » Map Kiosk by one of the foot bridges with seating might be nice.
 - » Map kiosk at major "intersection" (eg. West side of Fort Ed. Footbridge), directional signage elsewhere
 - » Less is more. Remember this is still a flood plain
 - » Leave it natural
 - » A map kiosk could incorporate the history of the floodplain area as well. I'm surprised that there wasn't directional signage put up already!! I get asked all the time where the Terwillegar footbridge is and how far away, etc.
 - » Leave the park alone
- » My favourite trails are not those manicured by the city, but rather those that were developed by hikers and bikers. Winding, single file almost bush whacking trails!
 - » Given than mountain bikes are going to be on the narrow trails, they need the gravel to prevent erosion.
 - » A combination of trails would be nice.
 - » depends on what the use of the park is.
 - » A combination of the above to provide access to and around Oleskiw park from Terwillegar Park parking lot for people requiring mobility aids.
 - » I think a variety is needed. If a trail is going through sensitive areas then a boardwalk, with signage to tell people why their dogs have to stay on the boardwalk too. The variety so there can be less conflict amongst users.
 - » boardwalk is flammable and subject to vandalism and maintenance over the years.
 - » paved trails should be limited to the existing trail connecting Terwillegar bridge and Fort Edmonton bridge.
 - » paved trail would be ok in some areas but not with tax dollars being used for it as it is not needed
 - » Maybe some natural or aggregate trails to accommodate other uses. Boardwalks probably are expensive to maintain.
 - » Aggregate is the WORST! You can't bike on it, and it makes a mess. Paved or natural only please. Boardwalks can be dangerous when there's people and cyclists going both directions on them at the same time.
 - » Not sure if I understand this one... All of these options are already available minus the boardwalk...
 - » The type of trail depends on the use and level of access. As natural as possible unless it results in environmental destruction
 - » The current paved trail has some spots that were so poorly installed for drainage that it is impassable for about 6 weeks in the spring - should be a focus to have fixed. Not sure how to comment on the remaining trail options as you've provided no context as to where you would like to install the options...the park has pretty good trail access now - how would you actually improve it for various uses?
 - » Don't pave the trails!! Keep trails out of more sensitive marshy areas - - so no boardwalks.
 - » Whatever the most frequent users and locals want most. Not fair for me to say
 - » Multitude of trails for different activities in all seasons would be ideal, however, need to consider minimizing environmental impact and avoid excessive number of trails to maintain.
 - » We need paths available for all . . . Especially cyclists.
 - » Existing paved trails and single track trail network are enough. No need for more trails.

Trails and Pathways

- » All paved trails should be wide, multi use trails.
- » Provide a variety of trail types and experiences
- » Paved trails are but an extension of suburban sidewalks - a park is a park - go somewhere like Woburn in the UK to see what such a park really is.

- » While all might work, it is important that the trails do not destroy valuable habitat or wildlife homes, can easily be maintained, and fit within the surroundings. A boardwalk may be good over some wetter areas, but if that is home to wildlife, then that would be a detrimental placement.
- » Depends where and why.
- » I regularly bike and run through the river valley and prefer aggregate or paved trails. The natural trails are nice but when they are so tight they introduce conflicts.
- » The main path needs to be paved, wide and marked to pedestrian use, and/or cycles. Boardwalk can be used to access picnic area, natural trail for mountain bikes etc
- » All of the above in combination or variety would be acceptable. Have very much enjoyed the boardwalks at the Clifford E. Lee Bird Sanctuary, appreciate the quality of the new aggregate trail between Terwillegar and Henday Utility; paved trails are a fact of life and have their place - again remember it is a flood plain. Natural trails are a pleasure as well, but they do need regular maintenance if used by mountain bikes or after periods of wet weather.
- » I feel very strongly that natural trails should be left as they are.
- » If you leave the paved trail as the only one. The natural trails are there but your planned traffic use means these will become much bigger and be degraded. And cyclists will make more as you encourage more usage. Boardwalks only if your intent is to keep people out of the majority of the open areas. You build trails of all types and you fully know this park will look nothing like its present setting in 5 years. You truly do not want a natural park it is clear.
- » Leave the single track alone please! Enough is there with the one paved path
- » There is a natural trail already along the river, (please leave it as-is). The paved trail to the Terwillegar bridge is already paved, BUT NEEDS TO BE GRADED!, as it floods in several places in the spring, making the trail virtually impassable.
- » All trails should be multi-use, open to all users. Conflict can be avoided by showing courtesy to other uses (e.g. bear bells for mountain bikes, hikers and walkers (1) staying on their side of paved trails and (2) being aware of other users by not having loud headphone music (particularly on singletrack natural surface trails)
- » Love the idea of Arboretum though would also include Burr Oak, other Oaks that are now becoming growable in Zone 3, Silver Maple, other Maples that now becoming growable, Butternut
- » Why would you want a native tree arboretum when there are already native species present in a natural environment to be enjoyed. It is not always necessary to "improve" "enhance" a park. Leave it as a park with a few garbage containers, a pit toilet one or two picnic tables and some natural trails. There is already a paved multi use trail another is not needed.
- » Last I was there it was mostly an open space. I think returning it to more natural areas should happen. The arboretum only if it is really more a forested area
- » Just leave it the way it is with the exception of planting natural grasses in the park
- » The hay field should undergo restoration to return it to natural river valley trees and vegetation.
- » It was farmed for years, and is now one of the largest open public park spaces in the city. These options have no meaning without better context of what they would mean for the space.
- » Protect sensitive riparian zones.
- » Save the trees! The green is why we come here!
- » Leave it natural and better policing of the creation of new trails by mountain bikers
- » A tree museum sounds interesting. Would work best with signage explaining the concept and the various trees. May help when certain diseases/bugs come through that destroy specific trees.
- » I am supportive of all provided there is some reasonable access through the park. The one paved trail is nice but a second aggregate trail would be amazing!
- » And bat and bird houses
- » A combination of the above would be a lovely enhancement of the river valley.
- » Create a space for people to experience native plants and educate them on traditional uses.
- » Only plan that is right for this park.
- » The Arboretum might be a good use of the open field.

Preservation

- » Provide a selection
- » The more natural the better. I want to hear birds, I want to see squirrels, as natural as can be.
- » As Oleskiw Park is quite open, additional native trees would enhance the area. Even native shrubs such as saskatoon bushes would be nice. The current forested areas should be left intact.
- » Preserve the habitat and wildlife spaces.

Restoration

- » Remove invasive species and let Mother Nature take care of the restoration.
- » The trees will capture CO2.
- » Provide a selection.
- » We need to protect our environment and the animals that live with us. Especially the bees, coyotes, beavers, birds etc.... I love living in Edmonton but feel we need to do more.
- » I would LOVE to see restored native prairie, and this seems like an ideal place for it!
- » Restore the field area to a natural flood plain habitat.

- » The native prairie would have some wildflowers. I would love some forest and some prairie, but not just letting the grass grow actual prairie plantings.
- » All of these
- » I like all these ideas.
- » no tax dollars should be used do fundraiser have a bake sale
- » the city needs to make sure its policies are not supporting invasive species removal. Look at what is happening with respect to Dandelions.
- » HAHAHA - this is why you approved the truly awful seeding job on the Oleskiw side of Terwilligar footbridge, to restore natural prairie via a weed infestation. I believe what your department behaves, and there has been nothing restorative to the land vegetation in regards to the bridge installation - it's an ugly, mess of arbitrary plantings on the river banks and weeds on the adjacent land. Why are we compelled to accelerate the restoration project that nature is already undertaking in the space. Year-over-year there are significant changes as nature reclaims the space.
- » The point is to connect people with nature, but only if those plantings make sense for the area.
- » Less soil disturbance
- » How "unnatural" is the current space? I don't believe a large part of the project budget should be spent on restoring the area but some improvement is welcomed.
- » The area has already begun to fill in naturally and beautifully. Perhaps it would help if the survey specified how non native species have impacted the area before we can make an educated choice
- » I would put the highest priority on minimizing the impact of invasive species. Restoration of any kind and flowers during the summer months add to the enjoyment of the area.
- » Especially the invasive species removal.
- » planting of traditional indigenous herbs and medicines.
- » By definition, would the park have been parkland or prairie historically?
- » Natural plans are the right ones. Not golf and more cyclists and fire pits.
- » I don't think restoring the native prairie, (was it every native prairie there?), would enhance the park. Nor planting wildflowers. Restore native forest?? It's a floodplain after all. I think just leaving the forested area that's there is fine. The Caragana bushes are invasive but that's a huge problem for the whole river valley. Where would you possibly start??
- » But do not build ugly structures like those in the pictures - makes it look like Canada's Wonderland - it's a nature park, not Disneyland
- » A minimalist approach.
- » Less is more! The reason our river valley is so fantastic is because it is as natural as possible, let's keep it that way.
- » The interpretive signs I have seen throughout the valley are vandalized with graffiti. Unless money is set aside for upkeep, they become unsightly. For example, at Hermitage Park, a nice "dock" was installed over a pond with many of these signs and they are filled with obscenities carved into them.
- » The bird blinds, towers and nature deck look man made and really do not enhance the outdoor experience.
- » Sort of like the idea of bird blind, bird watching tower, or viewing deck, but being somewhat familiar with the park, I am not sure if any of these make sense. Maybe use these structures elsewhere in river valley
- » natural tree cover by the river is a sufficient enough bird blind for people if a viewing area is opened. Not obtrusive structures.
- » The bird blind is interesting as long as it isn't too large or becomes a party spot
- » No intrusive structures - keep it natural.
- » Definitely NOT the big, ridiculous birding structures!!!! Blech! Dumb and ugly.
- » Any man-made infrastructure should fit with the natural environment.
- » the fewer signs and structures the better due to maintenance and possible vandalism
- » This morning I saw multiple bird species, but nothing particularly special. If birders want to be a part of that, fine. The deer are dangerously habituated to humans and approach so close, I get concerned for safety, if I had little kids with me, I'd be scared. Same goes for the coyotes, although I see them far less now that the trail has been paved and traffic has picked up. (I haven't been stalked/ watched by a coyote since before the bridge opened up, I think they moved their dens further out during construction). Very opposed to filling in the field with trees, unless there is a compelling reason (field erosion), as it is a sense of prairie unavailable anywhere else in the City. Nature will take it back in due course.
- » No construction. It is possible to appreciate nature without building structures. There will be natural regeneration without formally planting trees.
- » A few months ago, I visited a park with a number of bird blinds in the UK. Inside, there were bird identification guides, which make it an interesting, and accessible piece of infrastructure even for someone like me who knows nothing about birds.

Nature Education

- » To contribute reduction of the so called carbon sequestration issue. <http://www.climatedepot.com/2017/05/02/watch-greenpeace-co-founder-dr-patrick-moore-45-min-interview-there-is-no-such-thing-as-climate-science/>

- » Do the signage and interpretation online and via APs Signs are expensive and intrusive.
- » No park benches; all I ever see is homeless people and graffiti on them. Bird watching tower may be ok but consider visual impact. The tower shown is not visually appealing, however, I find the viewing deck acceptable. Interpretive signage creates clutter and I find that signage becomes dated quickly.
- » While birders may like the blinds, towers, and deck, I worry about maintaining those structures, keeping them safe and clean.
- » Building a bird blind is not a good idea. Too much maint.
- » Before the community plants trees please begin to clear all of the downed and dead trees that are a wildfire waiting to happen.
- » I very much enjoy bird watching and am unsure that such elaborate structures to do so are necessary. I would also keep the signage to a minimum, but I am certain there are several elements that may prove unique to Edmonton or the specific area that would be informative.
- » All noble concepts especially for us that love nature and natural settings. History shows these will become party places loaded with graffiti as you build your vision. What wildlife are you going to see during the day in this park? What bird viewing do you expect as well? I'd rather the park be dedicated to these types of activities but I'm smart enough to know that wildlife of all types will go in to permanent hiding as you encourage this amount of traffic. These will be great places to watch endless cyclists, golfers, picnickers, orienteering, runners, people events and anything else going on in the park besides wildlife. Add these to the DISNEY NORTH vision.
- » The less visual man made structures the better for this WILD park!
- » Wildlife, bird and plant viewing/appreciation are all great activities, which I would encourage on an individual, rather than programmed, basis.
- » I would like to see more native prairie plantings. I love flowers and gardens, but this is not the area for that. The gardens around the Muttart are very nice, but even there the city can't seem to maintain the trees (lots of that poop on a stick disease)
- » Keep the area as natural as possible.
- » keep it natural
- » I would prefer a more natural park. Indigenous Heritage features should only be incorporated if there is evidence that such features existed on that land prior to development of the golf course and subsequent farm.
- » - Leave it natural and how it once was and should be
- » Please no indigenous features. The first nations people on western canada have been recognized enough in other areas.
- » no comment at this time
- » This seems in direct competition with the idea of ecological restoration - please do not introduce new plant species on purpose.
- » This is a use of our parks we should encourage
- » What ever people want enough to build themselves Do not patronize people and guess and what will be loved and maintained. If you over build it may be neglected and abandoned.
- » I think the area should be left as-is unless the indigenous folks have a religious or heritage reason for a Medicine wheel or rock cairns.
- » leave it natural
- » These are unnecessary features for this particular park. Focus should be on nature and active recreation such as running, biking, cross-country skiing etc.
- » The garden is nice, but again I think about maintenance.
- » I only tentatively suggest structures such as medicine wheels under the assumption that this a priority of regional Indigenous groups. If this is the city's initiative then I can in no way support it.
- » Only what community groups love and are willing to maintain and respect. Locals heavily invested will help.
- » The Rock Cairns is interesting, I worry that if the rocks are disturbed by visitors whether it would become a sensitive issue. Not being indigenous, I am unaware of the sensitivity for places like this so if it is permanent and inclusive to all, I'm fully in support.
- » Natural!
- » If there is specific Indigenous history associated with this location, then by all means, otherwise, if required do so at a minimum.
- » Absolutely no to an agricultural garden! Indigenous peacemaking would be wonderful
- » You have to be kidding! Your last questions were about nature and then you flop to this? Unbelievable.

Landscape Features

- » dump the politics.
- » engage the community to produce their food.
- » Leave things as natural as possible. Forget all the indigenous heritage stuff. It's a park, not some P.C. display ground!
- » They all would be fine provided there is signage. None would be fine as well.
- » This is a small area plans for many of the items in this survey would totally be counter to a vision of a natural wildlife area in the river valley. Terwillegar Park is going to have many of the facilities which is very close by.

- » Don't need to spend tax payer dollars
- » Leave it natural.

River Interaction

- » Please do not clutter the park with ugly platforms, viewing decks and the like.
- » These are always nice features.
- » Is it possible to put a boat launch (informal or formal) for non- motorized boats in this park? Similar to what Terwillagar off leash park or Emily Murphy Park currently has
- » I would like boating related activities, such as canoeing, surfing and a whitewater rafting course. swimming and a beach area.
- » having the river there is an advantage we should be able to use and go up to no structures
- » - An informal river access that allows a person to launch or land a canoe or kayak would be nice
- » We need to develop access to the river.
- » Access as is, is great. You can reach the water in late summer and stay away from the danger the rest of the year.
- » The river does rise and again I'm thinking safety.
- » Let the people build it.
- » A river platform would be amazing. Especially near Fort Edmonton bridge connecting to the sand bar!
- » Keeping both public and wildlife safety in mind, informal and natural is preferred; structure where necessary to protect against erosion or risk of falling.
- » keep river access informal in this space but don't go on banning access for people. That's stupid.
- » accessibility for the disabled
- » It's there anyway. Just follow the empty beer cans and liquids containers. When you're done you'll have created the perfect party park. Hard for enforcement to deal with, out of easy viewing and all the structures and amenities they'll need. Your wildlife plan will come to be.
- » The river's bank is not very steep along this park and the NATURAL access points are fairly easy to navigate. The sand bar is easy to wade out to and any 'formal' deck or platform would spoil the natural look of the area. Kids need to see 'unspoiled natural landscapes' and this park, hopefully, will give them that chance. I know this area used to be part of the golf course and a farm field, so essentially it's already 'spoiled' but upon first seeing it it just looks like a 'natural area'.

Art

- » Let nature be the art!
- » Art installations should be TEMPORARY in nature.
- » It's noted that bad ideas like the Whitemud shining balls that cost taxpayers a fortune are still rampant at City Administration - how to waste our money exercises.
- » Keep it natural!
- » OMG no! No silver balls, do not tacky it up. If you want to do something tacky go downtown.
- » I think natural elements should be the focus.
- » A waste of money that could be spent better to improve other parks.
- » Nature provides all the art that you need.
- » Natural environment is already a work of art. Do not need to add artworks.
- » I love to see all art, but the snow sculptures can be elsewhere. The other could be incorporated into a natural design
- » No. Keep it natural. Art should be kept to places such as Hawrelak Park and not appropriate for a park that focuses on retaining and building on natural features.
- » keep it natural
- » A permanent art installation by a local artist could be a great addition to the park. Avoid overpriced, pretentious eyesores *cough* Talus Dome *cough*.
- » Art isn't important if we do the other things talked about.
- » Winter art could be okay? As long as they don't bulldoze half the park to accommodate it...
- » no comment at this time
- » I think all of these ideas are great, but this is not the right location.
- » I have such a low opinion of the public installation arts program in the City, that despite my passionate belief in public art, the thought of art similar to what we have already fills me with dismay. Specifically: the art we choose often lacks scale to its situated placement; lacks context beyond the random inspirations of the artist; rarely reflects Edmonton's history in a culturally meaningful way (immigrants; prairie history; etc); and seems stunningly overpriced for the actual pieces/talent involved. Please don't put this into a park with the unique scope, scale and attributes of Oleskiw.
- » Let's commission local artists, rather than having all our large-scale pieces go to international studios!
- » The surrounding makes its own art no need to add to that. Use what GOD gave you.
- » Community art shown looks cluttered. Winter art programming looks great but should be focused at Hawrelak Park in conjunction with the Ice Castle. Art installation should integrate with surroundings.
- » the top two might work depending on what they are (the pictures don't inspire me). Art is always a good thing to expose people to.
- » The city's arts initiatives just fuel gentrification. Art bought on behalf of the city or affiliated groups is merely large, expensive, and inoffensive. Art is emergent. If the city wishes to encourage it, build a free (graffiti) wall or similar legal and inviting opportunities for expression.

- » Just what comes up naturally. Do not plan it!
- » I do not feel that public art is required in the river valley. Public art to me is used to enhance the urban realm which can be uninspiring without. A natural area does not require this type of treatment.
- » The appeal of the area currently is its natural state. Spend the money on art installations downtown or other urban areas. Winter art only if it doesn't have a negative impact on the vegetation
- » Snow sculpture that you have to walk twenty minutes to access might be very entertaining and fun to encounter. Permanent art, if done, needs to blend with the surroundings and highlight the relationship between the city and its natural surroundings, not dominate or suggest man's control over his surroundings.
- » At most indigenous place-making, an offering site, or a place for ceremony. This is an undisturbed natural area. We can have art in Hawrelack.
- » Stop wasting City money on these terrible art projects
- » no permeant art
- » And another wow. Hmmm? Nature or not. Mazes and art. Now that's natural.
- » Don't need to spend tax payer dollars
- » Keep it natural. The beauty of the place is natures ART in my opinion!! I don't think you'll be able to have large programming efforts in this park with it's limited access points. It's an 'out of the way' park and winter art programming may be better accessed in parks like Hawrelak, Rundle, etc.
- » I do not believe the park space requires any art installation. I am saying that based on the intended use of the park, not any cost associated with possible art installations (I like them in other areas).
- » I would only drive to get there.
- » Transit options to or near any of the cities parks are a great idea (even if they don't already exist).
- » - We use the river and access this area by canoe or kayak. It would be nice to see a nice hand launch site here.
- » I did manage to get across the country club to it before...
- » Through the country club - please negotiate for this to be acceptable
- » I profoundly disagree with your assessment on parking access. Why can't parking be developed close to the Fort Edmonton Footbridge at the west (ish) end of Fort Edmonton...their horse paddocks are huge vs their needs. The notion that 800 m to walk over the Terwillegar footbridge is too far is wrongheaded. Decent investments in unheated warming shacks for winter, would enable cross country ski use (after walking across the bridge). You don't address how people use the park trails and expanding the opportunities for recreation and/or working out - like permanent installation of bars/platforms for HIIT training by individuals (which is lacking in this city). You don't mention creating open picnic spaces, via gravel pathways near some of the existing trees. BTW - your map says natural trails - have you spoken to some of the senior citizens who talk of walking those trails to the old gravel pit, those trails aren't natural, just old and maintained by walkers and mountain bikers. Also, this park is easily accessed by bike or foot from Patricia Heights.
- » I park by the Westridge strip mall and walk south on the sidewalk through the neighborhood to the top of the stairs that lead to the Fort Edmonton footbridge or down the past through Patricia raven which take me to the stairs park in the country club and walk down the hill and hen through the bush and your there
- » Other=Running (Not walking)
- » On occasion in good weather I will walk with my dog to Terwillegar Park from our home near the Henday Utility Corridor. It would be beneficial to the development of this park to minimize the immediate impact of cars and parking.
- » Park at Ft Edmonton Park, walk to Oleskiw from there
- » Canoe
- » Option for canoe landing?
- » Like to walk along river trail from Powerline near A. Henday through Terwillegar or from Ft Edmonton Parking Lot
- » Running trail and bike path Summer and winter I like that no parking lot or car acces is planned
- » From the river by canoe/kayak/paddle board
- » I note the Terwillegar Footbridge access lists the walking time from the Terwillegar Park parking lot. Since I live in Rhatigan Ridge, I walk to the park, using the wide double track gravel/dirt trail that carries on far west of the bridge site, to the bottom of the hill, and then doubles back onto the paved trail. It would be much more useful to southside

How do you get to the park?

- » Car: 24%
- » Transit: 0%
- » Walk: 34%
- » Bike: 35%
- » Other: 0%

Additional Comments

- » snowshoeing in winter from north approaches.
- » There is parking lot located approx. 150-200 meters east of the Ft. Edmonton footbridge, close the residential area. This is my preferred parking lot for accessing Oleskiw. Recommend adding a new parking lot at the south abuttment of the Ft. Edm footbridge.
- » I belong to a hiking group so we would normally park in a large public parking area and walk.
- » Just to be clear, I would drive to river valley and park then walk over to Oleskiw.

residents to have a staircase leading up to Rooney Crescent where there is currently a very steep path down the hill.

General Additional Comments

- » This plan appears to have a lot of built up things that detract from anything natural, please don't make it a fun park, go somewhere away from the river valley if you want to add lots of human trappings.
- » I prefer to see the parks as undeveloped as possible. My favourite memory of this particular park is from a few years ago, walking through the field on not much of a trail at all and sharing the space with about 7-8 coyotes. We need more of these raw, natural spaces for our mental and physical well-being. Keep the developed spaces for neighbourhood parks.
- » Option for drivability would be to remove large city-owned storage yard and replace with parking which would be less ugly
- » It is great space and we need more natural areas along the river. It is a great opportunity to return the land and water to its more natural state for us all to enjoy
- » Keep it as natural as possible with very basic, natural trails. Let it be an oasis for wildlife and nature lovers.
- » concerned about safety and after hours bush parties in the park, especially in the summer. How will it be patrolled? Will bush fires be started? Park is to be closed after 11pm. Who will monitor this and enforce it?
- » Edmonton should annex the country club into this park, and restore it to natural conditions.
- » Whatever is implemented for the park, the City of Edmonton has to provide the staff to monitor and maintain the park and enforce the by-laws / regulations that are within the park, ie - dogs on leashes, picking up after dogs, emptying garbage on a regular basis, etc. The City has finally identified itself as a winter city and the trails should be cleared in the winter so that the park can be accessed by all, even those with mobility issues during the winter months.
- » Have public consultations on more than one evening, and not during the last week of school. Look to expand on what people are already doing in the park - support users and grow that base, before indulging in "if we build it, they will come." The uniqueness of the park is inherent in the flood plane, build on those activities and make choices that demonstrate that citizen users are supported and respected...not just shoehorned into another city master plan.
- » To ensure equal safety and harmony for all aspects of this park, it is important that this park allows only dogs that are leashed. That way the trails are safe for all users and loose dogs are not infringing on the wildlife.
- » This plan is great just keep simple and natural.
- » Land is the important thing and working with community not patronizing them or planning for them.
- » Access is difficult at best - do not waste added money by building monuments in it.
- » Ideally there would be a method to 'discourage' abuse of the natural areas, but I am not sure how that would be accomplished
- » Toilets are necessary in a civil society.
- » PLEASE...no off-leash area. There is already so much of that and in a remote area like this park, owners are likely to leave their dogs off-leash between Terwillegar and Oleskiw if they are just travelling to another off-leash area on the other side of the river. There needs to be some parts of the river valley that do not have dogs running around.
- » I love all the ideas mentioned! A nice variety and year-round festivals/activities would be fantastic!
- » Keep it natural- the spaces in the city to walk on a dirt path through the forest are few!
- » Oleskiw park and the new footbridge are a great addition to the river valley. I think the main purpose of these is to provide better connectivity of the park system. The current park gets the job done nicely. The park's natural state is very beautiful in all seasons as it is, and should be preserved. The park definitely doesn't need any added structures or vehicle access. Activities should focus mostly on using the trails for walking, running, biking, etc. Benches, a washrooms, and waste receptacles are always a good idea, and maybe some added plants to conceal the wire fence at the country club. But save the money on picnic shelters or viewing decks and invest it instead in maintaining trails (here and in other parts of the river valley).
- » This cannot be another experiment in providing leisure space for Edmonton's middle class. Directing the use of the area along these lines marginalizes those who have little choice but to occupy public space.
- » I like the area as a natural park to pass through, with limited development. Some way finding signs at the bridges w/ washrooms would be lovely. Terwillegar park is supposed to be the enhanced park w/ more programmable space. Between Laurier/Buena Vista and Terwillegar parks I believe we do not need more programmable space and/or bbq areas.
- » Thank you for not allowing cars and a parking lot!!
- » Again I would like to emphasize, given the proximity to Terwillegar Off Leash Park, that a portion of the park accommodate off leash users too in order to allow multi use parties to learn to better integrate their enjoyment of our wonderful river valley resource.
- » Keep the river valley natural as much as possible. That's what makes it special!

- » don't overdevelop
- » please leave it alone. put some paths garbage cans and bathrooms and some signage for directions. that is it.
- » Parking is a concern. Current access points on the quiet no through road at the Wolf Willow Stairs (Wolf Willow Crescent and Wolf Willow Point) have become dangerous for neighbourhood families due to traffic, speeding, illegal parking, illegal u turns, drug deals, and littering, by the hundreds that come over a weekend to access the stairs. Traffic will only increase so parking should be designated to main road - "Wolf Willow Road"
- » i would like to see the park as a way to feel like you're nowhere near the city, yet still remain accessible.
- » I beg you to keep this as natural as possible. One of Edmonton's strengths is its natural river valley, largely undeveloped. And with all the current research about Vitamin N (Nature) and how it helps mental health, children's learning and development, management of stress levels, etc. it would be a shame to erode one of our last remaining untouched pieces of river valley land!
- » Being that there are parks located along Wanyandi road and the neighbourhood is quite safe at the moment I do not wish to see a significant increase in traffic and encouragement for people to be driving through and parking in the neighbourhoods compromising this safety. Perhaps better access points could be developed at already existing points such as Fort Edmonton or Terwillegar park.
- » I think I've said enough that you'll choose to throw in the garbage can. Disney North here you come Edmonton. Sad times in our battles to protect spaces and those that call them home. But then again City of Edmonton has a clear cutting philosophy anyway.
- » Consider leaving the trails mountain bike trails as they are. They can be shared and used by everyone.
- » Keep it natural. It is one of the few untouched areas of the river valley and should be preserved as such. It is a beautiful area already abundant with habitat and wildlife, let it be, BUT maintain what has now been constructed.
- » state of the economy in Eddmonton and the province is not good this is not the time to to spend money on extravagant park plans!
- » I would really like to see the open nature of the park preserved. The continuation of natural features and preservation in the west part of the city is very special. The only addition I could see would be a canoeing lake.
- » Keep park as natural as possible and limit the amount of money spent on infrastructure.
- » Thank you!
- » I will never forget the feeling of wonder I had when I first came upon this park several years ago, (after the Ft. Edmonton bridge was completed). I thought I'd entered a savanna. I've never been to Africa, but I thought that this was a pretty close 'Edmonton' second!! Keep the wonder, keep it natural !! AND FIX THE FLOODING OF THE WALKWAY PLEASE!!
- » Just leave it, don't overthink.
- » The land here has been used by City residents (first as a golf course, then for farming) for over 100 years. I believe the park area should continue to be open for use by a broad group of City residents and that the field area should be redeveloped for a use which won't be too severely impacted by the lack of close proximity car parking. Access and use, by and for foot and cycle traffic should be encouraged and enhanced.
- » 1. There is easy vehicle access to the 'basin' of the park via the Edmonton Golf and Country Club. Could the City not make a deal with the EGCC about restricted access to the park? Construction equipment used this access when building the Terwillegar Bridge. 2. Either regrade the Wolf Willow staircase (have it wind back and forth the cliff face at a shallow incline) or add a separate access method (sloped staircase, aggregate path, etc) next to or nearby. The staircase is incredibly steep and inhibits people from completing a Ribbon of Green in that area. Many end up walking through the neighbourhood to go to a less hazardous access point. Also, the steepness makes it impossible to visit in the winter. If you want to improve access, don't limit it to only the extremely fit and mobile. A mother could not access the Footbridge(s) with a stroller. 3. Whatever you do, please install washrooms and water access (water fountains) along the trail. 4. PLEASE UPDATE AND INSTALL TRAIL SIGNAGE. Signage along the trails (all of the ones in Edmonton) are either horrifically outdated or missing altogether. It's appalling to see how little trail information is along the trails and at the trailheads.
- » Just leave it natural. It's spectacular the way it is

Online Create Your Own Park! map

June 29 - July 14, 2017

76 participants

<https://www.edmonton.ca/oleskiwparkmasterplan>

Participants were welcomed to provide spatial input using an online map tool linked from the survey. In this map tool, participants could place pins representing park elements and activities where they would like to see them in the park, in addition to general spatial comments.

Tallies and counts of park amenities are included in the Phase 2 What We Heard Report. The following is a listing of the comments that were posted with park amenity options in the activity.

Comments by Theme

Park Use & Amenities

- » Incorporating broad multi use, including some off leash
- » Outdoor gym equipment, include sufficient clear level ground for yoga, river view would be great
- » View Point with information on the Geology of the landslide across the river
- » Unheated warming hut, with river views. For much of the year, the wind on the bridge is cutting, a structure with good views plus wind protection would be welcome
- » think there should be a picnic area close to the bridge with plumbed washroom facilities
- » This area would be good to build a canoe lake with natural wetland features
- » Love the benches here to get a good view of the river. Nice to have someplace to sit after biking for 30 minutes
- » A washroom or water fountain would be great here. I do the stairs here and run hills so it would be great to use a water fountain - closer to the stairs would be more useful I think
- » This field, which has been used for over 100 years (starting with the golf course) should be redeveloped to a use which is not too severely impacted by the lack of parking.

The arboretum idea is an interesting one. I would like to see trees and walking and mountain bike trails in this redeveloped area.

- » Not a gathering space, but a water station, on the bridge deck, would be a great feature, since users have to walk or cycle to get to the park.

Access & Circulation

- » all of the above
- » All of the above
- » Fix drainage on paved trail - impassable for all but the most dedicated during the 5-6 weeks of spring melt
- » We walk from our house in Wahstao Crescent so access is great for us. I know that when some people drive there is limited parking. But I think this encourages active transportation though.
- » These are excellent winter Fat biking trails and great trails for beginner mountain bike riders
- » This trail is very popular, in winter and summer, with hikers, trail runners and mountain bike and fat bike riders.
- » There should be a staircase up from the south end of the Terwillegar Footbridge, along the steep pathway that is visible in this photograph, up to Rooney Crescent

Maintenance, Safety & Enforcement

- » Public safety, protection of wildlife, minimization of erosion; control of litter and waste.

Natural Asset Management

- » Replant the trees in the field
- » It is necessary to maintain a balance between preservation and restoration - the natural elements of the River Valley in this area are its strongest asset. The safe access to enjoy and interact (witness) an important focus - we share the space, we do not dominate it.
- » There is a dead tree in this area that should be left untouched.

Atmosphere & Identity

- » I look forward to seeing what interesting concepts come to the forefront of the plan for the face of the entire park and the specific areas
- » Love the natural beauty in this area. So nice to go biking here.

Emails

External stakeholders and members of the public wrote emails to the City regarding ideas and concerns for the Oleskiw River Valley Park Master Plan during Phase 2 of engagement.

The following is a summary of the topics of discussion in these emails. We are taking this input into account as we work towards creating two concept options for the park that will be shared in Phase 3.



Email Topics

- » Email from a member of the public unable to find the online survey.
- » Email from a member of the public with examples of organizations who offer nature education and nature play programming.
- » Phone call from a member of the public regarding the online survey closing date.

