



HASTINGS MILL PARK PLAYGROUND RENEWAL CONSULTATION

Summary Results
July 2015



Background:

- The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation is working with PWL Partnership, a leading Vancouver based landscape architecture firm, to design a new playground to replace the existing one at Hastings Mill Park.
- Reference to the historical significance of the Hastings Mill Museum and the story of the logging industry in Vancouver are reflected in the materials and play structures chosen in the design of the new playground.
- Residents were asked to provide their feedback on the proposed playground design concept.
- The questionnaire ran from June 10 to 28, 2015.
- A total of **89** respondents completed the questionnaire. The questionnaire was accessed in the following ways:
 - A paper version of the questionnaire, made available at an open house event that took place June 10, 2015 at Hastings Mill Park (*see the next page for detailed summary of the event*);
 - Open invitation to the general public via the Hastings Mill Park Playground Renewal project page on the City of Vancouver website;
 - An email invitation to Talk Vancouver members living in the FSAs close to the park -V6K and V6R.

Who did we hear from?

- All age groups were represented, but with the greatest representation among those 30-59, and the least among those 30 and under.
- Most respondents lived in areas close to the park - north of 16th Avenue, and between Dunbar and Arbutus Streets.
- Respondents with and without children were represented, with most children in the home being under the age of 14.*

*Among respondents who were asked about the age of their children. See Demographics section.



Public Open House

- A public open house was held beside the existing playground at Hastings Mill Park on June 10, 2015
- Display boards of the new concept were presented, and people were encouraged to express their comments through sticky notes. A voting station for favourite pieces of play equipment was also set up and a survey about the project was provided.
- The event had approximately 50 attendees who provided lots of great feedback!





Summary of Results



Overall Perceptions of Playground Renewal

- The majority of respondents viewed the overall design positively, with about three-quarters liking the concept.
- Similarly, close to three-quarters liked the play features chosen for the design.

Perceptions of Design Elements

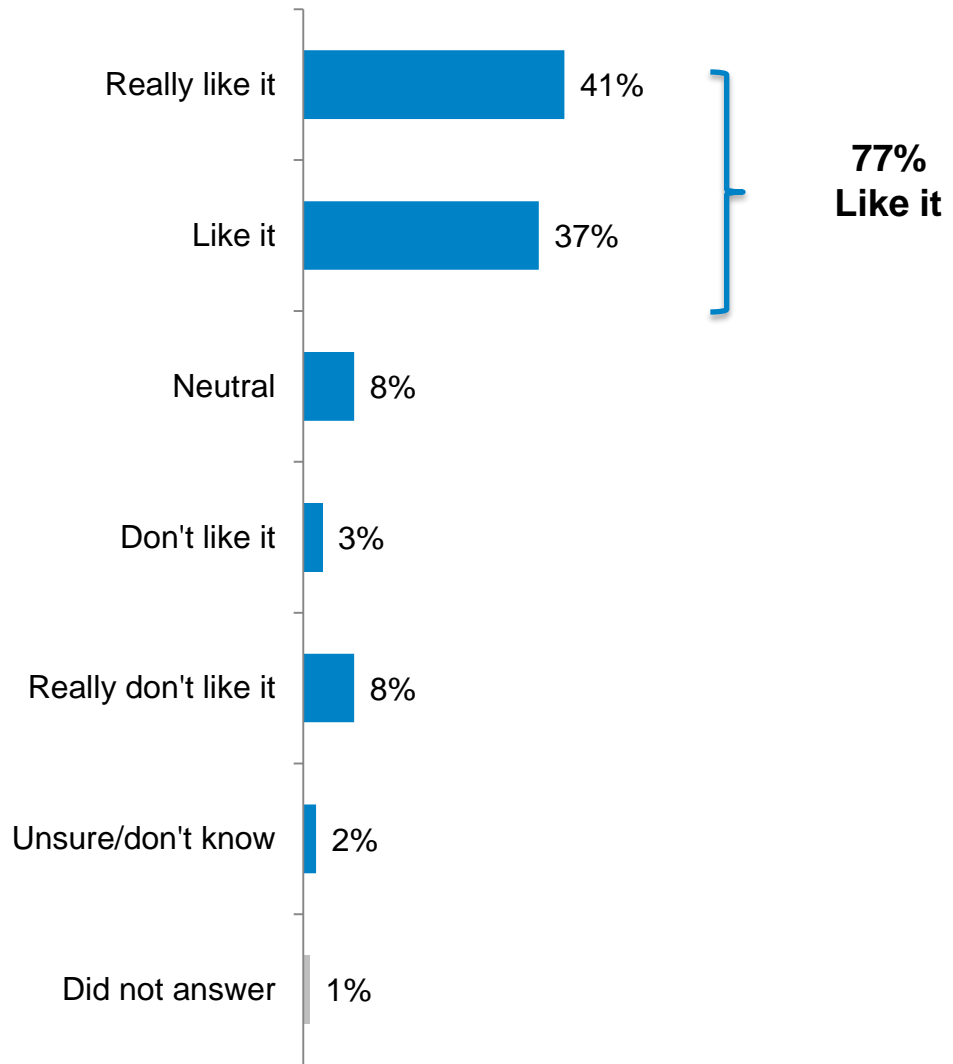
- Favourite elements of the design included the tree and net climbers, playhouse and the integration of nature.
- Less popular features of the design were the viewing frame, lack of washrooms, playhouse, and a perceived lack of elements for younger children.
- Some of the equipment respondents suggested for the playground included, more traditional playground equipment such as slides and swings, along with natural open spaces for children to play.

Overall Rating of Design's Appropriateness for 3-12 year olds

- The majority of respondents (69%) thought the design was appropriate for 3-12 year olds, whereas only 19% did not.



Overall Rating of New Design

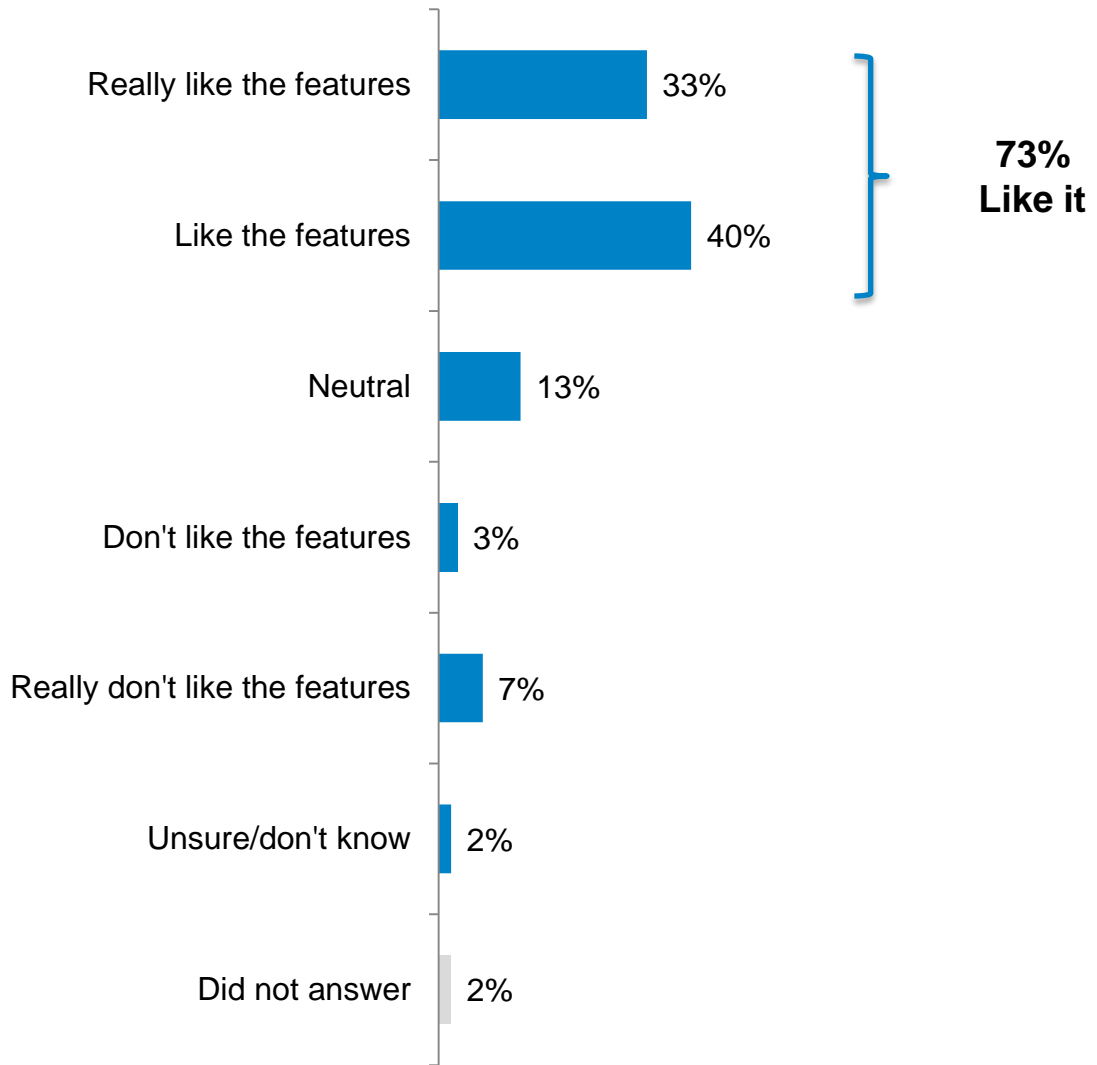


Base: All respondents (89)

Overall, how would you rate the new park design?



Overall Rating of Chosen Play Features



Base: All respondents (89)

Overall, how would you rate the chosen play features?



Least Preferred Elements of the New Playground Design



- The following are some examples of the comments respondents provided when asked about their least favourite element of the new playground design.

“The picture frame just doesn't do it for me. I can't imagine my children doing anything meaningful with it or caring much about it.”

“Needs a washroom. There is no publicly accessible washroom in the museum (which has very limited hours anyways). The closest public toilet is past Brock House.”

“It needs swings for all ages. The image only presented swings for bigger kids.”

“Many of the play elements seem too narrow in their scope of activity and in their footprint”

“Lack of elements for very small children age 6mo - 3 yrs.”

Base: Respondents (81)

What is your least favourite element of the new design?



Specific Play Equipment Preferred (not in current design)



- The following are some examples of the comments respondents provided when asked about specific play equipment they would like to see in the new design.

“I would add some more traditional play equipment too. A slide is definitely needed. monkey bars also”

“...I find that kids love a variety of towers and climbing features connected with bridges -- this inspires a lot of creative play (ships, rockets, castles, etc.). And everyone loves to slide down a slide as a reward for a good climb”

“slide, linked play circuit for climbing, grounders, tag”

“A small water feature”

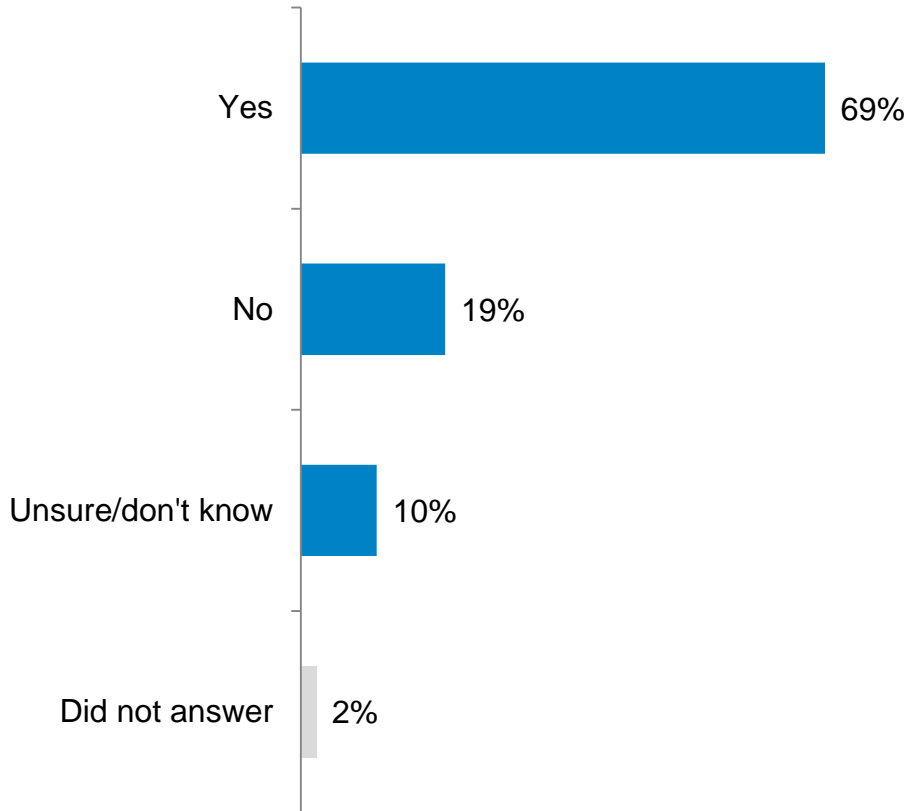
“Need more trees for shade in summer, and for interaction with nature”

Base: Respondents (61)

Is there any specific play equipment, not shown here that you would prefer to see in the new design?



Perceived appropriateness of playground for age and ability of 3-12 year olds



Base: All respondents (89)

Do you think the new playground is age and ability appropriate for 3-12 year olds?



General Comments



- The following are some examples of the general comments respondents provided about the project.

“Please include a wide variety of interactive elements, not just climbing structures!”

“This definitely provides better opportunities for older kids than the existing structure, so it would be good to ensure that the little kids have enough climbing scaled for them.

Also, 11-12 year olds may prefer something special they can access, like a higher up platform/treehouse.”

“As a frequent visitor to the park, many families with children younger than 3 also enjoy the space. I love having climbing structures for older kids but would hate to see us lose some of the elements for younger kids.”

“This looks wonderful, as the old playground has deteriorated over the years. I like the references to the museum and historical context, which is a great opportunity to learn and play.”

Some washroom facilities in the future would be good. Love that it is being improved.

Base: Respondents (56)

Do you have any other comments you would like to provide on the playground renewal at Hastings Mill Park?



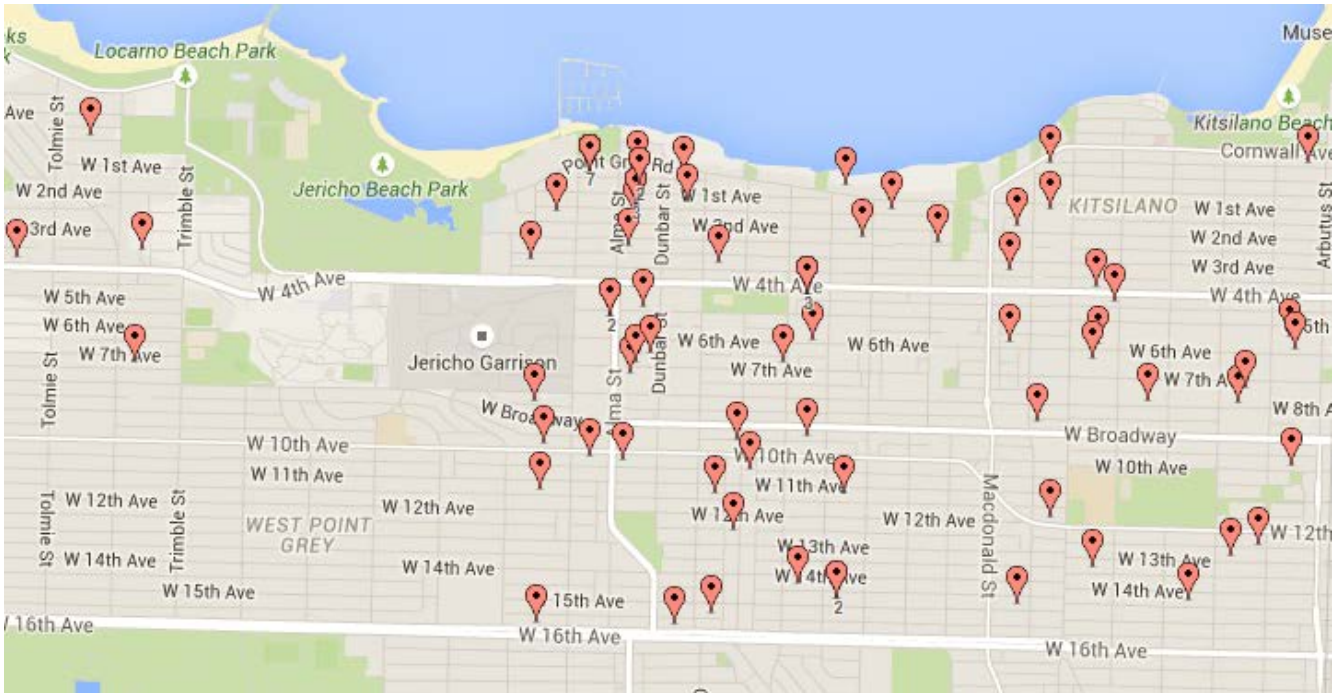
DEMOGRAPHICS



Demographics



- Snapshot of residential concentration of respondents.*



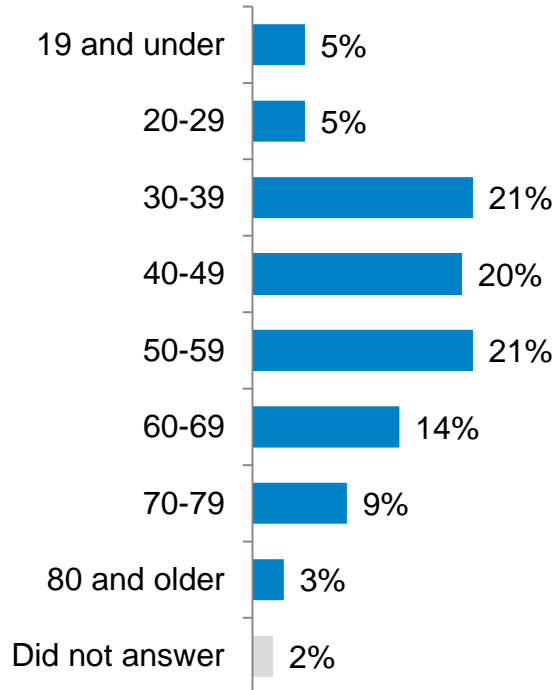
*Based on home postal code.



Demographics cont.

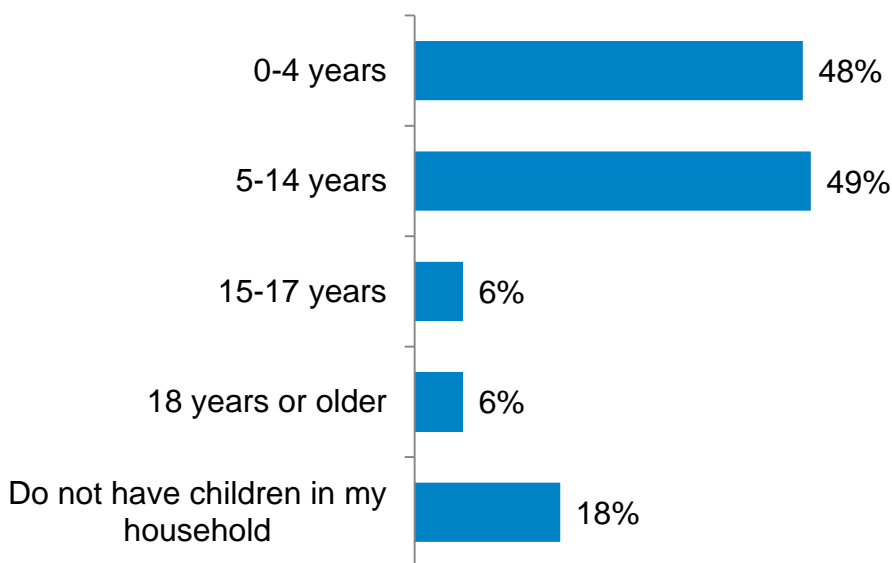


Age



Base: All respondents (89)

Age of Children at Home*



*Base: Respondents asked about the age of their children (33)