

## Century Gardens Redevelopment: 2014 survey results

Parks received a total of 258 responses (232 complete, 26 incomplete). Please see below for the specific questions asked and corresponding response. The survey was implemented online from September 3 to October 15, 2014. View the [PDF preferred concept](#).



### Preferred concept model

A [PDF summary report](#) is available.

### 1. Century Gardens is...a historic park

Century Gardens is considered an historic resource. It has been evaluated by the Calgary Heritage Authority and has been deemed to have historic significance partly due to the expressionistic style of the Park including the artistic/abstractionist representation of the Alberta landscape; how the water flows over the concrete mountains, through the rolling foothills and into the central pond in the park.

In the initial public engagement, 84 per cent of the respondents indicated it was “very important” or “somewhat important” to retain the fountains. The majority of the fountains have been retained in the proposed plan. The large grassed berm in the SE section of the park has also been largely retained. The proposed pond in the centre of the park has been altered into a contemporary triangular form with a playful spray element.

Response options:

- I prefer the proposed pond with the playful spray area
- I prefer the historic pond with the river of water flowing through it.
- I have no preference.

### Result

Pond with playful spray area	Historic pond with river	No preference
105	135	17

## 2. Century Gardens is...a comfortable park

Century Gardens is viewed as a refuge from the busy city. There are many natural elements in the park including trees, flowers, and open green space. In the initial public engagement more than half of the respondents (55%) identified that natural features and open green space were important features in the redevelopment of Century Gardens.

Response options:

- I would like more grassed area.
- I would like less grassed areas.
- I like the amount of grassed areas as is indicated in the concept.

### Result

More grassed area	Less grassed area	Like grass indicated in concept
70	27	155

## 3. Century Gardens is...a safe park

Century Gardens is an active and well used park during the day. During the engagement process, one concern identified was that some people currently feel unsafe in the park at night. In an effort to make the park safer, the proposed plan includes a higher level of lighting.

How important is lighting in the park to you?

Response options:

- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Not important
- I have no preference

## Result

Very	Somewhat	Not	No preference
184	46	5	7

The plan also proposes to eliminate uncontrolled access to the upper fountains at night. During the day, park visitors will have access to the upper levels of the fountain structure, and at night access to the upper areas will be closed. We would like your opinion on the bridge connecting the two upper areas.

Response options:

- I prefer to keep the existing bridge so I can easily get from one side of the upper fountain to the other.
- I prefer no bridge as it's more open entering the park.
- I have no preference.

## Result

Keep existing bridge	No bridge	No preference
129	91	27

## 4. Century Gardens is...an active park

The City of Calgary Parks would like to make Century Gardens a meaningful and successful park for park visitors all year long. We would like Calgarians to come and have lunch in the park, participate in activities, and stay for a visit.

**Please tell us what type of spring or summer activities you'd like to see in Century Gardens:**

(comments verbatim):

- Concerts, festivals, etc.
- lunch time entertainment
- Music, theatre, private and public fundraisers, corporate stampede functions for on-site offices, weekend farmers market, beer gardens
- Aside from the coffee shop, it would be good to have food carts during the spring and summer.
- music events, farmers market, shakespeare in the park, stampede events, charity fundraisers
- Thai Chi, yoga, stretching classes, kite flying, walking paths to botanical beds, benches/picnic areas, children's play area to encourage local daycares to bring children outdoors when appropriate, fountains, perhaps some sort of birds or critters, fish (though realize these are likely not appropriate due to vandalism and vagrants that hang about the train platform), brown bag lunch sessions that would be of interest to Calgarians, perhaps a one day/morning market where people can purchase fresh veggies, goods from local suppliers,
- kids splashing around, people sitting on grass eating and playing, people eating from food

trucks nearby

- Is it possible to have street musicians play here?
- musical events, small performances, art displays
- festivals music, food carts,
- Food Truck round-up, Canada Day celebrations, Special events, Nuit Blanche, Parkour mash-up, Giraf festival, yoga
- Lunch, relax
- buskers; clowns; music - now and then a bagpiper; movies - shorts, not features
- Some intimate performances. Need passive enjoyment of green space in this part of downtown rather than another hard plaza. Program at first to enhance safety and then reduce programming as it becomes busier. Temporary art installations. We need to feel the grass under our feet and sit under the shade of a tree. Flowers would be nice too.
- Small concerts by artists/musicians
- farmers market
- accessible seating for people at lunchtime food truck parking
- plays or concerts in the amphitheatre, craft fair
- I like the splash park idea, just without losing the river concept.
- Parkour, Kids Playing, People reading
- musical features
- Music, Parkour, exercise groups (tai chi, yoga)
- buskers, art displays, kiosks
- weekend festivals, chess boards, shaded areas for a picnic,
- swimming area or splash park
- parkour
- Farmer and artisan markets, small scale events.
- small musical or theatrical performances, visual art (there does not appear to be accommodation for this in the initial designs that allow access to required power, lighting and also room for equipment to be set up, such as adequate flat surfaces and or physical obstacles that prevent the required equipment from accessing the site safely)
- Live music, theatre
- Bands, buskers, bbq's, as much normal everyday activity to keep the park safe
- Sleeping
- Kids wading area.
- events, activities like yoga or sports.
- Food trucks, wedding photos, I would like to see flexibility for food carts, trucks and coffee shop/restaurant
- Open air Theatre or musical groups
- Slack line, parkour, sun-tanning, picnic,
- Swings, slides and monkey bars for young children. If parents bring their children to the park the whole aspect of security will change for the better. Also, seating where people can enjoy a cup of coffee they have either brought with them from somewhere else or that could be bought onsite.
- - Musical entertainment by bands/groups/buskers - Shakespeare In The Park or other college/high school dramas - parkour (urban running/climbing on structures) should continue. This is disciplined, and they don't bother anyone. This is a beautiful expression of movement, and is uniquely and historically connected to the park. - other relaxed recreational pursuits

(playing catch w a frisbee, etc) - people eating lunch and dinner - people reading or playing boardgames - public events on occasion - Book Fair or market

- Short concerts in the park.
- afternoon live entertainment.
- Not drugs
- Performing arts.
- Music, shakespeare in the park, market days
- yoga? children's reading? local artisan fare?
- Please make sure you keep a place where I can sit and eat my lunch, similar to the log amphitheatre we have now (i.e. NOT being forced to sit on the grass!)
- Plays Concerts
- festivals, food events, craft fairs
- wading pool
- I mainly eat lunch in the park, so lunch time activities. An afternoon farmers market I would love! Maybe a small summer concert of some kind?
- eat lunch - it would be nice to have tables or more benches and some shaded areas that are not under trees- in the spring the worms drop from the trees
- Lunch time Concerts/theatre shows
- Promotion of Calgary music artists
- none - it is nice to just sit and enjoy the quiet
- Nice for sitting and walking
- Parkour , maybe tai chi kids playing
- I am a freerunner who often trains in Calgary and century gardens is one of the best training spots in Canada, this is because of its unique architecture and combination of concrete and grassy areas ideally I would like the park to remain very similar to what it is and I would like to see more people not necessarily training parkour or freerunning but simply moving in a way that is free and natural.
- I would love to keep the park open to freerunners as it currently is mi would love to see similar architecture.
- Parkour!
- I would love to see more parkour events going on in the park.
- Parkour and freerunning
- Running, Parkour and walking
- Parkour and freerunning
- Parkour
- Parkour
- Picnics, summer activity camps for kids, parkour parkour parkour
- Parkour
- Mini concerts, parkour, chess matches, cooking contests
- festivals, more parkour and martial arts exhibitions
- I am personally practice parkour and know many legitimate, sponsored parkour athletes living right here in Calgary. The architecture of Century Gardens is outstanding for this sport. We do not cause damage or put anybody else in harm's way. We have a very professional sense about what we do. I would love to see it develope into a more popular activity as it is becoming in Edmonton.
- Parkour workshops

- Parkour
- Parkour
- Parkour
- Parkour
- Concerts, Performances
- Parkour performances, theatre
- Parkour, Tricking, Breakdancing
- I love the parkour groups that come and train at century gardens, watching is fun and so is participating!
- folk festy-things, kids camps/park n plays etc
- -Space for summer camps to use, -Smaller outdoor festival location -Café/picnic areas
- Parkour
- Parkour Free running Yoga Pilates Dance Capoiara Music ( Djs )
- Parkour, martial arts.
- Well, as an individual that does parkour, I would love to see more sporting activities in general happen in the park.
- Parkour competitions, parkour jams and sports
- Parkour! Century Gardens is one of the top 8 best Parkour spots in the world and the increased traffic of tracuers into the park tends to alleviate the homeless that tend to sleep, loiter, consume alcohol in the park.
- Writing, Yoga, Parkour, Martial Arts training, Music, Creative Art, Plays.
- Food trucks nearby
- Small lunch time concerts
- I would love to see a performance space for local bands/performance art/etc, anything to create additional activity in the area.
- Lounging on the grass, eating lunch, buskers
- Music, food, craft shows.
- Periodic music concerts similar to those held on Stevens Ave.
- Parkour, fitness, yoga, coffee, concerts, food, festivals, architectural tours, cultural summits
- Free Parkour, Yoga Classes
- Music and theater performances, lots of places to sit, and cafe's open late so that there are more people around to sit and make the place feel more safe and inviting especially for warm summer nights when people want to enjoy the warm weather for as long as possible (more people= safer place to be!)
- Yoga, small concerts
- art and small cultural activities.
- buskers, music
- Student theatre productions, rotating sculpture installations, hot dog eating competitions,
- casual public enjoyment. It is not large enough to have space blocked off for organized activity
- Festivals and food trucks. Musical busking area.
- I'd like to see it more family/student friendly. Perhaps acoustic musicians in the small amphitheatre area, coffee / french fries
- Food Truck parking
- None; let it be a quiet escape - problem with activities: they generally tend to attract large groups of people which causes damage to grass & trees - there are lots of other areas

(Olympic Plaza etc) with lots of cement where "activities" can be held

- Comfortable benches to sit on with some shaded areas
- Just eating lunch or taking meetings outside. It'd be nice to retain an area for buskers to perform.
- Please do not include activities that add exhaust fumes (from food trucks) or noise (from generators or amplified sound systems). It would be nice to have a tranquil area to enjoy in the summer as a respite from the street. Lots of benches and tables would be great. The old rotted tree trunk posts actually make marvelous seats but a person does need to put a piece of paper down to protect their clothes. Flower baskets would be nice. I also like all of the evergreen trees. They help filter the noise and exhaust from the street.
- I live close by & have always loved the park. I like sitting there &/or eating my lunch on nice days, quiet enjoyment of nature, walk through it whenever I can regardless of the weather, & I love the mature existing trees & sincerely hope they are kept. I like the outdoor artists performing on the platform. I have no desire for it to be busy with commercial activities there.
- Interactive games area that invites an individual or group to participate. Hopscotch. Leap frog.
- Typically I use the park on my lunch break. I sit on the grassy berm and eat my lunch watching the pond. I'd like to continue being able to do that.
- parkour
- Festivals
- Splash park for kids, traffic noise reducing for adults.
- Music, street performers, maybe a little market
- Passive- no activity
- Food trucks parked around perimeter and a permanent police presence to encourage feeling of safety
- music pancakes during stampede
- any family friendly activities are good
- Music. Yoga in the Park. Picnics.
- Lunch outside. Water play with the kids
- lunch/dinner time shows/music
- Chess playing, picnicking, book-reading, cycling, running
- Use of the amphitheater- Shakespeare in the park , type of events.
- Music
- Shakespeare in the Park
- Walking through the park on my way to work and during lunch I sit on the retaining wall by Nexen. I live downtown, but don't walk through the park at night. I don't feel there needs to be food service when there are plenty of options near by.
- Picnics with my kids - getting a break from the office and enjoying the weather.
- Additional bike parking to meet seasonal demand.
- music, moveable and fixed seating, food
- Frisbee, reading, chess matches, community gardens.
- picnic, use of fountains, reading
- off leash dog park community food garden
- no preference
- a place to eat lunch and get out of the office on warm days.
- Street performers, artists selling items

- An amphitheatre
- Water play for kids Benches for sitting/eating/reading Entertainment space and programming for same Historical interpretation
- Floral arrangements by the proposed cafe. Farmer's market on Friday afternoons during summer.
- musicians busking in noon hour periods; short plays performed when possible; small public advertising tables for events elsewhere in the city; volunteer cleanup groups for daily cleanups
- Live music
- ~ General Community Oriented Info Lectures or demonstrations - seeds, water, city birds... &/or non-profits & community 'clubs' downtown ~ potluck-type picnics/bbq ~ regular (weekly?) open mic-open stage-open poetry in the amphitheater

**Please tell us what type of fall or winter activities you'd like to see in Century Gardens:**

(comments verbatim):

- small ice rink!!!!
- Skating, possibly some winter festival, something to revitalize the area.
- have skating on the pond
- ice skating, children's toboggan hill, winter carnival, holiday craft fair and market, beer gardens
- Turn the pond into a skating rink for kids.
- ice skating, sled hill for little kids, fall and winter markets
- ice skating on the pond
- kids playing,
- Would a skating rink in the pond be feasible?
- snow or ice sculptures, coloured light shows,
- festivals, music, food carts
- Food Truck round-up, special events, New Years Eve, Family Day programming
- Lunch, ice sculpture
- hot chocolate kiosk; making snowmen(people); singers
- Skating would be lovely. Ice sculpture competition. Hot chocolate/ roasted nuts kiosk. Firepit.
- ice sculptures seating areas that are maintained, with blankets and potentially heaters
- skating
- Farmers market, snowball fights, snow man making contest, something with the frozen pond
- Skating, snow play
- Parkour, Kids Playing,
- Skating, hot chocolate/roasted chestnuts, Christmas lights
- skating? ice sculptures,
- Skating and fire pit
- Hmm? No idea. Maybe some really great illumination features?
- visual art such as ice sculptures, lighting designs,
- Skating
- Hot chocolate get togethers, skating?, Christmas lights.
- Skating

- Skating.
- events, activities like yoga or sports.
- Food trucks, wedding photos, I would like to see flexibility for food carts, trucks and coffee shop/restaurant
- If there is a water feature, maybe there could be some sort of ice climbing structure.
- Can we skate on the pond or is it too small?
- hot chocolate and caroling/light garden
- Not drugs
- Performing arts.
- Christmas Fair with vendors similar to those in European towns
- skating? hot chocolate stand?
- Skating in winter
- "zoo lights" around the holidays,
- skating rink
- Skating
- I would love to see skating in the park but I'm not sure if that would be possible. A resaurant or coffee shop that sells hot drinks, soup, treats would be a nice place to visit in the fall/winter.
- it would be nice to still have a location to sit during the cooler weather - a semi enclosed space would be nice with propane heaters that you can press a button to activate - like the bus shelters
- Skating
- none - it is nice to just sit and enjoy the quiet
- Sitting areas that can be used during winter (clean / durable, warm not metal)
- Ice skating , parkour
- same points as for summer and spring although it is harder to train in snow it is not impossible
- Skating on the pond.
- More Parkour!
- Parkour and freerunning
- Maple syrup on snow festivals
- Parkour
- More parkour,
- Parkour
- Parkour, ice sculptures,
- could have winter festivals
- More Parkour
- Ice skating
- Skating
- Parkour, theatre
- Skating Light festivals
- Skating
- parkour
- Ice skating, winter festivals/dances
- Snow man competitions, snowball fights (tournament type I guess), ice sculptures, public snow building competitions, sledding.

- Allow kids to toboggan on the small hills. Dare I ask for heated benches? Is there such a thing as a solar heated bench?
- skating
- Ice sculptures
- Art, light, culture shows.
- Iced over pond for skating, LED-backlit frozen water features (huge artistic draw), concerts, festivals, coffee, food
- Mini skating rink would be cool
- Music and theater performances, keep most of the seating out year round so that people feel more welcome to come hang out (especially if there are little musical performances for people to watch while drinking hot drinks)
- Skating if its feasible on the pond.
- performance art
- Ice carvings, info booth for street people, skating, hot drinks
- casual public enjoyment. It is not large enough to have space blocked off for organized activity.
- Skating. Fire pit and music. Christmas decor.
- ice skating on the pond? Hot chocolate/coffee vendor?
- None
- I don't use the park in the winter.
- It would be nice to be able to walk through the park in the winter without worrying about slipping on ice or slogging through slush.
- Skating on the pond.
- It would be great to put in a coffee or sandwich vendor. It's not the greatest winter activity space. More like a scenic short cut to the c-train.
- parkour
- Cafe
- Market
- Passive- no activity
- ice skating on frozen pond for children
- activities for kids/family one of the pods for skating area for kids
- any family friendly activities are good
- Ice sculptures
- Walking/strolling through the park
- Skating if possible
- Skating, winterfest, snowman-building
- Skating rink
- Skating
- Skating on the pond
- Walking through the park on my way to work.
- Plenty of bike parking Skating?
- moveable and fixed seating, food
- What can you do in the winter?
- to be honest parks typically do not get much use in the winter other than a green space to enjoy as you walk through and potentially on a chinook day sit and soak up some sun.
- outdoor skating rink

- maybe the pond as an ice rink
- a quick way to get to the lrt platform. no skating - Olympic Plaza is already a great spot for that.
- Place to walk and sit
- A big screen tv
- Keep water on for as long as possible Open, safe space for crossing to LRT
- Christmas caroling by the proposed cafe.
- Snowman building organized by city or recreation groups likely on weekends to involve locals; kids activities for locals
- Skating rink

**Please select your preference for food services in the park:**

Food carts	Food trucks	Coffee shop	Restaurant	No food service
33	53	75	32	34

**Please provide any additional comments on the redevelopment of Century Gardens:**

(comments verbatim) :

- Whatever redevelopment takes place in this area serious consideration to the safety of patrons must be given priority. The park and surrounding area is over run with drunks, drug users, vagrants, etc. This year there has been several serious incidents in the park including a murder. It's difficult to imagine using the area or passing through it at night due to the high traffic of beggars, drug users, drunks, and violence. The entire area needs to be part of the revitalization effort or the new facility will simply be over run by violence and undesirable activity.
- This park needs to have 24 hour security for at least a couple years and hopefully that will discourage the 'bad' individuals from hanging out. The park now is definitely not safe after 6pm - winter or summer.
- No noisy activities as it's near offices.
- excited to see this finally happen!
- Per my other comments about local producers attending to a half day market in the spring/summer months, and perhaps holiday theme decorations/stalls for Halloween, Christmas, Easter etc. and any appropriate activities associated with these events. It's important to consider the clientele that would be in attendance during day and after hours. Lighting is hugely important to ensure no drug selling activities are able to be carried out, even on-sight security would be welcome. Make this park user friendly to attract the "right" clientele during the week for business workers and after hours/weekends for those that live downtown. I work right next to the park, so it's important to do it right the first time and have it flourish into a great space for downtown
- The new concept is good as it is more open. However, that has not stopped the "less desirable" from frequenting the park in the daytime or nighttime. Very important to note that assaults have taken place over the lunch hour of office workers who have walked by the street people who hang about there...not only at night. I honestly do not know how people can sit in the park with the paraphernalia that is left on the grass and around the area. It would be nice to know that the park was "friendly", although I am not sure that these changes will make that happen.
- I work at Nexen and we use the park heavily for lunch hours and to walk thru before and after work. At night in winter, there is drug use in the structure at the south west corner of teh park, esp on the upper level. This makes me feel unsafe when walking in park after dark. I agree that access should be

eliminated - hidden areas where there is walls should be avoided in the new concept - replace with glass or have no closed in areas where illicit activity can happen.

- The parking garage should be underground. An above ground parking garage is ugly and a waste of space. Store fronts could be put above the underground parking structure
- There is an existing apple tree in the park now, it must be 50 or 60 years old (or older) now and has weathered a number of "unkind" acts over the years but still produces beautiful blossoms in the spring and abundant apples by the fall. It's a grand old fellow and it would be a shame if it is not included in any future plans for this site. I do hope this you will consider keeping it there and not cutting it down. Overall, I really like what the city is proposing for this inner park.
- Please add more benches/seating areas and consider adding placards describing the various vegetation and waterfowl in the park. I work in the surrounding buildings and it's great to have a green space to escape to during lunch. Thanks for not turning Century Gardens into another office tower!
- Century Gardens was built to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Fort Calgary by the North West Mounted Police. As such it plays a very special role in narrating the history of Calgary and providing citizens with a sense of place. It was conceived and executed in a modern style of landscaping, referred to as "Brutalism", and is unique in layout and style in Canada. There is nothing else quite like it. The future form of the park needs to respect its historic significance, and acknowledge that it is an important example of brutalist landscaping in Canada. The existing park could easily be made "safer" by introducing better lighting and maintenance of the various components. Allowing it to fall into disrepair over the past 20 or so years has led to a less desirable clientele in the park, and although a new park may address some of the issues, it merely provides a band-aid to deeper social issues.
- Similar to the park on 4th Street SE.
- Happy that some evergreens were kept and wish there were more. ?Help call box?
- More grass and trees please. We're dying for some greenery in this part of the downtown.
- Wondering if there will be any plaque or info board installed explaining the original Brutalist Design of the park? I would love to keep as much of the original park as possible.
- Please make sure the pathway that leads from the 8 ST SW entrance to the west entrance to the LRT platform is sufficiently wide enough to allow two-way pedestrian traffic. Often, there's a bottleneck and if there are some sketchy people hanging out in the park, you want to leave the park as fast as possible.
- I think I should be allowed to stipulate more than one food service. It would be nice to have a small coffee shop/restaurant similar to Boxwood (But with better food :) ) but I also think some food carts would be good as they would likely be less expensive than a café or restaurant. The park should sustain all citizens not only those who can afford lunch in a high end café.
- Design is not very interesting.....certainly no wow! factor
- I feel it is really important to not change the park too much to stray from its Brutalist intention. It is one of the few Brutalist parks in North America and shifting it to a more modern design will take away its charm.
- It would be good to have weekend activities in this location to encourage people to use the core on non weekdays. Same would go for having food truck locations there in the evening so people can linger in the city core during the weekdays.
- Have some healthy options available for food in that area.
- Restaurant is key to provide eyes on the park and create a safer environment. A low-scale restaurant, similar to Boxwood, situated on the north end of the park by CTrain tracks and facing south (to take advantage of the sunlight), would be ideal.
- If using for events access to the site needs to be considered such as loading and unloading of equipment, as well as accommodation pathways wide enough for access of event infrastructure, flat surfaces for the equipment such as tents and stages, accessible power of reasonable specification to

meet current entertainment industry standards such as multiple 100 amp 3 phase cam lock services and multiple 50 amp 220v receptacles throughout the site.

- The park is good in the day but the structure keeps people hidden and is not safe at night (even in the day sometimes). As much open concept and activity as possible to keep it safe. Lots of green space, police patrolling and activity as possible.
- Interface with the LRT platform should not be reduced. During peak periods that path to and from the station can get bottlenecked due to the high volume of peds.
- I would like to see open site lines and better access to the LRT station.
- I'm so glad to hear that there is effort to retain the fountains. They're really one of my favourite parts of downtown. I know some people might think that parts of the park are unsafe, but I think it's really important for cities to have these public places that aren't sterile, that you can explore and adventure through, across, and even above. Really, I think the problem with the park isn't that it is unsafe, it's just that it has been neglected for so long. Imagine how nice if that old fenced up house was turned into a cafe and the brickwork and logs were replaced. It would be fantastic!
- I think the park is extremely important to the sterile core of the apple and since there is nowhere nearby for small children to play - 1. inside at Devonian Gardens (very crowded) or 2. Eau Claire / Prince's Island - then a portion of the park should be available for this purpose. This would serve residents of the Core and Downtown West Communities as well as lunchtime users who would like to spend time with their children. The City tries to encourage more people to live downtown but for parents with small children who dwell in condos or rental apartments, lack of user friendly space is a major problem.
- The park is an essential historical and passive recreational element of the district and needs to remain with its key elements intact: - similar fountain structures we all love - multi-levelled mountain-type structures that are so unique, with bridges and lookouts. Makes it feel like a fort or mountain or tree-house. A refuge in downtown. - the berm/hill for people to sit What needs to improve: - the safety and public visibility needs to improve, as there have been criminal incidents there - public presence. There needs to be passive, relaxing, lightly recreational, and lightly entertaining, gatherings of people. Not only office workers eating lunch or commuters rushing through as a short-cut to and from the train station. You should want to stay and be refreshed for a bit.
- I also feel that it is extremely important to preserve the little green space we have downtown. I often sit on the logs and eat my lunch while soaking up some sun. Great work on the new design!!
- I think the parkade idea would be an eyesore as it is such a tall building. A parkade should go up somewhere that there is already parking available. That being said, I think a café in a two or three story building that is mostly an enclosed Park would also add more green space that is warm and comfortable place for the winter without being an eyesore.
- Historic preservation is irrelevant to me in comparison to making a safe, inviting space that will be used for more than drugs.
- I'm delighted with the work that has thus far been put into this initiative!
- I believe that the park is a great resource that enhances downtown calgary. I also believe that the current configuration attracts individuals who use the park as a place to undertake activities which make the park unpleasant and unsafe at night and in the evenings. Accordingly, it would be great to try to deter the insavoury characters from the park to ensure that those wanting to use it for its intended purpose(s) are not deterred.
- It is time to move on and get this project done. Enough of the consultations, meetings etc. as it has been discussed long enough. The longer this goes on, the more expensive it will be - it is a park, nothing more, nothing less. Regardless of the park completion date, demolish the boarded up buildings immediately!! Tear them down and plant grass - maybe that is all that is needed. It is starting to look and feel like the East Village a couple of years ago. Can someone just make a decision and get going!!!

- You will need to address the displaced east village transient population. It is very unsafe to be in the park, I have to walk past it to access my work and I am scared everyday. Fewer hiding spots, more patrols, no drugs.
- I feel that making the park a safe place at any time during the day is critical to it's vitality and usability. It's a great place to meet friends, co-workers and enjoy lunch during the summer.
- I eat lunch here almost every day in the summer. I don't think we need food service in the park. There are a McDonald's, a Mac's, and a Subway right across the street, plus other convenience stores nearby. I bring my lunch from home. I hope this redevelopment does not close the park for too long. Devonian Gardens took forever and already has defects in it.
- Biggest thing here is security. I work right beside this park and have never walked through it without being harassed for money or shouted at by someone who clearly is intoxicated. All of your ideas are great, but if the people that currently occupy the park continue to after all the renovations, it will be a colossal waste of money. I appreciate the people in the park now are homeless and they need a place to stay. Leaving the park as is might be best option.
- Outdoor public seating would be really great (concrete/wooden steps) similar to that of Olympic Plaza as the grass is sometimes too wet or cold to sit on. Also CRITICAL\*\*\* less slope on the grassy hill!!! It's really hard to sit on it because the hill is quite steep!
- I would prefer a cafe/ bistro/ pasterie shop. This would encourage a community feel toward the garden and invite people to enjoy it from all over the city rather than the immediate neighborhood. A good bistro would attract a lot of desired people to the area. I also like the idea of the playful spray area as children would be able to enjoy the garden during the day in the summer months. There are not many places like this in the downtown core. Turf covered parkade entrance is a brilliant idea.
- The most important aspect for me is green space. I enjoy sitting out in the park on the grass for lunch in the summer. Having a restaurant or coffee shop in the park would get me out there more during the other seasons, I love this idea. Any kind of food would be welcomed! I enjoy both proposed water features -- I just suggest there are measures put into place to avoid "swimmers." Although watching grown men play in the fountain during lunch hour provides some kind of entertainment, it would be nice if the new pond were just for the ducks.
- Would like to see cafe/bistro in the park
- a restaurant would really improve this park - it would discourage people from doing drugs and sleeping in the park. I envision something similar to the River Café restaurant at princes island. its beautiful and a sanctuary away from the city. This end of downtown needs some serious sprucing up and a nice little café or restaurant would be perfect.
- I noticed that the big apple tree is not identified in the renderings. It would be really nice if we could keep that tree as it is part of the history of the park, and offers a beautiful addition to the natural space.
- Please provide seating in the shade .... too many parks provide seating right out under the sun ... It would be nice to have shady areas too.
- More areas for benches and chairs. Sitting on the grass is nice, but not ideal with work / business clothes. Thanks!
- Maintain the architectural style and the concrete area. Less people using illicit drugs would be a nice touch
- This park is a world famous spot for parkour and freerunning. It would be a shame if the historic brutalist concrete structures were to be torn down. They are fantastic for the sport and as parkour grows in popularity in Calgary, so too will interest in using the park for this purpose. The parkour community have been using this park for many years to train, grow and promote healthy active lifestyles.
- I would love to see a rehabbing done on the main structures. Possibly a grass amphitheatre where the old stump one is . New board decking and finish on the railings. Mainly just an updated look while keeping the main structure and historical features the same.

- Please don't change it
- Parkour
- Keep the architecture the same as it is now
- People friendly, pet friendly, well maintained
- should try and fix up all the buildings around century gardens because they make the area look shabby and unsafe
- It seems to be a very popular place for junkies to hang out and for drug deals to go down. I know it's a touchy subject but I would feel much more comfortable in the park if they were not present
- Food service might result in more garbage being left in the park. There is plenty of opportunities to get food around the park.
- I think that if the park is going to be redone, that it should encompass things for everyone. The Parkour community is the number one users of this park and that should be brought into account when re-doing it. They use the park in a way that show its beauty. Hopefully this park stays a way that will allow them to continue to use it and show it beauty .
- I like the idea of a parkade, will the parkade be run by CPA and be available to the public? If it is public, then I endorse, if it is to service adjacent office buildings only and not open to the public, then I am opposed.
- Sooner the better!
- I think it should be left as is, and money go elsewhere.
- Century Gardens is an amazing park to walk through, gorgeous to look at from a distance, and so full of history. In 2000 it was run by vagrants and drug users and now it's a welcoming utopia of activities and for people to be inspired.
- I enjoy the brutalist architecture in the park and would like to maintain or build new contrasting heights and distances between structures. I also believe that because century gardens is an active park that it should facilitate an active lifestyle. Multi use areas where martial arts classes, yoga classes and numerous other activities could take advantage of. And I'm sure this is a long shot, but an outdoor body weight gym (ie. Bar cage) would be used on a daily basis on almost a guaranteed basis.
- Parkour communities from all over the world come out just to train at the park and see it
- The use of colour would help with the atmosphere, as well as some murals or street art added in to make the park feel more alive. It would help to make it seem like more than 'just another park' in downtown, and make it seem more like 'that creative active park' that I would like to see.
- You should not be trying to put a modern spin on a historic park. Do repairs, add lighting, but don't fundamentally alter the park. Yes, parts of it are dated. That's the appeal! As it is with all historic structures. If it's still functional, which it is, then leave it as is. Don't change the pond or the surrounding slopes. If you "put a modern spin on it" you destroy its historic value.
- Overall I really like the new concept for the park. Right now I work across the street from the park and it is not the most inviting place to spend a lunch hour/afternoon. I am in full support of any options which will help to keep the park clean and open up sight lines. Though I would imagine that tearing down the old buildings on the NW corner and finally getting the Century Garden tower built will also help in cleaning up the area.
- Please maintain the high-amount of cement. This isn't a joke - it's a unique park in Calgary and while it clearly needs revitalization, the concrete material is very attractive in my eyes and an essential aspect to keep!
- The park is a Downtown 'Gem' In my opinion and does not require major changes apart from possibly increased lighting. Care should be taken that we don't try to fix something which is not broken.
- Focus on light and year-round activity. The use of LED arrays to backlight water features could act as a big draw (I.e. Chinook Arch installation on 12th) and contribute positively towards safety. Encouragement (rather than "passive park" signage) of active use of the area by cultural, fitness and

event groups will help to turn the tide from vagrancy and substance abuse reputations to the active, artistic cultural beacon it first was. And, the adage, "program, program, program" seems, as always, to apply (even as far as the technological aspects are concerned).

- Don't do a coffee shop or some upscale restaurant. Keep it simple and fun for everyone.
- The path leading from the center pond to the train platform in the NW quadrant of the plan needs to be even wider than the 5m specified because people will still try to walk over the grass and it will just get trampled down like it already is (go look where the actually trampled down dirt path is, that is where people will continue to walk!!). Grass is good for the amphitheater section but get rid of it closer to major walkways because it is just difficult to maintain and it will get trampled on and its not like anyone is going to sit on it beside the sidewalk.
- Please do not remove most of the mature trees. The drawing proposes to keep very few from what I see. It takes too many years for twigs to grow to a decent size in Calgary.
- I think the most important issue pertaining to the redevelopment is safety. There isn't a day that goes by where I don't see drunk and drug-addled individuals hanging out in the park, making it feel very unsafe and unwelcoming. I would love nothing more than to see the concrete megaliths be demolished to allow a wide open access from the corner of 8th and 8th, but I understand that this is not part of the initial redevelopment plans. That said, I'd like for this to be kept in mind.
- I feel like the parkade is taking away from green space even tho its looks to be grassed over. I think adding a police beat patrol through the area more often could make people feel safer. Adding multi-coloured LED lighting like memorial park and the trussel bridge beside the Drop in Centre would be another perk. I also hope the cafe is a small chain or even an independent business. I wouldnt want to see a tims or a starbucks in that space.
- 1. Ramp to underground parking off 8th street is awkward and needs to be refined in terms of texture/ grass covering. Developer should be encouraged to establish roof as a medium intensity green roof (shrubs) or part of a water feature. As its shown it will be a potential hazard as it requires a guard to entrance. 2. Would also suggest a rethink of location/access of amphitheatre relative to train platform. 3. How will noise be controlled/modified? 4. Lighting could definitely be improved and studied to create a specific identity and play on fountain/water features.
- There are several coffee and snack shops in the immediate area where people can make a purchase and then walk to the park. In park services are not needed. It is probably best as a short-stop park for the adult/older crowd, ie people passing through or enjoying a short break. Teens and young adults using it for climbing and recreation are not problem. Some occasional foot patrol by police or similar authority is needed to minimize crime.
- Honestly, raze the concrete structures to the ground. I realize that the park has heritage value, but the last (and only) time I took my 5 year old there there were needles and the small of urine. The park as it currently is has to go against virtually every fundamental tenet of CPTED.
- Do this development sooner than later please. That park is atrocious in its current state.
- I am a [REDACTED] female [REDACTED] and goes to university at night at 8th ave and 8th street. [REDACTED] but if I know my courses/ class commitments are running past 9 pm, I will bring my car and pay for parking to avoid going past Crack Macs and this park. I am looking forward to this development and am grateful lighting and better visibility are being addressed. Thank you! Now... what to do with that vacant strip mall on the south side from the park.....
- Improving the surrounding area will help increase the safety of the park. Currently I'd only go there for lunch, otherwise totally unsafe.
- Please don't waste my tax dollars on more hippy-dippy ideas that really just end up as places for drunken natives to sleep and vomit. I don't pay taxes so that the city can build inner city camp grounds for bums and drug addicts to spend their days drinking mouth wash and peeing all over side walks. If you really want to make the area better invest in police officers that will keep the homeless drunks from breaking the law in the park 24 hours a day.

- Please, please: retain as much grass as possible! There's already so much "hardscape" & cement downtown - this is a lovely quiet area with GRASS!!!! That's why it's popular. Please: no hardscape!
- The redevelopment of Devonian Gardens managed to eliminate the magic of that public space. It used to have nooks and crannies for reflection or a private conversation, and was full of great sculptures. The existing Century Gardens has many of these features. I applaud the addition of a public washroom, and the notion of limiting access to the upper level at night, but I think those are sufficient to address the "perceived undesirable activity" - but please don't turn this into another cold, sterile, corporate space in downtown Calgary. We have enough of those. Let's create a space that tourists want to visit. A place that replenishes the spirit and the imagination.
- Hi, I hope that the park retains the feeling of nature, with ample trees, lots of grass, and the waterfalls. The concept looks kind of like an atrium in a big mall right now. It looks like all of the beautiful evergreen trees will be sacrificed. Hopefully, the park will be a welcome respite for people who take lunch to work or buy a sandwich nearby. If there is a restaurant, the park should still feel welcome to everyone, not just the customers of the restaurant. If the park is on the same level as the street, it will sacrifice a sense of security from the traffic noise. I understand that sightlines are important for safety and security (CPTED), but the concept doesn't provide any protection from the street, especially when the trees are small and spindly.
- I sincerely hope that not very much is changed with the park. I agree that undesirable activities do occur there especially during the evenings/nights, but changes should be kept to a minimum - required only to open sight lines to ensure public safety. It really isn't the park that needs to change to make it more desirable, is it? I want the mature existing trees to remain. When I see the drawing of the new building for the northwest corner (along 7th Ave SW), it seems to me that the design of the exterior ground floor will offer more "dark corners" for undesirable activities than the park ever did & perhaps it would be best if the structure had no pillars & that the walls designed above the first two levels were to continue down to the ground level.
- The splash fountain idea is going to be a highlight for the "undesirable activity" individuals and groups visiting this park as they tend to jump into the ponds already.
- The entrance to the parkade in the second sketch kind of worries me. It looks like it could become a hang out just inside it (especially being so close to crack corner) or between the parkade entrance and the building. It looks like someplace I would avoid like the plague at night.
- This is an important example historical park and should be RESTORED, not redeveloped! The park is an excellent and rare example of Brutalist landscape design and should remain in its current form to exemplify that. The new concept leaves token elements of the original design but the original design would be so heavily impacted that it would no longer be historically important.
- Keep as many of the historic elements as possible. I used to work in the medical arts building across the street and have spent many a pleasant lunch hour in the summer dangling my feet in the little ponds by the seating areas.
- Please not only focused for people who work nearby but also for people who live close by with kids. The weekends parks like this are completely just filled with homeless and no activities.
- Having more police patrol this area during weekend. For sure more light light and eliminate angles that create hiding spots for people to easily conceal themselves.
- Don't make the same mistakes as the Devonian Gardens remodel. That project took something unique and lush and turned it into something generic and barren. While public gathering spaces are important, people go to the park for green spaces (grass, trees, shubbery). Covering these with concrete pathways would be a mistake.
- I think this park should include some a play structure for children. There is nothing like that near by. This would insure the park see's more use and activity during the evenings and weekend. The spray element is a start, but a few more things would help a lot.
- The addition of a coffee shop/restaurant to a more open and lit space next to the LRT may create more

eyes on the street and increase the feeling of safety. Where patrons would park is another story.

- 1. I only visit this park during the work week, but i use it everyday during lunch hour. 2. I would not suggest adding retail (ie. coffee shops), so that it does not take away from the businesses across the street. 3. With the addition of all the trees along 8th Ave, will this deter food trucks from parking there? They are very popular during spring/summer months. 3a. Would the new trees promote unusual activity because of the coverage? 3b. Would the new trees make the path less accessible? It is already very busy and hard to walk on? 4. Is there a plan to re-do the pathway along the park on 8th street & along 8th ave? The interlocking brick is not working as it is very uneven. 5. Parking garage, although i like the idea (as parking is limited), but will this become a pedestrian hazard at all? Because of the C-train, park and businesses, this corner and street are very busy. 6. Can you please include the UofC building in surveys and communication (906 8th Ave SW)?
- Get rid of the concrete and all the homeless people. Please keep it cleaner.
- I would like to see the City keep the existing art. I feel with the location it would be better to have low seating areas, but clear view through the park from side to side. I have stopped going through the park now as it is darker in the morning (I often see the contents of stolen bags) and won't go through at night. I feel that being connected with the LRT the park line of sight should be as unobstructed as possible. My suspicions are that café/office feature will not live up to expectation and the area should be left lower with boardwalks over the water.
- Lighting all the way into the buildings is vital. I currently do not feel safe walking through the park after work from Nexen. (especially in the dark winter months).
- I would like both food carts and food trucks but if I had to pick, I'd go with food trucks because they can serve more people which will get more people near (and likely in) the park.
- the park needs to have good sight lines from the street and good integration with the LRT platform. the current design restricts visibility into the park and does not encourage users to enter. the new design should address this problem first and foremost. the parkade entrance is absolutely awful and makes the access/visibility issue even worse. the bridge and upper levels are very scary in their present form, are designed with dead ends and spaces that don't serve a positive function. restaurant/food service, including the existing cafe on the east side, should allow for better integration into the park spaces and not be fenced off - there are too many barriers in this space. overall i am not thrilled by the design of this space as a public open space because it seems its primary focus is more about retaining physical, historical architectural features rather than making it a safe, pedestrian friendly, people oriented space. The pictures are pretty, but the priorities in redesigning this space are wrong and while it will be an improvement over what is currently there it will fail over time.
- Parks should be open at night.
- I would like to know what time of day the drawings were drawn to represent. I think there is going to be an issue of shadowing by buildings to the east and south. Ideally if you want a coffee shop some of the eating places need MORNING sun. Also there is a lot of grass, I would like to see more low maintenance bushes and some more trees. Especially since we are going to have weeds all over the grass. And WHY grass on the parkade entrance - like the idea of green but it is going to look like crap pretty fast, can we do prairie grass or low plantings or bushes instead that does not need someone to mow . And we want to be careful of how much concrete we use as rainwater should be used to maintain greenery and not be simply directed into storm sewers.
- Why can't the city buy the property on the corner of 7th ave and 8th street and make the park larger. That building has been vacant a long time, and this concept shows plans for another building. There doesn't seem to be much here to open up the park for other activities - the stone walkways are bad but there is more that needs to be done to improve this park and I don't think this goes nearly far enough. There isn't even any seating. There is no cycling on your rendering either. Shouldn't this park complement plans for downtown bike lanes
- I am wondering why the City uses companies from BC and not local design teams? The Devonian

Gardens used a out of Province design team and that was a 37 million dollar mess now. Also wondering why no indoor concept was submitted as Calgary is blasted with winter for 8 months out of the year so an indoor concept would make the park accessible all year as opposed to 2 to 3 months if we are lucky.

- I like the river and waterfalls flowing through the park. I think the original designer did a magnificent job evoking the Rockies and rivers. I think those elements should be preserved.
- Sell bricks to commemorate 2017 -Canada's 150 birthday.
- Fear that the new building will dominate the space Would like to see the park as OPEN and WELCOMING as possible from all directions Need green landscaping - quality hard surfaces only to service commuters to and from LRT Not sure about the restaurant (probably needed to enable public washrooms) - Definitely not food trucks and carts Hanging flower baskets would be a nice addition where appropriate People need relief from the surrounding grey urban form WIFI in the park would be good
- Since I live within 1 block of Century Gardens and walk through it daily, its redevelopment came to my attention. Following the report and renderings, I encourage redevelopment to address safety and year round attractiveness. Firstly, safety through enhanced lighting and sight-lines is extremely important. My wife has never walked through Century Gardens after sunset. Neither have I. And for 2 years we've lived across the street! The redevelopment should adopt open sight-lines which allow a pedestrian to see through the park. The Harley Hotchkiss Gardens near the courthouse achieves this. An abundance of evergreen trees, however, blocks sightlines unfortunately, so evergreens ought to be used sparingly. Increased lighting obviously increases the feeling of safety. Also, including a cafe which is actually open during daytime and evening hours a la Boxwood will add eyes to the park, further adding to a feeling of safety. On a related note, a by-law which closes the park at 11 pm does little for safety and carries a mixed message. Park redevelopment should address the night-time experience in spite of the by-law. Should one not enter the park before and after 11 pm? How many people have been ticketed for being in the park contrary to the by-law? Why should a park be enjoyed in the daytime but off limits at night? The LRT platform is adjacent to the park, so it is a disappointing use of public space to prohibit access along the line where the platform meets the park. As it is, people congregate and cross the Gardens throughout the night, going to and from the LRT, therefore, lighting and open sight-lines will increase visibility even when the Gardens are officially closed. Secondly, the attractiveness of the park should be maintained through all the seasons. The present water feature is an eyesore. In 2014, water ran through it from June to early October. For the balance of the year it was a muddy, frozen, concrete gulch. Redevelopment should consider a water feature which looks attractive and one can interact with when it is emptied of water, like the one by the McDougall parkade. Also, retaining the grass berm and other elevation features has a downside because water sprinklers consistently wash away the soil to the bottom of the slopes thereby creating a muddy sloppy mess along the grass and walking paths (mud, which the city does not clean). Therefore, redevelopment should consider lowering the berm and other grassy elevation in the park, or alternatively surround them by a landscaping retaining wall so that the soil does not flow onto walkways. Berms, I'll add, can impede sight-lines. Lastly, holding onto the current design of the gardens for historical preservation misses the mark. A park is meant to be enjoyed, not avoided as it is today. Typically people cut through the gardens as they would a Plus 15. On sunny summer weekdays they might eat there. That is not a legacy worthy of preservation. Meanwhile, the adjacent house and apartment blocks which are condemned for demolition have a history far older than the Gardens but the city is comfortable to let those structures go. So should the park's current design. Let it go.
- Thank you for allowing me to participate. I look forward to being able to be involved in more chances to provide civic citizen input and support for our Calgary developments for all Calgary and area citizens and visitors. Thanks
- Thanks for your hard work for us :) I would wish that the transformation have as little impact to the people and animals/birds in the area & who use it regularly - ie: maintaining our present sidewalks &

bus stops during transition.