

What We Heard Report Carlisle Park Playground Renewal

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PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY AND RESULTS

Project Overview

Carlisle Park Playground, located at 117 Street and 143 Avenue, has been chosen for renewal. The objective of this project is to use input from the public in alignment with the City's strategic objectives, plans and policies to replace the playground. A renewed playground will better serve the needs of community groups and partners, residents in nearby neighbourhoods and City residents at large. Construction is scheduled for spring 2026, subject to funding availability.

The scope of this playground renewal project includes:

- Replacing the playground sand with surfacing for better accessibility
- Repairing playground curbs where necessary
- Replacing the concrete pathway from 117 Street to the park
- Removing the existing play equipment
- Adding new play equipment
- Repairing the concrete pad at the southwest corner of the park
- Replacing four benches and three picnic tables
- Adding trees and keeping mature trees where possible

This project will not include:

- Changes to playground lighting and/or EPCOR security lighting
- Park furniture beyond items which will be replaced
- Water play (e.g., spray park)
- Outdoor skating rinks or other skate parks
- Any Community League or school amenities

What we heard

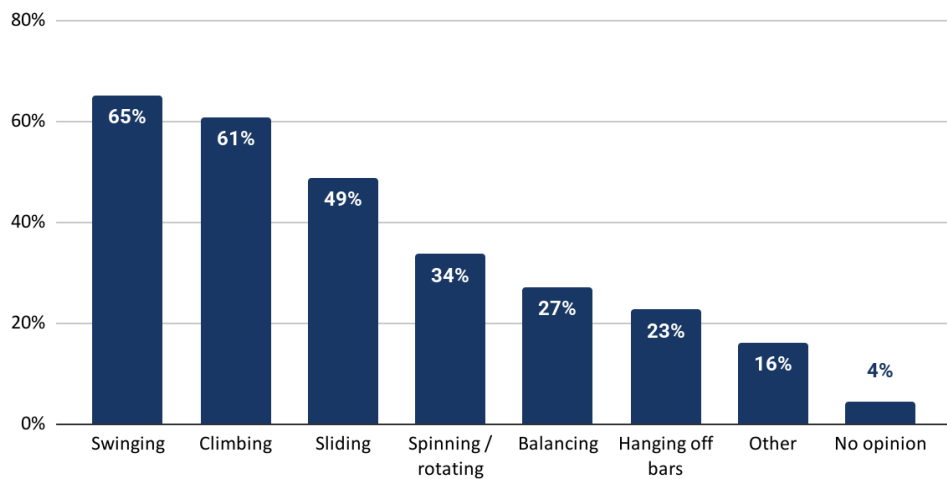
Most respondents (63 per cent) use the playground at least once per week or daily. Several engagement participants commented about their enthusiasm for the project and that they value the playground within their neighbourhood. One respondent opposed the project, indicating it was a poor use of tax dollars.

Play activities and experiences

Participants said they most want the new playground to support swinging, climbing and sliding. Spinning, balancing and hanging off bars were also supported, but less often.

Top Three Preferred Play Activities

Multiple Selections will not total 100%



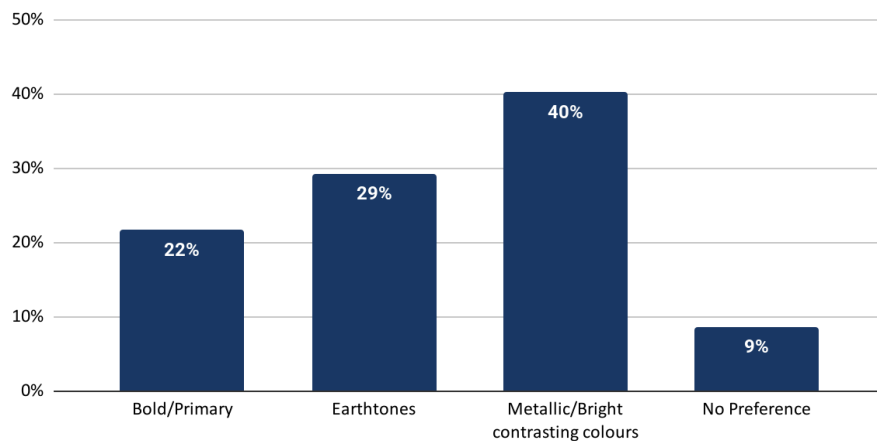
Some participants selected “other”. These comments noted the importance of accessible and inclusive play equipment for children who use wheelchairs, those with sensory needs and toddlers. Other play activities and equipment mentioned included digging in sand, a zipline and a basketball court/hoop. Tic-tac-toe blocks, group spinners, and a ground-level trampoline were also noted.

Playground colour

Participants varied in their preferences for playground colours. Metallics with bright, contrasting colours were the most popular colour scheme, with 40 per cent of respondents choosing this option. About one quarter of participants preferred bold primary colours (22 per cent) and almost one-third (29 per cent) favoured an earth tone colour theme.

Preferred Playground Colours

Total Respondents = 92



Other feedback

All ages and abilities

Many participants commented that they would like the renewed playground to meet the needs of a broad age range of children, from toddlers to older children. Many participants emphasized the need for accessible play equipment that enabled all children to play together. One respondent suggested a fence surrounding the playground would allow children prone to running, without regard for street safety, to use the playground.

Playground base

Many participants commented on the playground base. All indicated they would prefer a rubber base over “wood chips”, the term used in the survey for engineered wood surfacing. Several respondents thought a rubber base would be more accessible than engineered wood for children and adults.

General comments and suggestions

A few respondents wrote about what they currently value at the playground. These comments included: the tic-tac-toe game, basketball area, seating that allows face-to-face conversation, trees and the wooden equipment. Others noted the play value of sand and asked that the renewed playground include a sand area. Specific play equipment and activity suggestions were: a mini-house, wobbly bridge and sidewalk games (e.g., hopscotch, obstacle course).

Out-of-scope comments and suggestions

Several participants commented that they would like increased lighting at the park and playground. Two advocated for a spray park. Both suggestions are beyond the scope and cost constraints of this project.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

What, when, how and who we engaged

The public was asked to share their thoughts on:

- Preferred play activities and experiences
- Playground colour preferences
- Other information and suggestions that they would like the project team to consider as part of the playground renewal project.

The engagement period was from May 12 to 30, 2025. An online survey was the primary engagement method. The public was also invited to contact the project team by email, traditional mail or 311.

The public was informed of the engagement opportunity through postcards delivered to postal codes surrounding Carlisle Park. The postcard informed recipients about the project, the opportunity to complete the online survey and to learn more about the project at edmonton.ca/PlaygroundRenewal. The engagement opportunity was also promoted through the City of Edmonton's social media accounts, signs in and around the park and the City's Public Service Announcement and Public Engagement Calendar.

A total of 92 people responded to the survey. Most (97 per cent) lived in or near the Carlisle neighbourhood and had children under the age of 12 in their household (75 per cent).

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Feedback from this engagement will be used to inform design options for the renewed playground. The project team will consider this feedback, along with technical standards, budget and maintenance needs, to develop design options for the playground at Carlisle Park. Design options will be shared with the community for feedback in fall 2025. Construction is expected to begin in 2026.

For updates on this project, please visit edmonton.ca/PlaygroundRenewal.