

A NEW DISTRICT PARK ON PETER RUPERT AVENUE

Park Visioning: Community Consultation Summary

March 23, 2020

An overview and summary of the Park Visioning Public Open House and online survey findings.

City of Vaughan – Parks Infrastructure Planning and Development



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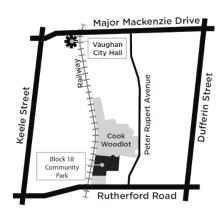
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1 Introduction: The New District Park

1.1 The Project & Project Stage





The City of Vaughan is developing a new district park, approximately 7.7 hectares in size, located on the west side of Peter Rupert Avenue, just north of Rutherford Road. The park rests within a study area of approximately 28.5 hectares (70 acres) of greenspace, including parkland, open space trails, stormwater ponds and the Cook Woodlot with connections to the Rutherford GO station. The park site itself is defined by the CN Railway (to the west), Peter Rupert Avenue (to the east), Cook Woodlot (to the north) and the stormwater management pond (to the south). The new park is situated adjacent to a proposed residential subdivision (to the east). This community park will serve the local neighbourhood and the larger community within a 2.5-kilometre radius, primarily addressing the needs of the Block 18 and Block 17 communities within Ward 4. The Block 18 and Block 17 communities encompass the area bounded by Major Mackenzie Drive to the north, Dufferin Street to the east, Langstaff Road to the south and Keele Street to the east. The new park will be an integral part of a larger network of trails, parks and open space and is ideally situated between the Maple and Rutherford GO stations. The intent of the community park is to become a destination for residents and visitors to gather, play and explore. This park project reflects the City's commitment to fostering active, safe and diverse communities that are environmentally sustainable and inclusive as outlined in the 2018 - 2022 Service Excellence Strategic Plan and the 2018 Active Transportation Plan.



This park project is currently at Phase 2: Park Visioning. As part of this stage, City Staff aims to develop a preliminary, high-level vision for the park that may include a general park theme and/or list of facilities to be integrated into the park. Community input has been gathered through an online survey and public open house. The results from the Phase 2 community consultation initiatives shall inform park program development in Phase 3.

1.2 Community Consultation: Online Survey & Public Open House





The Parks Planning Department coordinated an <u>online survey</u>, hosted through Survey Monkey, consisting of eight (8) questions regarding resident ideas and preferences for the new district park, and survey participant basic information (contact and demographics). The survey was advertised through social media (Facebook), the City's official website, and at the public open house for the new district park project held on Thursday Dec. 5, 2019. The survey was open to the public from Nov. 7, 2019 until Feb. 1, 2020 (approximately 3 months).







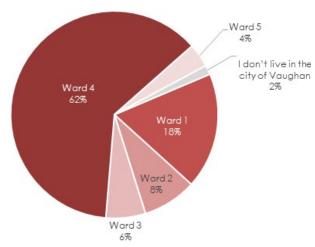
In addition to the survey, a public open house on Thursday Dec. 5, 2019 at Vaughan City Hall. The open house was an opportunity for Vaughan residents to learn about City of Vaughan park and trail initiatives, the new park project, and to share ideas for the new district park with City staff. The open house was also an opportunity for City Staff members to meet the residents, learn how they recreate within their existing community, and to gain insights of the recreational needs and preferences of the community.



Community Consultation: Online Survey Summary

2.1 The Survey Participants (Questions 7 & 8)

Ward Location of Survey Participants



Approximately 598 persons participated on the online survey. 62% of participants reported that reside in Ward 4 and 18% in Ward 1.

Household Members Older adults/seniors (over the age of 61) Adults (aged 30 to 60) 34% Preschoolers (aged Young adults (aged five and under) 20 to 29) 16% 11% Teens (aged 13 to 19) Children (aged six to 12) 12% 18%

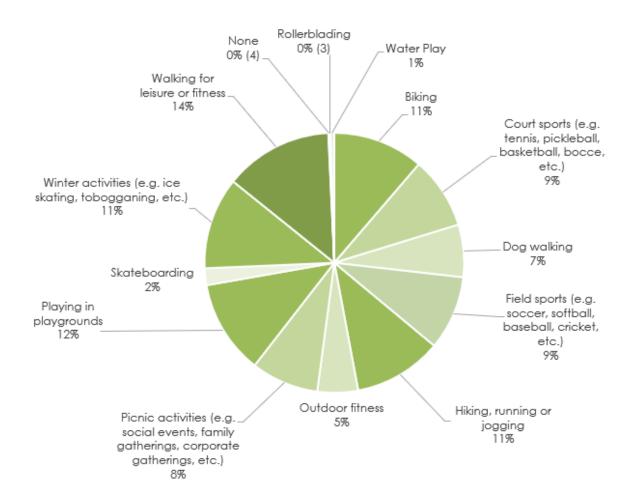
Age Distribution of Survey Participants

To better understand the community demographics, survey participants were asked to share the number of members within their households, including general age. Based on the completed responses, the community demographics may compose of 34% adults (aged 30 to 60), children (aged 6 to 12), and preschoolers (aged five and under). It should be noted that the percentages for teens, young adults, and seniors were all within the range of 12 to 9%.



2.2 Question 1: Outdoor Activity Participation (Within the past 12 Months)

Outdoor Activities Participated in within the Past 12 Months

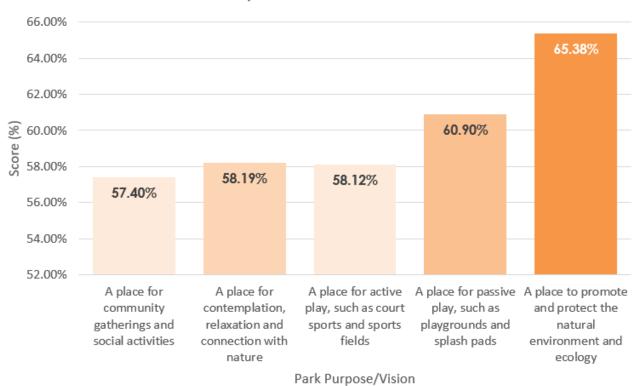


Survey participants were asked the following: "Which of the following outdoor activities have you and those living in your household participated in within the past 12 months in the City of Vaughan? Please select all that apply.". 14% participated in walking for leisure or fitness, 12% for playing in playgrounds, 11% for biking, hiking, running or jogging, and for winter activities. Court sports (9%), field sports (9%), and picnic activities (8%) were also popular responses.



2.3 Question 2: Park Purpose and Vision Preference

Park Purpose & Vision Preference

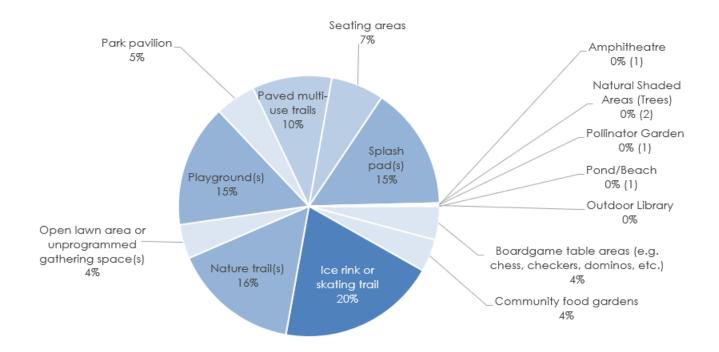


Survey participants were asked the following: "Parks provide several benefits to the community. How important are the following benefits to you? Please rank them in order from one to five, with five being the highest priority:". The most popular park purpose and vision was "A place to promote and protect the natural environment and ecology". The second most popular vision was "a place for passive play, such as playgrounds and splash pads", and third "a place of contemplation, relaxation and connection with nature".



2.4 Question 3: Park Facility Ideas: Passive/Contemplative

Park Facility Ideas & Preferences for Passive & Contemplative Spaces

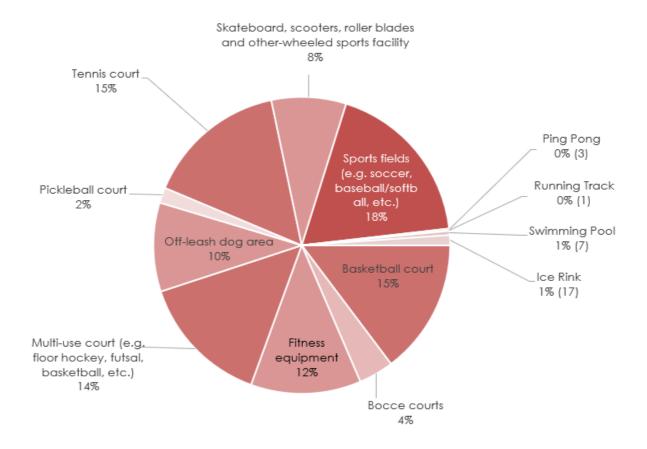


Survey participants were asked the following:" Which of the following "passive" or "contemplative" spaces would you like to see in a new community park? Please choose three.". The most popular park facility for a passive/contemplative space were: Ice Rink or Skating Trail (20%), Nature Trails (16%), and Playgrounds and Splash Pads (both 15%).



2.5 Question 4: Park Facility Ideas: Active Play

Park Facility Ideas & Preferences for Active-Play Facilities

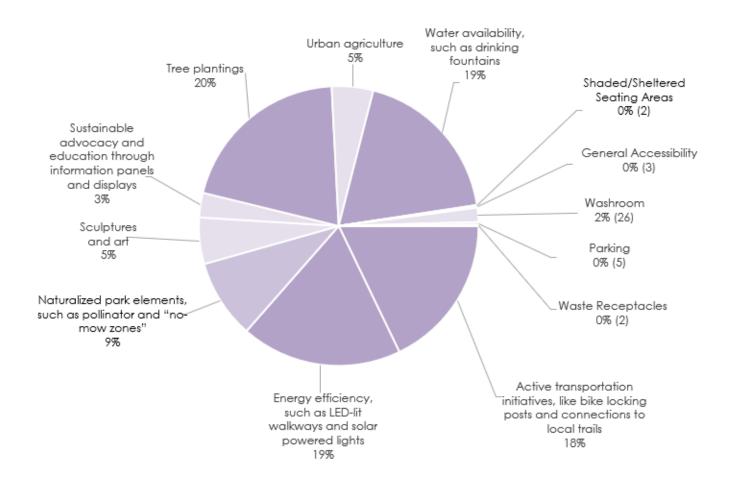


Survey participants were asked the following: "Which of the following active-play facilities would you like to see in a new community park? Please choose three.". The most popular active-play facilities were Sports fields (18%), Basketball Court and Tennis Court (both 15%) and Multi-use Court (14%).



2.6 Question 5: Park Features: Other

Park Facility Ideas & Preferences: Other Features



Survey participants were asked the following: "What features are important for the City of Vaughan to consider when planning a new community park? Please choose three.". The most popular other park features were: Tree Plantings (20%), Park Lighting and Water Fountains (both 19%) and Active Transportation Infrastructure (18%).



2.7 Question 6: Other Comments (Excluding Park Facilities)



Survey participants were asked the following: "Is there anything else you think the City of Vaughan should consider when designing this new park space? Or, do you have any additional comments to add?". Many participants iterated programming preferences. Aside from programming requests, previously mentioned in questions 3, 4, and 5, the following topics were mentioned: Provide safe access from roadways (Rutherford and Peter Rupert in particular), Park to be designed with uniqueness and character, and for the park to be constructed in a timely manner.



3 Community Consultation: Open House Summary

3.1 Format & Stations Overview

The public open house was an informal drop-in format. Parks Planning Staff provided 6 (six) main information and interactive stations, and 3 (three) additional information areas including the following:

Station	Description
Station 1: Welcome	Residents were greeted and kindly asked to sign in. Copies of the event invitation and park project survey were made readily available to those interested.
Station 2: The Project	Parks Planning Staff provided a brief overview of the open house, the park project, and the park project community/area context. Residents were asked to share their house location by placing a sticker on a map to see the relationship between their house, the new district park, and the existing recreational amenities in the community.
Station 3: Parks & Facilities	Parks Planning staff provided information regarding the City's Active Together Master Plan (2018) and City-wide park provision levels. Residents were asked to identify their preferred park facilities that are currently offered by the City and identified in the ATMP.
Station 4: Your Park Vision	Residents provided with the opportunity to share their park vision with City Staff. Three interactive boards were utilized at this station to gather resident feedback. The first board provided residents with an assortment of images of park features, of which residents were asked to select 3 (three) of their favourite pictures. The second board asked residents what their main mode of transportation to and from the new park would be. The third board provided residents with the opportunity to share any idea they had for the new district park (wish list) by writing on a sticky note and adding it to the board.
Station 5: Design Your Park	Residents were provided with a map of the existing conditions of the new district park site (1:2000 scale). Cut-outs of park facilities were provided to allow residents to design their own district park. Parks Planning staff documented the park design ideas generated by residents.
Station 6: Create Your Park	Residents were provided with a blank canvas of the park area and asked to create a collage of their dream park. Residents were offered coloured pencils, markers, and an assortment of park facilities photos to create their collages. This activity was directed towards children. Parks Planning staff collected the completed collages and posted them on the wall for display.
Metrolinx: Rutherford GO Project	Metrolinx was invited this open house to provide additional information regarding the on-going Rutherford GO Station project and related pedestrian bridge that is currently under construction and will provide a connection to and from the Rutherford GO Station and the new district park.
Vaughan Trails	The new district park is located along the City's Vaughan Super Trail. Parks Planning staff provided information about the Vaughan Super Trail project.
Vaughan Local Off-Leash Dog Area	The Vaughan community has been very vocal regarding the need and desire for local off-leash dog areas. Parks Planning staff provided information about the Local Off-Leash Dog Area project and residents were able to provide location recommendations by placing a sticker on a city-wide map.



3.2 Open House Summary

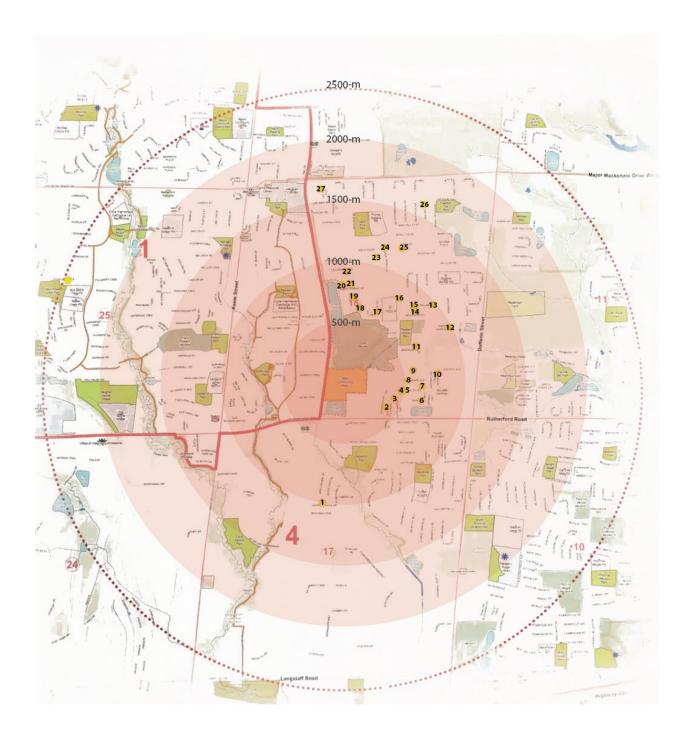
a) Attendance



The New District park project and open house was advertised through social media (Facebook and Twitter), the City of Vaughan Official Website, road signage, and over 3000 mail invitations sent to residents within an approximate 500-m walking distance of the new park and greenspace. **42 households** signed in at the open house welcome table and an **approximate number of 60 persons** were in attendance, including children. Parks Planning Staff inquired how residents knew about the new district park Open house and the following were the most popular answers:

- 1) Received a mail invitation;
- 2) Saw the road signs; and
- 3) Word of mouth (for example, parents and school staff from St. Cecelia Catholic School).

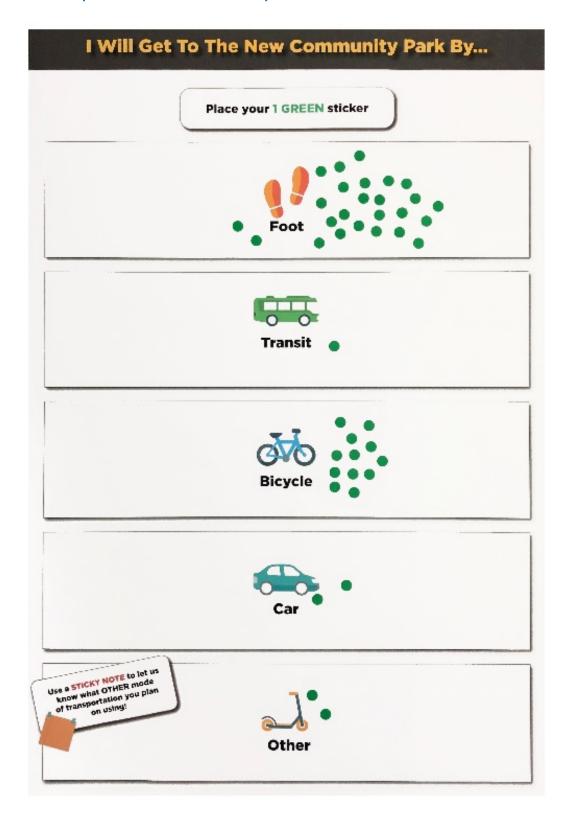




81% of households that attended the open house were located within 1000-m (an approximate 10-minute walk) of the new district park.

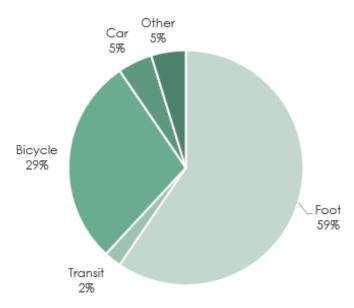


b) Mode of Transportation to the New District park





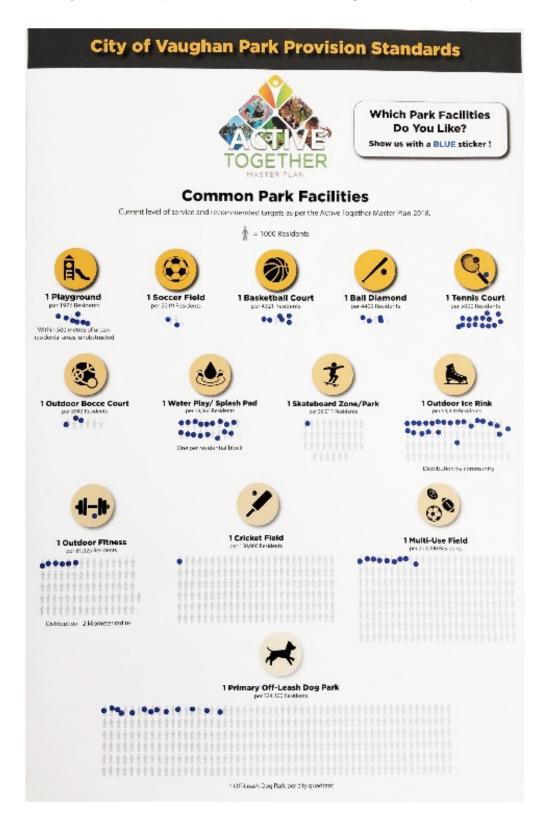
Mode of Transportation to the New Community Park



Residents were asked what their most likely mode of transportation would be to the new district park. The responses indicated that the most popular mode of transportation is by **foot (59%)** and **bicycling (29%)**.

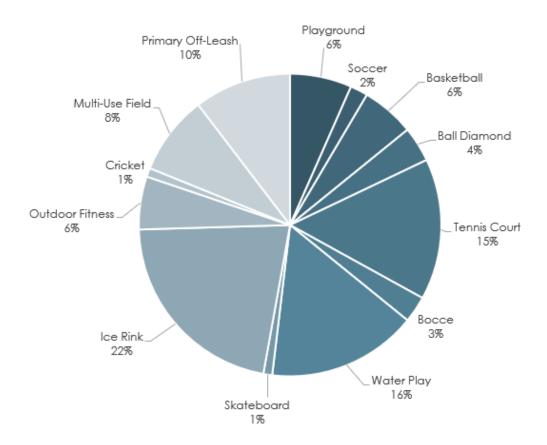


c) General Facility Preferences (Related to the 2018 Active Together Master Plan)





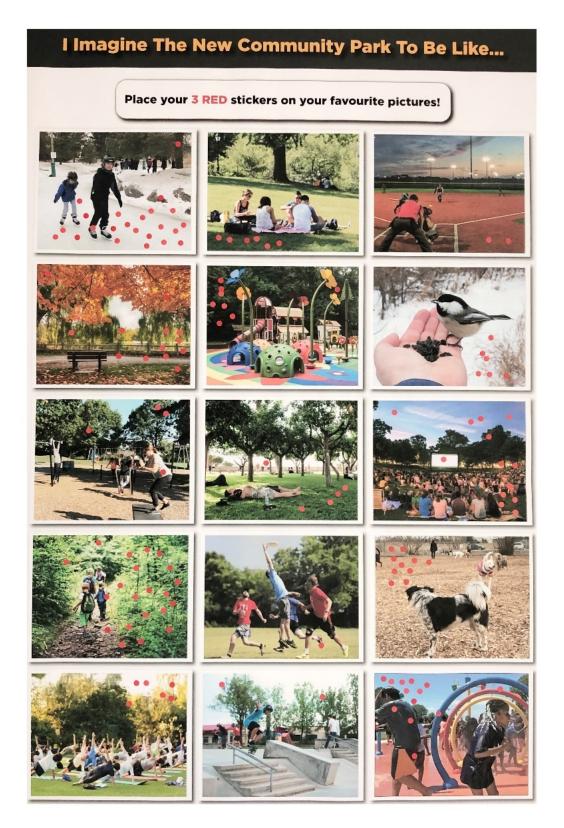
ATMP Park Facility Preferences



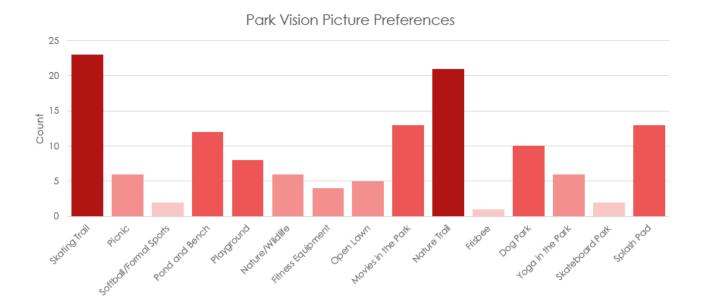
Residents were asked what are their "favourite" or preferred facilities offered by the City, as mentioned in the Active Together Master Plan (ATMP) 2018. Ice rink (22%), water play (16%), and tennis courts (15%) were the most popular facilities amongst the open house attendees.



d) Park Vision







Residents were asked to identify three (3) images that best represent their vision for the new district park. The images containing the skating trail (17%), natural trail (16%), movie in the park (10%), and splash pad/water play (10%) were the most popular amongst open house attendees.

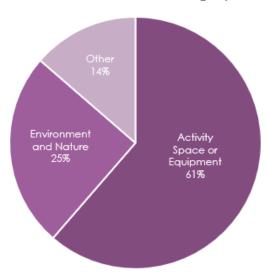


e) Park Feature Wish-List



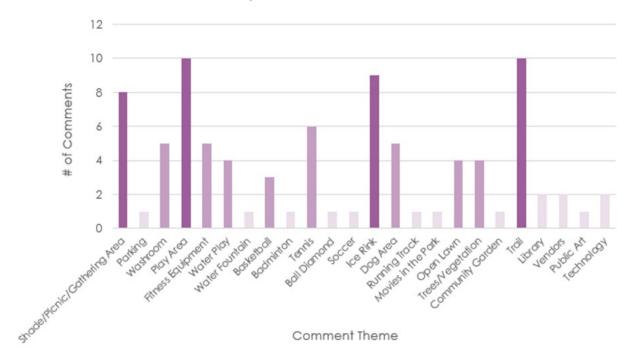






Residents were asked to write down anything they would like to have in the park. Three general categories were provided to assist the brainstorming processing, such as: Activity Space or Equipment, Environment & Nature, and Other Enhancements (Aesthetics, Functionality, Information). **61% of the comments provided were related to activity space and equipment.**

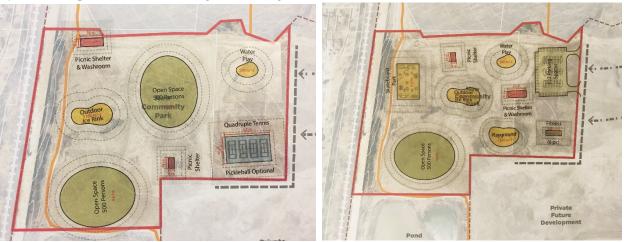
Popular Comment Themes



Amongst the comments, the most popular themes related to play areas (11%), trails (11%), ice rinks (10%), and shade/picnic/gathering areas (9%).

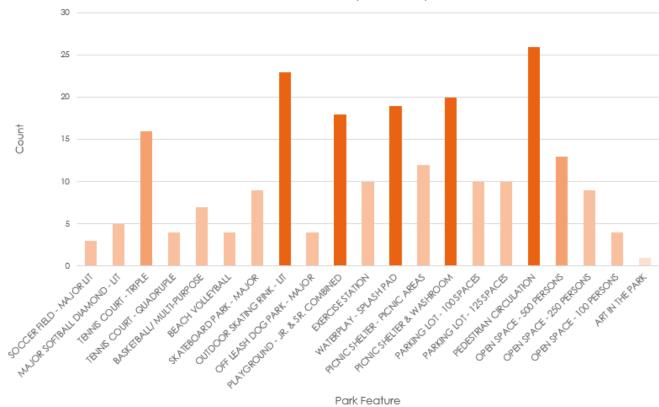


f) Design Your Park: Facility Fit Activity



Example Facility Fit Layouts by Open House Participants

Popular Park Features Utilized in the Resident Facility Fit Concepts



27 different designs were recorded at Station 5's facility fit activity. Residents generally created only one design and tested the one concept. Out of the 27 concepts, the most popular park features utilized were pedestrian circulation & trails (11%), outdoor skating rink (10%), picnic shelters & washrooms (8%), play areas (8%), water play (8%), open space (8%), and tennis courts (7%).



g) Create Your Dream Park: Children's Activity

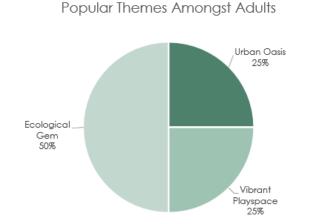


Example Dream Park Collages by Open House Participants

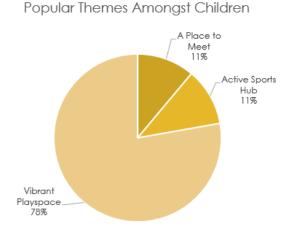
11 different designs were submitted at Station 6's collage activity. 3 of the designs were submitted by adults and 8 by children. The following five (5) popular park themes have been established by Parks Planning staff:

Park Theme	Description	
Urban Oasis	A place for contemplation, relaxation and connection with nature	
A Place to Meet	A place for community gatherings and social activities	
Active Sports Hub	A place for active play, such as court sports and sports fields	
Vibrant Playspace	A place for passive play, such as playgrounds and splash pads	
Ecological Gem	A place to promote and protect the natural environment and ecology	

Popular themes amongst the adult designs include ecological gem (50%) and vibrant playspace (78%) amongst children.



Create Your Park



Create Your Park



The following park features were included in the park designs submitted by the open house attendees:



Popular Park Features Identified by Adults



Popular Park Features Identified by Children



4 Common Community Consultation Themes

The following common themes were derived from the feedback received from the community consultation initiatives (the online survey and public open house event):

Category	Common Themes
Location of Participants:	Majority of participants are residents of Ward 4
General Park Vision:	 An Ecological Gem/Urban Oasis Themes related to the natural environment and passive/leisure use were prominent.
Most Desired Park Facilities (Passive):	(Nature) Trails
Most Desired Facilities (Active):	PlaygroundsSplash PadIce Skating Rink
Most Desired Park Features (Other):	 Picnic & Gathering Areas Tree Planting/Naturalized Areas Washrooms Lighting
Noted Vocal User Groups:	Baseball/SoftballOff-Leash Dog Area
Other Comments/Concerns:	 Safe access from roadways to the park Uniqueness & Character Environment Stewardship and Education Opportunities



- i Appendix
- i.i Online Survey Questions



PARKS PLANNING PETER RUPERT DISTRICT PARK ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRE

INTRODUCTION PAGE

Share your vision for the brand-new Peter Rupert park project

The City of Vaughan is currently seeking input on a new proposed community park in the area of Peter Rupert Avenue and Rutherford Road. The project is in its preliminary visioning phase, with detailed planning for the park to begin in early 2020.

This survey should take approximately **six minutes** to complete and the information provided will be used by the City to help shape the vision for the park, its facilities and amenities.

For more information, please visit <u>vaughan.ca/PeterRupertPark</u>.

Notice of Collection

Personal information in this form is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001 and will be used for the purpose of collecting feedback from citizens and stakeholders regarding a new proposed community park in the area of Peter Rupert Avenue and Rutherford Road. Questions about this collection can be directed to Michael Habib, Interim Manager, Parks and Open Space Planning, Parks Delivery department, at 905-303-2069, ext. 8092 or michael.habib@vaughan.ca.

BEGIN SURVEY

1. Which of the following outdoor activities have you and those living in your household participated in within the past 12 months in the City of Vaughan? Please select all that apply. [multiple choice, multiple answer, answer required]

Biking

Court sports (e.g. tennis, pickleball, basketball, bocce, etc.)

Dog walking

Field sports (e.g. soccer, softball, baseball, cricket, etc.)

Hiking, running or jogging

Outdoor fitness

Picnic activities (e.g. social events, family gatherings, corporate gatherings, etc.)

Playing in playgrounds



Skateboarding
Winter activities (e.g. ice skating, tobogganing, etc.)
Walking for leisure or fitness
Other (please specify):
None

2. Parks provide several benefits to the community. How important are the following benefits to you? Please rank them in order from one to five, with five being the highest priority: [ranking question, answer required]

A place for community gatherings and social activities

A place for contemplation, relaxation and connection with nature

A place for active play, such as court sports and sports fields

A place for passive play, such as playgrounds and splash pads

A place to promote and protect the natural environment and ecology

3. Which of the following would you like to see in a new community park? Please choose three. [multiple choice, exactly three, answer required]

Boardgame table areas (e.g. chess, checkers, dominos, etc.)

Community food gardens

Ice rink or skating trail

Nature trail(s)

Open lawn area or unprogrammed gathering space(s)

Playground(s)

Park pavilion

Paved multi-use trails

Seating areas

Splash pad(s)

Other (please specify):

4. Which of the following would you like to see in a new community park? Please choose three. [multiple choice, exactly three, answer required]

Basketball court

Bocce courts

Fitness equipment

Multi-use court (e.g. floor hockey, futsal, basketball, etc.)

Off-leash dog area



Pickleball court
Tennis court
Skateboard, scooters, roller blades and other-wheeled sports facility
Sports fields (e.g. soccer, baseball/softball, etc.)
Other (please specify):
Other (please specify).
5. What features are important for the City of Vaughan to consider when planning a new community park? Please choose three. [multiple choice, exactly three, answer required]
Active transportation initiatives, like bike locking posts and connections to local trails
Energy efficiency, such as LED-lit walkways and solar powered lights
Naturalized park elements, such as pollinator and "no-mow zones" Sculptures and art
Sustainable advocacy and education through information panels and displays
Tree plantings
Urban agriculture
Water availability, such as drinking fountains
Other (please specify):
6. Is there anything else you think the City of Vaughan should consider when designing this new park space? Or, do you have any additional comments to add? [comment box, open ended, answer not required]
DEMOGRAPHICS
 Which ward do you live in? (<u>Use this map</u> to identify your ward) [Multiple choice, single answer, answer required]
Ward 1
Ward 2
Ward 3
Ward 4
Ward 5
I don't live in the city of Vaughan
2. Including yourself, how many people within each age group live in your household? [multiple text boxes, answered required]



Preschoolers (aged five and under)
Children (aged six to 12)
Teens (aged 13 to 19)
Young adults (aged 20 to 29)
Adults (aged 30 to 60)
Older adults/seniors (over the age of 61)

3. Would you like to be contacted by the City of Vaughan about other future cityrelated engagement or consultation opportunities? [multiple choice, answered required]

Yes [collect contact information]
No [skip to thank-you page]

4. Please provide your contact information: [contact information, answer required]

First name Last name Email address

THANK-YOU PAGE

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your feedback is important. For more information about this project, please visit vaughan.ca/PeterRupertPark.

For more information about Vaughan's commitment to ensuring active, safe and diverse communities, please visit <u>vaughan.ca/ServiceExcellence</u>.

END SURVEY

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- i <u>Appendix</u>
- i.ii Public Open House Boards



NEW COMMUNITY PARK OPEN HOUSE

vaughan.ca/PeterRupertPark





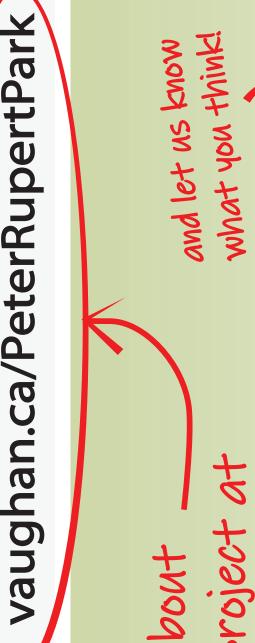
Peter Rupert Park



















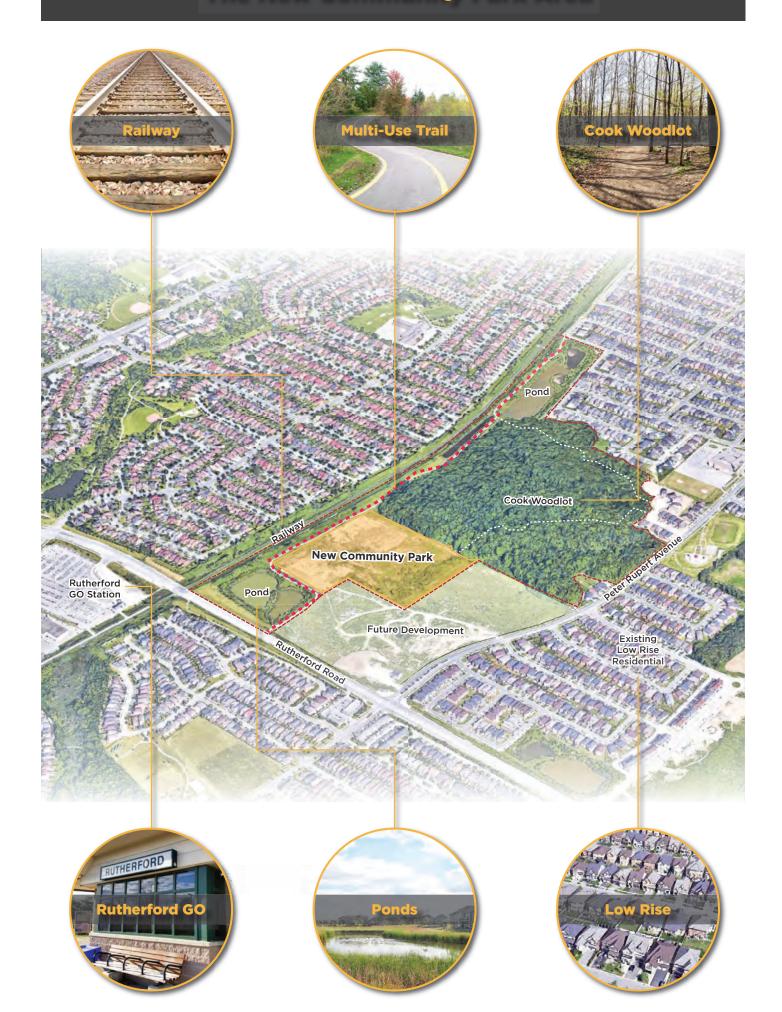
SURVEY

TAKE THE





The New Community Park Area



What's In The Community?







City of Vaughan Park Provision Standards



Which Park Facilities Do You Like?

Show us with a **BLUE** sticker!

Common Park Facilities

Current level of service and recommended targets as per the Active Together Master Plan 2018.









1 Soccer Field per 2219 Residents

††



1 Basketball Court per 4321 Residents



per 4409 Residents



1 Tennis Court per 5000 Residents





1 Outdoor Bocce Court per 5943 Residents





1 Water Play/ Splash Pad per 19,065 Residents



One per residential block



1 Skateboard Zone/Park





1 Outdoor Ice Rink per 64.820 Residents



Distribution by community



1 Outdoor Fitness

Distribution - 2 kilometer radius



1 Cricket Field



1 Multi-Use Field



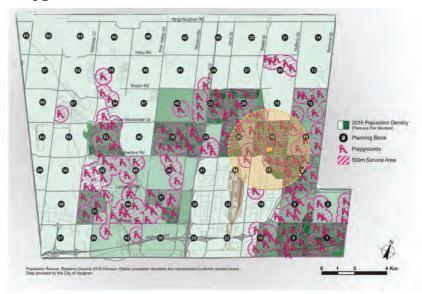
1 Primary Off-Leash Dog Park

per 324,100 Residents



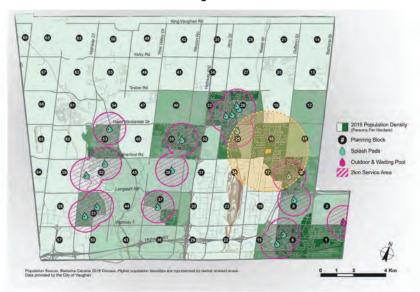
What Park Facilities Are Near You?

Playgrounds



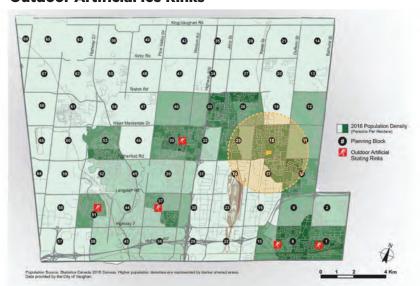


Outdoor Pools & Water Play





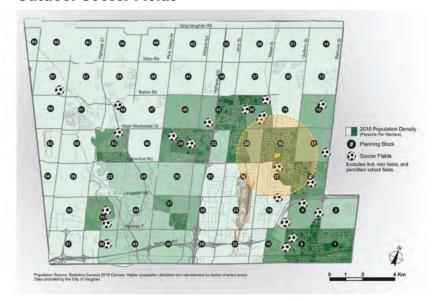
Outdoor Artificial Ice Rinks





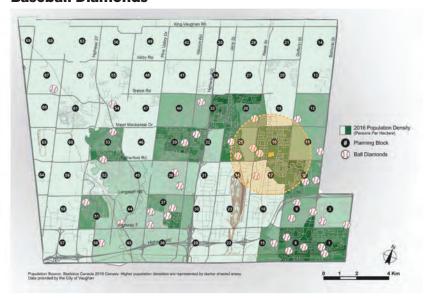
What Park Facilities Are Near You?

Outdoor Soccer Fields



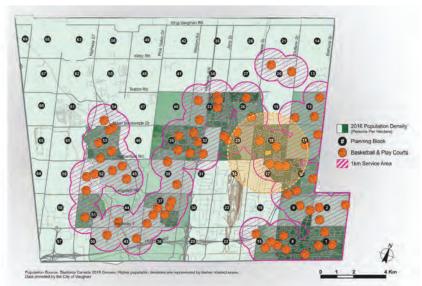


Baseball Diamonds





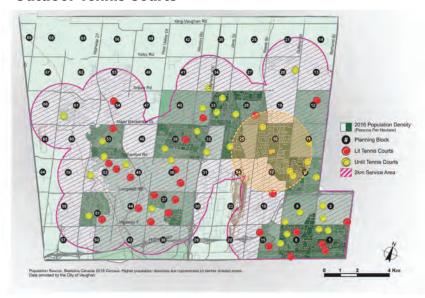
Outdoor Basketball and Multi-Use Courts





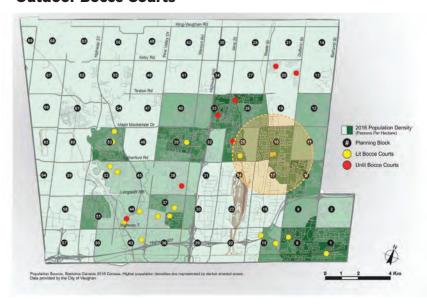
What Park Facilities Are Near You?

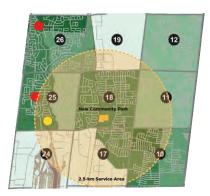
Outdoor Tennis Courts



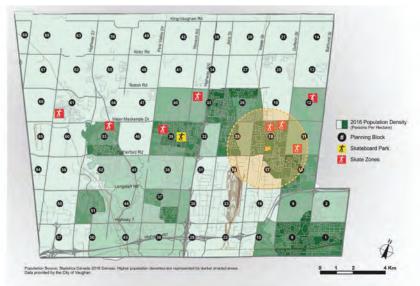


Outdoor Bocce Courts





Skateboard Parks & Zones





I Imagine The New Community Park To Be Like...

Place your 3 RED stickers on your favourite pictures!































I Will Get To The New Community Park By...

Place your 1 GREEN sticker





Transit



Bicycle



Car

Use a STICKY NOTE to let us know what OTHER mode of transportation you plan on using!



Other

The New Community Park Should Have...

Activity Space or Equipment

Add a sticky note!
The more, the better!

Environment & Nature

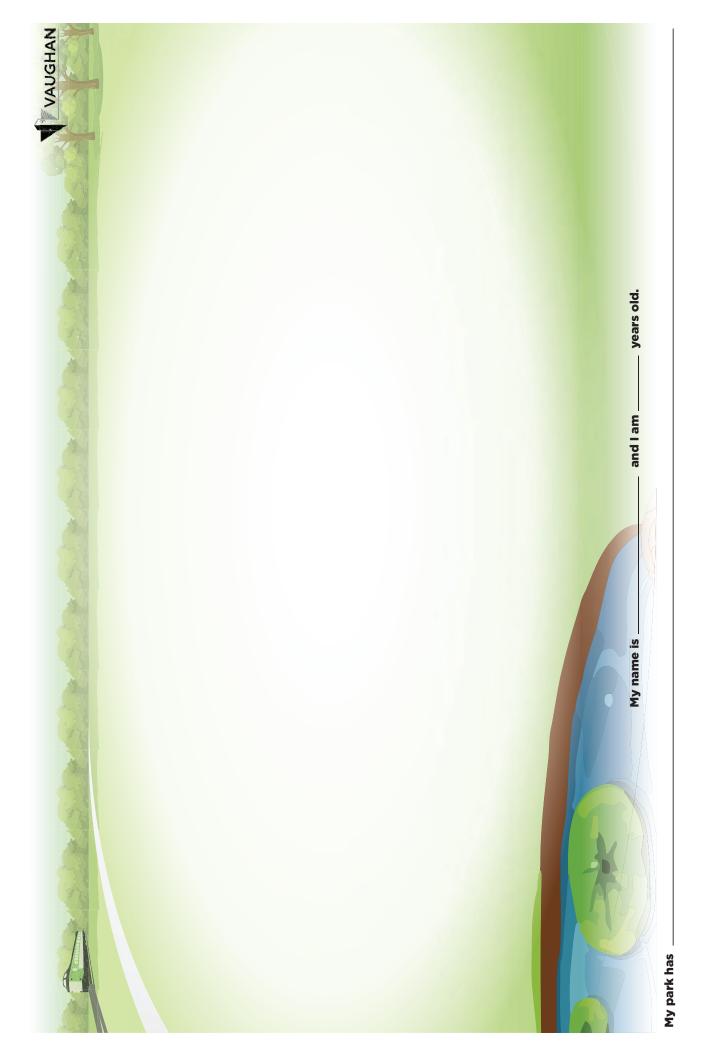
Other Enhancements
(Aesthetics, Functionality, Information)



Design Your Park!

What's Your Dream Park?







Design Your Park!

Test Your Ideas





Park Design Tips & Considerations



LOOK OUTSIDE THE BOX

What is outside of the park?

Are there relationships between the park and its surroundings?



GIVE A LITTLE WIGGLE ROOM

A little extra space can create a sense of place and safety. For example, try to provide a 20-m buffer between the

roadway and any amenities within the park.



CREATE CONNECTIONS

How will people reach the amenities in my park? Is there a flow?



TRANSFORM SPACE INTO PLACE

Open space isn't empty space! How can we best use this space? Areas without a formal amenity can be used for free play,

picnicking, a community planting project and more!



PLACING THE PIECES

Where should I place the different park amenities?

Are some amenities better together or facing a certain direction?

For example, courts and fields are best oriented north-south to

minimize the amount of direct sunlight in players' eyes.

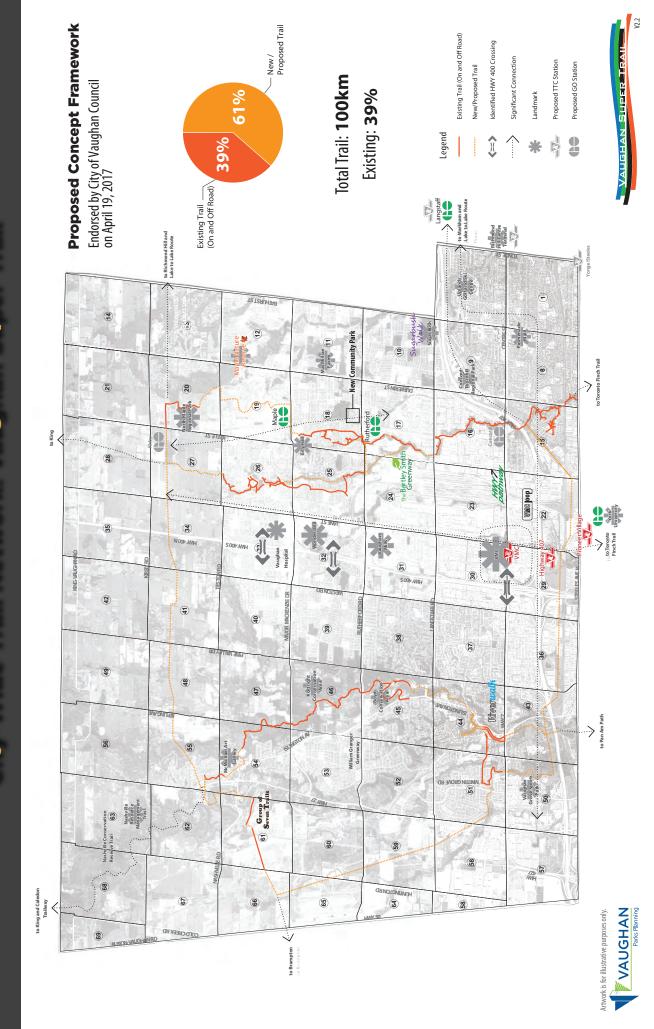


A PLACE FOR WHO?

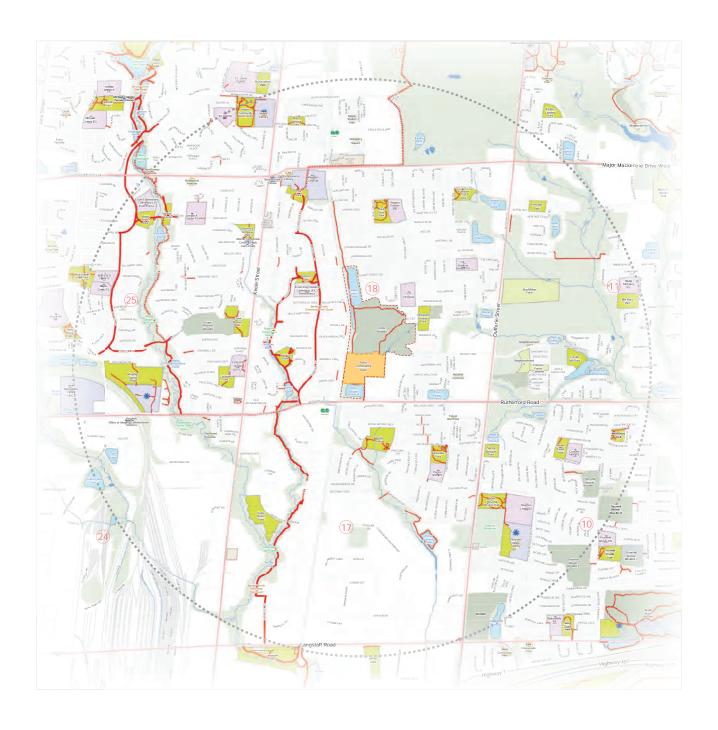
Have a person or persons in mind when designing the park.

What would make this park a special place in the community?

City-Wide Trail Network: Vaughan Super Trail



Community Trails Context





Draft 2019 Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan

