

ROCKY POINT PARK & OLD ORCHARD PARK MASTER PLANS

Phase 1 Engagement Summary
May – July 2022



The City has embarked on a path towards Truth and Reconciliation, building initially on the Four our Future consulting group report considered by Council in June 2022. Also in June, Council endorsed the next steps in this long-term relationship-building process, including commitment of initial staff time, identification of training needs, and initial staff-to-staff outreach to Indigenous groups identified by Four our Future.

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1 PROJECT INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

The City of Port Moody is drafting a comprehensive update to the existing Rocky Point Park Master Plan (adopted in 2000) and developing a Master Plan to guide upgrades for Old Orchard Park. Both plans will provide a framework for decision-making over the next 10 years.

Rocky Point and Old Orchard parks are well enjoyed by the local community and visitors from throughout the region. As the region's population grows, however, these parks face intensifying usage pressures which can lead to heightened stress on aging infrastructure and the natural environment. An updated assessment of park spaces and plans for strategic renewal will help us improve community well-being, social equity, and the resiliency of the parks' natural habitats.

Throughout the planning process, the City is engaging members of the public and key stakeholders.

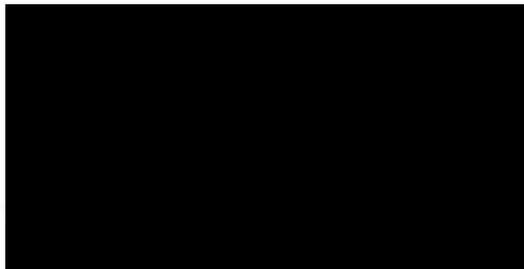
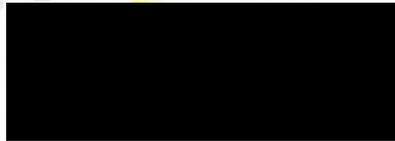
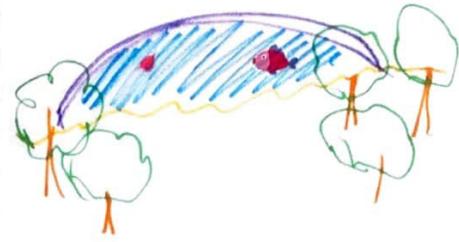
This report highlights takeaways from the first phase of engagement. For more information, please see the project website: <https://engage.portmoody.ca/rocky-point-and-old-orchard-parks-master-plans>.

2 ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

2.1 Engagement Objectives and Principles

Public and stakeholder engagement on the Park Master Plans aims to:

1. **Raise awareness** about the parks planning process and the key elements that will inform the concepts.
2. **Understand** community needs and desires for the parks and their connectivity, and to ensure participants feel they were heard throughout the process.
3. **Gather quality feedback** on opportunities, considerations, values, and support for the park design concepts.



Youth created "park vision" cloths at the Open Houses hosted in Summer 2022

2.2 Engagement Objectives and Principles

The following engagement principles guide our engagement process:

- **Transparency** in how the feedback will be used to inform the draft concepts and final Master Plans and communicating where there is room for public influence. An aspect to engagement will also be change management to ensure the public knows the changes that will happen in the park by necessity.
- **Expectation Management** in how we define and frame the vision for the two parks and understanding what is realistic for the city to commit to.
- **Shared Understanding** in how we facilitate engagement activities, encouraging participants to think beyond their individual interests and understand the various interests/needs of the park. This also includes recognizing the needs of those who do not live in Port Moody now but may in the future.
- **Mutual Learning** in providing opportunities to learn about the histories about the parks, the diverse marine and land habitats and biodiversity that exists in and around each park.

2.3 Engagement Timeline

We are currently in Phase 2 of the Parks Master Plan process and have completed the first round of public and stakeholder engagement. Below is a timeline of the planning process and engagement.





WELCOME

KIDS CORNER

fun time
CONSTRUCTION PAPER
PAINTED BY CHILDREN

Under Pressure

What do you lose doing in the park?

Help us craft a vision for Old Orchard!

MAP IT

3 WHAT WE DID

3.1 Engagement Activities

Through the first round of public and stakeholder engagement, we collected feedback through four stakeholder workshops, an online public survey, and two open house events.

Stakeholder Workshops *May – June 2022*

We hosted group conversations through four stakeholder workshops. The workshops were hosted with Environment and Stewardship Groups, Community Needs and Programming Groups, Commercial Businesses and Recreational Groups, and City Council Committees.

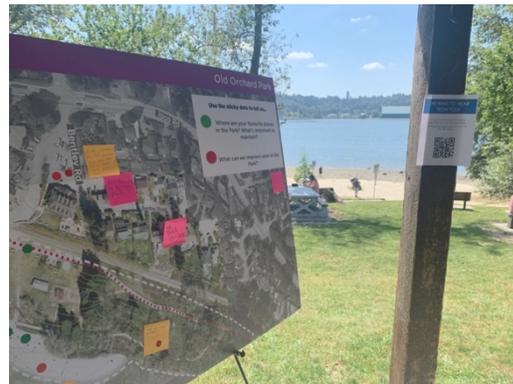
Public Online Survey *June – July 2022*

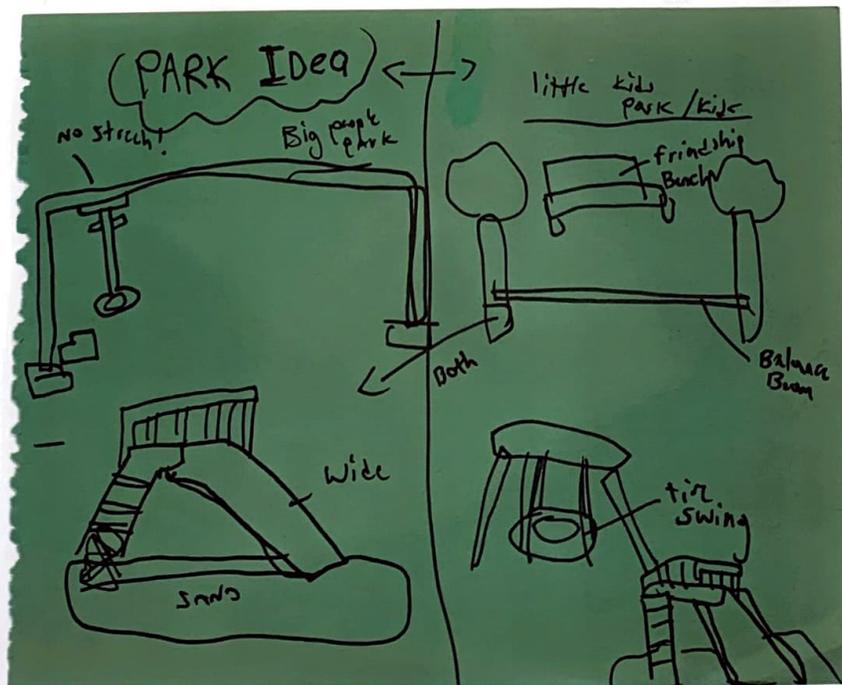
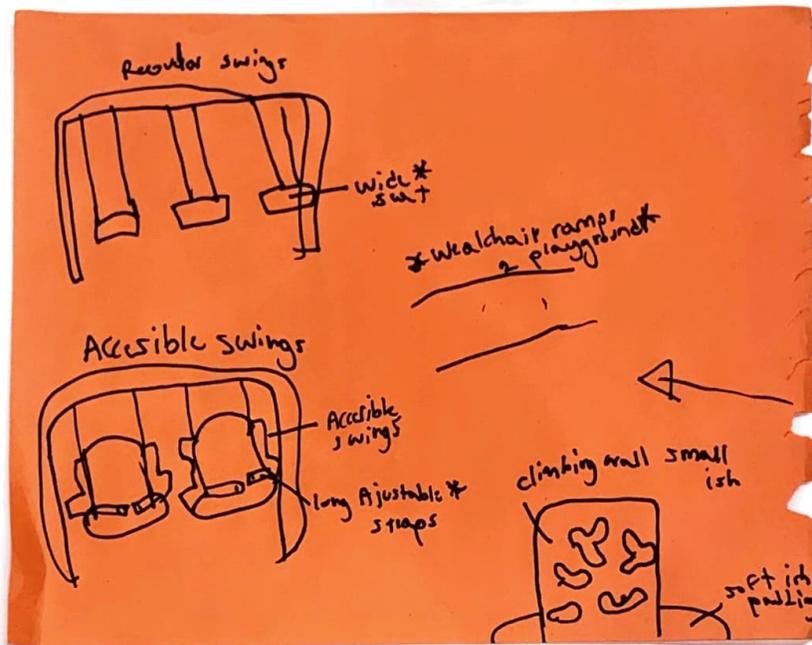
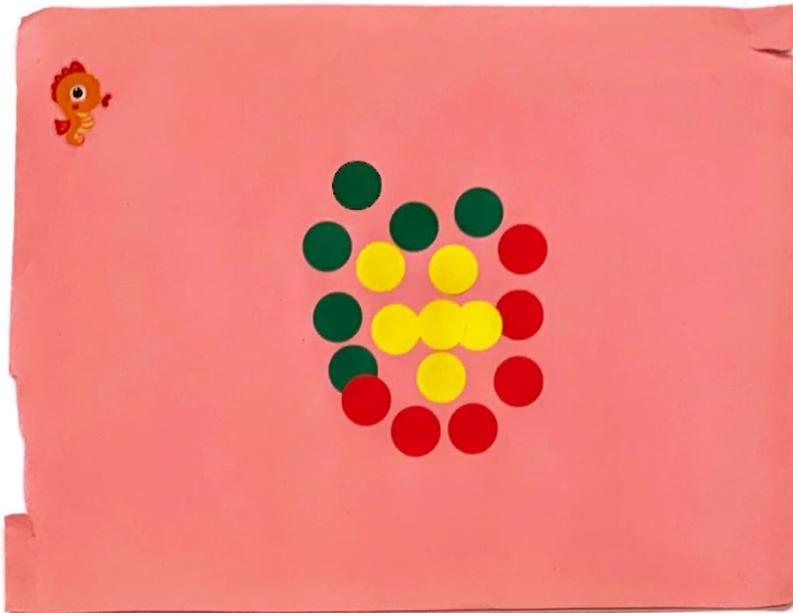
We hosted an online public survey to engage with the Phase 1 key topics and provide considerations and feedback that will inform the drafting of the park concepts. The survey was available and promoted through the project website (“Engage Port Moody”) and paper copies were available at specific locations (e.g., City Hall, libraries, community centres, etc.).

Outdoor Open Houses *June – July 2022*

We hosted one outdoor open house at Rocky Point Park and one at Old Orchard Park to share the project process with the public and ask for initial input through engagement boards and the public survey. The events included information boards with project background, site maps, and key elements of the master plan for input, as well as printed surveys, postcards, and a craft activity for kids.

Activity	Participants
Rocky Stakeholder Workshop: Community & Programming	11
Stakeholder Workshop: Business & Recreation	12
Stakeholder Workshop: City Committees	8
Stakeholder Workshop: Environmental & Stewardship	8
Rocky Point Park Open House	51
Old Orchard Park Open House	27
Rocky Point Park Survey	406
Old Orchard Park Survey	303

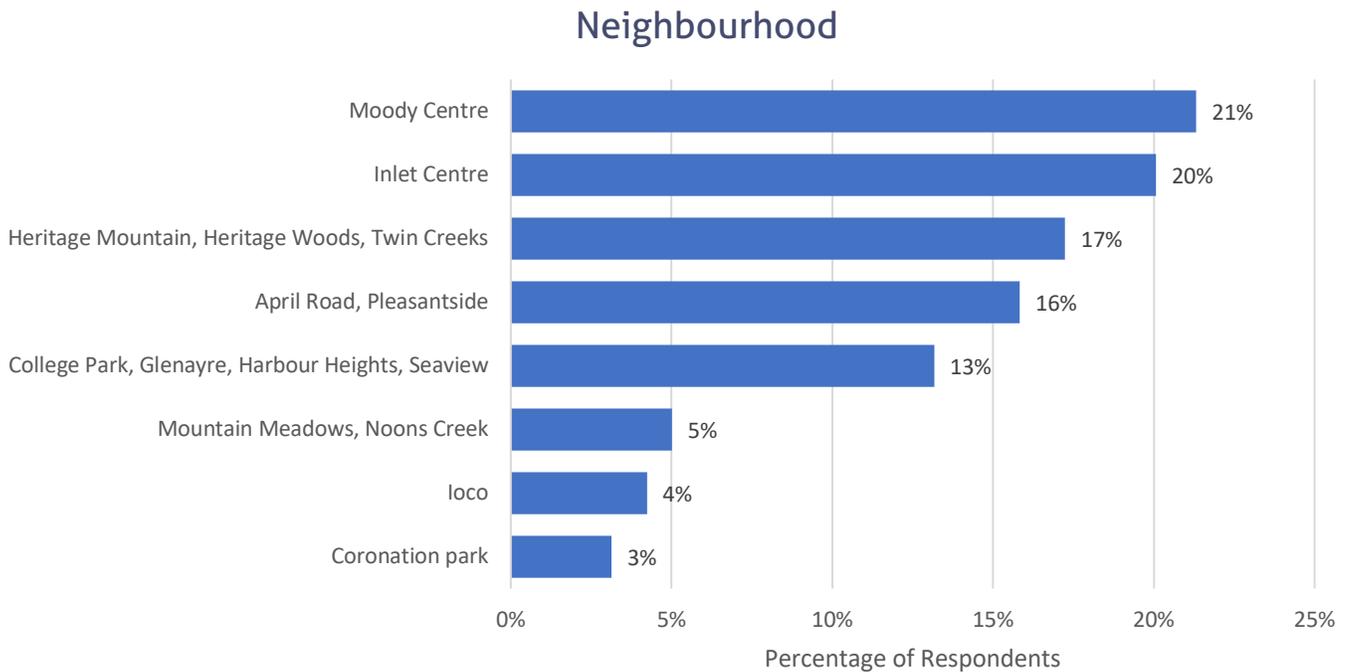
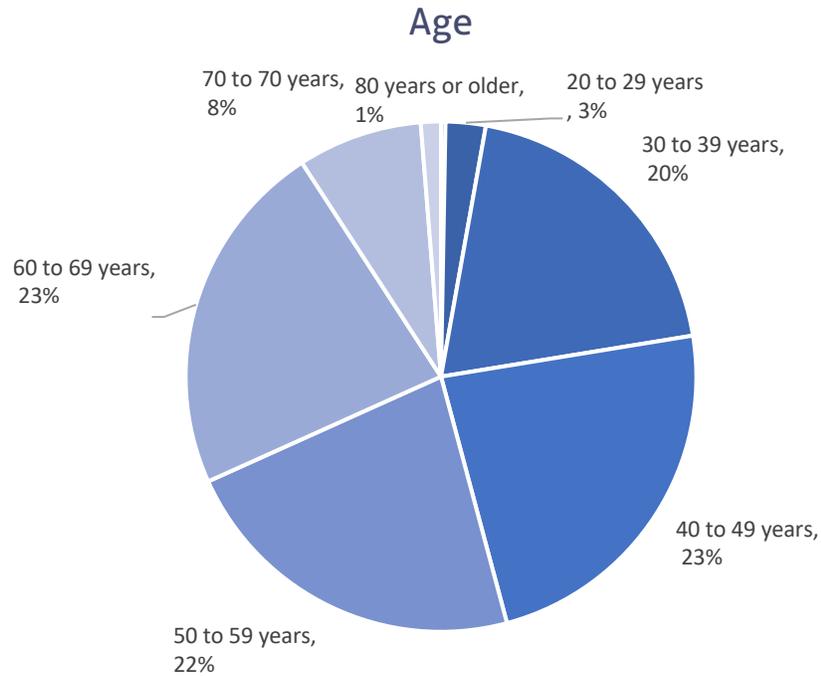




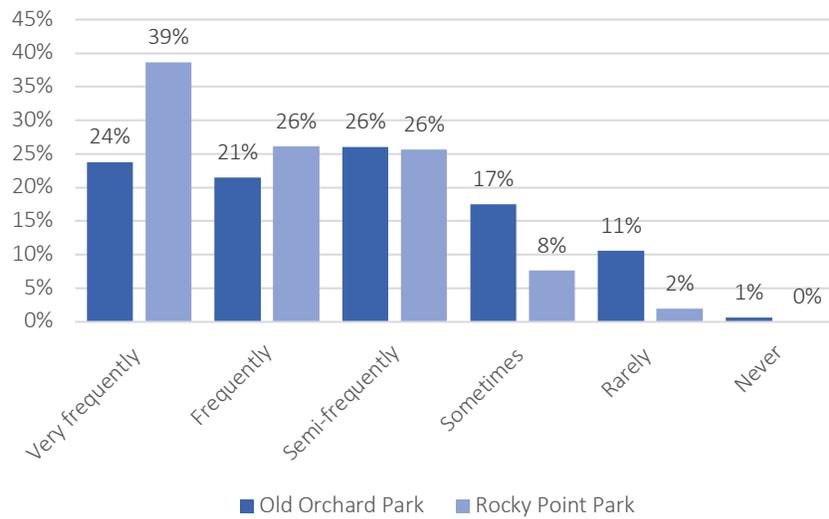
Youth created "park vision" cloths at the Open Houses hosted in Summer 2022

4 WHO WE HEARD FROM

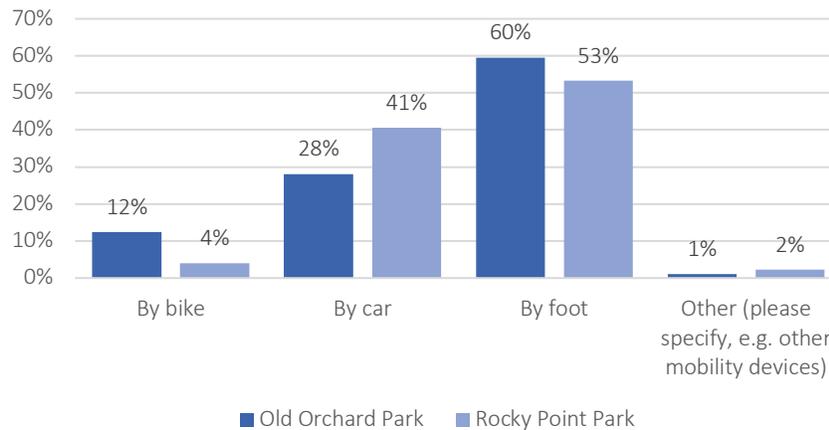
Through the public survey, we collected demographic information to understand who we are hearing from. The following charts show a snapshot of who engaged in the public survey.



Frequency of Visits



Main Mode of Access



Main Reasons to Visit

ROCKY POINT PARK

1. To access trails or multi-use pathways (15%)
2. To visit the Pier (13%)
3. To relax in nature (12%)

OLD ORCHARD PARK

1. To access trails or multi-use pathways (27%)
2. To relax in nature (20%)
3. To visit the beach or to swim (14%)



5 WHAT WE HEARD

5.1 How can we improve access to the parks?

To better understand how people access and move around the parks, we asked participants from the open houses and public survey if there is anything that prevents them from visiting the parks more often, and how accessibility could be improved.

TOP THEMES



We heard that a lack of available parking is a barrier to accessing the parks.

At [Rocky Point Park](#), we also heard about the limited number of EV charging stations and the need for drop-off areas.

At [Old Orchard Park](#), we heard limited vehicle access is particularly a challenge for those with large items like boats.

Through stakeholder workshops, we also heard concern for **INFRASTRUCTURE & WASTE MANAGEMENT**. Particularly, a need for improvements to meet capacity demands now and in the future.



We heard there is high volume of park users.

Crowdedness was much more of a concern at [Rocky Point Park](#), where we heard capacity issues make the park space less available and enjoyable at peak times.

At [Old Orchard Park](#), we heard concerns around overcrowding on holidays, weekends, and in the future.



We heard there is a need to improve connections to active and public modes of transportation.

At [Rocky Point Park](#), there is a lack of protected bike lanes, accessible sidewalks and wayfinding, and safe access to public transit.

At [Old Orchard Park](#), we heard that the lack of accessible active and public transit infrastructure impacts access for pedestrians, cyclists, and particularly those with mobility issues.

5.2 What do we love about the parks today?

To understand how the community appreciates the current parks, we asked (i) what do you think makes each park unique, (ii) what existing features do you value most, and (iii) what spaces could be improved.

ROCKY POINT PARK

TRAILS & LOCATION

We heard a love for the trails around the park and onto the pier, in addition to the park's proximity to residential and commercial areas.

VIEWS

We heard about the park's beautiful landscape, views of the ocean, and natural areas.

AMENITIES & ACTIVITIES

The park supports a variety of activities and offers food options as well as washrooms.

Rocky Point Park's top features today:

1. Access to trails & multi-use pathways
2. Rocky Point Pier
3. Landscaped areas

Rocky Point Park's top features to improve:

1. Walking trails and trail connectivity
2. Environmental education
3. Cycling infrastructure

OLD ORCHARD PARK

LOCATION & CONNECTIVITY

The park is easily accessible and well connected to the local neighbourhoods, Rocky Point Park, and amenities.

NATURAL AREAS

We heard about the beach and waterfront access, incredible views, and surrounding mix of trees, grass, and green space.

RELAXED ATMOSPHERE

Old Orchard Park is quiet, calm, peaceful, and family friendly.

Old Orchard Park's top features today:

1. Park trails and multi-use pathways
2. Access to the beach and water
3. Natural areas

Old Orchard Park's top features to improve:

1. Beach and water access
2. Walking trails and connectivity
3. Opportunities for marine & environmental education

5.3 What do we envision for the future?

To help us craft a future vision for the parks, we asked what three words best describe each park and which goals should be prioritized in the planning process.

IN 10 YEARS...

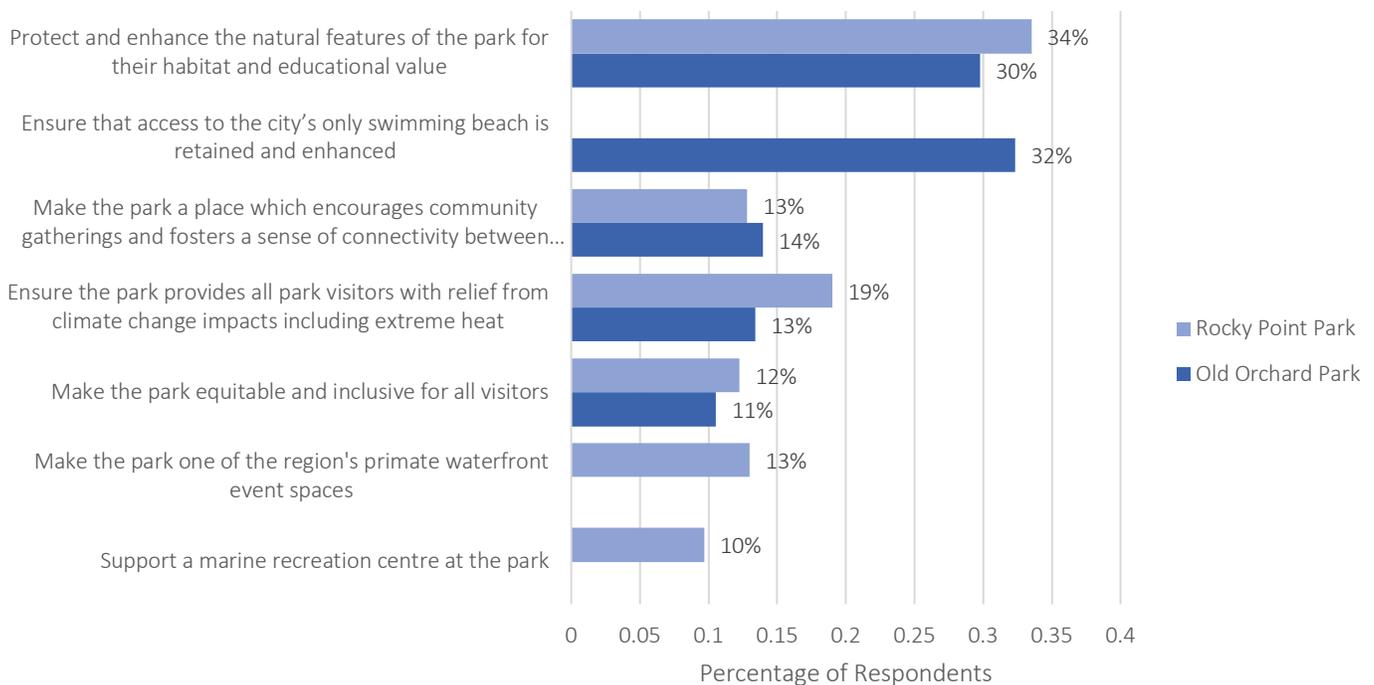
Rocky Point Park will be **GREEN AND NATURAL, SAFE**, and a **COMMUNITY HUB**.

Old Orchard Park will be **GREEN AND NATURAL, SAFE**, and **CALM**.

Through stakeholder workshops, we similarly heard a desire for **GREEN NETWORKS** and a **WALKABLE SHORELINE**, as well as **IMPROVED CONNECTIONS** within and to the parks. Stakeholders also envision both parks to be **ACTIVE** with play features and programming for all ages and abilities.

PARK PLANNING GOALS

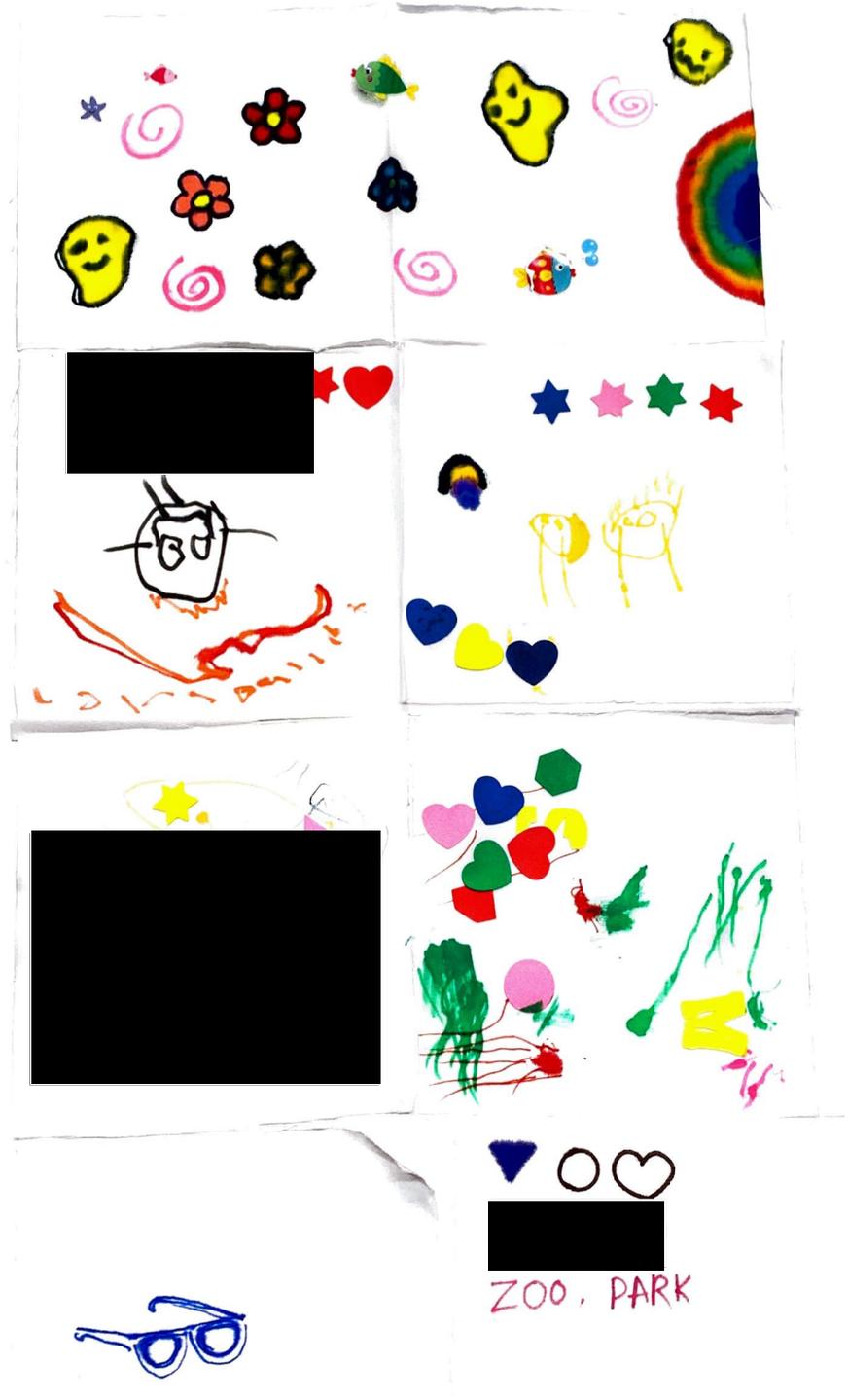
We also asked survey participants to select up to three most important goals for future park planning. The chart below shows the percentage of respondents who ranked each goal in their top three.



PARK PLANNING GOALS

Other key suggestions included:

- **Connectivity & Access**
To support different modes of travel, by foot, bike, bus, car, or otherwise, and to improve and expand the trail and waterfront connections.
- **Indigenous Spaces and Involvement**
To engage the local First Nations and urban Indigenous people in the planning process and gain an understanding of priorities and opportunities.
- **Additional or Updated Amenities**
To provide additional or updated rest areas, drinking fountains, playground, and maintained access to the boat launch at [Rocky Point Park](#).



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6 NEXT STEPS

The feedback gathered during this phase of the planning process will be used to inform the draft vision, goals, and concept designs for each park. In the next phase, we will share the draft concept options and ask for additional public and stakeholder feedback to inform the draft Master Plans.

Sign up for Engage Port Moody and keep an eye out for upcoming engagement opportunities through the project website below:

<https://engage.portmoody.ca/rocky-point-and-old-orchard-parks-master-plans>

