

Bert Meunier Common and Max Crescent Park Engagement Summary

On March 4, 2021, a virtual public information session was held via a zoom webinar to present the proposed plans for Bert Meunier Common and Max Crescent Park. The Concept plans were displayed on large format signs that were placed in each park as well as being posted online on Get Involved Kingston.



Public feedback was collected for both parks from over 300 respondents. Feedback was collected between February 22nd and March 30th from the zoom webinar, online surveys, online comments, and email correspondence.

Summary of Feedback for Max Crescent Park:

- Most respondents were pleased that the park will be kept as natural as possible and felt that the woodland path was appropriate for the site.
- Many stated they would like the existing mature trees to be preserved. We received this comment about the trees:

I very heartily implore you please do not cut down the huge gorgeous stand of very tall evergreens that now grow there where you are proposing the park on Max Crescent.

- Option #1 was the preferred option for the playground equipment and will be the equipment specified in the final design. The equipment is made from wood and is relatively small in scale:



Option 1 Playground equipment for Max Crescent Park.

Summary of Feedback for Bert Meunier Common:

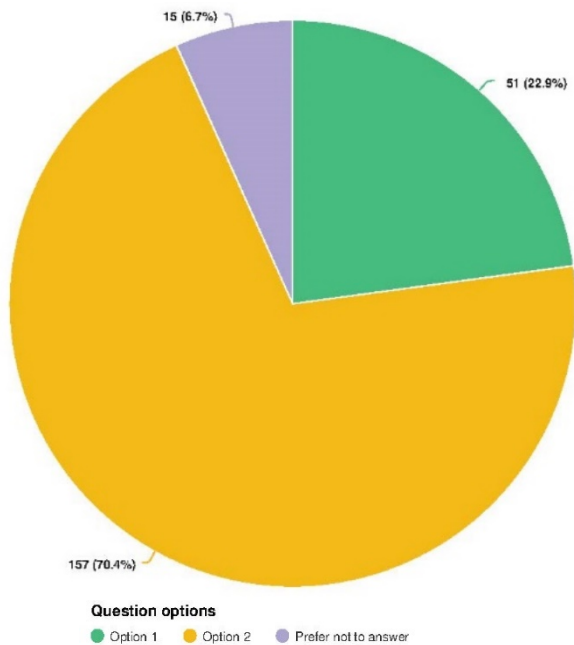
- Open Space Concept #2 was preferred by the majority of respondents and this will be reflected in the final design, which will include a large, elliptical play lawn that can be used for various recreational activities. Goal posts will be considered.



Bert Meunier Common - Open Space Option 2.

- One respondent commented on its winter use:

For the past 3-4 winters, I have taken good advantage of the present open field to cross-country ski on... it meets the needs of anyone who is interested in getting this type of winter outdoor exercise
- Placing benches and shade trees along the proposed path was well-supported as were the naturalization plantings that are proposed for the park's perimeter and these elements will be retained in the final design.
- A few commented that they would like the park path to be looped. A looped pathway is not proposed due to both spatial and budget constraints. The feedback we received indicated that having a large play field is a priority. As the existing swale at the south edge of the park is to be retained, there is not enough space remaining to accommodate a southern leg of pathway to close the loop.



Basketball option pie chart from online survey



Basketball Option #2

- For the basketball court, option 2 was preferred by 70% of respondents:
- Concern was received about potential noise associated with basketball courts. The final concept is being modified in an effort to reduce the potential for excessive noise from the court.
- The basketball design will be revised to include:
 - A vegetated berm on the northeast side to aid in noise dampening, provide a visual screen, and prevent errant balls from reaching the road.
 - The court's play surface is being marginally reduced in size so that it is serviceable for neighbourhood basketball but not attractive for more competitive play.
- We received these comments about the proposed basketball court:

As a resident of the community, I would like to voice my support for the smaller-sized basketball court that the city is proposing. Although I have some reservations about it, I do think that the benefits outweigh the cons. I am an elementary school teacher and if this year has taught us anything it is that outside space, movement, and social engagement is crucial for the mental wellbeing of all citizens - especially our youth.

...if a basketball court is the plan, then Option #2 is our preferred option...The smaller than regulation court, mid-size with a targeted usage age group 12- 13 years, barrel shape, no plans for fencing or lighting are compromises for sure. The suggested positioning and distance from the road also keep resulting usage noise in the same area as other noise from the existing amenities. The seat wall for noise mitigation is only useful very minimally and only to the east. However, the proposed trees and other vegetation could partially assist with this concern and add some needed shade.

- Some people had concerns that there would be an increased demand for parking once the Park Improvements are complete. The intent is to provide simple, modest improvements that serve the needs of the immediate community and are in keeping with those found in neighbouring communities so that residents from other neighbourhoods are not compelled to drive to this park.
- There were requests to accommodate other amenities such as tennis & pickleball courts, outdoor fitness equipment and a dog park. None of these are proposed as part of this project. The City's Parks and Recreation Masterplan lays out future possible locations for these elements in the City. Bert Meunier is not an identified location. Access the parks masterplan using this link:

[Parks and Recreation Masterplan.](#)

- Some other issues that were brought to our attention were concerns about illegal parking, insufficient street parking, ice rink operations and anti-social or criminal behavior. We have made the other relevant city departments aware of these concerns.
- Revised designs will be posted to the project page once completed. Please watch the project page for updates and construction schedules:

[Park Project Page](#)