

Jonathan Rogers Park Improvements

Engagement summary report Spring 2026

Engagement Period: April 14 - May 3 2026



Project background

Overview

Located in the Mount Pleasant neighbourhood, Jonathan Rogers Park is a 1.4-hectare neighbourhood park bounded by Columbia Street, Manitoba Street, W 7th Avenue and W 8th Avenue. The park serves an increasingly dense area with limited green space and requires updates to meet future demand while remaining welcoming and accessible for all.

Proposed improvements are focused on the eastern portion of the park and include a renewed playground, a fenced dog off-leash area, and accessibility upgrades. Existing amenities, including the community garden, washroom, and open space will be maintained.

Public engagement invited respondents to share their experiences and feedback to help guide improvements that reflect local priorities.

Map of project area



Timeline



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Engagement activities overview

How we engaged

In spring 2026, the Park Board invited residents to provide feedback on proposed park improvements. Input from this round of engagement will help us shape the final concept plan for the park.

Survey

An online survey on the Shape Your City platform was available from April 14 to May 3, 2026. The survey link was shared by email with community partners, on posters and on the Park Board's social media channels.

 **815**
surveys completed

Community outreach

Staff hosted a pop-up engagement event on April 18 at Jonathan Rogers Park, attracting over 100 participants.

Outreach and communications

During the engagement period, we reached people through a variety of methods:



Postcards were sent to **23,652** households within a 15 minute walk of the park.



Signage - **12** signs were placed at Jonathan Rogers Park as well as neighbouring parks including Mount Pleasant Park and Guelph Park, in addition to 30 posters citywide.



Website - all project content was made available on shapeyourcity.ca (**4.3k** total project page visits).



Social media posts and ads - posts were made on the Vancouver Park Board Facebook, X (Twitter), and Instagram accounts to inform people about the engagement and resulted in **42k+** social media views.



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Pop-up engagement event at Jonathan Rogers Park

Event summary

On April 18, the Park Board hosted a pop-up engagement event at Jonathan Rogers Park. Participants reviewed display boards, asked questions of project staff, and shared feedback through surveys and sticky notes. More than 100 people attended the event, including local residents and park users.

Sticky note comments

Participants submitted over 75 sticky notes on the proposed concept design, dog off-leash area, playground, and park amenities.

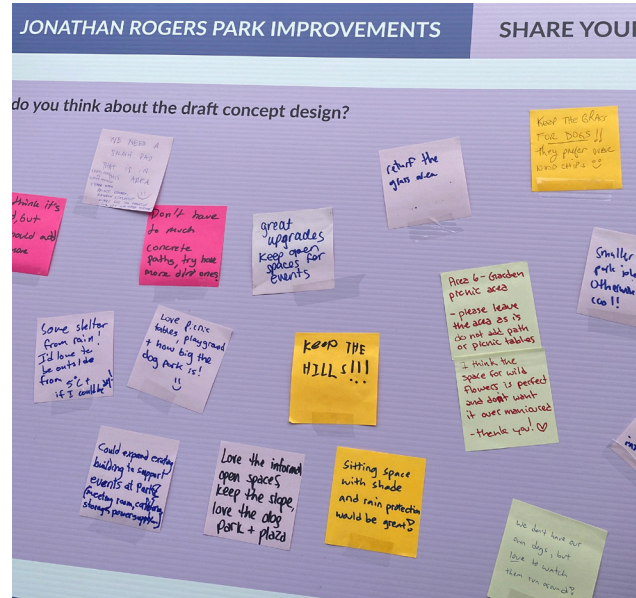
Feedback highlighted priorities related to:

- playground improvements
- safety and accessibility
- park amenities
- the dog off-leash area
- preserving open green space

Pop-up event at a glance

- 1** Pop-up event
- 100+** People attended
- 30+** Dogs stopped by
- 75+** Sticky note comments submitted

Event highlights



Participants sharing feedback using sticky notes



Display boards with proposed design



Display boards with proposed design



Staff engaging with attendees



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What we heard : Key takeaways

Participants showed strong support for the draft concept and identified features they would like included in the final design.

The following key takeaways summarize the main themes heard during engagement, with more information on the following pages.

1 Strong support for the draft concept



88% of respondents support the proposed concept design

In addition, **85%** agree that the proposed flexible open space will meet their needs and those of the wider community.

2 Support for off-leash dog area



79% of respondents support the proposed dog off-leash area

Respondents noted that the dog off-leash area reflects how the park is already being used and can help reduce conflicts between different park activities.

3 Support for the playground



64% of respondents support the proposed playground

30% of respondents had no opinion about the playground. Among people who had an opinion, 92% support the design.

4 Participants support a balanced park design that accommodates a variety of activities

Across the survey results and participant feedback, several common themes and priorities emerged that support a park design that serves a range of users, activities, and community needs.



Flexible Open Space

Participants supported maintaining some flexible open space to accommodate a variety of activities.



Trees, Shade & Cooling

Trees are highly valued for the shade they provide. Participants supported additional shade and cooling throughout the park while maintaining views.



Seating & Gathering Spaces

Participants supported additional benches, picnic tables, and places to gather, relax, and enjoy the park.



Safety, Comfort & Access

Participants emphasized the importance of safe, comfortable, and accessible movement throughout the park for people of different ages and abilities.



Views & Slope

The existing slope and views are highly valued and are seen as important features to retain.



Who we heard from and how they use the park

Survey feedback came primarily from nearby residents and regular park users, providing valuable insight from people who know and use Jonathan Rogers Park regularly.

Participant snapshot

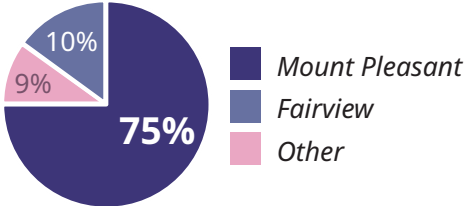
- 75% aged 25 - 54 years old
- 26% have children living at home
- 54% identified as women
- 16% identify as having a disability or health-related condition
- 38% identify with Indigenous, East Asian, Southeast Asian, or other diverse ancestry

Outdoor access
Most respondents have limited access to private outdoor space. 92% do not have a private yard, and 26% report having no outdoor space at home. These findings help explain the strong connection many respondents have to Jonathan Rogers Park as a nearby outdoor destination.

Local and frequent park users

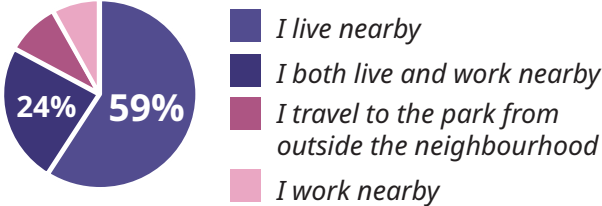
The survey captured feedback from people with a strong connection to the park. 75% of respondents live in Mount Pleasant, and 83% either live or work nearby.

Which Vancouver neighbourhood do you live in?



Neighbourhood	Percentage
Mount Pleasant	75%
Fairview	10%
Other	9%

What is your connection to the park?



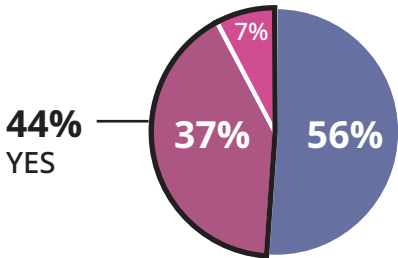
Connection	Percentage
I live nearby	59%
I both live and work nearby	24%
I travel to the park from outside the neighbourhood	10%
I work nearby	7%

Park use frequency: 44% of respondents visit daily or weekly, and 80% visit at least monthly. This suggests that respondents are ongoing users, familiar with the park during all seasons of the year.

Dog guardians

Dog guardians were well represented, with 44% of respondents bringing their dog to Jonathan Rogers Park.

Are you a dog guardian?



Response	Percentage
I am a dog guardian and I bring my dog to the park	37%
I am a dog guardian but I do not bring my dog to the park	7%
I am not a dog guardian	56%

What we heard about...

How the park is used today

The park is used as an everyday neighbourhood gathering space, with respondents most often socializing, relaxing, walking, and enjoying the view. Feedback also identified opportunities to improve amenities and better manage shared use of the park.

Activities in the park

Many of the most commonly reported activities involve spending time with others and enjoying the park setting.

The most commonly reported activities fit within the following categories:

Socializing & relaxation

- **Enjoy food/drink with others**
- **Watch the sunset and enjoy the view**
- Socialize
- Enjoy food/drink on my own
- Relax on my own

Park amenities & community activities

- Use the washroom
- Visit playground
- Tend or visit community garden
- Attend special events

Dog-related activities

- Walk my dog
- Use as unofficial off-leash area

Walking & recreation

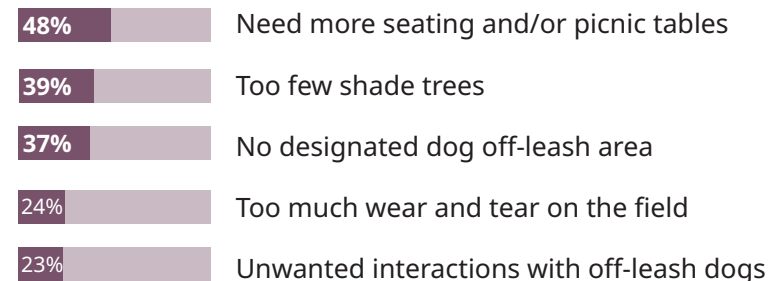
- **Walk**
- Exercise or play informal sports

NOTE: **Bold** activities were identified by more than half of the respondents.

Challenges in the park

Common challenges identified by respondents included a lack of seating and shade, concerns about off-leash dog use, and wear and tear on the park.

Top barriers or challenges to using the park



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What we heard about...

The overall proposed concept design

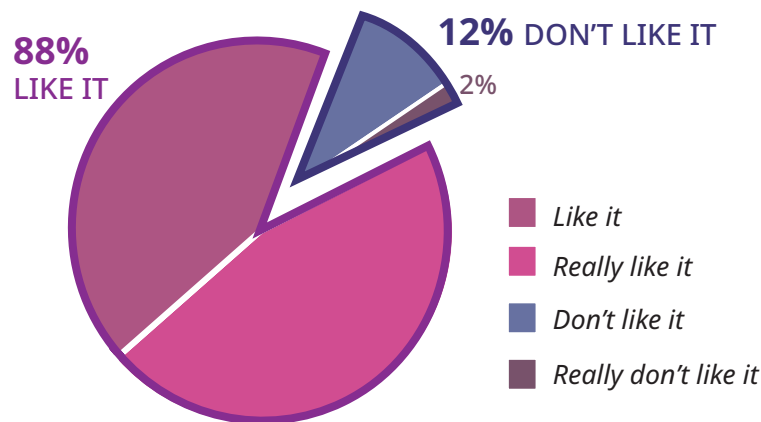
Survey respondents expressed strong support for the proposed concept design, the project principles, and the balance of open space and amenities.

Support for draft concept

88% of survey respondents support the proposed concept design.

Feedback indicates broad support for the proposed design and its approach to balancing open space, amenities, and community needs.

What do you think of the draft concept design?



Alignment with project principles

Respondents were asked how well the draft design reflects the project's guiding principles. **87% of survey respondents feel the proposed design reflects the principles well.**

Project Principles

- Foster community connections
- Enhance safety, comfort and accessibility
- Diversify and maximize park services
- Promote equity and inclusivity
- Support climate resiliency

Support for the balance of open space and amenities

Respondents were asked whether the flexible open spaces proposed in the draft concept would continue to support a range of activities while meeting community needs.

85% of respondents agree that the open space in the proposed design will meet their needs and the needs of the community, including 48% who strongly agree and 37% who somewhat agree. This suggests support for the proposed balance of flexible open space and park amenities.

Feedback on the proposed balance

25% of respondents provided comments about how space should be allocated, generally reflecting a desire for a balanced park that accommodates a variety of activities, including dog use, play, gathering spaces, and flexible open space.

Feedback highlighted the challenge of meeting diverse community needs within a limited park area.



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What we heard about...

Proposed accessibility improvements

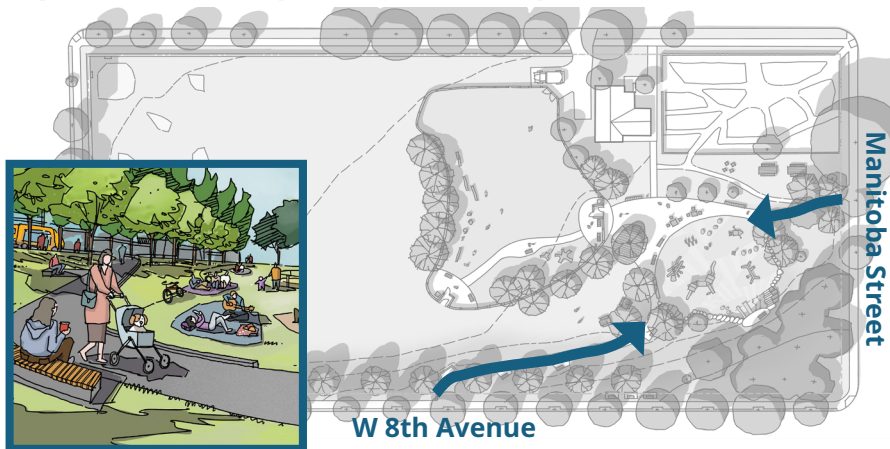
Strong support for accessibility improvements

Overall, respondents expressed strong support for the proposed accessibility improvements

The proposed design includes gentler pathway grades, improved accessible routes, and stronger connections between park areas. Respondents were asked whether the design would improve accessibility, comfort, safety, and movement throughout the park.

- **89%** think it will be easy to access the park and move between different areas.
- **88%** think the design will support safe and comfortable movement for people of different ages and abilities.
- **82%** think the proposed accessibility improvements will meet the needs of park users.

Proposed accessible pathways into the park:



Additional ideas about accessibility

Respondents strongly support the proposed accessibility improvements and identified opportunities to further enhance inclusivity through accessible seating, additional pathway connections, quieter spaces, and universal design features.

More accessible seating and picnic areas

Accessibility should also be addressed through provision of picnic tables. It's difficult for folks to picnic on the ground.

Picnic areas need accessible options for people who use wheelchairs

Additional pathway connections through the park

Would be nice to have an accessible walking loop with improved sidewalks for walker and wheelchair users.

I like the new pathways. That will be helpful.

Consideration of sensory accessibility and quieter spaces

I would like more quiet and calm places to sit.

Ensure that quiet spaces are available for people with sensory issues.

Emphasis on universal and inclusive design

Access is a huge problem to this park so I believe by making that the focus it will foster and more inclusive welcoming environment.



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What we heard about...

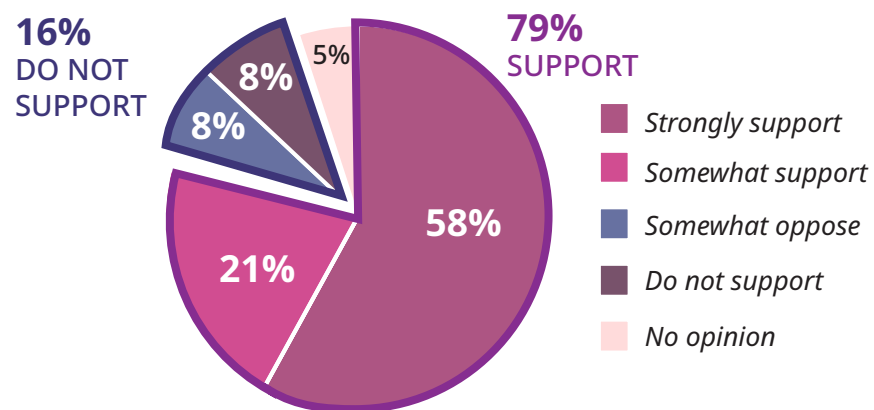
The proposed dog off-leash area

Most respondents support the proposed dog off-leash area and feel it would be a good fit for the park

Broad support for the proposed OLA

Nearly 8 in 10 respondents (79%) support the proposed dog off-leash area.

What is your level of support for the dog off-leash area?

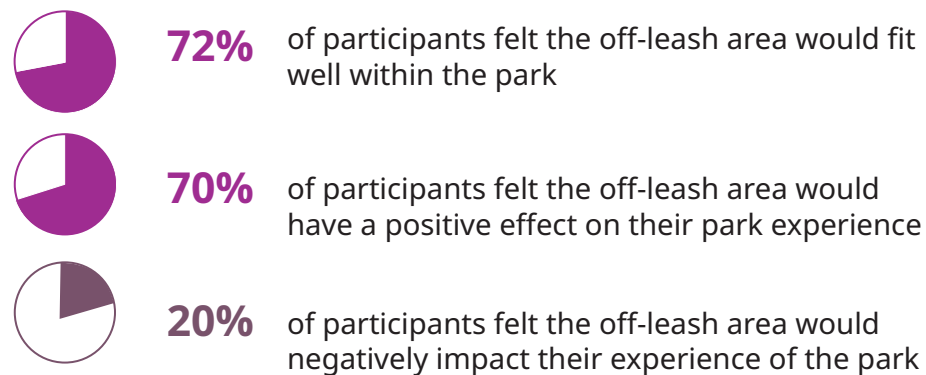


Support from both dog guardians and non-dog guardians

Support for the proposed off-leash area was examined across different respondent groups. Support was strongest among dog guardians, with approximately **95%** expressing support. Support was also high among non-dog guardians, with approximately **70%** expressing support, indicating broad support across park users.

Fit and impact within the park

Most respondents view the off-leash area as a good fit for the park and expect it to have a positive impact.



Feedback and considerations

While most respondents supported the proposed off-leash area, some participants raised concerns about how it could affect other park users and noted ongoing issues with dogs in the park.

Key themes included:

- Potential conflicts between dog owners and other park users
- The location and design of the proposed off-leash area
- Challenges with off-leash dogs in undesignated areas
- Safety, enforcement, and park maintenance considerations



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What we heard about...

The proposed dog off-leash area



Interest in a designated shy dog area

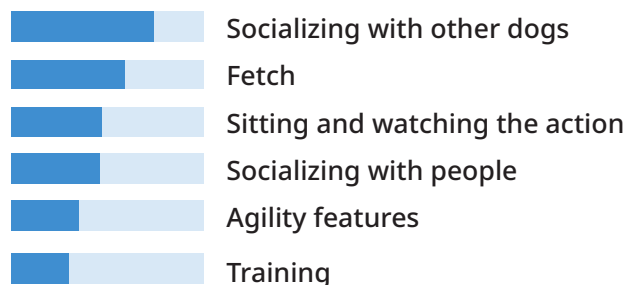
A little more than half of dog guardians (52%) support including a designated area for shy or less- social dogs.
26% opposed it and 17% had no opinion.

Dog guardians value off-leash areas for exercise, socialization, and active play, and emphasized the importance of thoughtful design to ensure the space works well for both dogs and people.

How off-leash areas are used

Dog guardians use off-leash areas (OLAs) to support their dogs' physical activity, play, training, and socialization, while also creating opportunities to connect with other park users.

Top activities that dog guardians use OLAs for



Community priorities

Through open-ended comments, participants emphasized the importance of balancing dog use with other park activities, providing adequate space for dogs to exercise, and including amenities that support comfort and usability.

Key themes included:

- Balancing the off-leash area with other park uses and circulation routes.
- Ensuring the off-leash area is appropriately sized for dog activity
- Providing amenities such as shade, seating, water access, and waste facilities to support a comfortable and functional space.



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What we heard about...

The proposed playground

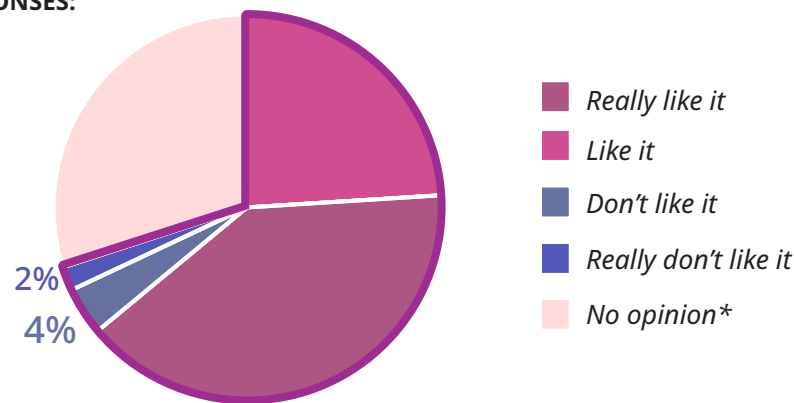
Respondents generally support the proposed playground and highlighted opportunities to create a safe, inclusive, and engaging play space for children of different ages and abilities

Support for the proposed playground

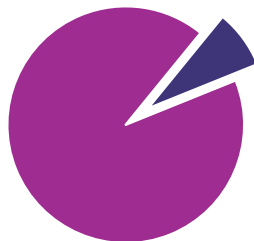
Among respondents who shared an opinion, **92% support the proposed playground design**. Overall, 64% of respondents support the proposed playground design, while 30% had no opinion.

What do you think of the proposed playground design?

ALL RESPONSES:



THOSE WITH AN OPINION:



70% of respondents had an opinion about the playground concept. Among those respondents, **92%** supported the proposed playground design.

**Most survey respondents did not have children in their household (74%), which may help explain the number of "no opinion" responses.*

Additional ideas about play

Feedback received through open-ended comments highlighted a desire for a safe, inclusive, and comfortable play space for children of different ages and abilities.

Key themes we heard:

- **Size & footprint:** respondents shared differing views on balancing expanded play opportunities with preserving surrounding park space.
- **Inclusive play:** support for equipment that accommodates a range of ages and abilities
- **Safety & separation:** requests for defining play areas and reducing potential conflicts with nearby activities such as traffic or off-leash dog areas.

Top play activities respondents would like to see

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| #1 Climbing | nets, ropes on a hill, overhead ladders or timber posts |
| #2 Sliding | embankment slide on the hill, slides on freestanding play structures |
| #3 Swinging | belt swings, bucket swings, multi-user swings |
| #4 Exploring | structure with multiple access points, bridges and tunnels |
| #5 Bouncing | in-ground trampoline |



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Next Steps

The results from this phase of engagement, as well as ongoing technical considerations will inform the development of a revised concept plan.

This refined plan will be shared with the public before it is presented to the Park Board for decision in late 2026 or early 2027.

Once approved, the concept plan will go through detailed design in 2027, with a targeted construction start in 2028.

We'd love to stay in touch!

Email us at:

jonathan.rogers.park.improvements@vancouver.ca

Sign up for project updates at:

shapeyourcity.ca/jonathan-rogers-park



Illustrative rendering of the proposed concept design



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