

What We Heard Report Skyrattler Park Playground Renewal

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PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY AND RESULTS

Project Overview

Skyrattler Park Playground, located at 114 Street and Saddleback Road, 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 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
- Removing the existing play equipment
- Adding new play equipment
- Replacing two benches and two picnic tables
- Adding trees and keeping mature trees where possible

This project will not include:

- Pathways connecting to and within the park
- Park furniture beyond items which will be replaced
- Shade structures
- Changes to existing lighting within the playground
- Water play (e.g., spray park)
- A skate park

What we heard

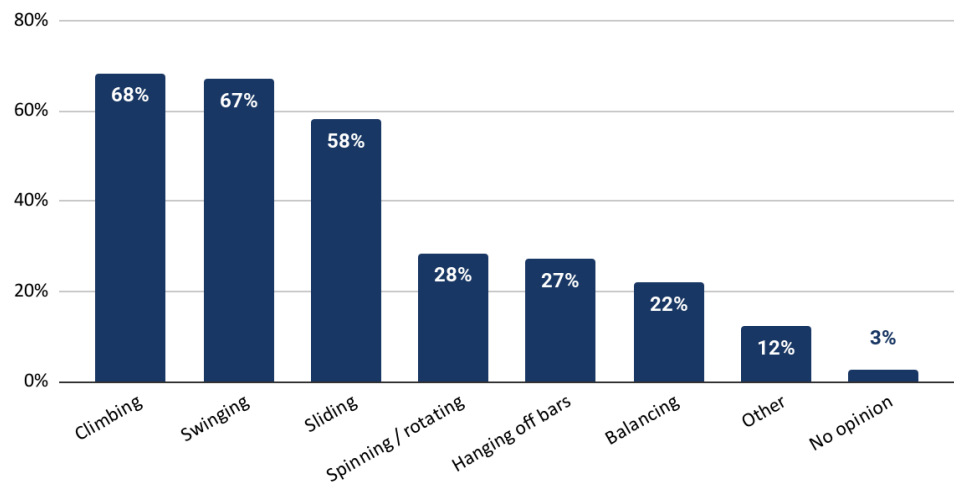
Engagement participants value the playground and look forward to the planned improvements. Almost half (48 per cent) use the playground at least once per week or daily.

Play activities and experiences

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

Top Three Preferred Play Activities

Multiple Selections - will not total 100%



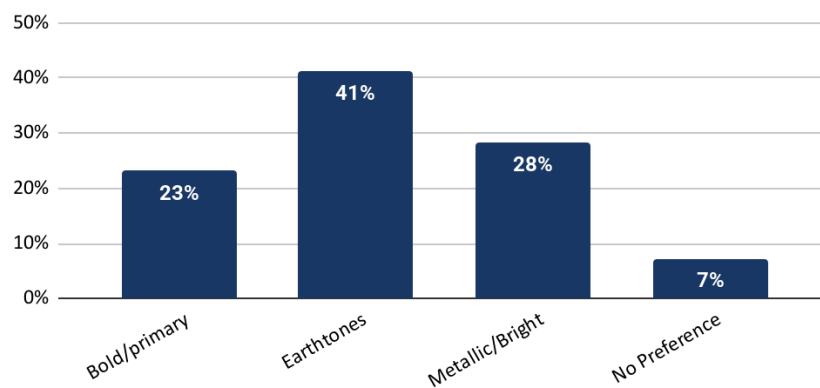
Some participants selected “other”. These comments noted the importance of accessible and inclusive play equipment, with two participants suggesting an “Apollo structure”. Other play activities mentioned included digging in sand, a zipline, a spinning slide and a spray park. A few respondents asked that adult exercise equipment be included. Others noted book donation and reading.

Playground colour

Participants varied in their preferences for playground colours. An earthtone colour scheme (e.g., brown, green, and sand) was the most popular overall, with 41 per cent of respondents choosing these colours. About one-quarter of participants preferred bold primary colours (23 per cent) and bright metallic finishes (28 per cent).

Preferred Playground Colours

Total Respondents: 155



Other feedback

All ages and abilities

Many participants commented that they wanted a playground that met the needs of a broad age range of children, from toddlers to older children. These comments noted that the Skyrattler playground is a “high-use” playground, used by nearby schools and local residents, and it should be designed to accommodate many children at one time. A few respondents suggested the playground include adult exercise equipment.

Many participants emphasized the need for accessible play equipment and surfaces, noting that a school for children with special needs uses the playground. Several commented that they believed a rubber surface would be more accessible than an engineered wood fibre base. A few respondents indicated they would like sand at the playground. These comments focused on the play value of sand.

General comments and suggestions

Several participants highlighted the value they place on the “little library” that is located near the playground and advocated that it remain in place. Others asked the design team to make sure slides do not face the sun and noted the importance of shade in and around the playground area for both children and caregivers. Adequate seating and waste bins were also noted within participant comments.

Out-of-Scope comments and suggestions

Some participants commented on amenities that are out-of-scope for a playground renewal project. These desired elements included constructing a spray park, placing a porta-potty at the playground, and establishing access to drinking water. Other comments that are beyond technical, scope, and cost considerations for this project include moving the playground and fencing the playground.

A few participants asked that the design team review crosswalks to/from the playground. While this is out-of-scope for the project, this feedback will be shared with the [City of Edmonton Vision Zero Street Labs](#) team. Vision Zero works with local communities to improve street safety.

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 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 Skyrattler 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's social media accounts, signs in and around the park and the City of Edmonton's Public Service Announcement and Public Engagement Calendar.

A total of 155 people responded to the survey. Most (84 per cent) lived in or near the Skyrattler neighbourhood. Some respondents came from south Edmonton neighbourhoods further away and worked at schools and youth-serving programs in the Skyrattler neighbourhood. A few survey respondents chose not to answer this question. Most survey respondents (66 per cent) had children under the age of 12 in their household.

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 Skyrattler 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.