

Port Moody Parks & Trails Youth Engagement Event Summary Report



July 2024

PORT MOODY

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This engagement summary was
developed by MODUS Planning, Design
and Engagement Inc. on behalf of the City
of Port Moody.

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ABOUT THE EVENT

Event Overview

The City hosted a special youth engagement event to help gain insight into younger residents' vision for the future of Port Moody's parks and trails. Youth aged 11 to 18 were invited to join a youth open house on Friday, May 31, 2024 between 5:30 and 8pm at the Port Moody Recreation Complex. Over 50 participants attended the event.

At this open house, attendees had the opportunity to:

- learn about ongoing parks and trails projects in the community;
- engage in fun and interactive activities designed to gather valuable input;
- share experiences and perspectives on using Port Moody's parks and trails; and
- brainstorm ideas for new park spaces and amenities that can better serve youth.

Outreach & Promotion

The open house targeted middle and high school aged youth and was promoted in the following ways:

- Emails to the two Middle Schools and High Schools, School District 43, youth recreation and sports programs
- Introduction of the event at the Youth Focus Committee Meeting on May 8, 2024
- An event webpage on the City's website
- A media release and advertisement through social media



50+
attendees

Purpose

The purpose of this event was to hear from Port Moody's young people about their needs and wishes as we plan improvements to our City's parks and trails.

Feedback gathered at this open house and included in this summary will help inform several plans the City is currently developing to guide the future of Port Moody's parks and trails. Information on each of these planning projects is available at each project webpage:

- **Rocky Point Park and Old Orchard Park Master Plans**
<https://engage.portmoody.ca/rocky-point-and-old-orchard-parks-master-plans>
- **Trail Network Plan**
<https://engage.portmoody.ca/trail-network-plan>
- **Parkland Strategy**
<https://engage.portmoody.ca/parkland-strategy>

PORT MOODY PARKS & TRAILS
YOUTH OPEN HOUSE



WELCOME!

What is this event about?

The City of Port Moody is developing several plans that will guide the future of our parks and trails. We want to ensure our plans reflect the needs and wishes of everyone in the community - especially generations who will be most impacted by these plans.

Why is this important?

With more than 35% of its land dedicated to green space, Port Moody has a wealth of beautiful parks and trails for everyone to enjoy. Port Moody has a variety of hiking trails, bike trails, and multi-use paths that encourage you to get outside, stay active, and explore nature. Planning is important to make sure these spaces are taken care of and enjoyed by the community for years to come.

What plans are being developed?

We'll use the input gathered at this open house to help inform three plans the City is currently developing to guide the future of Port Moody's parks and trails:

Trail Network Plan

This Plan will help us improve our trails and make them more accessible for future generations. It will provide direction for how we can manage trails to support a growing community.

Parkland Strategy

This Strategy will help us decide where to put new parks in Port Moody and take care of the ones we already have. This plan will last for 30 years and will make sure everyone in the city has fair access to different kinds of parks and outdoor areas.

Rocky Point Park & Old Orchard Park Master Plans

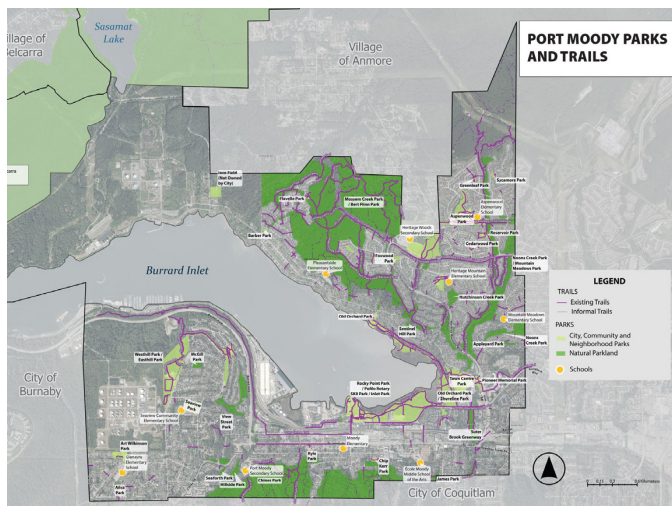
These plans will help us decide what changes to make to Rocky Point Park and Old Orchard Park, like fixing up trails and playgrounds. They will make sure these parks stay nice as more people visit and will help protect the environment.

'Welcome' board at the event

Format & Activities

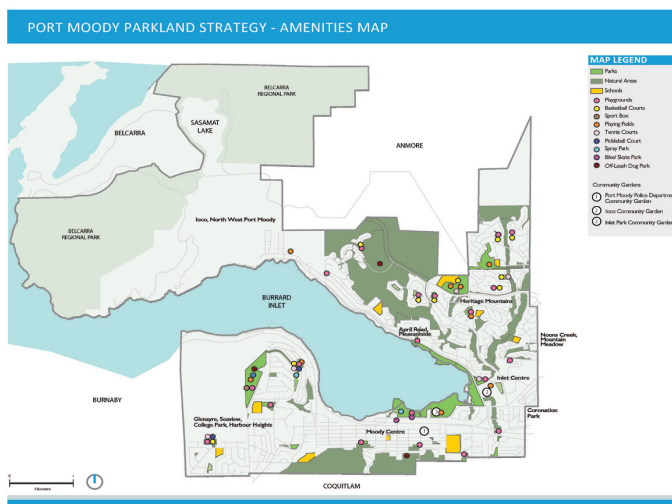
The open house included five stations to gather input on different aspects of Port Moody's parks and trails. At each station, participants were asked to complete an activity and were entered to win a prize if they finished all five stations.

The stations included:



1. Map Your Favourite Port Moody Parks & Trails

At this station, youth were asked to find their favourite park and trail on a large table map of Port Moody. They were also asked the method of transport they typically take to their favourite park and reasons they enjoy their favourite trail. The feedback from this station will help inform the Trail Network Plan.



2. Tell Us What's Missing in Parks

Participants at this station were asked about their favourite park amenities and which park amenities are missing in Port Moody. Feedback from this activity will help inform the Parkland Strategy.



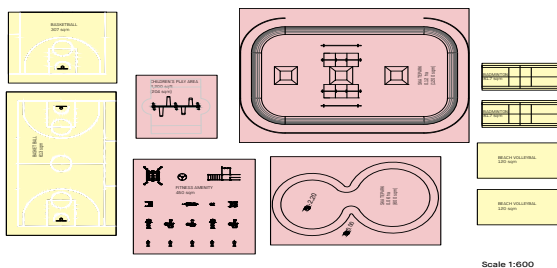
3. Create Your Dream Park

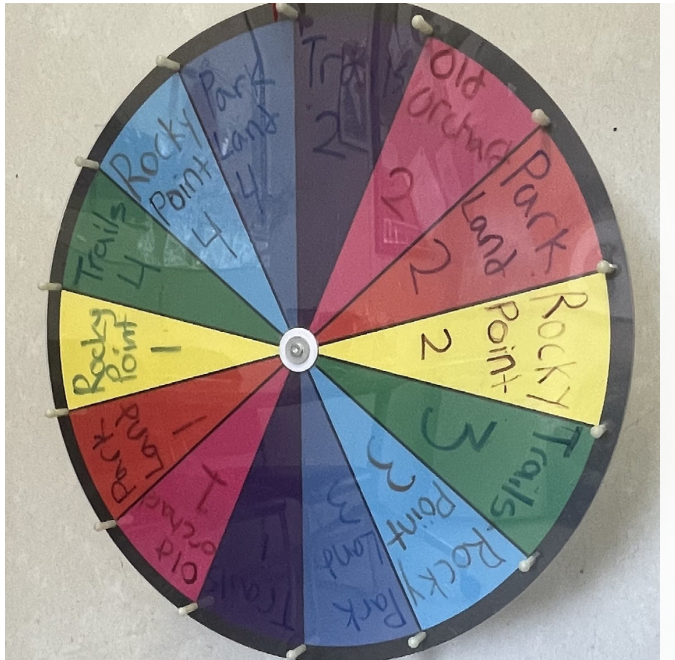
On boards with four empty squares, participants were asked to select four pictures that best reflect what they want to see or do in their 'dream park' and add captions to describe the images they selected. Participants chose from a range of picture tiles and could also add in their own drawings. This feedback will be used generally for all projects.



4. Design the Rocky Point Park Youth Zone

At this station, participants cut out scaled diagrams of different activity spaces to collage what they would like to see in the proposed youth zone at Rocky Point Park. To envision the size of the youth zone, participants added their cut-outs to a postcard within an outline of the proposed youth zone and selected the amenities and activities that might fit in the space. Feedback from this station will help inform the Rocky Point Park Master Plan.





5. Spin the Wheel

Youth had the opportunity to answer a trivia and a feedback question for each of the planning projects using the spin wheel.



YOUTH FEEDBACK

The following section includes feedback gathered at each station on:

- Existing parks and trail networks
- Future types of park spaces
- Future park amenities
- Rocky Point Park youth zone

Existing Parks and Trail Networks



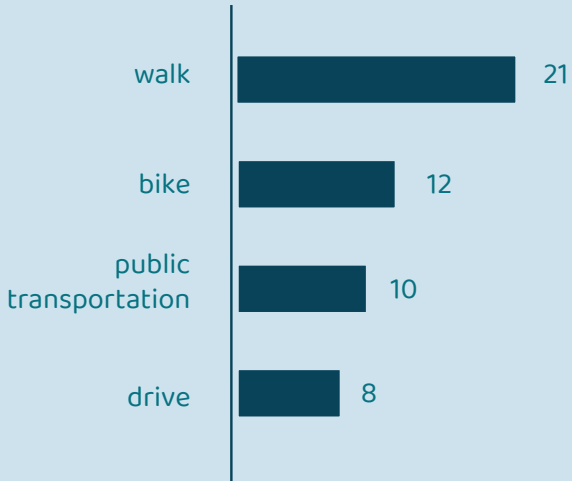
#1	Rocky Point Park	(24 votes)
<hr/>		
#2	Westhill/Easthill Park Bert Flinn Park	(5 votes each)
<hr/>		
#3	Chines Park Town Centre Park Old Orchard Park	(3 votes each)
<hr/>		
Other parks mentioned include Heritage Woods Secondary School, Suterbrook Greenway, loco Field, Hillside Park, Noons Creek, Hutchinson Creek Park, Appleyard Park, Inlet Park		
53 responses		



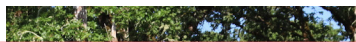
#1	Shoreline Trail	(10 votes)
<hr/>		
#2	Chines Park Trail Bert Flinn Trail St. Johns MUP	(2 votes each)
<hr/>		
Other trails mentioned include Blue Mountain Trail, Turner Creek Trail, Wilkes Creek Trail, Blue Line Trail, and IMBY.		
21 responses		



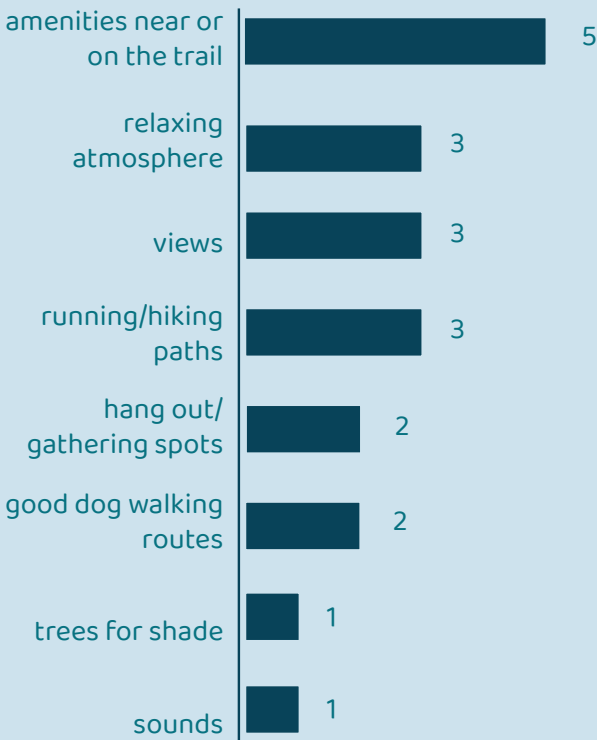
**How do you travel
to your favourite
park?**



51 responses



**What do you
like about your
favourite trail?**



20 responses

Future Park Spaces & Amenities

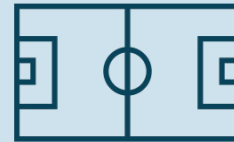
What type of spaces and amenities are missing in Port Moody Parks ?



Places for Play (28 comments)

Ideas to include more activities and play features in parks specifically for older youth, such as:

- Parkour area
- Trampolines
- Rock wall or climbing structure
- Calisthenics/exercise area
- Monkey bars and swings
- Bike pump track



Sports Spaces (18 comments)

Interest in more outdoor courts and fields in parks to accommodate different sports and activities, including:

- Soccer fields
- Sports boxes (including smooth surfaces for roller sports)
- Basketball courts
- Beach volleyball nets/courts

Other Comments

- (6) Swimming facilities and water activities near the beach
- (4) More walking and biking trails to connect to parks
- (4) More park space for gathering/sitting to enjoy the natural areas

66 responses

What four amenities
would you include in
your 'dream park'?



#1 Places to relax

#2 Swimming pool

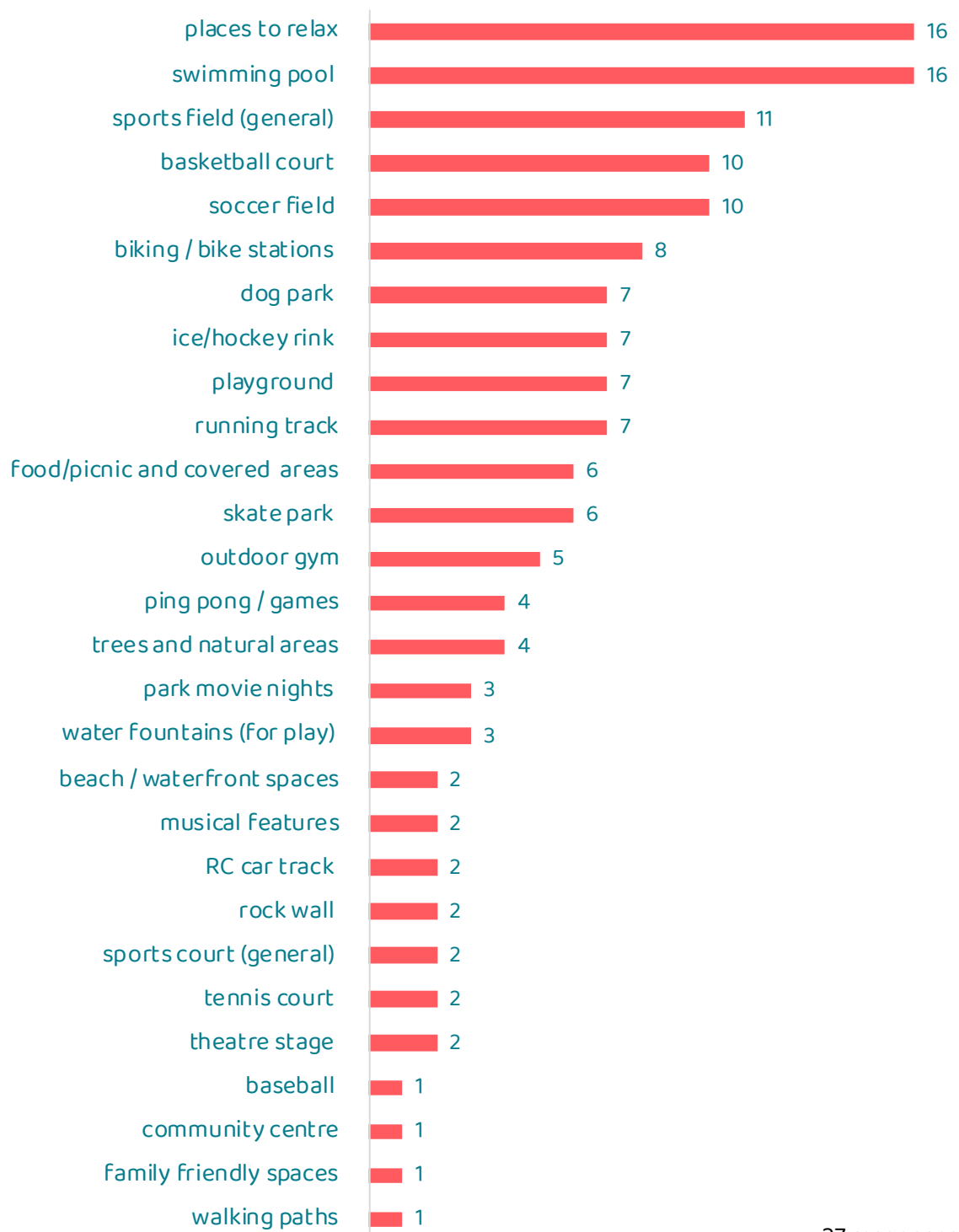
#3 Sports field
(general)

#4 Basketball court



Word Cloud of 'Dream Park' Names

The graph below reflects general preferences for all park features and amenities:



37 responses



Sample of 'Dream Parks' created by attendees

**What features
would you like
in the proposed
youth zone at
Rocky Point Park?**



- #1 Skatepark

- #2 Parkour spaces

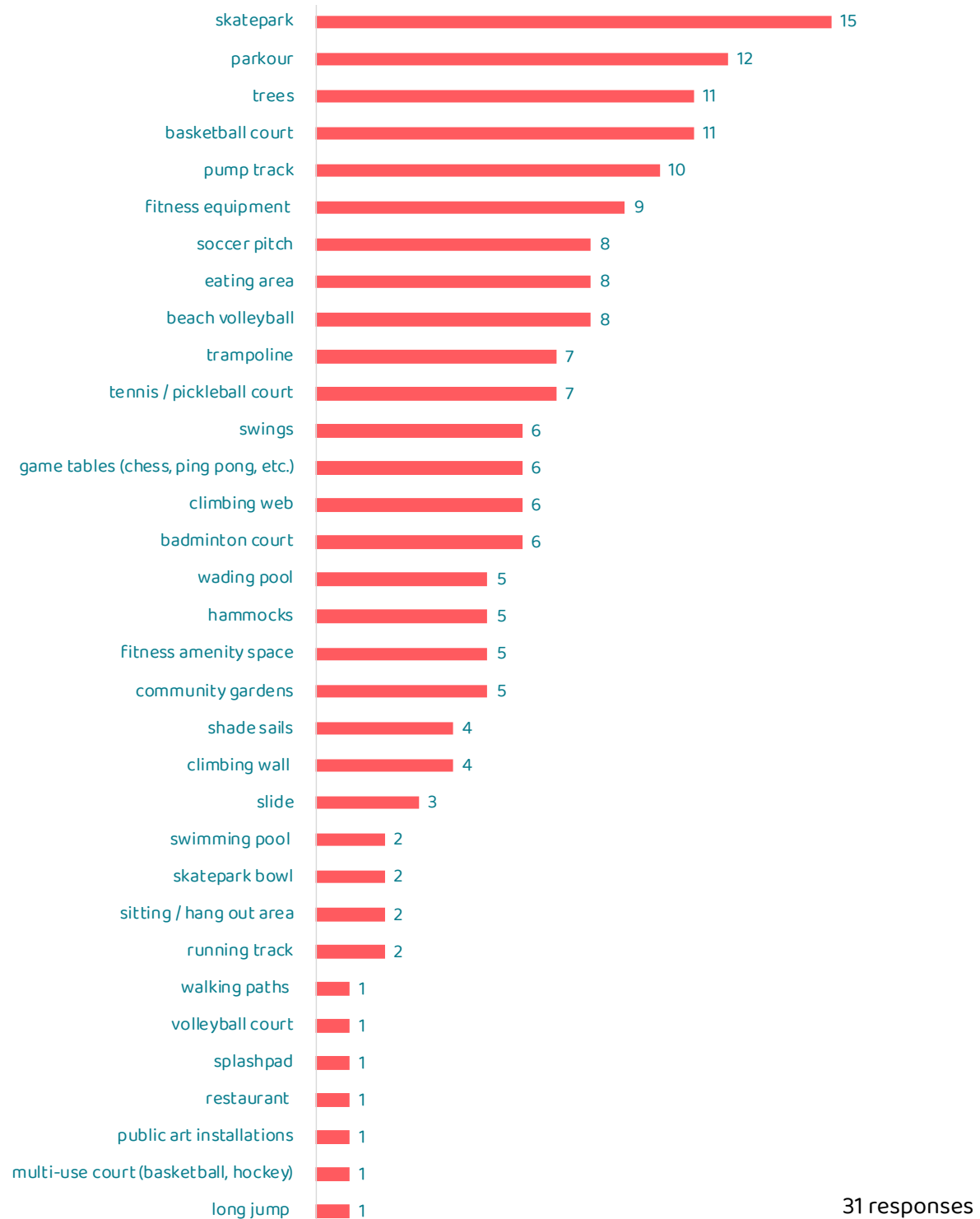
- #3 Trees

- #4 Basketball court

- #5 Pump track



The graph below includes the number of times each amenity was selected to be included in the proposed youth zone at Rocky Point Park.





NEXT STEPS

The collected feedback will be used to inform park planning projects in the following ways:

Parkland Strategy

Feedback about the attendees' favourite park amenities and what are missing will be thoroughly reviewed alongside park amenity mapping and technical analysis. A recommendation will be included in the Parkland Strategy to highlight the need to enhance existing parks and plan for future parks with youth in mind. Notably, when asked about their favourite parks, participants frequently mentioned larger parks with abundant active programming elements, such as Rocky Point Park. At the same time, a common preference for park features included places to relax and lots of trees. This highlights the need for future parks to offer a balance of active and passive recreational opportunities, supporting the mental and physical health of youth. Although trail mapping was not specifically designed for the Parkland Strategy, the feedback aligns with the goal of improving connectivity and accessibility both to and within parks.

Trail Network Plan

Feedback about the attendees' favourite trails and what they like about them suggests trails provide important connections to community amenities, opportunities to connect with nature and relax, and opportunities to be active. Those preferences will be considered in the Trail Network Plan's recommendations to maintain and expand the trail network. Specifically, the plan will seek to connect community amenities like schools and community centres that lack connections to the trail network. The plan will also identify opportunities to create more trail connections between neighbourhoods so that youth can use trails to travel between their homes, schools, and amenities such as parks and community centres. The Trail Network Plan will also seek to provide more opportunities for youth and other community members to be physically active and connect with nature on trails across the city.

Rocky Point Park & Old Orchard Park Masterplans

Several stations at the event gathered feedback that will guide the Rocky Point Park and Old Orchard Park Master Plans. General input on what participants felt was missing in the park system and from the Dream Park activity suggests that additional play features for older youth, relaxing places, and areas for sports would be welcome additions. Participants also emphasized the importance of pools in parks and the priority that youth place on bike facilities. Input from the Rocky Point Park Youth Zone activity will be reviewed alongside the technical analysis for the detailed design of the youth zone, which will be a future project following Council adoption of the Park Master Plan. Top active features identified include a skate park, parkour, basketball, soccer, and beach volleyball. The responses also strongly indicated the importance of including trees in the youth zone, showing a clear preference for a green and shady area that is not only fun and active but also comfortable and relaxing.

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