Park Recreation Shelters: What We Heard Report

MARCH 2022 | ENGINEERING, PARKS & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Engagement Snapshot

- 277 survey responses received
- 20 emails received
- 85 visits to City of NV webpage
- 2 e-Newsletters
- 4 on-site signs
- 4 posts each on Facebook, Twitter, 1 Instagram post, 35,000 people reached
- 45 comments received from social media
- 620 visits to Let’s Talk CNV
- 1 earned media piece
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1.0 Introduction & Overview

The City of North Vancouver will be installing multi-purpose park shelters in two parks (one shelter per park) with the intention of exploring more options in the future.

In the spring of 2021, we reached out to the community to seek their input on four selected parks: Heywood Park, Loutet Park, Ray Perrault Park, and Victoria Park West. These four park candidates were selected using criteria such as:

- permanent washrooms (existing or planned)
- Proximity to a bike route
- Access to parking (street or lot)
- Available flat, open areas suitable for the installation of a park structure on a concrete pad.

Project Timeline

**Phase 1 - June 2021**
Introduce project to the community and gather input on proposed park shelter locations.

**Phase 2 - Spring 2022**
Present what we heard in Phase 1, including the final decision for park shelter locations.

**Phase 3 - Fall/Winter 2022**
Installation of park shelters begins.
2.0 Community Engagement: June - July 2021

2.1 Purpose

Our goal for this phase of engagement was to gather community input on the proposed locations as potential candidates for park recreation shelters.

2.2 What We Asked

The City asked for feedback on the following topics:

1. Level of community support for the proposed locations.
2. Level of community support for proposed activities and features associated with park recreation shelters.

2.3 How We Encouraged Participation

A communications and engagement plan was developed to ensure public awareness of the project, timeline, and opportunities for input. The plan reflected the approved scope of this project phase and meeting met COVID-19 public health guidelines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Platform</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of North Vancouver website</td>
<td>Webpage launched on June 14, 2021.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E- Newsletters</td>
<td>Sent June 18, 2021, and July 1, 2021.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Media</td>
<td>A social media campaign notifying the public of the engagement opportunity included:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Four Facebook and Twitter posts on June 14, 19, 23, and 30, 2021.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. One Instagram post on June 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholder notice</td>
<td>Sent to North Vancouver Recreation Commission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-site signage</td>
<td>Installed four signs in Loutet Park, Heywood Park, Ray Perrault Park and Victoria Park providing project information and ways to give input.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engagement webpage</td>
<td>Launched a Let’s Talk project page on June 14, 2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earned media</td>
<td>Coverage in one unique news source.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.0 What We Heard

A total of 277 survey responses were received. Please note:

1. Each survey question provided an opportunity for comments, in addition to an open-ended question at the end of the online survey.
2. Not all respondents answered every question, as some questions were optional.
3. Some respondents may have repeated similar comment themes in each open-ended question.
4. The views represented in the survey results reflect the priorities and concerns of the respondents. They may not be representative of the overall view of the public and other stakeholders because respondents elected to take the survey, and therefore do not reflect a random sample.
5. The City of North Vancouver has read and will consider all feedback.

3.1 Online Survey: Quantitative results

Question 1. Please rank the park options in order from your favourite location (#1) to your least favourite location (#4).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPTIONS</th>
<th>AVG. RANK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ray Perrault Park</td>
<td>2.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Park West</td>
<td>2.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loutet Park</td>
<td>2.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heywood Park</td>
<td>2.74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Question 2.** Which park option is your favourite?

**Question options**
- **Heywood Park**
- **Loutet Park**
- **Ray Perrault Park**
- **Victoria Park West**
**Question 3 (optional).** Which of the following activities would you enjoy in the park shelters? Check as many as applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Picnics &amp; Barbeques</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>91.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercise Classes (e.g. yoga, tai chi, etc.)</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>50.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Classes (e.g. landscape painting)</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>38.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birthday Parties</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>69.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live Music</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>64.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**“Other” examples of activities**

- A place for groups to meet ups to stay dry, for example: school, work, friend, families, coffee & book clubs, Boy Scouts/Girl Guides etc., sports teams, fundraisers, on leash dog friendly area, farmers markets
- A place for education: First Nations knowledge sharing, local schools, library story times, children’s music
- A flexible space: to write, dance, skateboard, play, meet, connect, stay dry, out of sunshine
- Not: live music, a permanent structure
**Question 4 (optional).** Which of the following features would you enjoy in the park shelters? Check as many as applicable.

![Bar chart showing the distribution of responses for park shelter features.]

- **Garbage / recycling**: 183 (68.8%)
- **Access to drinking water**: 208 (78.2%)
- **Picnic tables**: 244 (91.7%)
- **Other (please specify)**: 49 (18.4%)

**“Other” examples of features**

- Garbage / recycling
- Permanent washrooms
- A place to wash your hands
- Flexible seating - not just static picnic tables
- Compost / dog waste / butt disposal bins
- Bike racks
- Exercise equipment
- Skateboard park
- Storage
- Device charging
- Wind break
- Ability to book / reserve the shelters
- Subtle lighting
- Heat lamps / fire pits

**3.2 Online Survey: Qualitative results**

Comments related to park shelters are summarized by themes and in order of most mentioned in the following lists. All of these questions were optional.

**Question 1 (optional).** Why is Heywood Park your favourite option?
1. Family / children friendly
2. Natural elements
3. Close proximity to their residence
4. Existing playground (s), washrooms and ease / availability of parking

**Question 2 (optional).** Why is Loutet Park your favourite location option?

1. Large open spaces
2. Proximity / programming of urban farm
3. Close proximity to their residence
4. Lots of existing park amenities including washrooms
5. Surrounding trail network

**Question 3 (optional).** Why is Ray Perrault Park your favourite location option?

1. Large open spaces
2. Central, accessible location in the City
3. Existing park amenities including the existing playground (s) that are family / children friendly
4. Existing park amenities including the washrooms

**Question 4 (optional).** Why is Victoria Park West your favourite location option?

1. Central location in the City
2. Close proximity to their residence
3. The overall popularity / use of park
4. Provides outdoor space to residences that may not have access to outdoor space
5. Accessibility + Access to transit

**Question 5 (optional).** Please share any final thoughts, questions, or concerns about the proposed park shelter locations.

1. Opposed to proposed location of Victoria Park West
2. Concerns over waste management
3. Concerns over washroom facilities (or lack of permanent ones)
4. Positive about the addition of shelter from rain
5. Concerns over reserving the shelters
6. Noise concerns that may be associated with the shelters
4.0 Correspondence

The following are a summary of key themes from the emails received by Council and the Parks Team during the engagement period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme (21 pieces of correspondence)</th>
<th># of Mentions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Park West – clearly opposed to proposed location (email)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noise concerns</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Park West – clearly in support of proposed location (email)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loutet Park – clearly in support of proposed location (email and phone)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washroom facility concerns</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loutet Park – clearly opposed to the proposed location (email)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ray Perrault Park – clearly opposed to the proposed location (phone)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste management concerns</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Booking and permit concerns (email and phone)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For More Information & Next Steps

Together with further site analyses, the City will use the feedback received to guide their decision of two of the park parks candidates to house park shelters within the current context. In spring 2022 we will present the final decisions for the park shelter locations, and construction is scheduled to begin in fall/winter 2022.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit the project webpage at letstalk.cnv.org/park-rec-shelters
- Contact the Parks Team at eng@cnv.org or 604-983-7333

Thank you to everyone who participated in this engagement on the Park Recreation Shelter project. Your input and feedback is important and will be considered in the park selection process.