

# Playground Replacement in Oakridge Park – Engagement Summary



## Engagement events

- April 12, 2021 - online engagement session (36 attendees, 48 views on YouTube)
- April 12 to May 3, 2021 – Get Involved Kingston survey (56 completed surveys)
- May 27 to June 10, 2021 – Get Involved Kingston survey (110 completed surveys)

Public feedback was received between April 12 and June 20 on the proposed playground replacement at Oakridge Park through a Zoom open house, surveys on Get Involved Kingston, emails sent to the project manager and phone conversations. Concept plans were displayed in the park and online on Get Involved Kingston and the project page.

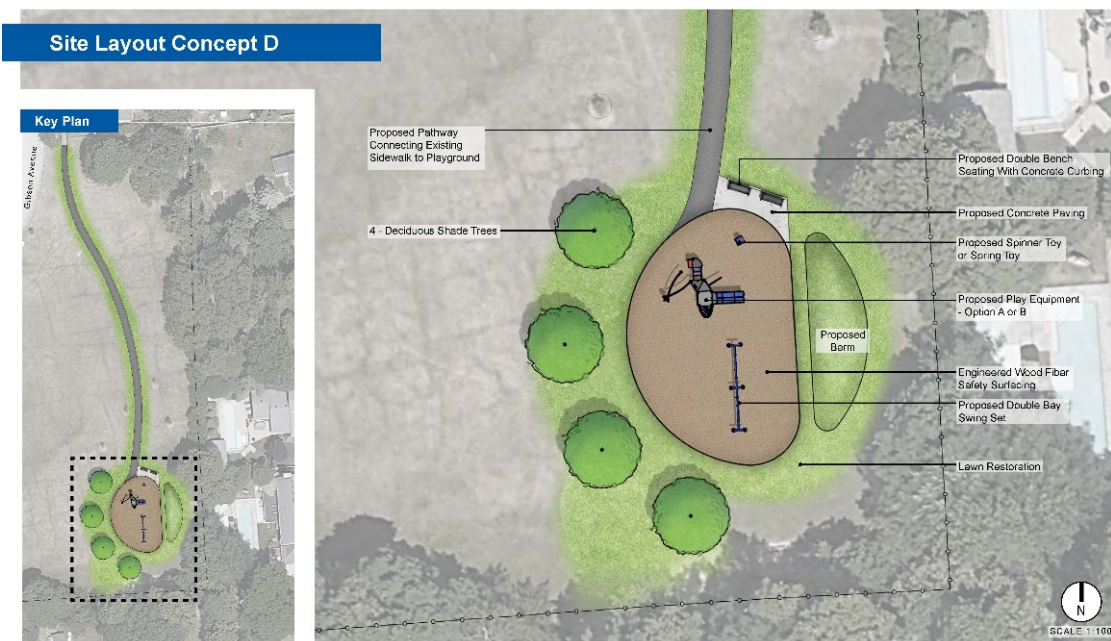
## Summary of Feedback for the Playground Replacement at Oakridge Park:

In April, feedback from the virtual public consultation session and from the first online survey indicated that the majority of respondents were not in favour of the 2 proposed locations for the playground.

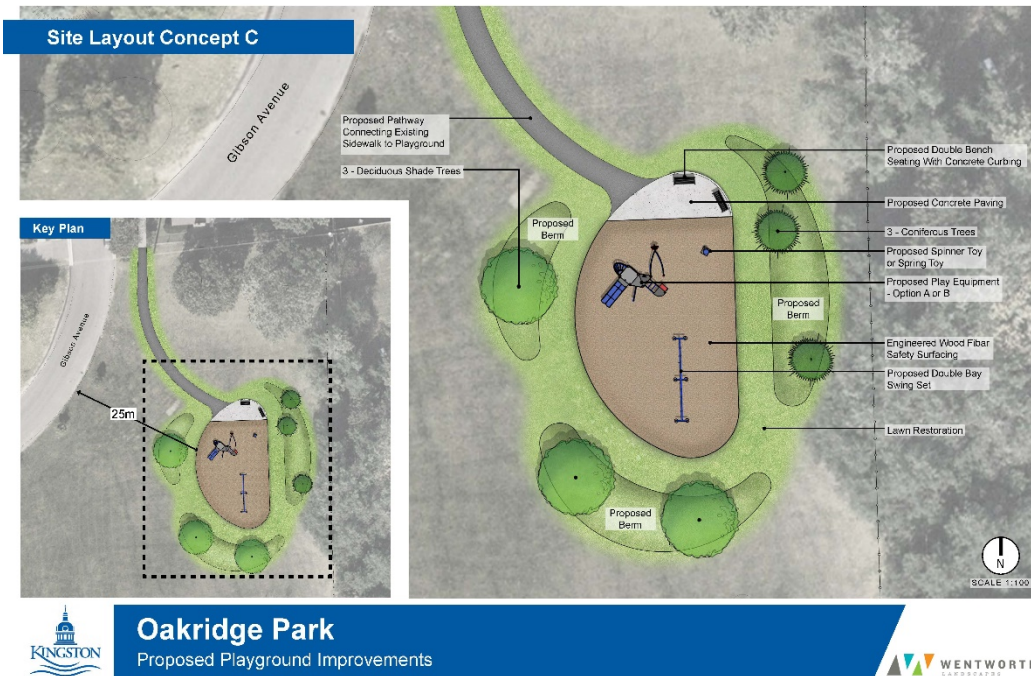
In response, 2 additional location options were displayed in the park and published on the City's website. A 2<sup>nd</sup> survey was available from May 27 to June 10 to collect feedback that included the additional concepts.

Feedback from the second survey indicated:

- Playground Layout D was preferred by approximately 45%



- Option C was preferred by approximately 30%.



- Others commented that Option C was also an acceptable choice.
- Approximately 25% indicated they would like to see more benches or a picnic table.
- Some commented that the path to Option D is long and may be a challenge for accessibility.

For the playground equipment,

- Equipment B was preferred for the play structure and the spinner was selected as the small piece of equipment.



- 30% wanted more equipment with challenges such as monkey bars, to meet the needs of older kids.

## **What you told us:**

“Both park structures appear to be suited for more younger ages. It would be great if you would also consider adding monkey bars or a play structure that has elements for both younger and older kids.”

“Climbing sets are important to keep older kids interested in playgrounds.”

“Would really like a picnic table. If less costly to do the path for option C and a picnic table could be included, that would be a valuable asset to the neighborhood.”

[Re Option D] – “I can’t quite grasp the scale of the walk, etc, but for many with movement challenges it may be too long. Parents and grandparents who have difficulty standing for a long periods might be very grateful for more than one bench area.”

## **Next steps**

The City recommends Playground Location C. The location offers excellent visibility which is an important site planning consideration for park features and playgrounds. It is very well separated from the Oakridge/Gibson Crescent and the short pathway length from the sidewalk Gibson improves accessibility.

Location C is expected to have a lower cost to build than Option D. As a result, additional elements could be provided in this location. In response to feedback received these would include an expansion of the proposed play equipment with more challenging elements, an accessible picnic table and increased shade tree planting.

Upcoming Public Engagement events:

- Visit Oakridge Park to see the spray painted “X Marks the Spots” for playground locations for Option C and D.
- Review the drone footage of the “X Marks the Spots” for both playground locations on Get Involved Kingston.
- Attend the online community meeting on July 28 at 6 p.m. to discuss the locations of Playground Options C and D.
- Leave comments on [Get Involved Kingston.ca](http://GetInvolvedKingston.ca) until 4 p.m. on August 12