

## Richmond Green Park Design: Updates and Rationale

Since sharing the recommended concept design in Spring 2024, we've continued to refine the park design based on community feedback, technical studies, and site considerations. The updates aim to balance recreational needs, protect natural features, improve accessibility, and enhance the quality of the amenities provided to ensure the park serves a wide range of users for years to come. Below is a summary of the park design updates, along with the reason for each decision. Note that the table below is organized alphabetically and is not an indication of priority.

<b><i>Next Phase – Spring 2026</i></b>	
Accessibility Improvements	Additional accessible entry points into the park and improved circulation to better connect surrounding communities and enhance movement through the park.
Buffer Zones	Greater setbacks, additional planting and berming provided between active recreation areas, Crowchild Tr. and adjacent residential areas to reduce sound impacts both inside and outside the park.
Disc Golf	Relocated to a defined area with clear separation from picnic areas using pathways and natural buffers. Course design improved with a variety of hole lengths, elevation changes, and a mix of open and forested play, enhancing the user experience while minimizing conflicts with other park activities.
Environmental Performance	Enhanced stormwater management, increased natural areas, and biodiversity improvements have been incorporated. These changes support passive recreation, protect natural features, and align with community feedback emphasizing ecological value and the enjoyment of natural spaces.
Parking	Increased capacity with drop-off areas at both lots; needs confirmed through a comprehensive parking study of current and anticipated future use.
Pickleball	The combined tennis/pickleball facility has been replaced with a fully dedicated pickleball area, expanding capacity to 16 courts with an arrival plaza, internal social space, and accessible courts. This responds to high community demand and an identified citywide amenity gap. Changing other combined facilities in the surrounding neighbourhood back to dedicated tennis courts is also being explored, resulting in an overall net increase in both tennis and pickleball courts within the catchment area. The change reduces user group conflicts while accommodating potential tournament use.

Picnic Area	Enlarged and better organized with a circular pathway to define the space. Weather-protected shelters have been added along the perimeter, and multiple picnic nodes provide options for a range of group sizes, improving usability and comfort for all park visitors.
Tree Canopy	Design revised to retain healthy specimens, add trees, remove trees posing safety risks and improve tree canopy health overall.
<b>Future Phases</b>	
Clubhouse Building and Washrooms	The former clubhouse building is under review and may be replaced by a new building with additional washrooms on the east side of the park, centrally located and closer to the group picnic area and playground. This work is proposed for a future phase, with the final location and design to be confirmed.
Cricket Batting Cages	Removed from the current phase due to its proximity to residential areas and the playground, making it unsuitable for the site context and potentially conflicting with other uses. These may be reconsidered in a future phase on the west side of the park where it would be better separated from sensitive uses.
Fitness Nodes and Pathways	Fitness nodes are deferred to a future phase (likely along the path loop) to prioritize in demand amenities and reduce use conflicts. The pathway loop has been widened; additional pathways provide varied route lengths for walking and running.
Pump Track	Removed due to redundancy with nearby parks, safety concerns related to proximity to the playground, and potential programming conflicts. Trail biking opportunities on the west side slopes of the park are being explored as part of a later phase.

These updates reflect a balance between community priorities, technical feasibility, and the long-term sustainability of the park. By refining the design, we aim to create a space that supports a wide range of activities, protects natural features, and responds to evolving recreational needs. Many elements deferred in this phase may be reconsidered in future park improvements as opportunities and resources allow.