

Waterside Way Park and Trails – Feedback Summary

On July 6th, 2021, a virtual public information session was held via a zoom webinar to introduce the development of a new Park with Trails on Waterside Way. The proposed strategies for the development of the Park and the Trail system were presented in the webinar. The presentation panels were also displayed on large format signs on Waterside Way, as well as being posted online on Get Involved Kingston.



Public feedback was collected from over 135 respondents between June 16th and July 21st from the zoom webinar and an online survey.

Summary of Feedback for the New Park:

The development of the new Park was well supported by the majority of respondents. Many of the comments indicated that shade trees, benches and garbage bins are the most desired amenities.

With respect to the Playground, several commented that they would like to see play equipment and activities that cater to older children. Basketball was suggested by several respondents and one of the proposed Park concepts will have basketball as an option.

A couple of respondents indicated that it is important for the Park pathways to be accessible. Paved pathways that meet accessibility standards will be shown on both proposed concepts.

There were a few requests for a splash pad as well as an off-leash dog park. Neither of these amenities are proposed for this Park. Please refer to the City's Parks and Recreation Masterplan which lays out future possible locations for such features.

Summary of Feedback for the Trails:

As with the Park, the majority of the comments received were in support of the proposed Trails. Many added that they would like the trail segments to be connected along the west side of Waterside Way between Schooner Dr. and Biscayne St. to avoid having to cross the road. City staff are currently looking into implementing this connection.

Others commented that they would like the trail to continue down to Gore Rd and up to the 401 but these connections are not feasible given the lack of continuous publicly owned land.

Other comments addressed the environmental impact of trail and whether it will be accessible. Given that the trail is within a designated Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA); it is to be of low impact and will be a maximum of 2m wide with gravel paving. The trails' route will be designed around the existing slopes and it aims to avoid existing mature trees. Due to these constraints, meeting all accessibility standards is not feasible. Similarly, the Lookout at the river's edge will be a low impact, scenic rest area and water access for swimming or boating is not being proposed.

In the fall, there will be a 2nd virtual meeting to present more detailed concepts for both the Park and Trails as well as another opportunity to provide feedback at that time.