

The following information is a complete summary of the feedback collected online and by email for the first phase of public engagement for the new park at 1600 Eastern.



55
 Completed
 Online Surveys

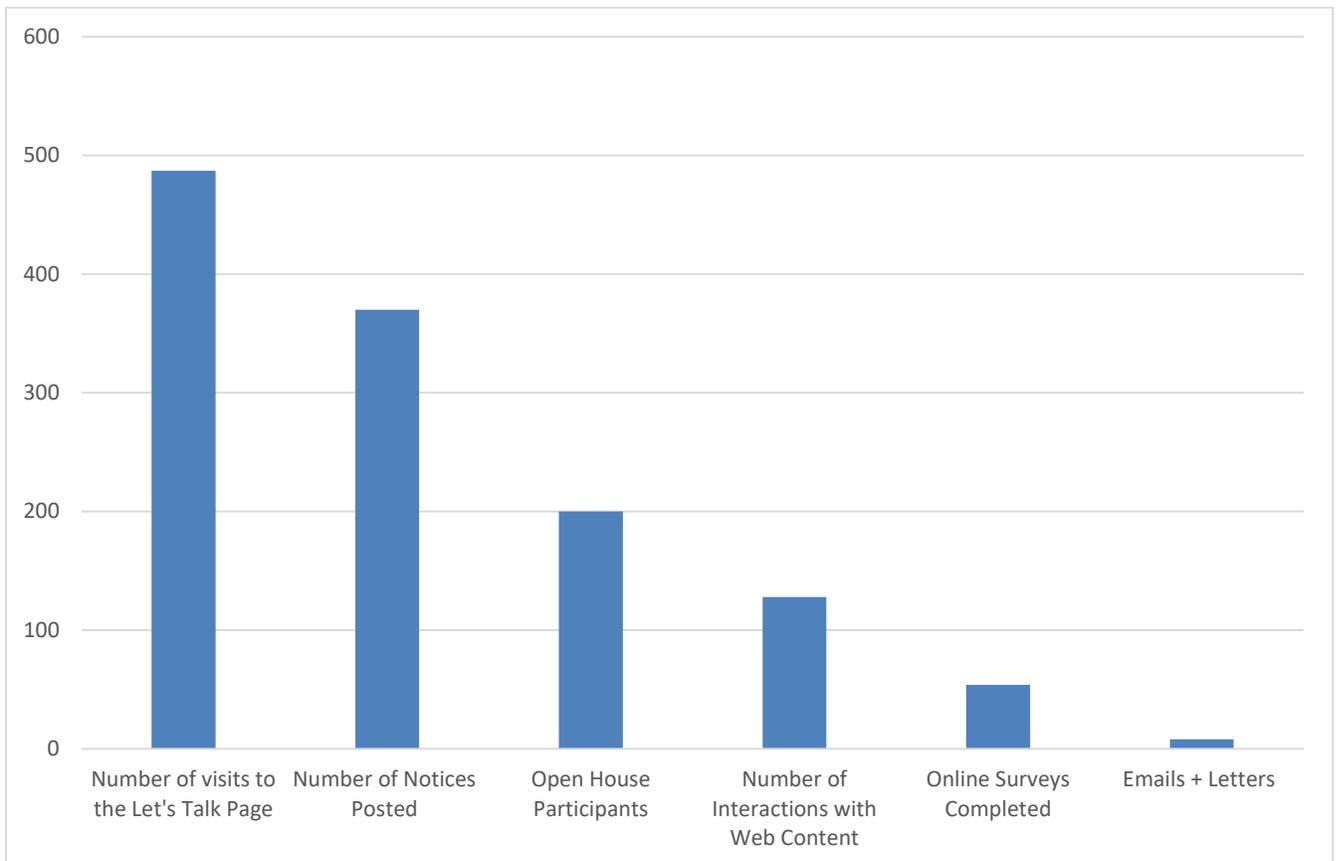


200+
 Visited the plaza from
 Sept 28th - Oct 2nd

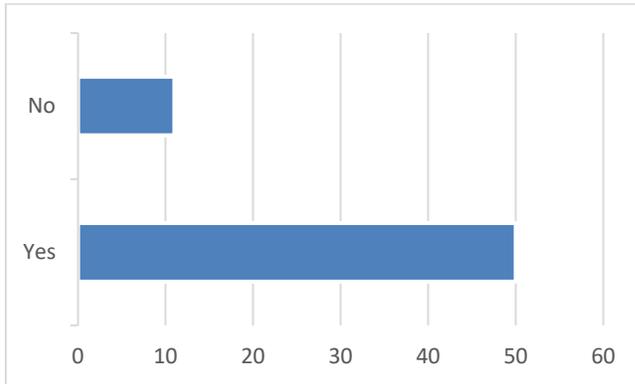


487
 Visits to the
 Let's Talk Page

1. Summary of first phase of engagement:

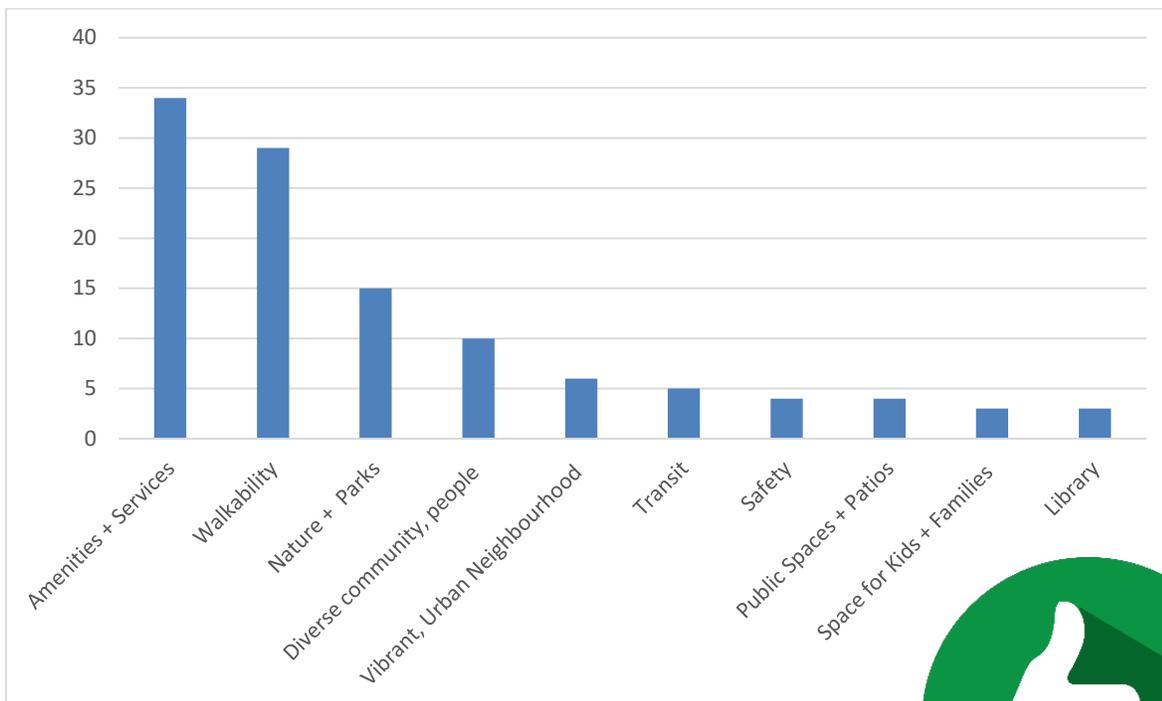


2. Do you live in Central Lonsdale?

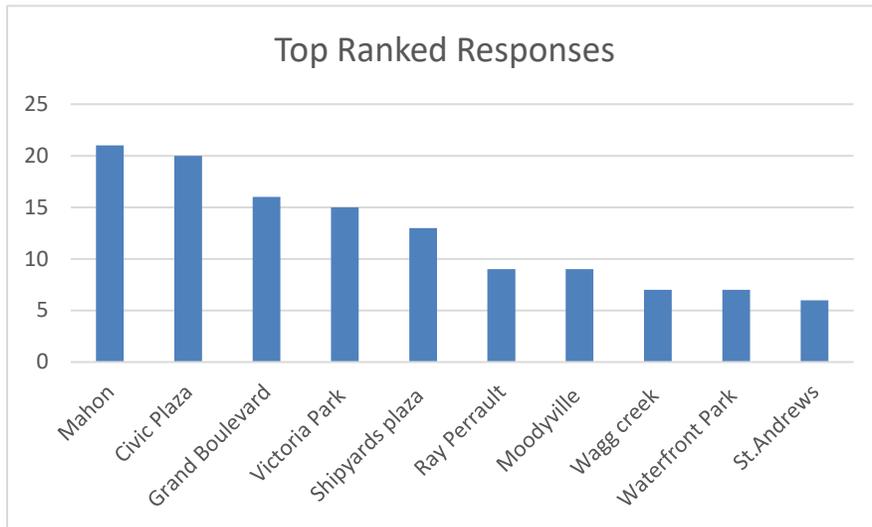


82% of respondents live or work in Central Lonsdale

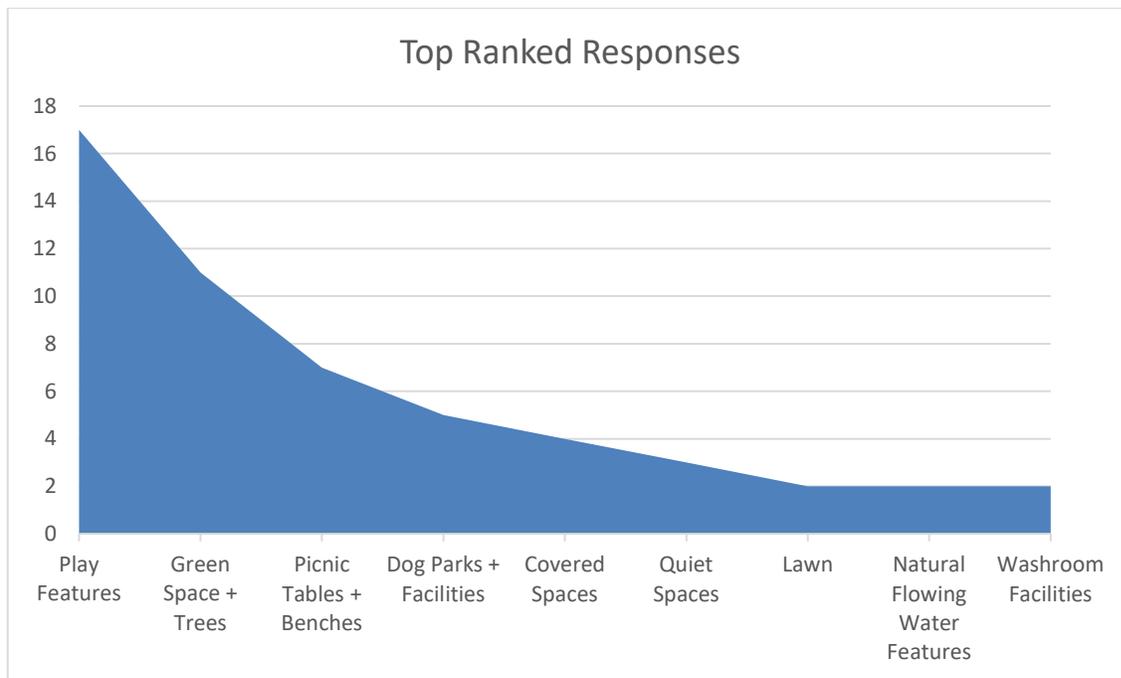
4. What do you like best about the Central Lonsdale Neighbourhood?



5. What parks or plazas do you typically visit in the City?



6. What do you think is missing from the existing parks and public spaces in Central Lonsdale?

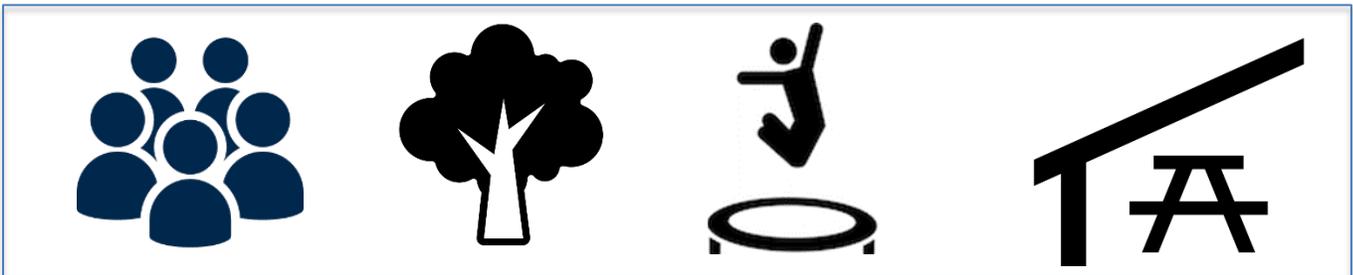


Other Comments: Police presence, public art/murals, place for frisbee/badminton, a park, pump track, exercise equipment for seniors, garbage cans, skate park with a half pipe/bowl/roof/lighting, places to play games (chess, scrabble), community gardens, lighting, kids bike ride options/dirt jumps, water bottle filling stations.

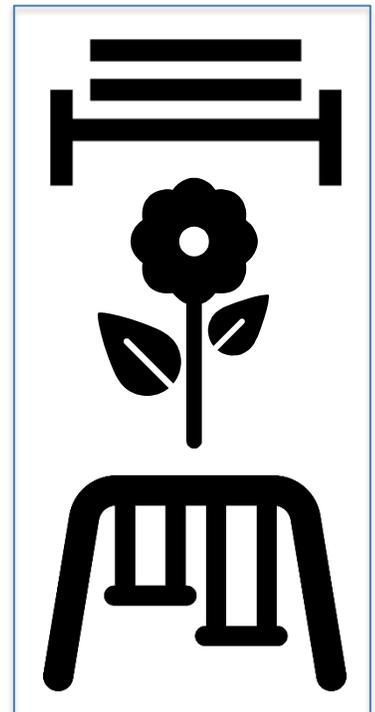
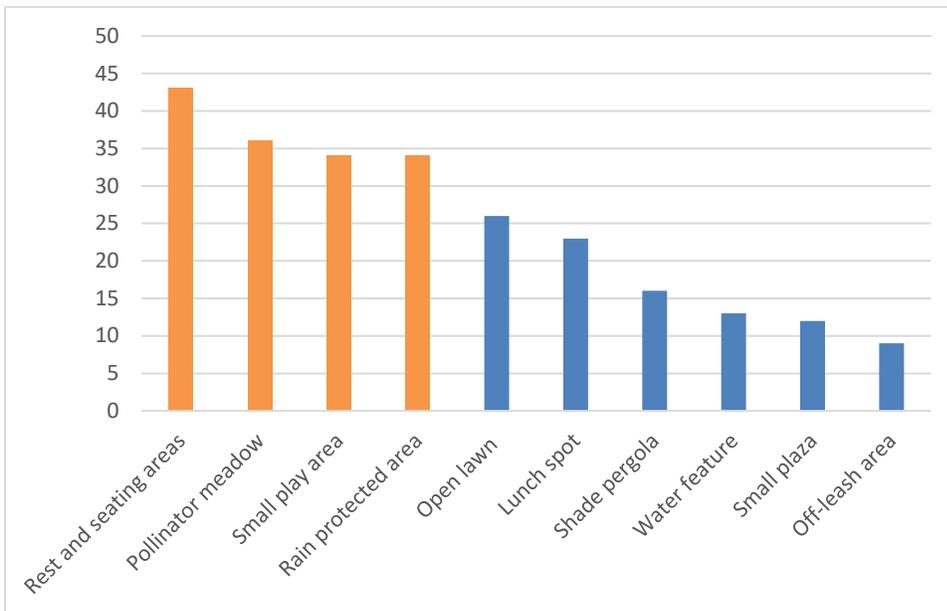
7. Which design principles best reflect your vision for the park?

Rank 1 = Most, Rank 6 = Least

Options	Avg. Rank
Create a place which is inviting and inclusive to many	3.06
Provide an oasis of calm, a retreat within a hectic urban landscape	3.17
Delight children with features which directly appeal to them	3.26
Create an outdoor living room which supports all season outdoor living	3.26
Reflect the energy and vitality of Central Lonsdale	4.09
Celebrate the qualities of Central Lonsdale	4.17



8. What activities should we include?



9. What other ideas do you have for the park?

Play Features:



- Zip line, bike pump track, trampoline.
- The City of Nanaimo recently installed a really great kids area in their Waterfront Park. It looked like they used recycled plastics for some of the flooring, etc.
- Natural play for kids (rocks, logs etc.)
- Perimeter of the park as a narrow gravel path for small kids to ride their bikes in a safe off street spot.
- The vast majority of Central Lonsdale children are living in multi family housing with limited or no outdoor open space. Children should be the focus with space for others.
- Also, please make it so that this is an area that adults will enjoy -- not necessarily young children. There are enough places for kids around here, and not every adult enjoys having kids around when we're trying to have some peace and quiet.
- Perhaps 16th St is the best location for a larger children's play area? With two new parks being so close, they should complement one another.
- In ground trampoline!
- Zip line like Moodyville.
- A greenspace for both children and adults to co-mingle
- Prefer focus is not on child play features as there are other larger parks for that nearby.
- Dirt jumps
- Natural playground equipment. Similar to what is in Moodyville playground is wonderful
- Space (UFO or astronaut) themed playground with subtle nods to Expo 86.
- Pumptrack!
- A nice mix of places for kids to play with areas for parents to sit and watch and interact with each other.
- St Andrew's Park is a similar size. It is a great precedent.
- Noise-reducing features ESPECIALLY if you're (HOPEFULLY NOT) planning on making this a space that will attract young kids: there are MANY residents in the area with balconies facing that area, and the last thing they want is additional noise. This area is known to be a bit a noise corridor due to the geography.
- Since new park will be in very residential area, kids should be welcomed there. A playground will be nice addition to the neighbourhood. There is no need for splashes - Mahon Park is not far and there is a great water area.
- Maybe a spiderweb climbing structure component?
- Playground equipment for 9 - 14 year old kids. Climbing walls, Tarzan swings and pump track like Moody Park.
- Think about opportunities for free, unstructured, imaginative play by kids (give them just enough to use their imagination to do the rest).
- Please fence it as we are in a busy city area. Please also give us equipment for all ages from 1 to 12.
- People who bring preschoolers to parks of that size, will need some where to sit as they watch over the children.
- I actually don't mind hearing kids play, there was a large community of children living in the original housing complex, and it was nice to hear them playing.

Greenspace:



- I would say don't include any paved areas — we have enough impermeable surfaces as it is here — and limit the use of regular lawn grass. Choose clover or bee turf or something resilient and diverse like that. Maybe we have a year-round, covered, well-maintained public piano. Definitely need flowering plants and shrubs. Rain gardens or bioswales.
- I think the new park should feel natural, not manicured, in its design, to mimic nature as much as possible. Think of how its features could enhance wildlife and sequester carbon (pollinator-friendly wildflower meadow, longer and diverse grasses).
- Park should include trees and green spaces, pollinator garden will be fantastic idea!
- Planting trees around the park might be good.
- Trees that help with air quality control and are inviting to birds / wildlife
- Flowers
- Water feature that mimics nature
- Plant trees please!
- There is already a lot of concrete in the Central Lonsdale area. Focus on adding more green to keep this area cool.
- lots of green space so people can picnic
- There are actually a lot of birds and small animals that live in this area so more trees need to be planted as well.
- I would highly request a park related to Nature and Calm. Residents nearby, myself included, have had absolutely enough of noise from construction over the years
- There are already places to walk dogs, places to drink in public, waterparks for kids, lets have a place for calm. Please think about the seniors in the neighbourhood and the nature that frequents the area; birds, racoons, skunks even, that have lost so many trees and greens spaces as of late.

Dogs:



- NO DOGS OFF LEASH, they will wreck the grass with their pee anyway.
- As a park deficient neighbourhood with the most children, this should NOT be a dog park.
- Avoid off-leash park, as the area is not large.
- Probably many small apartment dogs. I suggest a 'small breeds only' dog park (I've seen these done in other places), to both keep the space small and give a safe dedicated space for smaller dogs away from big breeds.
- Looking forward to the park with some fenced dog park as it's certainly needed for residents in the area.
- Having any size possible would be greatly appreciated for our paw friendly family members within short joyful destination to arrive in a highly populated area with new and existing high-rises it's easy, flat accessible walking distance.
- We have many elderly people and with limited mobility or not driving privilege or access to car and ride.

Other Ideas for the Park:

- Highly reconsider an entrance and exit point in the back alley across from the 1605 areas as cars speed up and down this lane way all the time, unless of course you are willing to impose and monitor traffic in this alleyway. Considering the exit point to the parkade from the Anthem development will be in the alleyway I would also deem this to be a safety issue.
- With the need to meet outside these days, I had trouble thinking of an outdoor covered area in CNV with enough space, other than a restaurant patio. So this would be a welcome thing (but don't make it boring!). Vancouver Public Space Network has done lots of work around engaging, rain-friendly public spaces. I'd like to see it feel inviting for people to gather over lunch but not look as formal as your photo example. Picnic tables would be great (I saw some in Grand Blvd Park — great idea!) as they're flexible for a two person lunch or a family picnic or event programming, but work well on turf surfaces.
- Exercise equipment for seniors.
- Nothing to add, only to say how delighted I am to live in a city that truly considers the day to day experience of citizens. We love the public spaces already and are excited at the prospect of more!
- If possible, it would be cool if one or two of the building walls facing this park could have murals. I was surprised to learn how many creeks ran through this area pre-colonial times so it would be interesting to have some kind of historical/nature/cultural feature to educate people on what was here before the City. Consult with Squamish Nation on this too.
- A water fountain please as well. Public art.
- It must be understood what general population lives in this area; I would not like to see a sport where people would gather during the night for drinking, smoking, taking drugs and yelling; there must be some kind of policing 24/7 to ensure security. Location is close to Lonsdale st but far enough and not very well lit during the night so all kinds of shady activities could happen - last night shooting on 17th street just proves that point.
- Open bar, beer or BBQ place. Stage for performing artists.
- The more, the merrier! Keep it up! Thank you for your hard work.
- In a small park, you can't do everything for everyone. Pick the greatest need and do it well. Surrounded by residential, this is not the place for events. Events can happen at the Civic Plaza. This park design should take into account the design for the new park at 16th & St Andrews. Of all the needs, which park best suits those needs.
- In the summer, it could be a space for certain NVRC outdoor classes and activities (yoga comes to mind)
- It will be great to be getting new parks to make this neighbourhood even better.
- Please make it a space conducive to peace and quiet!!! We in the Central Lonsdale area have been so bombarded by constant construction noise during the last 5.5 years.
- Please, also be mindful of the lighting you'll use in these parks, as there are many people (in my building and neighbouring buildings) whose quality of life will be affected if you decide to install strong lighting on this park.
- Trees with fall colours, grassy area for dogs and some benches.
- Water creek; willow tree shelter with benches inside.
- It would be cool to see some educational things happen, like at Grouse Mountain where the staff walk around with an owl (rescued, trained) to chat with people about the importance of protecting habitats, etc.

- Allow occasional small musical or artistic events; Need more lunch spots/meeting places that are off Lonsdale and not venue specific, for those of us who work/live nearby
- Something that creates small spaces to explore and find. Natural privacy divides between areas to make spaces for people to recreate and socialize
- Avoid a plaza with programming, as it's so close to civic plaza. the water feature should be natural (rocks, flowing water) rather than a "fountain." try to improve on-foot access from Lonsdale (alley/path somewhere between 15th and 17th). Ensure adequate lighting, waste/recycling bins, and open sight lines to help the area feel maintained, safe, and inviting at all times.
- This area is too small to encourage anything other than small family/friend gatherings, a place for people of all ages to renew and enjoy. Please do not turn it into a potential group party place or neighbourhood hang-out.
- Tables protected by the elements so that people can take their laptops and work / read outside during hot summer months
- Please place garbage containers where they won't be an eye sore!
- Benches should be designed in such a way that people can lie down and rest
- Lighting should conducive to giving a sense of security, but without being harsh
- Market area
- A community garden would be great. I am concerned if there is too much meeting space or room for events it will only add to the noise. Our back of our building directly faces the space. I think we already have plaza space near the library.
- A park that allows for different uses is great. Lots of seating is key for parents watching kids, and also for people meeting to chat in an outdoor distanced way.
- The Lonsdale Ave is becoming more and more busy and crowded street - this park should be a little quiet oasis, where residents can escape street noise and relax.
- Thanks!
- There are a lot of great fields at the schools, but I would love to see another space with some of the artificial turf similar to St. Andrew's Park and in front of the library.
- My children are teenagers but if they were younger I would definitely think first about a play area similar to the new one in Moodyville - however, where I am in life and where the world is I can't help but think a "supper market" type venue (a place to eat and gather outdoors safely) maybe to eventually include food trucks etc would be amazing!
- Let's have more grass, gardens, trees and playgrounds in the new park, with shade for sitting, resting, picnicking, watching kids play etc.
- I request that there are no bright lights installed as this would be directly shining into my living room. I hope that since this is about to be a city park that the city will actually monitor this park and deal with any issues that may arise for we, the neighbours that are already living here.
- I do have concerns what happens afterhours in the night. Many parks turn into hang out zones and therefore noise levels increase. With the recent shooting incident just up our street I certainly hope the city thinks this through and will again think about safety and security and close monitoring in the neighbourhood.
- I believe that Crickmay Park, next to Harry Jerome, is an excellent example of a very small park. It has mature trees and shrubs, annuals, benches, paths and a children's play area, with equipment. I hope you will consider something similar for the new park on Eastern. Perhaps a picnic table could also be included.

- The time, care and money spent on creating this park are exceptionally important, given the huge structure which has been built beside it. It offers the opportunity for a small, urban oasis where everyone will find something to enjoy.
- I'd suggest 50% permeable pavement plaza with trees (Central Lonsdale feels very 'concrete' compared to the rest of the city) and 50% grass.
- It would be nice to see that area made available to all, with several benches and even some picnic tables. There are so many people of all ages living on the north side of the many multiple dwellings, who now will be able to enjoy direct sunshine. It would be a perfect opportunity for all ages to meet and chat, read or just relax in the sunshine.
- Metal, all-weather skateboard-impossible, permanent benches (many of them), would be a wonderful idea!

Comments from Question #5

Reasons for park visits:

Nature:

- I love this urban forest (Wagg Creek), the duck pond and the stream running through it. You can find small sanctuaries here and there's room for free play, quiet to read, and berries to eat. I love the semi-wilderness feel of Greenwood Park.
- Crickmay Park is a total gem, like a mini van Dusen, with different plants blooming every time you visit. It's small but the various little paths offer exploration. The big trees are beautiful and precious. I love that there are close spaces here in which to pretend to get lost, and feel a connection with the plants around you.
- Even though they are in the City it makes you feel like you are not. They are quiet spaces to enjoy nature.
- To feel closer to nature, to get a sense of peace.
- Solitude, quiet.
- The water feature induces a sense of peace. A little oasis.

A place to play:

- We have mostly gone to St. Andrew's Park for the past 4 years due to their great sandboxes, but he is starting to outgrow it. Now we ride bikes to Ray Perrault or Mahon parks as they offer a better playground experience, water, and more open space. We will also drive to the new Moodyville park for the pump track, trampoline, big slide, and fun stuff to climb on, but it is too far for him to ride a bike to for now.
- Sometimes we play frisbee, relax or swing in Ray Perrault Park.
- Love having swings and slides.
- Activities for kids.
- Enclosed play area.
- Waterplay

Social gathering:

- I love the conviviality of the Civic Plaza (thanks for making it smoke-free, yay!) — and miss the piano this year.
- We like to get take out and go to Victoria Park for a bit of a picnic.

- Victoria – Meet friends for socially distance coffee.
- West side of Victoria Park where you can have a glass of wine and watch the sun go down.
- To have a drink in the open, use free wifi, and socialize with all my friends and neighbours.
- Walking, biking, exercise, hiking, skateboarding, golfing/pitch and put
- Victoria Park as a central gathering spot to meet with others (the relaxed alcohol restrictions were a great boon to socializing this summer
- To watch people and eat.
- See people meeting and relaxing.

Proximity:

- Mahon, City Plaza, they are within walking distance from where I live.
- Close to where I live

Amenities:

- Seating options/benches
- Waste receptacles
- some covered areas
- public restroom

Activities:

- Relaxing, dog walking, views, generally getting out of the house.
- Cycling
- Skateboarding, essential for my sense of well-being.

Other:

- Safety
- Space to spread out and kids to run.
- Place to hang out on the grass and catch some sun
- Scenery, views
- It's quiet, not a lot of people

Other parks/plazas mentioned:

Queen Mary's/School Playgrounds, Sidewalk Patios/Parklets on Lonsdale, Crickmay/Harry Jerome, Greenwood, Kingsmill Walk, Fen Burdette, Rey Sargent, Lonsdale Skate Park, Stella Jo Dean Plaza, Sam Walker, Rodger Burnes Green, Parklet at 14th and St.Andrews, Mackay, Emerald/Hamersley, Loutet, Mosquito Creek.