

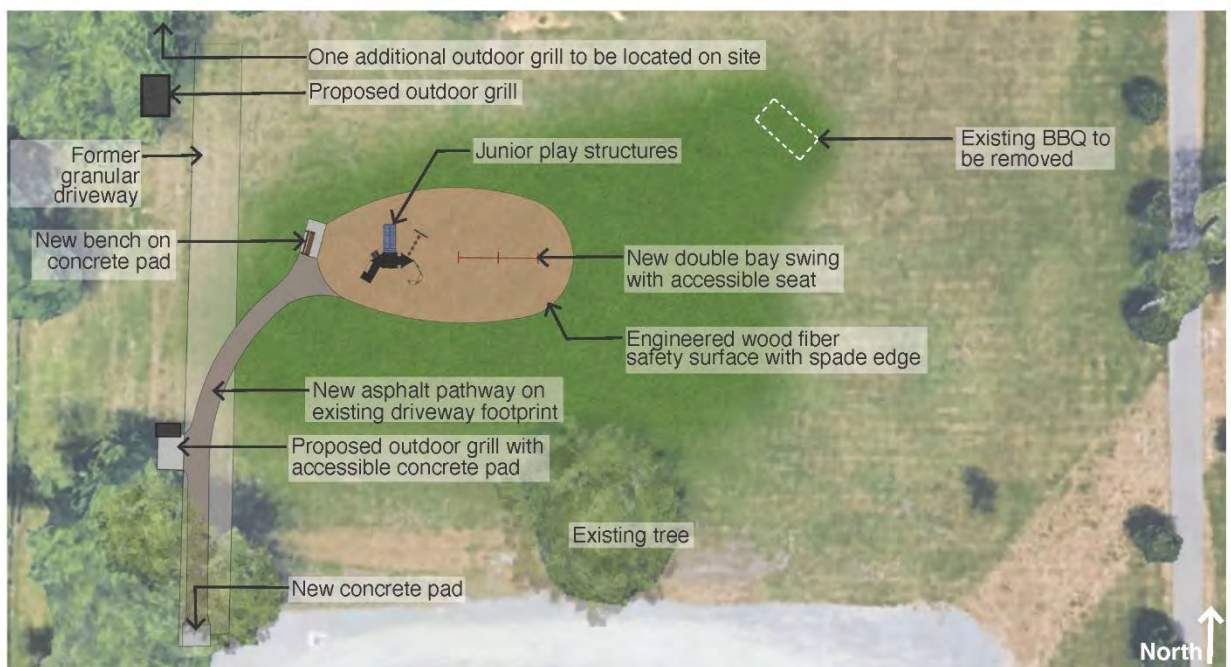
Lake Ontario Park Playground (North) Replacement Public Engagement Summary

On September 13, 2021, a virtual public information session was held via Zoom for the playground at Lake Ontario Park (north), O'Connor, and LaSalle Park. Fifteen (15) residents attended the online session. The concepts proposed and the site constraints were explained during the information session, which can be viewed on [YouTube](#).

Feedback was received through email and an online survey through Get Involved Kingston from September 13 to October 5, 2021. Public feedback was collected from 152 respondents.

Summary of feedback on the proposed playground

- 64% of respondents preferred Option 2 play equipment.



- Many respondents indicated they would like the play structure to meet the needs of a wider age range, with more obstacles and challenges such as a fireman pole, climbers, and monkey bars.
- Some respondents wanted more swings, infant swings, tire swings, accessible swings, and larger slides, while others said kids are getting bored of swings and slides.
- One respondent who uses the accessible swing suggested it be located closer to the pathway.

- There was a question raised about the impact of the playground on the natural environment and a few respondents preferred natural play elements such as logs, stumps, and wooden beams or musical options.
- One respondent suggested a rubber safety surface instead of woodchips.

Summary of feedback of other park comments

- Some wanted more benches, garbage cans, bbq, picnic tables by bbq, and shade.
- Some wanted a second splash pad play or a pool. They thought the existing splash pad at Lake Ontario Park is busy.
- Some wanted outdoor fitness equipment, a roller rink, skating rink, pickleball courts, and sensory garden.

Response to feedback

- **Could the playground area or equipment be larger?**

The proposed playground replacement represents the most we can provide within the available budget. Archeology is also a consideration.

- **Can a climber or challenging equipment be provided to address a wider age range instead of swings?**

Due to high interest in the swings, they will be retained as part of the project. However, we can add a climbing element to the play structure.

- **What material is the safety surface?**

The proposed playground safety surface is engineered wood fiber.

- **Will the natural environment be impacted by the playground replacement?**

No, the project won't impact the natural areas in the park.

- **Can we have natural play equipment here?**

Natural styled play equipment is more expensive and would result in a smaller playground for the available budget. In addition, due to their shorter lifespan and higher maintenance costs, the City is only selectively considering the use of natural styled equipment. Usually parks with existing natural features such as woodlots may be considered.

- **Are other amenities like outdoor fitness equipment, splash pad, and pickleball courts proposed as part of the improvement?**

No, these are not part of the scope of the project. The [City's Park and Recreation Master Plan](#) lays out future possible locations for these amenities in the City. Pickleball and another splash pad are not planned in Lake Ontario Park however, Lake Ontario Park is a potential candidate site for future outdoor fitness equipment.

Next Steps

- Option 2 will be implemented. The structure will be modified to include an overhead climber and a fireman pole in response to requests for equipment that accommodate a wider age range



- Construction is planned for 2022