



WATERFORD PARK Questions & Answers/ General Comments

Comments gathered from Public Consultation (held May 2, 2019) and Online Survey (closed May 31, 2019)

NO.	ITEM	RESIDENT COMMENTS	CITY RESPONSE	ACTION(S) TAKEN BY CITY
1)	Open Lawn Area	Please provide more open grass/ lawn area. There is too much asphalt/ hard surface.	The City will be reviewing the overall programming based on feedback from residents. It is a possibility that some of the hard surface elements will be omitted from the detailed design based on resident feedback which will permit more area to be reserved for open lawn.	TBD during detailed design based on feedback from residents regarding park programming preferences.
2)	Construction Timing	Please do not construct over the summer.	No construction activity will occur during the summer of 2019 and a construction date is still TBD. Unfortunately summer is the peak construction season due to favourable weather conditions and the inability to construct during the low temperatures in winter and wet springs/falls.	A construction date will be determined at future date and residents will be notified prior to construction starting.
3)	General Comment	All for the new design. Looks good and will refresh the area.	N/A	N/A
4)	Food Retail	It would be great to offer a small retail convenience store or small food service building (municipally owned).	Food venues/ retail are limited to tourist destinations and recreation centres that draw a large audience. A small neighbourhood park may not be the most appropriate location for this venue.	A retail convenience store can not be considered at this time.

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5)	Ice Rink	Consider planning for a shelter to help maintain an outdoor ice rink. Convert multi-use court to an outdoor ice rink area. Refer to tennis court on Quensway Ave in Etobioke as example.	The Queensway rink in Etobioke is an artificial rink and is substantially more costly than a 'natural' ice rink due to the infrastructure required (including a building).	An artificial outdoor ice rink can not be considered at this time due to budget constraints and space limitations at this specific site.
6)	General Comments/ Lights	Very excited about this new project. Hope there will be lights that overlook the courts so we will be able to play at night.	A new light will be installed adjacent to the playground area and under the sun shelter. Lights turn off at 11pm per the City Parks By-Law.	The design will be reviewed during detail design to consider the new light locations.
7)	Skateboarding	There should be something in the plans for a skateboard halfpipe etc. or alternate sports.	The City of Hamilton completed a city-wide Skateboard Study in 2017 and identified five (5) priority sites in Hamilton to build new skate parks. The sites were identified with input from the public through the public consultation process.	Waterford Park was no identified as a priority site to receive a skate park and the inclusion of skate facilities will not be considered at this time.
8)	General Comment	I have grandchildren in the area and would use the park weekly any season.	N/A	N/A

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9)	More Greenery	Too much asphalt/cement. Keep parking lot in place...rather than sun shelter, more trees (including more mature ones) with benches. Also bushes and flowers. More greenery.	<p>Please see response to Question 1, regarding grassed open space.</p> <p>A shelter is typically included within hardspace areas near amenities to provide immediate/ permanent shade where trees typically do not thrive (due to compaction etc) or will take years to provide adequate protection. City of Hamilton specifies the largest tree stock available at nurseries and is limited by the nursery supply.</p> <p>Bushes are typically not considered in parks due to Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) standards and long term maintenance concerns.</p> <p>There are a total of 5 new benches and there will be picnic tables under the shelter (1-2).</p>	<p>The largest tree stock available at nursery for specific species will be specified.</p> <p>Bushes will not be installed due to safety concerns and design standards that inform crime prevention in parks.</p> <p>If feasible more benches will be installed.</p> <p>The parking lot is currently located over an existing service easement and needed to be relocated to permit future access if the need arose. Further the parking lot was relocated to provide a setback from the townhomes that border the park at this location. The City will try to shorten the access drive aisle to the parking lot.</p>
10)	Baseball Diamond	Would still like to see the baseball diamond stay there.	The baseball diamond at Waterford Park caters to T-ball and rookie ball due to the limited fencing heights. It is unable to accommodate teen users and adults as the property is not large enough to accommodate the required outfield distance.	Due to the limited programming opportunity for baseball users, Waterford Park is being considered to accommodate amenities in short supply that are better suited to the property parcel size. Further Bayview West Park has an existing full size baseball field and is located less than 800m from Waterford Park.

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11)	Keep Park the Way it is	Not a good idea, we like it just the way it is. Too much asphalt and the playground structure itself is only 11 years old...consider redesigning this, it'd be a shame to see this look like Seabreeze..	Please see response to Question 1, regarding grassed open space. The existing playground structure is more than halfway through its current lifecycle. Construction will not occur until 2020+ and the playground will continue to age.	The playground will be replaced as part of the park redevelopment to avoid the need to shut down the playground and remobilize a construction crew in the short term.
12)	Living Green Wall	Waterford park has limited enjoyment potential due to the Highway noise, some kind of structure or planting should be planned to reduce the db level (e.g. living green wall).	The noise levels within the Waterford Park neighbourhood are subject to the db levels from the Highway. The berms will be kept and the tree plantings to help limit the db levels.	The City will review during detailed design the tree planting and berms that run parallel to North Service Road to augment their effectiveness and increase comfort level for park users.
13)	Basketball Concern	Only concern is basketball due to mix of age groups between teenagers and young children.	The multi-use court (basketball/ ball hockey) caters to youths of all ages to construct parks for everyone. Multi-use courts are often used by young children as well as teens to practice bicycle riding in a safe environment.	The multi-use court will be included subject to voting on amenities preferences tallied from the online survey and public consultation.
14)	Dog Park	Lots of trees and benches and controlled areas for dogs.	The City of Hamilton has developed a specific criteria for dog parks following the Leash Free Park Policy. If you would like to see a dog park in your neighbourhood there is an online application form that be be accessed at https://www.hamilton.ca/animals-pets/dogs/dog-parks	At this time Waterford Park is not being considered for a leash free run area.

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15)	Washroom	Have a small washroom or portable toilet, or changing room.	Typically spray pads are installed in parks with a washroom facility and parking lot. It is acknowledged that there is a need for spray pad north of the QEW in Stoney Creek. While washrooms are recommended, it may not be feasible due to budget constraints.	At this time there is not adequate budget to install a washroom at Waterford Park.
16)	Lighting	Night lighting would bring sense of safety.	N/A	A new light will be installed adjacent to the playground area and under the sun shelter. Lights turn off at 11pm per the City Parks By-Law.
17)	General Comment/ Spray Pad Support	We use this park daily...we have been wanting a spray pad for so long!	N/A	N/A
18)	General Comment	I spent my weekdays in this neighborhood and this would be an amazing addition to the area.	N/A	N/A
19)	General Comment	With our condos having small outdoor space for young children we need a safe park space for them to grow and play.	N/A	N/A
20)	General Comment/ Support for Multi-Use Court	There are many kids in this neighbourhood who play hockey, including my own, I know the ball hockey court would be well used!	N/A	N/A
21)	Trees	If trees are to be planted give them support with stakes and guidelines. Trees planted 4 years ago were growing sideways.	N/A	Stakes and ties are installed on all new tree plantings. They are removed at the end of the two-year warranty period to prevent future trunk girdling.

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22)	Tennis Court	If possible make a double tennis court. Feeding areas for birds and hummingbirds.	Due to the limited space and the need to balance hardscape/ softscape it is unlikely a double tennis court can be accommodated. Further the inclusion of a tennis court will depend on the amenity preferences vote and the construction budget.	Native tree species that are attractive for birds will be planted. The tennis court will be reviewed during detailed design once all votes are tallied for amenity preferences and reviewed with the budget.
23)	Water Bottle Filler	Inclusion of a clean water source to refill re-usable water bottles.	N/A	Will be reviewed during detailed design with the construction budget.
24)	General Comment	Great ideas!	N/A	N/A
25)	General Comment	Plan looks great. Finally getting rid of the basketball tennis court. An eyesore.	N/A	N/A
26)	Additional Trees	This is the most wonderful news! We are a new family here and go to "ladybug" park almost everyday. Can we request more trees?	Approximately 19 new tree plantings are being shown on the concept plan.	New tree plantings will be included on the detailed design of the park.
27)	Project Timelines	Thank you for this initiative. Do we have any timelines on this project completion?	At this time a construction date is not yet set and is pending construction funding review and allocation. The detailed design will be prepared in the interim to prepare construction-ready drawings.	The project web-page will be updated when the construction date is set and residents living in the vicinity of the park will be delivered construction notices prior to construction start once a date is set.
28)	General Comment/ Spray Pad Support	A spray pad would be beneficial to young children visiting the park, including mine when we visit family and friends who live in the area.	N/A	N/A
29)	General Comment/ Spray Pad Support	I have a young daughter and a spray pad would be fantastic to have so close to home! Thank you for this survey	N/A	N/A

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30)	General Comment	Improving this park will draw more families outdoors and create a sense of community.	N/A	N/A
31)	General Comment	It would be a good place to keep the kids off the streets.	N/A	N/A
32)	General Comment/ Lights	I'm glad to see this park will start being used properly. I never see people using the baseball diamond. And the park is so dark at night, I never see anyone walk through there because of it.	Please see response to Question 16, regarding the lights.	Previously answered.
33)	General Comment	Its about time! This park is in great need of a face lift.	N/A	N/A
34)	General Comment/ Spray Pad Support	I think the idea of a spray pad is wonderful! There's always so many families at the park and this would be an added bonus.	N/A	N/A
35)	Layout Comments/ More Grass/ Dog Park	<p>To save money, consider refinishing the existing tennis court and add basketball court near it. Court in the middle of the park with tall fences around it may be an eyesore. The parking lot could stay where it is, as adding a driveway into the park could pose as a safety concern.</p> <p>Alot of concrete and more grass would be a nice addition.</p> <p>The backyards in the neighbourhood are small, so adding a fenced dog run around the edge of the park would be appreciated.</p>	<p>Please see response to Question 1, regarding grassed open space and the decision regarding the future amenities.</p> <p>Please see response to Question 9, regarding the parking lot location and drive aisle.</p> <p>Please see response to Question 14, regarding the leash free dog park area.</p>	Previously answered.

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36)	Lighting/ Stop sign	Lighting is important especially during winter days. Children and elders are more likely to incur injuries by falling. Stop sign at corner of Waterford/ Sunvale needs to be a 4-way stop.	Please see response to Question 6, regarding lighting. The local Councillor is working to implement a 4-way stop at Waterford/ Sunvale. For further information please contact your local Councillors office.	Previously answered.
37)	Garbage cans	More garbage cans please.	Parks operations removes most garbage cans for the winter season. They will be reinstalled following the May long weekend. Waterford Park has 5 cans during the summer and 2 cans during the winter. They are located at all main areas, ball diamond backstops, playgrounds and pavillion.	Will ensure that the summer garbage cans get reinstalled. Number of garbage cans will continue to be dictated based on 'attractions' in park.
38)	General Comment	It is fine as is. Will create a hang-out at night.	Parks rely on passive surveillance (i.e. eyes on the street). We will endeavor to locate all amenities where they can be visible to local neighbours and remove any elements that offer potential cover/ hiding. We will abide by best practices Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED).	We will review the concept during detailed design to determine what improvements can be made to locate facilities to ensure they remain visible and to remove any potential hiding spots.
39)	General Comment	Park is fine the way it is, there is wildlife that depends on the green space.	Please see response to Question 1, regarding green space. The detailed design will include native tree plantings. Tree plantings can be selected based on their ability to provide food and shelter to local wildlife.	Previously answered. Will review tree planting species during detailed design.

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40)	General Comment	Love the proposed design!	N/A	N/A
41)	General Comment	My three kids would LOVE the spray pad!! As would their two friends who live on Sunvale.	N/A	N/A
42)	Washroom	We use the park on a weekly basis. Does a spray pad need to be accompanied by changing facilities/washroom?	Please see response to Question 15, regarding the washroom.	Previously answered.
43)	Picnic/ Fencing/ Play Equipment	The new plan looks lovely. It would be nice to have a space where we can picnic, close the play equipment. It would be nice to have some form of fencing to keep the children safe as traffic flow in the area continues to increase. It would be great to have age appropriate, accessible equipment installed.	<p>Picnic table(s) will be supplied for under the sun shelter. Open lawn areas with suitable drainage and slope are provided and suitable for pinicking.</p> <p>Fencing is not typically installed around parks to allow for safe and adequate access/egress. The berm around the perimeter of the park will be saved and new tree planting will be provided to augment buffer between the park and street.</p> <p>New playground equipment will be installed for children 18 months to 5 years (junior) and 5 years to 12 years (senior).</p>	Items will be addressed during detailed design.

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44)	Playground/ Spray Pad/ Berms	I would move the playground on the west side of the walking path and just south of the parking lot. Do away with the spray pad as there is too much being proposed for such a small park. Keep the multi-use court but move it more west and south. Do not install tennis court. Keep berms and add more trees. Put multi-use court at Dartmouth gate and North Service Road in the wooded lot.	<p>We can review the layout of the playground equipment, but need to ensure safe setbacks from the parking area, appropriate setbacks from property lines and all neighbours.</p> <p>The tennis court will not be installed based on voting results. The spray pad will be installed as it is the top voted priority.</p> <p>We will keep the berms and install new tree planting.</p> <p>The woodlot located at Dartmouth Gate and North Service road is identified as a Core Area in the Official Plan - Natural Heritage and is to be protected. Further information is provided on the project webpage.</p>	Items will be addressed during detailed design.
45)	General Comment	An update to the park would be wonderful for all the kids especially the spray pad for summer.	N/A	N/A
46)	Community Garden	We sincerely look forward to the basketball/ tennis court make-over, and inclusion of a community garden. We are happy for the introduction of water into the park for a community garden and spray pad and the spray pad will be a great benefit to the community!	Interest in a community garden should be coordinated through Adam Watson, the community garden coordinator. Adam can be contacted at adam.watson@hamilton.ca for further information.	If there is adequate community and resident interest the City can install a water line as part of this contract to the noted area for future community garden use. Items, including all costs beyond a water service is the responsibility of the community garden members.

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47)	Pickleball/ Sound Wall	<p>Pickleball courts preferred over tennis. Current tennis court is rarely used. QEW traffic is too loud to make the park relaxing, and a sound wall is needed to make park viable. Park is primarily used for dog walkers currently.</p>	<p>The outdoor recreation study informs our selection for park amenities. The recommendations are based on distribution of facilities, population, popularity of sports, user groups, identification of appropriate locations etc. There will be 12 pickleball courts installed at Confederation Beach Park, Phase 1. Construction is to begin this year. This park is located within 4kms of Waterford Park.</p> <p>The berm will be retained as part of this development and tree planting will be added to augment the buffer between the QEW and park.</p>	<p>A pickleball court and sound barrier wall will not be included as part of this contract.</p>