



MISSISSAUGA

Improving Bert Fleming Park

Public Engagement

Closing the Loop Summary

August 2026

**PARKS, FORESTRY
& ENVIRONMENT**

Project Overview

Bert Fleming Park serves as a community park in the Erindale Neighbourhood generally bounded by The Credit Woodlands, Credit Heights Drive and McBride Avenue. Bert Fleming Park is currently comprised of open grass and natural areas with no formal park facilities and amenities. Through the completion of The Credit Woodlands Integrated Road Project, the City will expand Bert Fleming Park by approximately 0.5 acres. New pedestrian crossings and sidewalks will also connect residents to the surrounding neighbourhood.

The City is planning to upgrade Bert Fleming Park into a community hub with improved facilities, amenities, features and open space for gathering and recreation. The purpose of this public engagement is to share a preliminary conceptual design (Concept Plan) and receive feedback from residents on what they would like to see at Bert Fleming Park (Public Engagement).



Figure 1. Concept Plan for Bert Fleming Park

Public Engagement Strategy and Highlights

Public Engagement was conducted in Q2 2026, from March 19th to April 25th. The City used the following engagement tactics to raise awareness, promote participation and receive feedback on the improvements at Bert Fleming Park (the Strategy):

- Project webpage
- 311 Knowledge Base update

- Distribution of postcards to approximately 820 addresses surrounding Bert Fleming Park
- Signage at Bert Fleming Park
- One (1) drop-in community open house at Springfield Public School on April 7th
- Online survey

Approximately 50 residents attended the community open house, and a total of 206 survey responses were completed.

Key Findings

Survey

Key demographic and usage findings from the survey include:

- The breakdown in age of respondents is as follows: Under 18 (2%), 19-25 (3%), 26-35 (15%), 36-64 (54%), Over 65 (20%) and Age Unknown (6%).
- The breakdown in household type of respondents is as follows: No children (35%), Households with child/children under 12 years (36%), Households with teenagers aged 13-19 (13%), Households with both children and teenagers (7%) and Other (adult children aged 20 years and older for example) (9%).
- 62% of respondents would visit Bert Fleming Park daily to once a week after improvements are made with 78% of respondents indicating that they plan to walk to Bert Fleming Park.

The results of the survey indicate respondents are split in terms of satisfaction on the Concept Plan and the preliminary facilities, amenities and features (Preliminary Program). Key findings regarding feedback on the Concept Plan and Preliminary Program include:

- Overall, 51% of respondents were satisfied, 13% of respondents were neutral and 36% of respondents were not satisfied with the Concept Plan.
- Similarly, 49% of respondents were satisfied, 15% were neutral and 37% were not satisfied with the Preliminary Program.
- In terms of age- and household-specific preferences, satisfaction with the Concept Plan and Preliminary Program appears to decline with an increase in age and as children in households age or for households with no children. For example:
 - 67% of the 26-35 age group and 58% of the 36-64 age group were satisfied with the Concept Plan however, 54% of the 65+ age group were not satisfied with the Concept Plan.
 - 76% of households with a child/children under 12 were satisfied with the Preliminary Program however, 58% of households with no children were not satisfied with the Preliminary Program.

The Preliminary Program provided in the survey for respondents to select their favourite facilities, amenities and features included a community garden, natural areas, a gathering and seating zone, a children's play area, open lawn areas, park trails, outdoor fitness and table games (refer to **Table 1**). Overall, the top three selections are natural areas, the gathering and seating zone and the children's play area. The three least popular selections are the community garden, outdoor fitness and table games.

Table 1. Ranking of Facilities, Amenities and Features

Most Popular to Least Popular (% of Responses out of 206 respondents)
Natural Areas (55%)
Gathering and Seating Zone (50%)
Children's Play Area (44%)
Open Lawn Area (42%)
Park Trails (39%)
Community Garden (38%)
Outdoor Fitness (37%)
Table Games (31%)

Through a review of the preferred facilities, amenities and features by age group, there is consistency in the most popular options (natural areas for example) and least popular options (table games for example) however, there are also differences in preferences between age groups. Similarly, for preferences by household type, there is consistency for all household types regarding support for the gathering and seating zone and natural areas however, there are also differences in preferences between household types. For example:

- The children's play area was a top selection, and the open lawn area was a less popular selection for the 26-35 age group and 36-64 age group. In contrast, the open lawn area was a top selection and children's play area was a less popular selection for the 65+ age group.
- Households with children highly favored the children's play area while the open lawn area was a less popular selection for this household type. In contrast, the open lawn area was a top selection and the children's play area was a less popular selection for households with no children.

Select respondents also requested other facilities, amenities and features not identified in the Concept Plan and Preliminary Program. The most popular requested facilities, amenities and features include a playground, spray pad or other play elements for children and a leash-free zone. Unique requests include a walking/jogging track, pollinator garden, ice rink and pickleball courts. Requests for supportive amenities include additional seating areas, shade elements and accessible, lit trails. Lastly, miscellaneous comments and concerns were raised regarding the importance of safety due to the proximity to The Credit Woodlands, waste management and maintenance. Respondents also requested clearly marked and accessible pedestrian crossings connecting Bert Fleming Park to nearby destinations including Springfield Public School and the commercial centre.

In-Person and Online Feedback

Attendees were able to share their feedback on the Concept Plan and Preliminary Program with Parks, Forestry and Environment staff at the drop-in community open house on April 7th. The preferred facilities, amenities and features at the community open house differed slightly from the results of the survey (refer to **Table 2**), however, in-person feedback was generally consistent with the feedback provided in the survey. Feedback included:

- Reduce the extent of asphalt areas.
- Requests for additional elements such as shade elements, a running and cycling track, and children’s play equipment. There were also requests for other features including a skating rink, a leash-free zone and a soccer facility.
- Concerns regarding safety due to the proximity to The Credit Woodlands and maintenance including natural areas.

Table 2. Open House Results for Ranking of Facilities, Amenities and Features

Most Popular to Least Popular (Number of Responses)
Children’s Play Area (23)
Open Lawn Area (20)
Gathering and Seating Zone (15)
Outdoor Fitness (13)
Community Garden (12)
Natural Areas (12)
Park Trails (10)
Table Games (10)

Additional feedback was also provided to Parks, Forestry and Environment by residents through 311-related Service Requests. Feedback included a reconfiguration of the Concept Plan with an emphasis on a centrally-located gathering area for the community, the addition of beautification and pollinator gardens and the addition of a soccer facility.

Recommendations and Next Steps

Based on the results of Public Engagement, the Concept Plan and Preliminary Program are recommended to be revised to emphasize the facilities, amenities and features that were highly favored by respondents through the survey, in-person and online feedback.

Feedback from respondents illustrates the presence of various interests in Bert Fleming Park for active, communal and passive experiences. The Concept Plan will balance the various interests of residents and prioritize passive experiences related to natural areas, park trails and open lawn areas, active experiences such as the children’s play area and communal experiences such as the seating and gathering zone. Refer to Table 3 for recommended revisions.

Table 3. Recommended Revisions to Concept Plan

Features to Remove	The community garden, table games and dedicated outdoor fitness are proposed to be removed due to their moderate level of support during public engagement, the availability of similar amenities in nearby parks and/or the opportunity to explore alternative locations.
Features to Add	A new secondary gathering and seating area along with a distance-marked walking loop around the perimeter of the park is proposed to be added. The distance-marked walking loop will replace the previously proposed outdoor fitness area as an active recreation amenity in this park in response to feedback.
Features to Refine	Additional delineation and maintenance of natural areas will continue to be refined. Potential enhancements include the addition of fencing, interpretive signage and management of select types of vegetation to improve the experience for residents while maintaining the natural areas' intended ecological function.

Consideration may also be given to the incorporation of select requested facilities, amenities and features such as park trail lighting on the central park trail, additional play elements and shade elements that were requested through Public Engagement. Facilities such as a playground, leash-free zone, spray pad and sports courts and fields are not recommended to be incorporated due to spatial requirements and site constraints. Additionally, select facilities identified above are planned or provided in surrounding parks in the Erindale Neighbourhood already such as Ron Lenyk Springfield Park and Woodland Park which meets the provisioning strategies under Parks, Forestry and Environment 2024 Future Directions Plan (Future Directions). Lastly, Parks, Forestry and Environment will evaluate and address requests and feedback regarding safety, compatibility with adjacent land uses including The Credit Woodlands, access, waste management and maintenance of open lawn and natural areas. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles will be applied to ensure Bert Fleming Park is designed to be a safe environment.

The feedback received through Public Engagement will be used to refine the Concept Plan for Bert Fleming Park. Subject to a review of feasibility, capital budget and alignment with Future Directions, a revised Concept Plan will be developed and shared with residents in Fall 2026 for future feedback through Public Engagement.