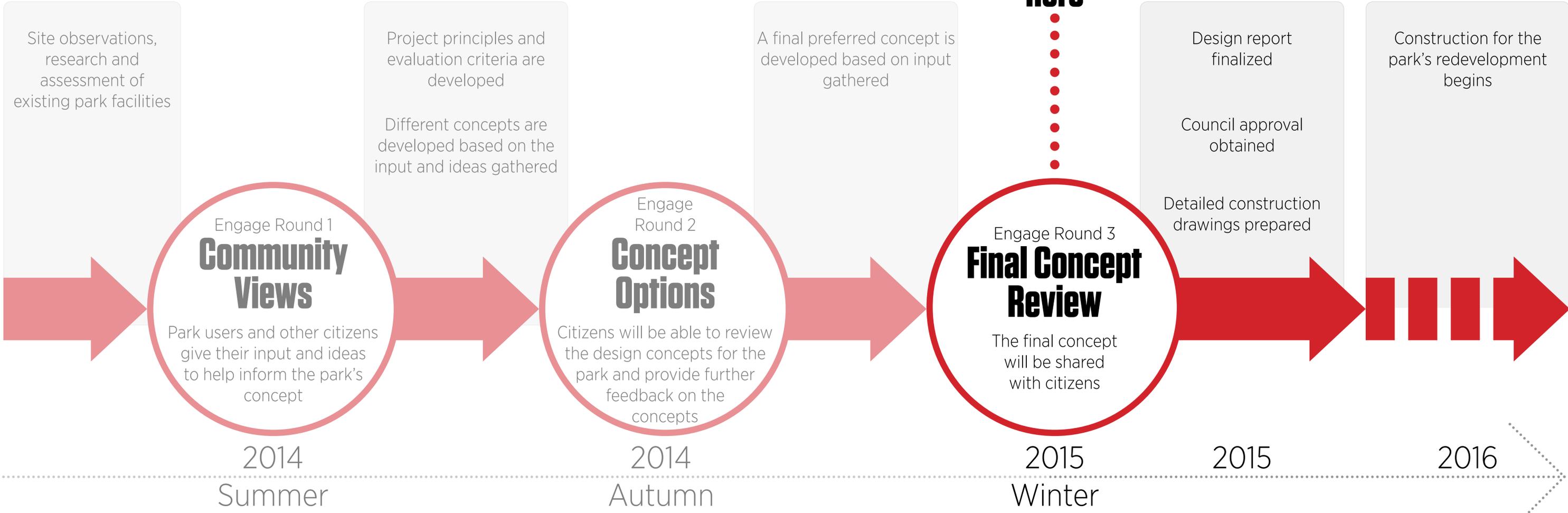


Welcome

Prairie Winds Park Redevelopment Final Concept Review

The City of Calgary has embarked on a process to redevelop Prairie Winds Park. The project includes an extensive public consultation process that helps inform the process at key points in the development of the concept design.



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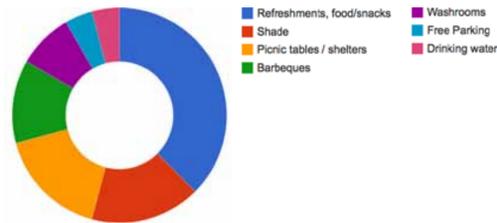
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The first round of public engagement took place from July 14 to August 8, 2014 and included several opportunities for individuals to provide input on two key questions. Input was grouped into ten key themes outlined in our Phase 1 “What We Heard” report. The following provides a more detailed breakdown of input within these themes:

What do you **like most** about Prairie Winds Park?

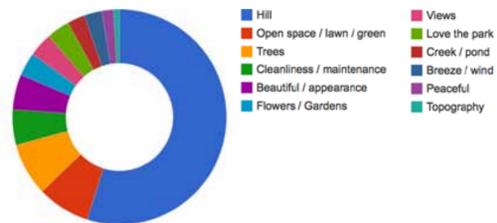
Park Infrastructure Food and Beverage

Structures and services for comfort



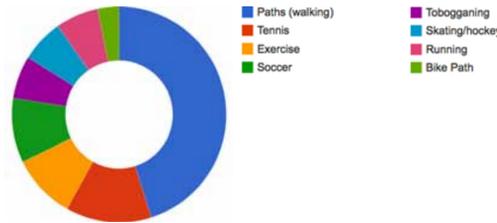
Hill Aesthetic Landscape

Character and special features about the park



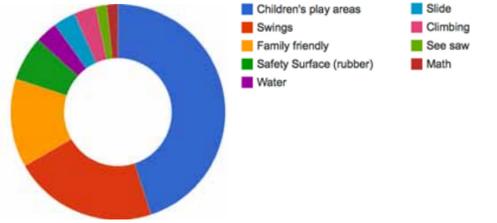
Athletics

Sport courts, fields and fitness



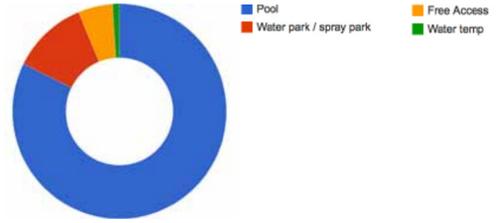
Playground

Play areas and play elements in the park



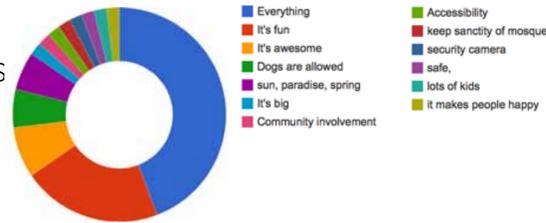
Pool

Wading pool and water play areas



Desirability

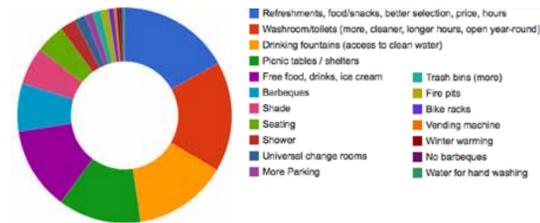
Other general comments



What changes would **improve** Prairie Winds Park?

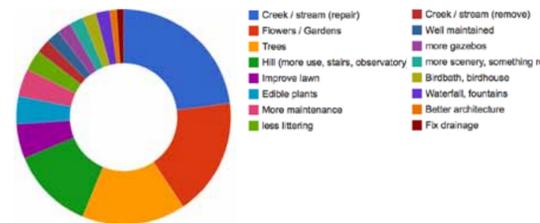
Park Infrastructure Food and Beverage

Structures and services for comfort



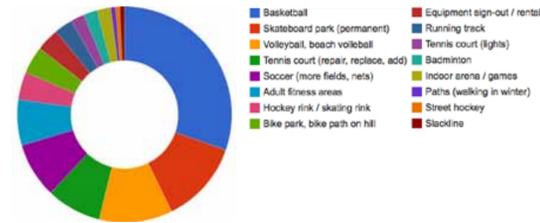
Hill Aesthetic Landscape

Character and special features about the park



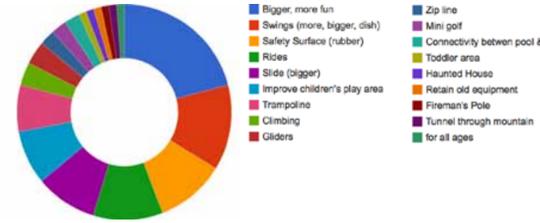
Athletics

Sport courts, fields and fitness



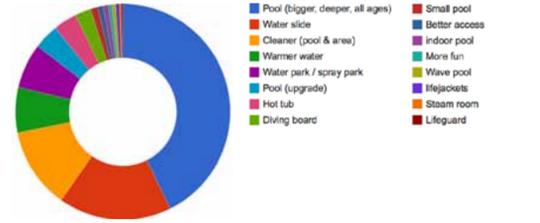
Playground

Play areas and play elements in the park



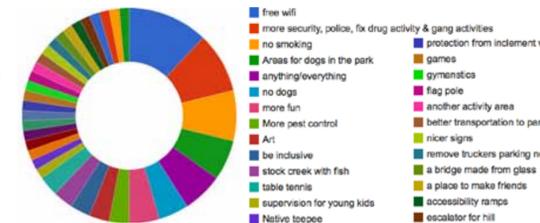
Pool

Wading pool and water play areas



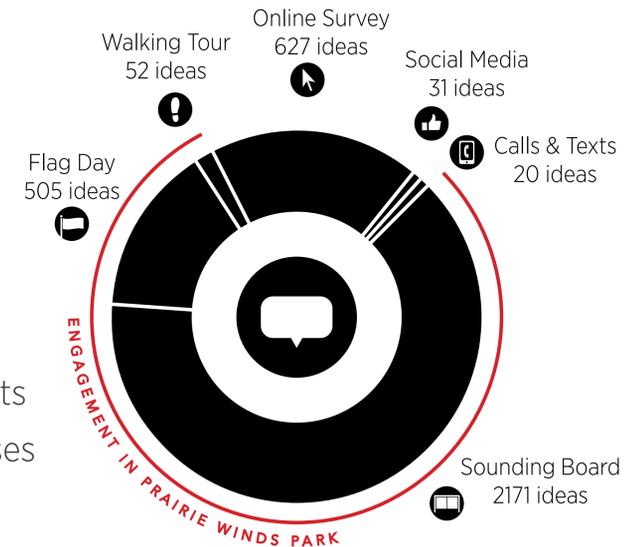
Desirability

Other general comments



In the Phase 1 engagement process, feedback was provided through:

- Sounding Board in Prairie Winds Park
- Online Survey
- Social Media
- Texting
- Flag Day event (July 26)
- Walking Tour Events
- Telephone responses



The general input from citizens during the Phase 1 engagement process was very positive.

Individuals appreciate Prairie Winds Park as a **community resource** and the opportunity to provide input into its redevelopment.

There is generally a high **sense of ownership** and **appreciation of the park**.

The results of the first round of public engagement contributed to a clearer understanding of **what people value** about the park and what **improvements** might make the park better.

The input was used to inform the **vision, mission and guiding principles** as well as many of the features proposed in the **preliminary concepts** for Prairie Winds Park.



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Based on input provided by City staff, park users and the general public, a vision statement, mission statement and guiding principles were developed for Prairie Winds Park:

Vision Statement

A **vision statement** is intended to describe how we want the park to be in the **future**.

“Prairie Winds is a **well-loved, family-oriented destination** park that is both a **celebration of community spirit** and a **recreational centrepiece** in northeast Calgary. It is a place that invites visitors to **play, be active, recharge, and connect** with their **environment**.”

Mission Statement

A **mission statement** is intended to describe the **aim of the overall plan**.

“To provide a **well-maintained, year round destination** for all Calgarians with elements that foster **family and community connections**, support **multi-cultural expression**, respond to **recreational** needs, and provide access to **green space** so that a **vibrant, healthy, safe and caring community** is created and sustained.”

Guiding Principles

Guiding principles are **general guidelines** used to help make the design and park meet the vision and mission statements.

The park is **ACCESSIBLE** and **WELCOMING** to people of **ALL AGES, CULTURES, AND ABILITIES**

There is a **RANGE** of active and passive spaces that can be used **YEAR-ROUND**

Provide **STRUCTURES** and **SERVICES** to make the park **COMFORTABLE**

The park includes **SPACES** for families and communities to **GATHER AND CELEBRATE**

The **PATHWAYS** are **WELL CONNECTED**

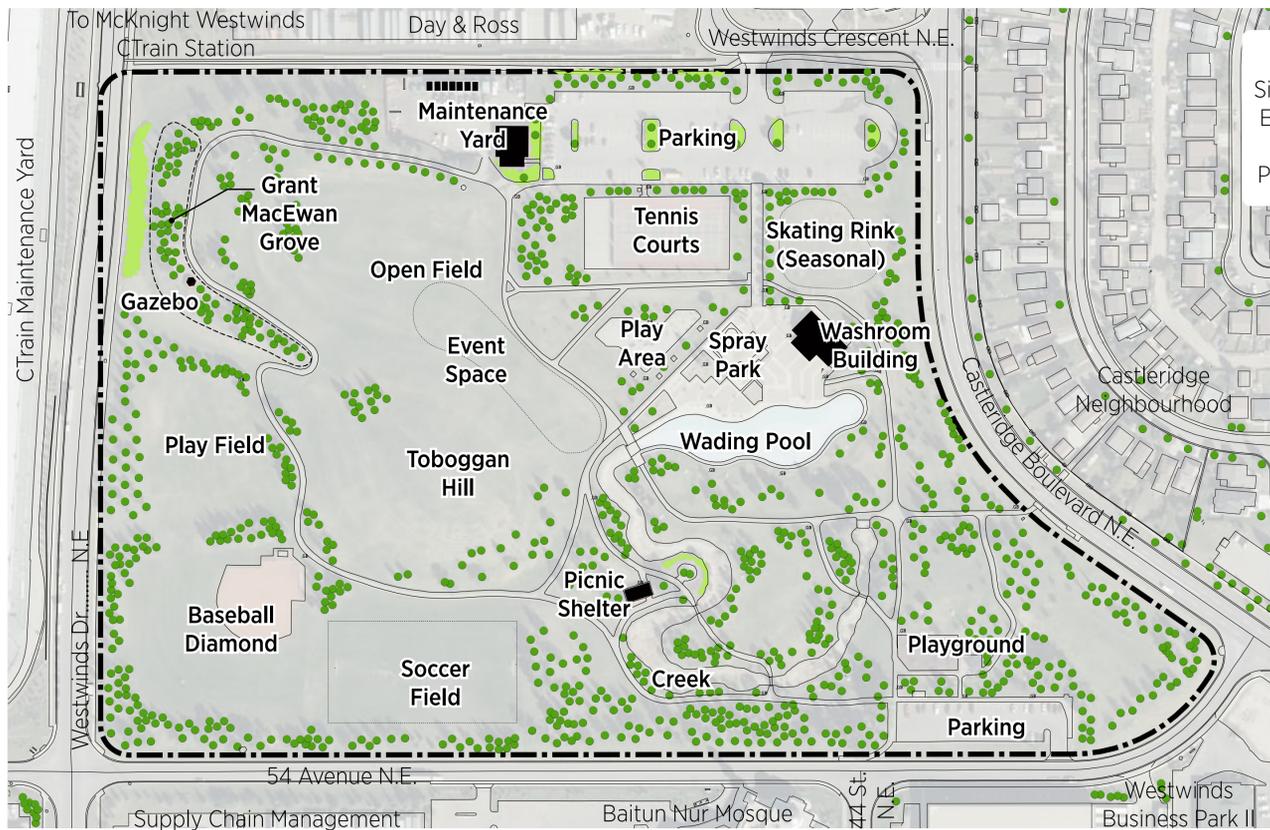
The park’s **UNIQUE CHARACTER** is **PROTECTED AND ENHANCED**

Provide **PLACES** to **PLAY, LEARN AND GROW**

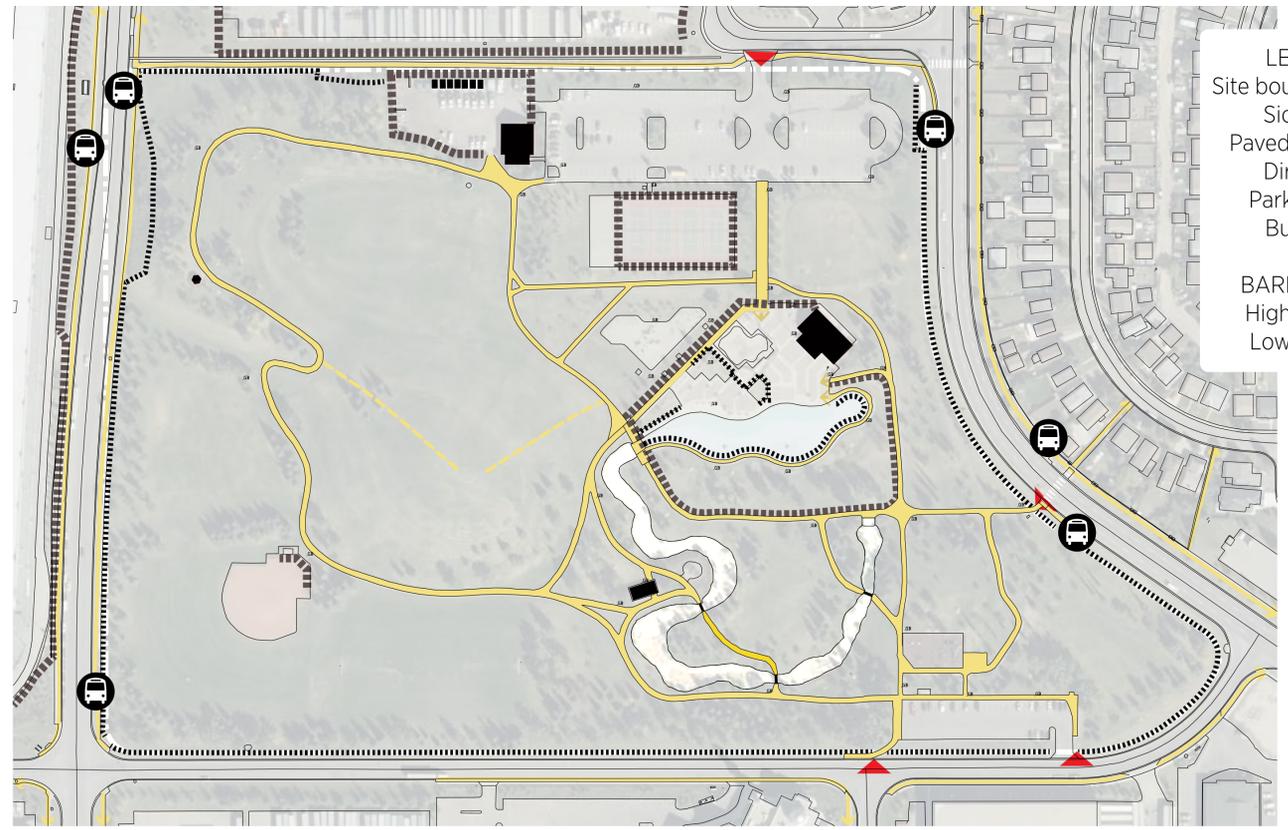


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Site Overview & Vegetation



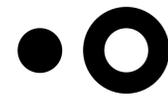
Existing Circulation



Existing Site Activities - Daily

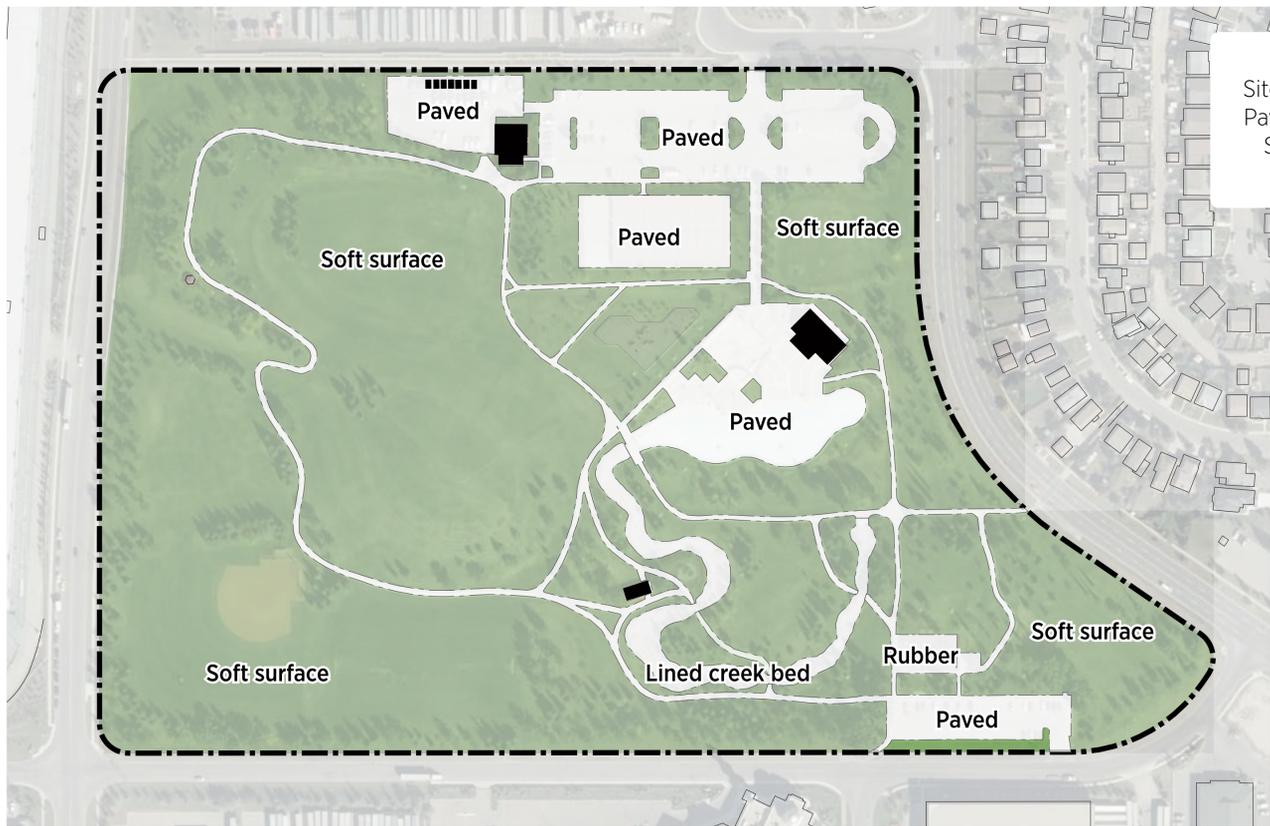


Existing Site Activities - Special Events

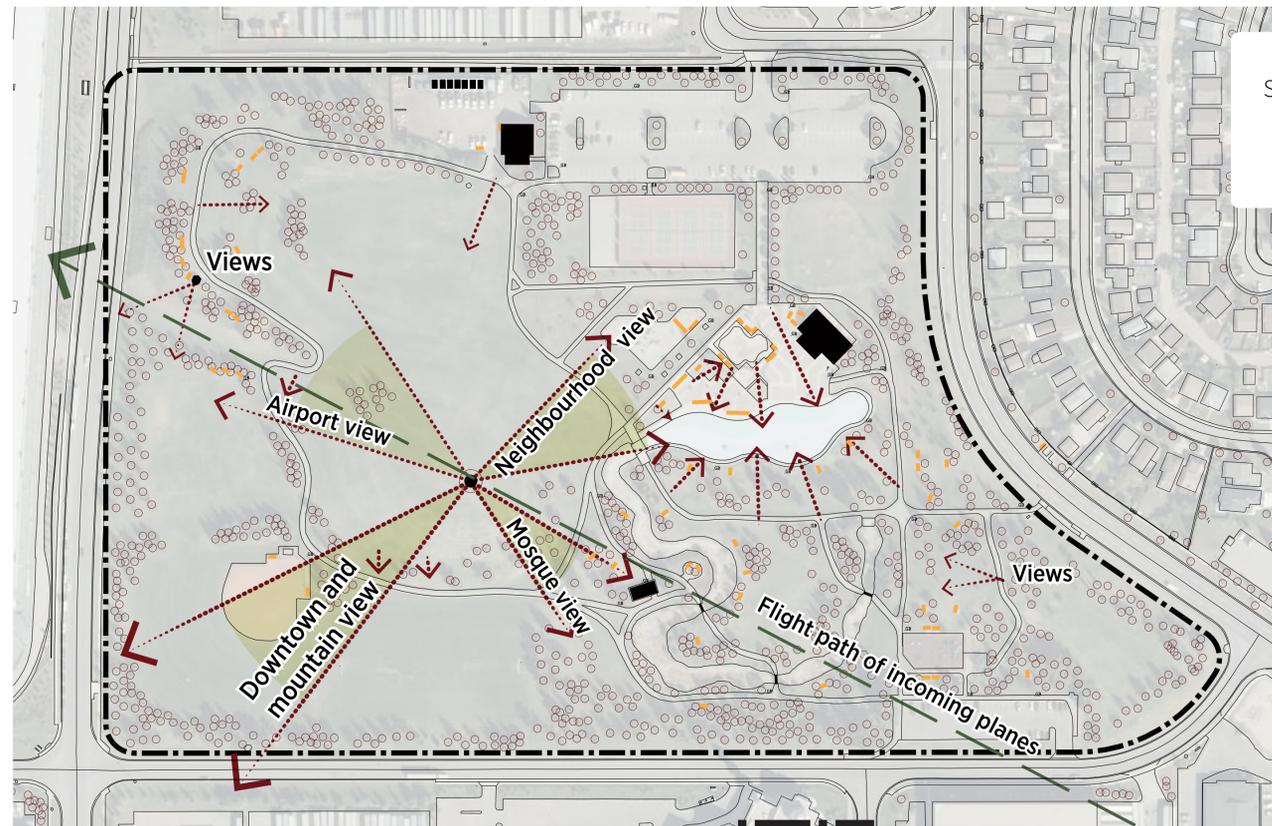


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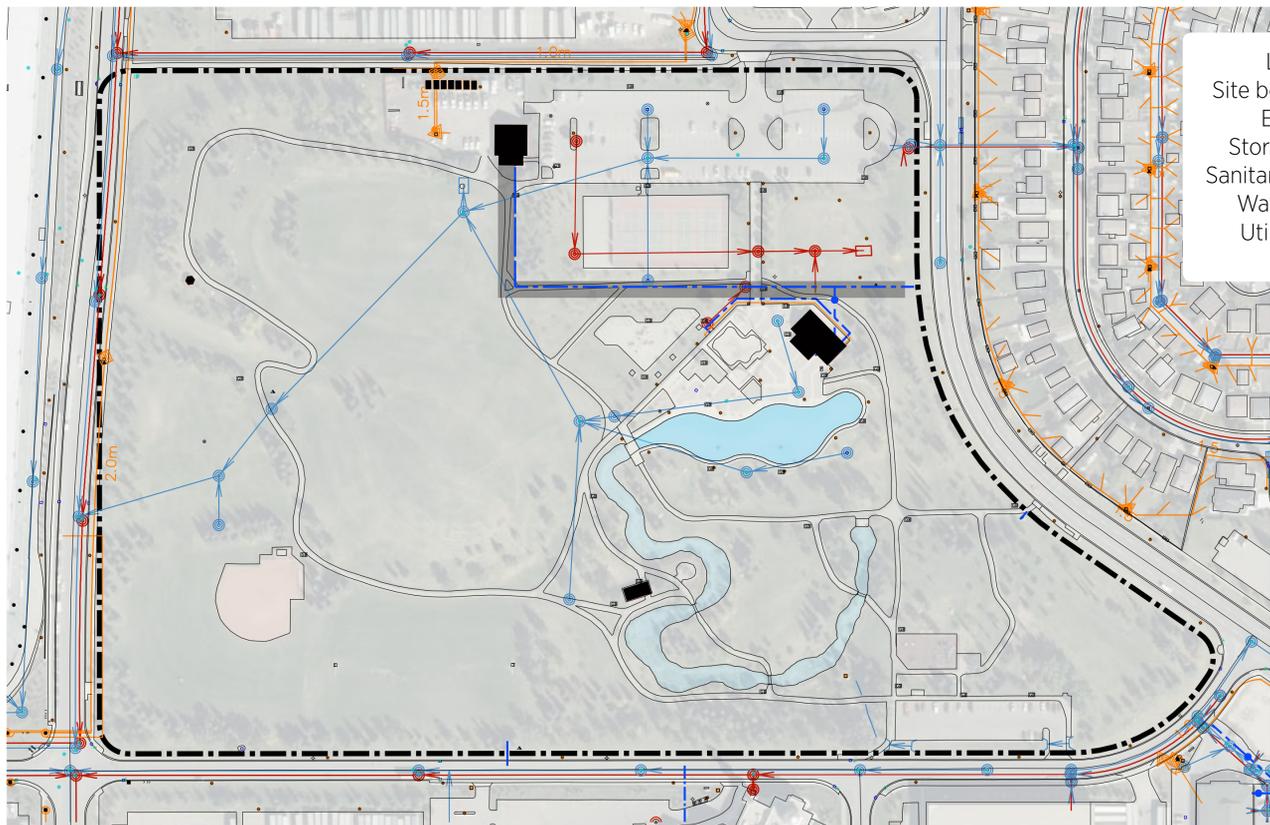
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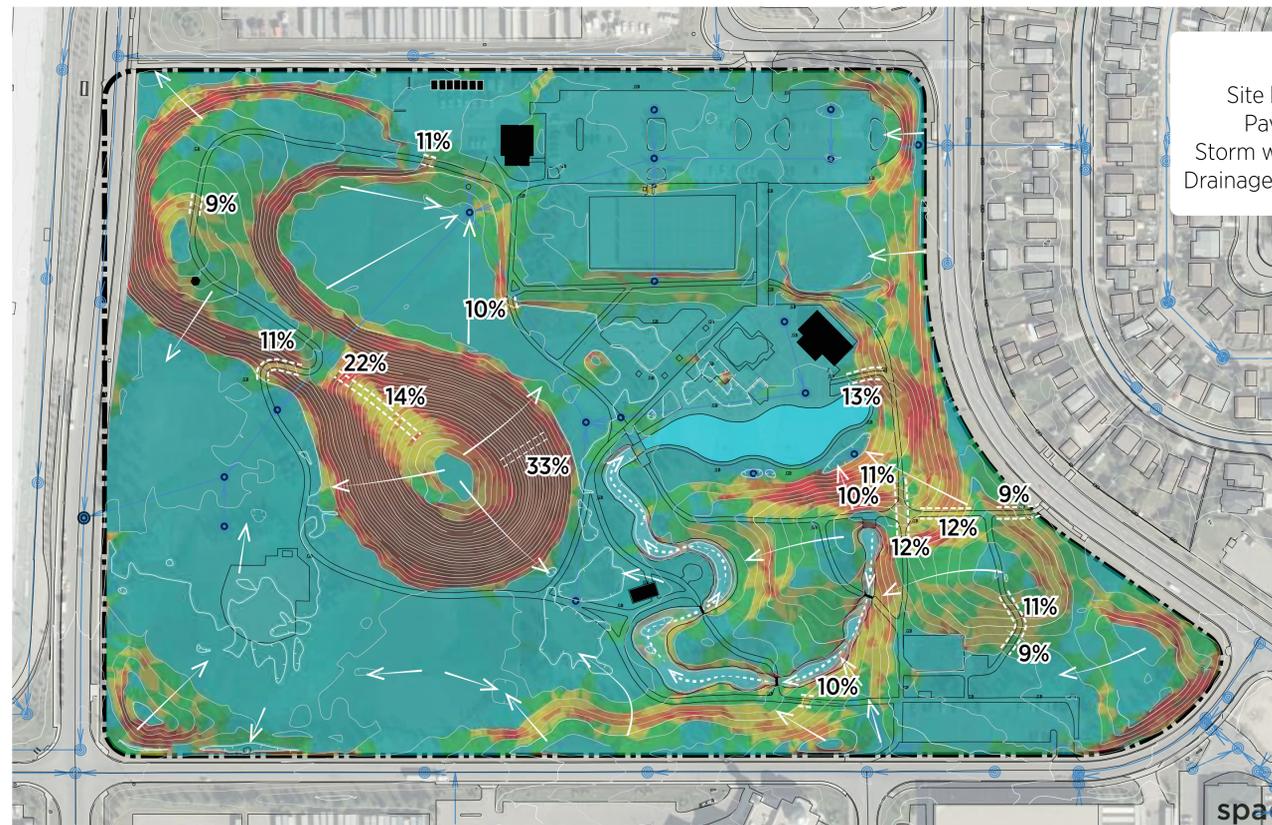
Paved vs. Soft Surface



Existing Views



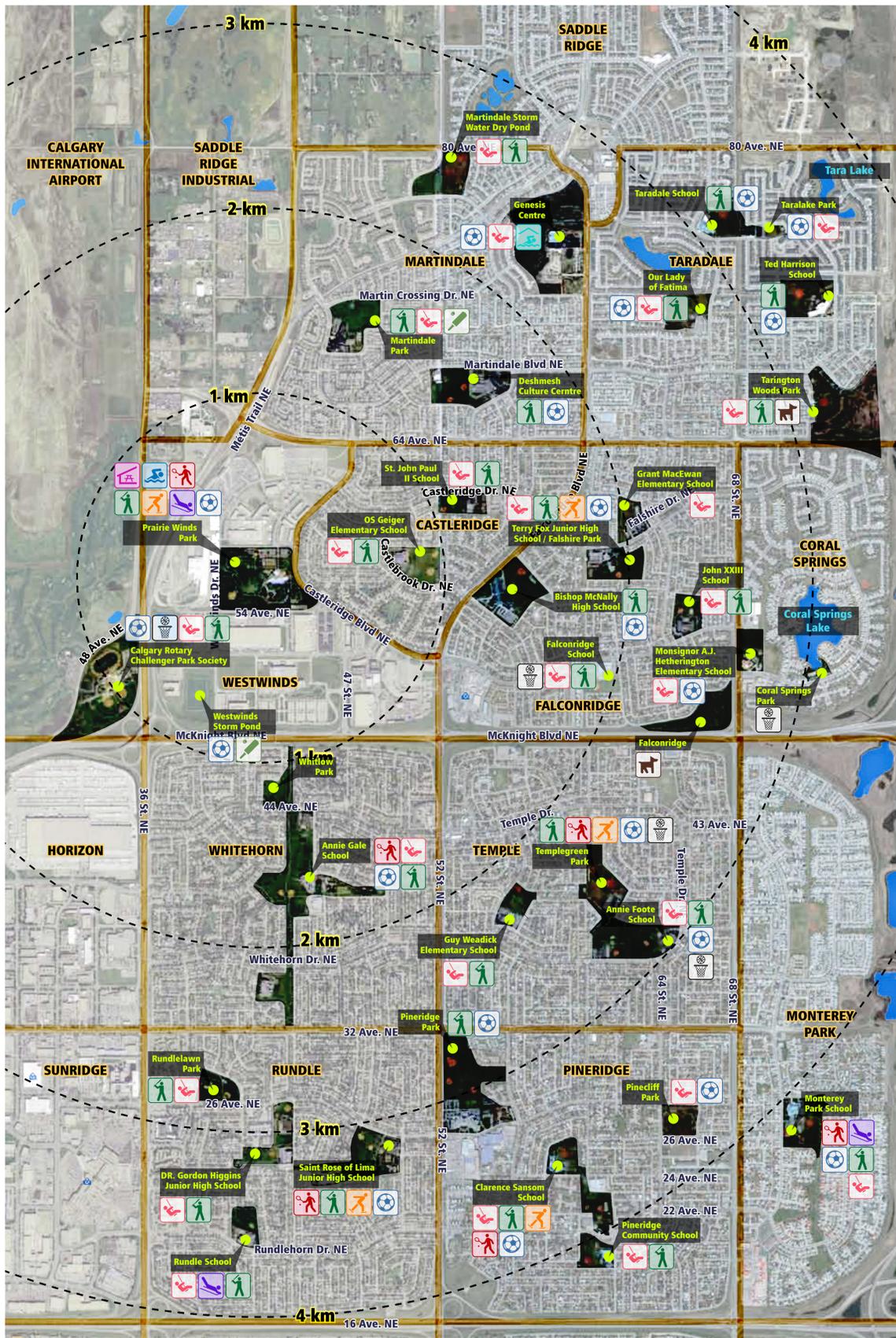
Existing Utilities



Slopes and Drainage

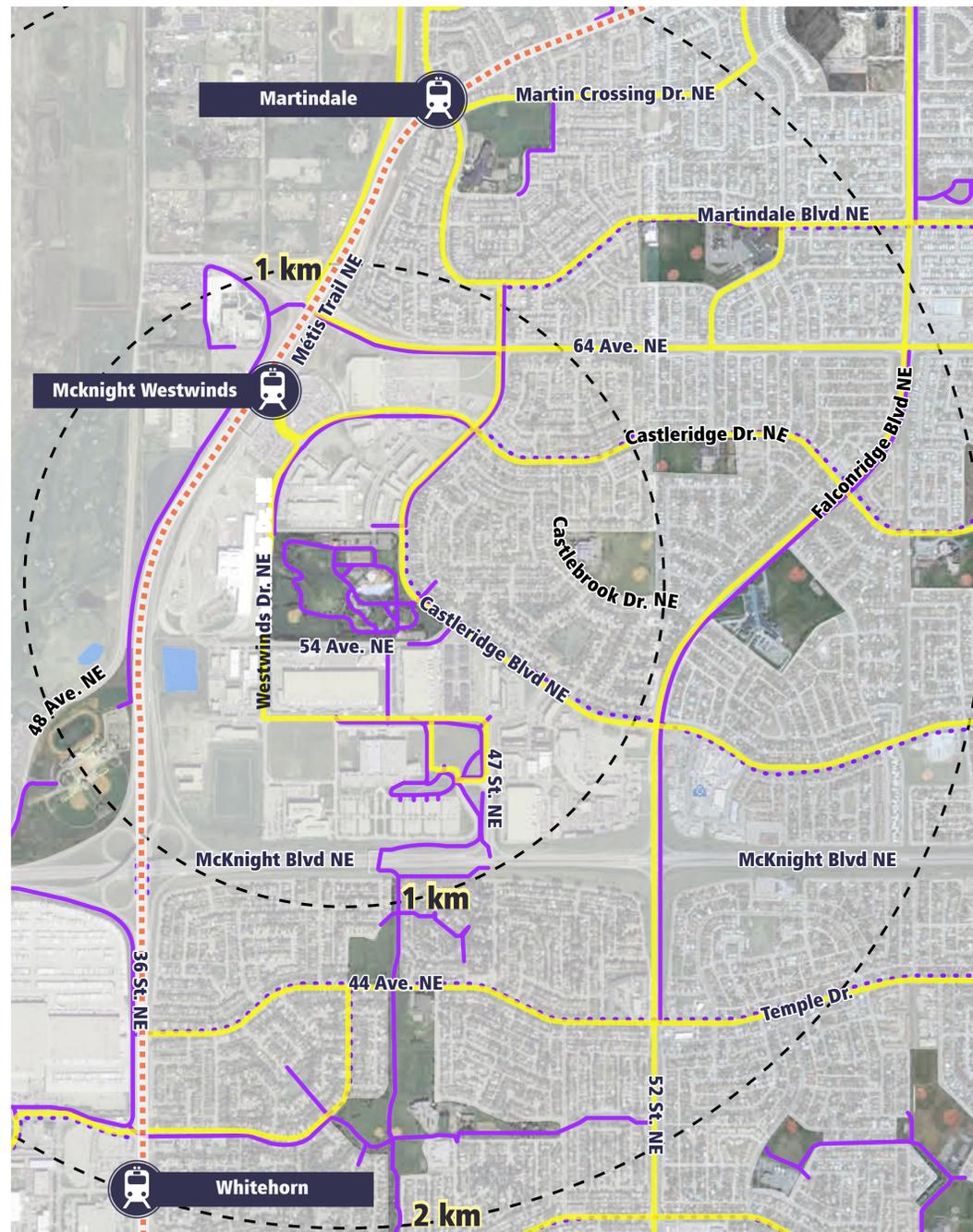
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Nearby Recreation

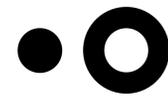
LOCATION	DISTANCE FROM PRAIRIE WINDS PARK	Indoor swimming	Outdoor pool / spray park	Off-leash dog area	Tennis court	Ice skating	Baseball	Tobogganing	Play area	Covered picnic shelter	Soccer	Basketball	Cricket
Prairie Winds Park	0 km	●											
OS Geiger Elementary	1 km						●						
Calgary Rotary Challenger Park	1 km						●					●	
St John Paul II School	1 km						●						
Bishop McNally High School	1.5 km						●				●		
Martindale Park	1.5 km						●						●
Annie Gale School	2 km				●		●				●		
Terry Fox Junior High School / Falshire Park	2 km					●	●				●		
Falconridge School	2 km						●					●	
Grant MacEwan Elementary	2 km						●						
Guy Weadick Elementary School	2.5 km						●				●		
John XXIII School	2.5 km						●						
Templegreen Park	2.5 km				●	●	●				●	●	
Genesis Centre	2.5 km	●									●		
Falconridge Off-Leash Area	2.5 km			●									
Our Lady of Fatima	3 km						●				●		
Monsignor A.J. Heatherington Elementary	3 km										●		
Rundlelawn Park	3 km						●						
Pineridge Park	3 km						●				●		
Annie Foote School	3 km						●				●	●	
Taradale School	3 km						●				●		
Saint Rose of Lima School	3 km				●	●	●				●		
Tarlington Woods Park	3.5 km			●			●				●		
Taralake Park	3.5 km						●				●		
Ted Harrison School	3.5 km						●				●		
Clarence Sansom School	3.5 km				●	●	●				●		
Rundle School	3.5 km						●	●					
Pinecliff Park	4 km						●				●		
Pineridge Community School	4 km						●						
Monterey Park School	4 km				●		●	●			●		
Martindale Storm Water Dry Pond	2.5 km						●						
Coral Springs Park	3 km											●	
Dashmesh Culture Centre	1.5 km						●				●		
Westwinds Storm Pond	.5 km										●		●
DR. Gordon Higgins Junior High School	3 km						●						



Transit and Bicycle Routes

LEGEND

- C Train (dotted orange line)
- Bus route (solid yellow line)
- Bike route (solid purple line)
- Bike-friendly street (dotted purple line)
- Neighbourhood boundary (dashed brown line)



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Trees and vegetation

Condition: Plant health varies. Not much variety in types (species) of trees.
Recommendation: Identify and replace selected trees with different species to add more variety. A wider variety of tree species helps to improve the overall health of all plants by making them less likely to be damaged by disease.

Paved paths

Condition: Fair. Many paths are too steep for some wheelchair users and the path is uneven in some spots.
Recommendation: Make it easier to get around by reducing the steepness of main paths and provide more walking loops to more areas of the park. Make sure pathways are in good condition.

Grass fields

Condition: Good. Wet/muddy areas in low areas.
Recommendation: Improve drainage in low areas.

Playground (north)

Condition: Fair to poor. Reaching the end of service life. Outdated equipment. Pea gravel is not wheelchair accessible.
Recommendation: Create a play area where everyone is welcome, make it bigger so children of all ages and ability can have fun and want to come back to play again

Toboggan hill

Condition: Good. Goat trails (dirt paths) show that people like to walk directly to the top.
Recommendation: Keep hill. Add a direct path to the top and make sure changes don't make it difficult to mow or maintain the hill.

Baseball diamond

Condition: Adequate for baseball and softball.
Recommendation: Consider if a ball diamond in this location is the best use of space based on having other ball diamonds nearby that can people can use instead.

Parks maintenance yard

Condition: Building and yard in average condition. The number of operations staff who use the building exceeds building's capacity during the busy summer season.
Recommendation: Upgrade building interior. Consider a moderate expansion of yard in current location.

Tennis courts

Condition: Poor. Surface is in bad condition and needs to be replaced.
Recommendation: Replace surface. Consider moving courts to another location in the park.

Parking

Condition: Barely adequate for day-to-day use. Not enough spaces for large events.
Recommendation: Keep existing number of on-site parking spaces and provide more by allowing on-street parking to the south and west of the park.

Skating rink

Condition: Melting ice creates flooding of nearby pathway and paved areas.
Recommendation: Upgrade drainage for skating rink.

Park building

Condition: Average for its age.
Recommendation: Upgrade washrooms, change rooms, and entries so they work better in all seasons and are more user friendly.

Spray park

Condition: Good. Rebuilt in 2014.
Recommendation: Keep new spray park.

Wading pool

Condition: Poor. Nearing the end of service life and needs yearly repairs.
Recommendation: Replace wading pool.

Playground (south)

Condition: Good. Basic play equipment. New rubber surface.
Recommendation: Keep or consider expansion.

Soccer field

Condition: Adequate for recreational / minor soccer.
Recommendation: Keep the soccer field.

Picnic shelter

Condition: Average for its age.
Recommendation: Keep the shelter and consider adding more picnic shelters elsewhere in the park to serve more users.

Artificial creek

Condition: Poor. Continual water leaks, repairs, and cost of water prevent its continued operation. Has been shut down for many years.
Recommendation: Remove creek and reclaim area for other park uses.



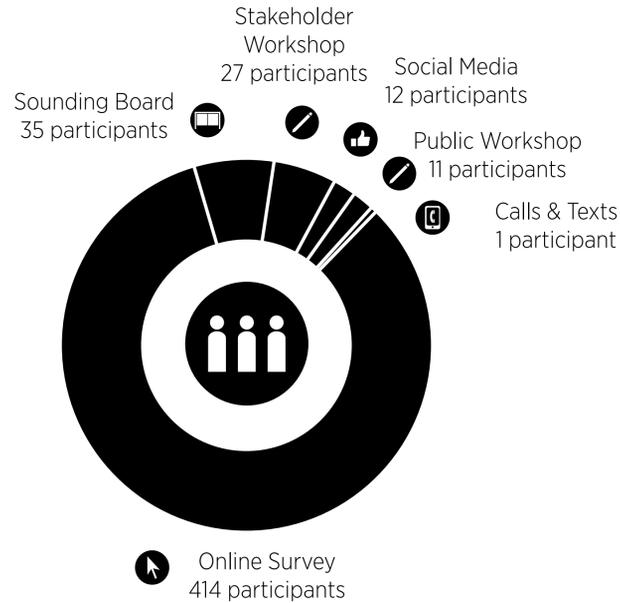
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The second round of engagement took place from October 27 to December 2, 2014 and included several opportunities for individuals to provide input on proposed park concepts and features. Input results are detailed in our Phase 2 “What We Heard” report. The following provides an overview:

In the Phase 2 engagement process, feedback was provided through:

- Online Survey
- Sounding Board in Prairie Winds Park
- Stakeholder Workshops
- Public Workshop
- Social Media
- Texting



During the second phase of engagement, **over 500 individuals took part in the process**, providing more than 400 responses. The majority of responses came through the online survey (222) and the workshops (144).

Concept 2 received the highest level of agreement with **87.5% agree or strongly agree**.



Vision Statement:

“Prairie Winds is a well-loved, family-oriented destination park that is both a celebration of community spirit and a recreational centrepiece in northeast Calgary. It is a place that invites visitors to play, be active, recharge, and connect with their environment.”

Mission Statement:

“To provide a well-maintained, year round destination for all Calgarians with elements that foster family and community connections, support multi-cultural expression, respond to recreational needs, and provide access to green space so that a vibrant, healthy, safe and caring community is created and sustained.”

Guiding Principles:

The park is **accessible** and **welcoming** to people of **all ages, cultures and abilities**

There is a **range** of active and passive spaces that can be used **year-round**

Provide **structures** and **services** to make the park **comfortable**

The park includes **spaces** for families and communities to **gather and celebrate**

The **pathways** are **well connected**

The park’s **unique character** is **protected and enhanced**

Provide **places** to **play, learn, and grow**

Percent who agree or strongly agree

87%

87%

88%

82%

84%

85%

85%

84%

87%

Features with **high** support:

- **Keep flexible open green spaces and slopes** (toboggan hill, views).
- **Upgrade and expand the existing building** with new washrooms, better change rooms and a larger warm-up area for year-round use
- **Add toilets in the southwest part of the park** near new sports activities
- Keep the south playground and **make the north play area bigger** with more play elements
- Add more colour, texture and seasonal interest with **gardens, native plants, shrubs and trees**.
- Create a **new entry** at the northwest corner of the park
- **Upgrade walking and jogging paths** with gentler slopes, more loops and better access to more areas of the park.
- Provide **more seating, picnic and barbeque spots**, and outlets for power and water
- Retain the existing on-site parking and **add street parking** along 54 Ave. and Westwinds Dr.
- Keep the soccer field, **relocate and upgrade the tennis courts**

Features with **low** support:

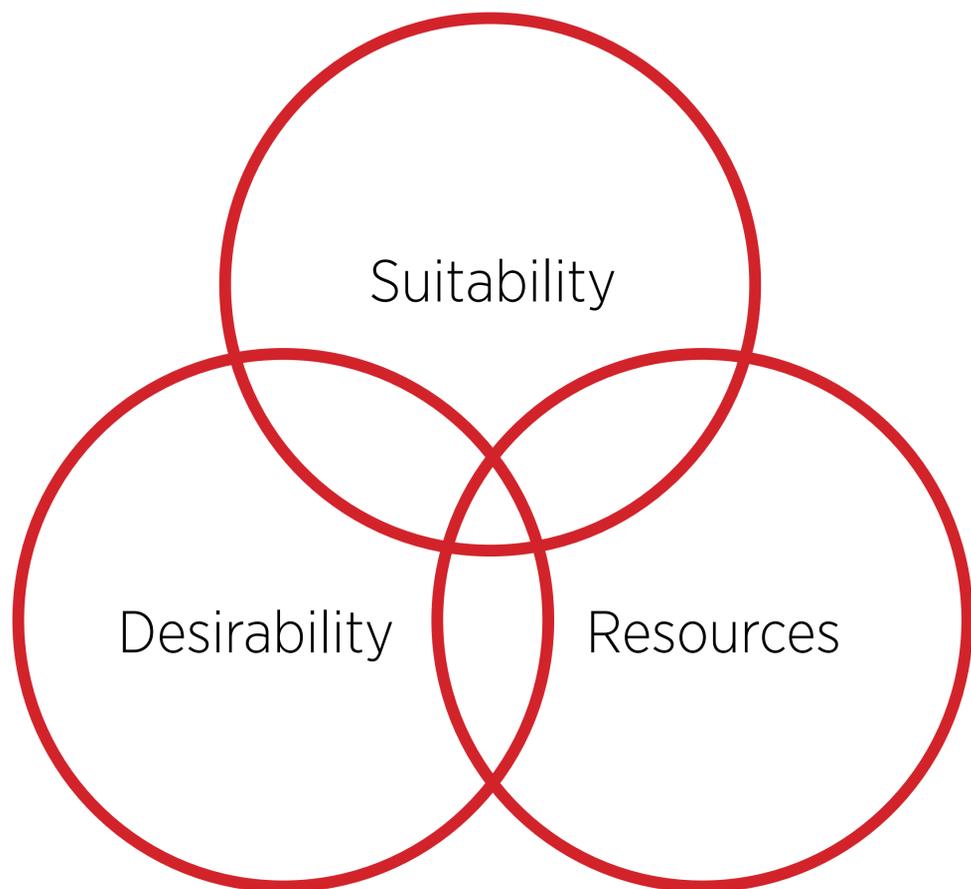
- Remove the wading pool
- Add a new skateboard park
- Keep the baseball diamond



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Decisions on which features will be included in the preferred concept for Prairie Winds Park are based on three key criteria:



The preferred concept for Prairie Winds Park is intended to:

- Work well for the site;
- Align with policies at city, provincial and federal levels;
- Be achievable within the City's available resources;
- Support the City's goals;
- Make the park more valuable to the community;
- Support use and enjoyment by more people, and;
- Help and provide a good effect on the community.

Suitability

To ensure the proposed park design is **a good fit for the site, the surrounding neighbourhoods, and the region**, we look at:

- The park's location, its role within the city, and its relationship with the surrounding communities;
- The park's **history** and past;
- The **existing park features** that make it special;
- How well the park **serves its current users** and if it is being used the way people want;
- The **condition and life-span** of the park's existing features and structures;
- Potential **upgrades and new features** that will respond to the current and anticipated needs of the community, and;
- Knowledge and understanding of **relevant policies and plans** to make sure the park design follows current rules and guidelines and contributes to advancing the City's goals when possible.

Desirability

To deliver a park design that **works for the people who use it**, we engage the public to ask them:

- What is the **purpose** of the park?
- What do they **like** about the park?
- What changes can **make the park better** and help **meet the community's needs** into the future?
- The input gathered was used to create a **vision statement, mission statement, and guiding principles** that informed several concept options.
- Feedback from the public on the park concepts was used to understand which of the proposed **features people want to see the most**.

Resources

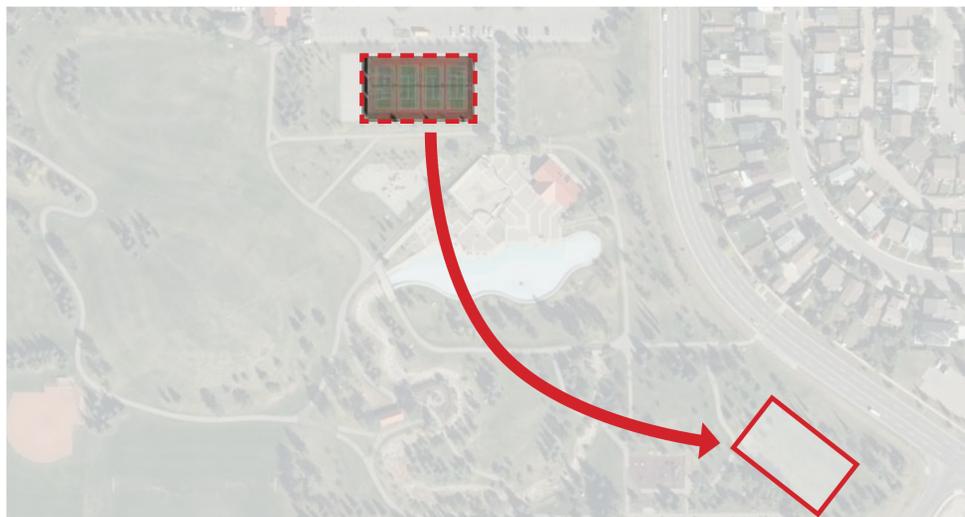
To **maximize benefits** for all park users and **provide good value** for taxpayers, we consider the resources available for capital improvements and to sustain ongoing operations. Strategies include:

- **Retaining existing site features** that are in good condition for their age and are working well;
- **Making strategic upgrades** to improve the function of existing facilities to better serve current needs and to extend their life-span, and;
- Focusing available resources to provide the **greatest value for the largest number of park users**.

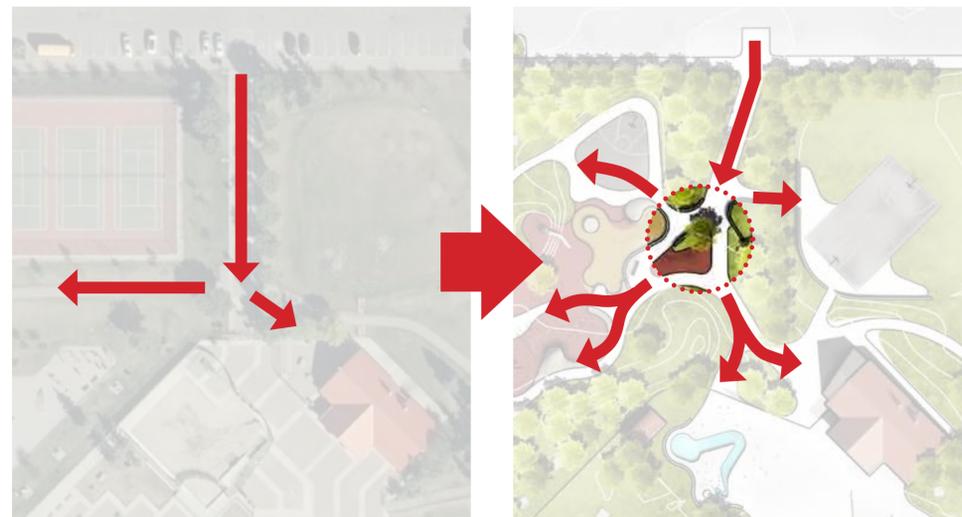


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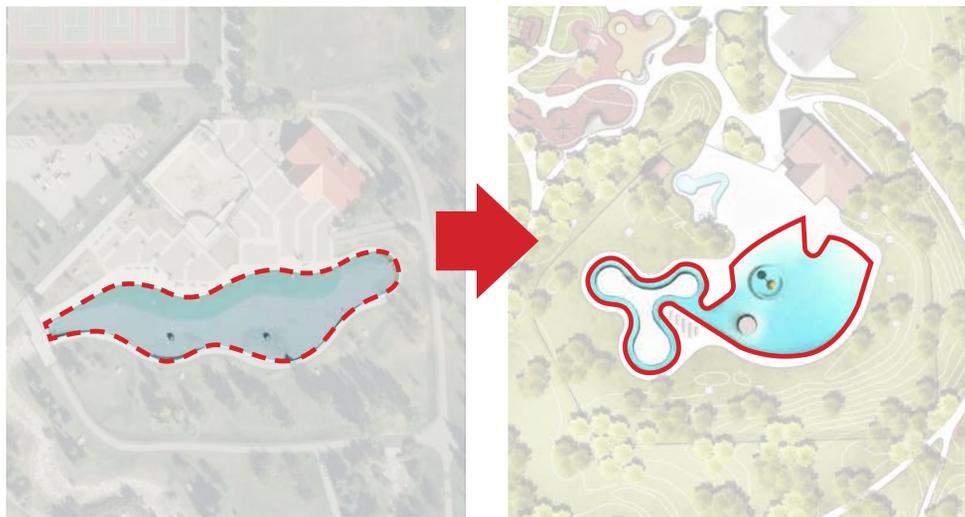
Tennis courts relocated to southeast



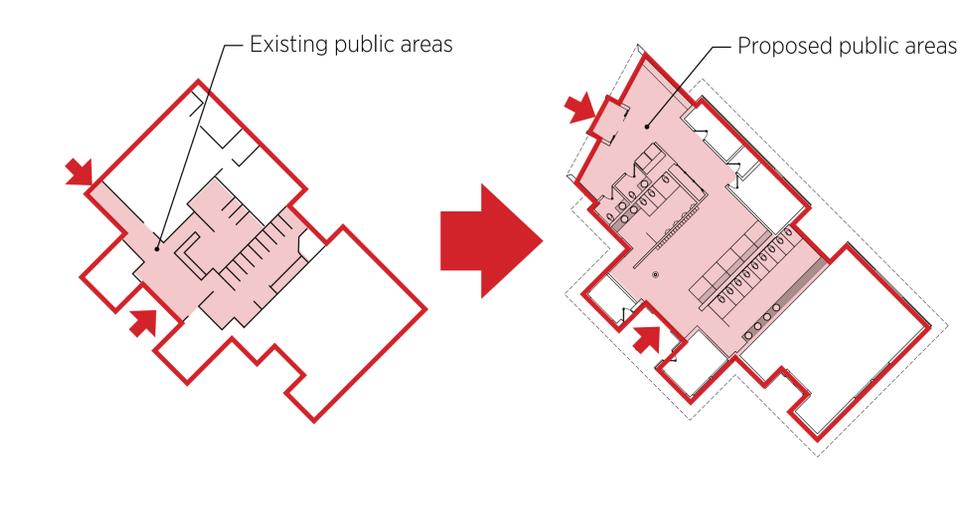
A new main entry plaza



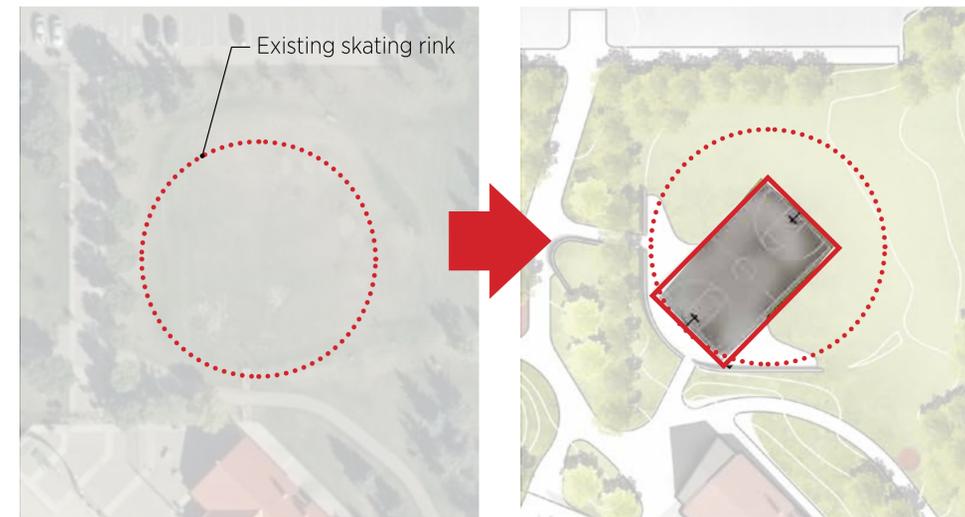
Old playground replaced with an expanded playscape



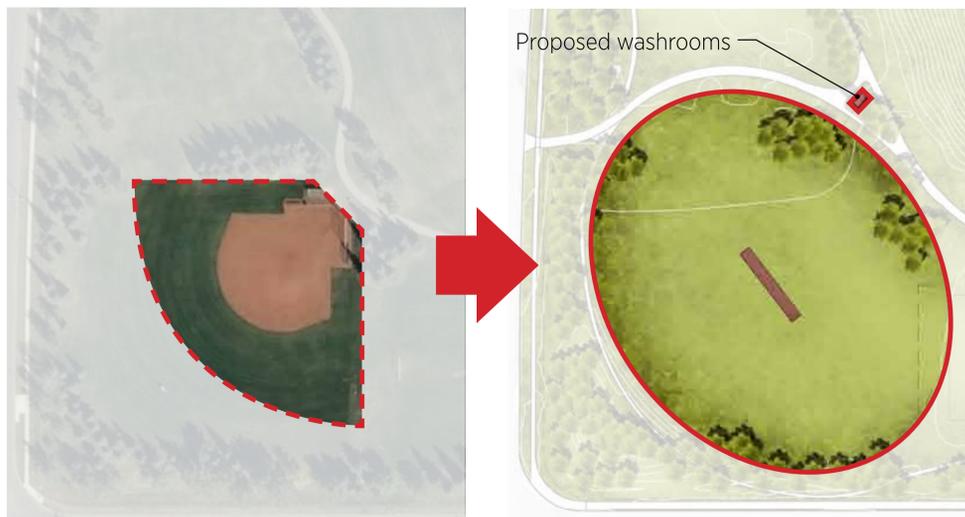
Rebuilt wading pool with new lazy river



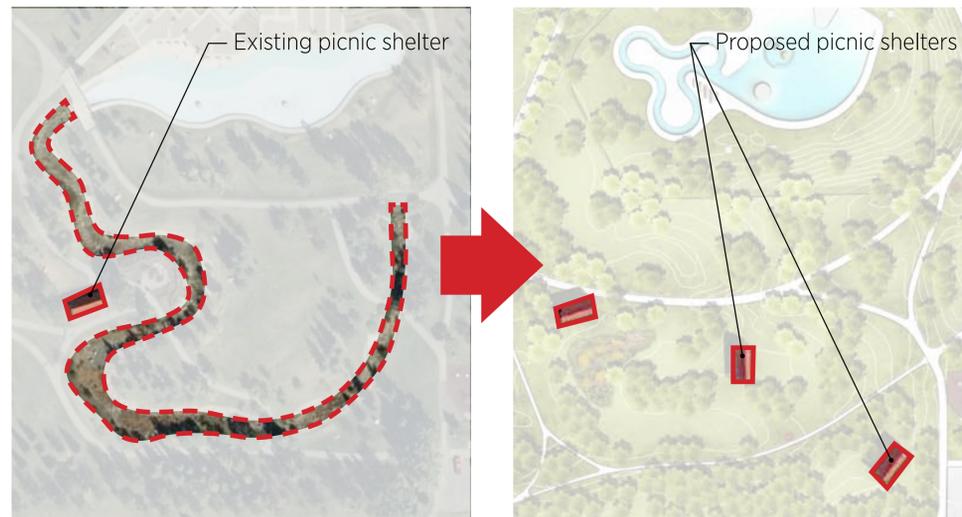
Park centre building renovated and expanded



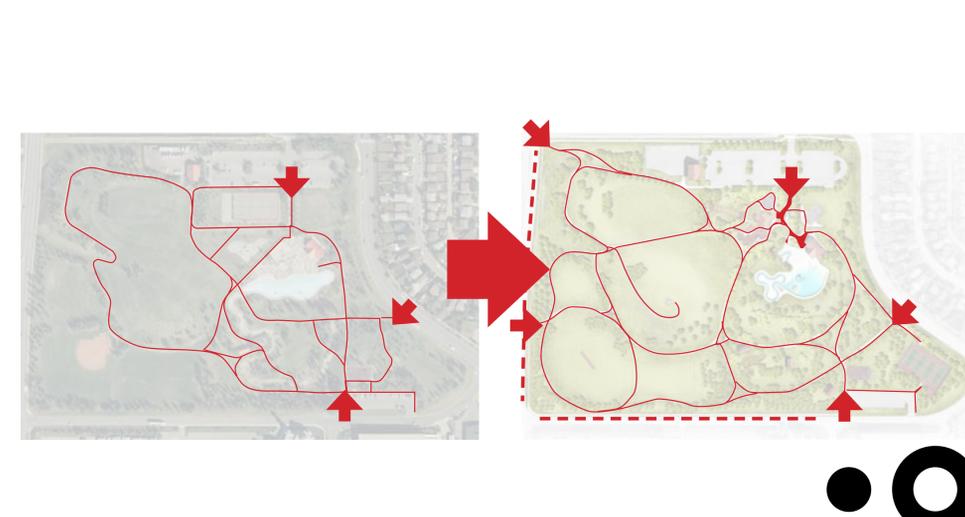
New basketball court and ice rink with improved drainage



Baseball diamond replaced with a new cricket pitch and seasonal washrooms



Artificial creek removed to provide more picnic shelters and planting



Upgraded paths, new entries and street parking added



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Prairie Winds Park Preferred Concept Overview



Prairie Winds Park currently offers a diverse range of activities throughout the year. The redevelopment concept plan enhances the infrastructure for all existing activities to operate, while adding even more activities in every season.

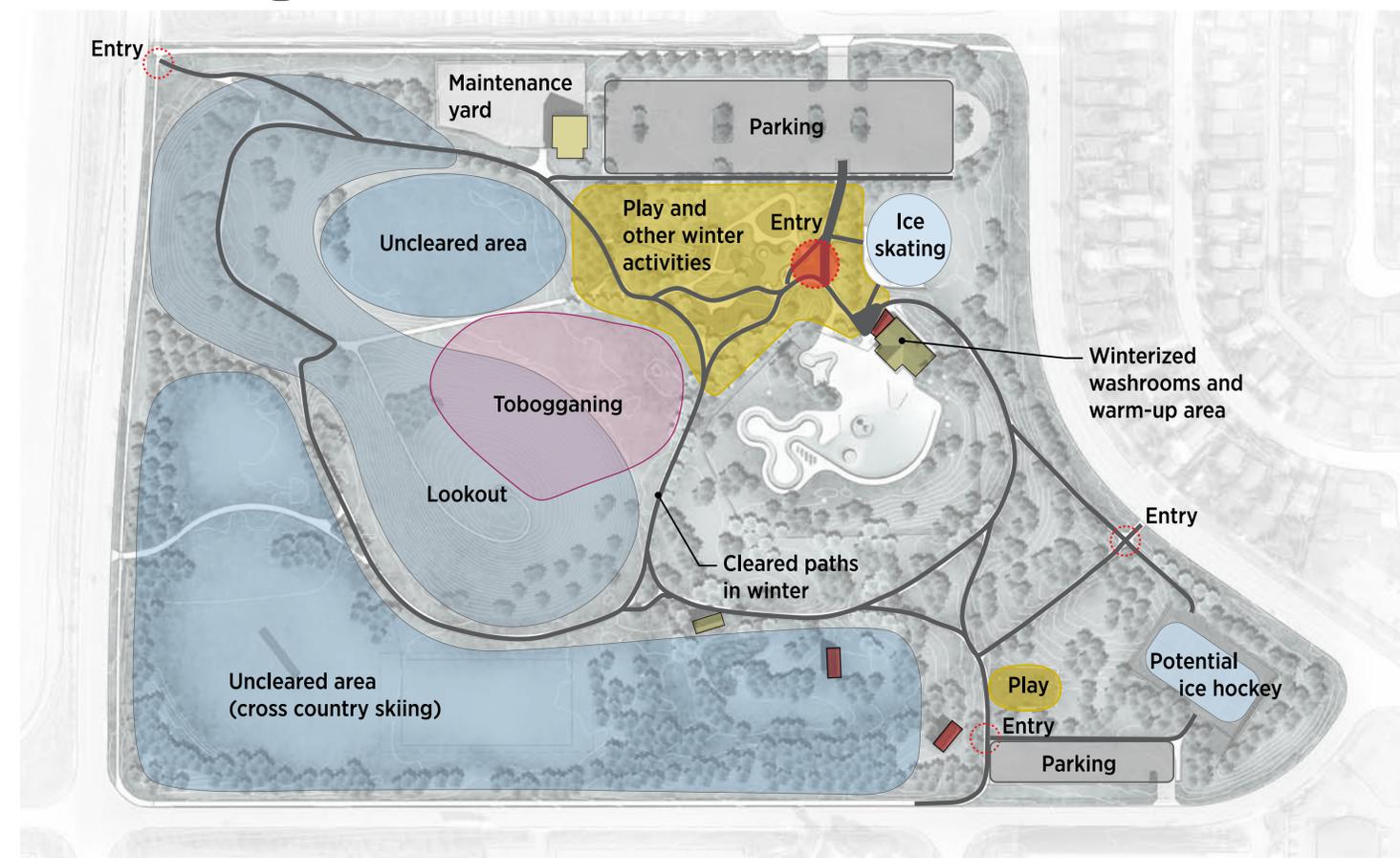
Summer Program Plan



Summer Features:

- Rebuilt wading pool with lazy river
- Expanded park centre building with washrooms, change areas and a winter warm-up space
- More picnic shelters
- Reclaim former creek for park uses and planting
- New entries on west side of the park
- Basketball court, cricket pitch, relocated tennis courts with lighting, soccer field, and fitness stations
- Seasonal washrooms in the southwest part of the park
- New playscape for all ages
- Upgraded paths and a lookout at the top of the hill

Winter Program Plan



Winter Features:

- Gentler pathway loops including some cleared paths and some uncleared paths
- Larger run-out area at the base of the toboggan hill
- Upgraded year-round washrooms and warm-up space in park centre building
- Improved drainage and more seating for the existing ice skating rink
- New lighting to support winter activities during shorter days
- Potential ice hockey rink in tennis courts
- Uncleared open areas that may be used for cross country skiing



Park Centre Area

The proposed redevelopment of Prairie Winds Park includes the creation of a new park centre area. With the relocation of the tennis courts, the park centre area will include a new plaza that welcomes visitors and functions as the park's main entry.

The main entry plaza will provide access to:

- The main parking lot;
- A new, large playscape for all ages;
- A new basketball court and upgraded skating rink;
- A water play area which includes a rebuilt wading pool with lazy river, spray park (completed in 2014) and more spots for picnicking;
- Walking paths to access all parts of the park, and;
- A renovated and expanded park centre building.

Park Centre Building

A renovated and expanded park centre building will better serve the needs of park users by providing year-round access to modern, accessible washrooms.

Upgraded change rooms will be open during the summer, and a bright, new warm-up space will be available for people using the park in the winter.



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Relocated tennis courts

New picnic shelters

Rebuilt wading pool with lazy river

Existing spray park

Renovated and expanded park centre building

New basketball court

New park entry plaza

New play court

Existing parking

Existing picnic shelter

Reclaim former creek for park uses

Soccer field

New cricket pitch and seasonal washrooms

New lookout and path

Existing toboggan hill

Festival lawn

New playscape

Working with the existing topography and character of the site, the preferred park concept enhances family-friendly features, flexible open space, accessibility, and opportunities for fitness throughout the park.

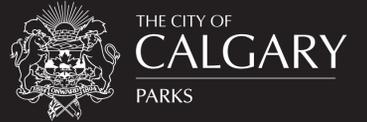
In addition to the features listed above, proposed upgrades include more seating, picnic tables, drinking fountains, power and water for events and festivals, lighting, and a tandoori oven. More trees and planting will be added for seasonal interest.



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Prairie Winds Park
Park Features





A new entry experience welcomes visitors with an expanded and upgraded play area, seating, and paths that provide easy access to all areas of the park.



The toboggan hill, open spaces and varied terrain are retained for year round use.



A rebuilt and modernized wading pool and lazy river compliment the spray park and appeal to a wider range of ages while providing ample space for families to picnic and relax on summer days.



A new lookout and a path to the top of the hill provide panoramic views of the park and the skyline in all directions.



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Thank you for coming.

Prairie Winds Park Redevelopment

Final Concept Review

To stay informed please visit:
calgary.ca/prairiewindspark



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