



City of
Courtenay

ZOOM Window Space

Woodcote Park Playground Replacement Project

What We Heard Report &
Preferred Concept Plan

Presented by: Recreation, Culture, and
Community Services
May 21, 2025 Council Meeting



Woodcote Park Playground Replacement Project

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- 30 year old playground at end of useful life
- 1st Community Park to be designed with the *Let's Play, Courtenay!* Park Playground Design Standards (PPDS)
- 3 community interest group meetings
- Online survey with two concept designs



Timeline

- ✓ **Develop two concept plans**
March 2025
- ✓ **Public survey and release of two concept plans**
April 2025
- ☆ **Preferred concept design**
May 2025
- ☆ **Present briefing note to Council - What We Heard Report**
End of May 2025 **We are here**
- ☆ **Playground detail design**
June 2025 - July 2025
- ☆ **Construction**
August 2025-September 2025
- ☆ **Opening ceremony**
Fall 2025

Woodcote Park Playground Replacement Project

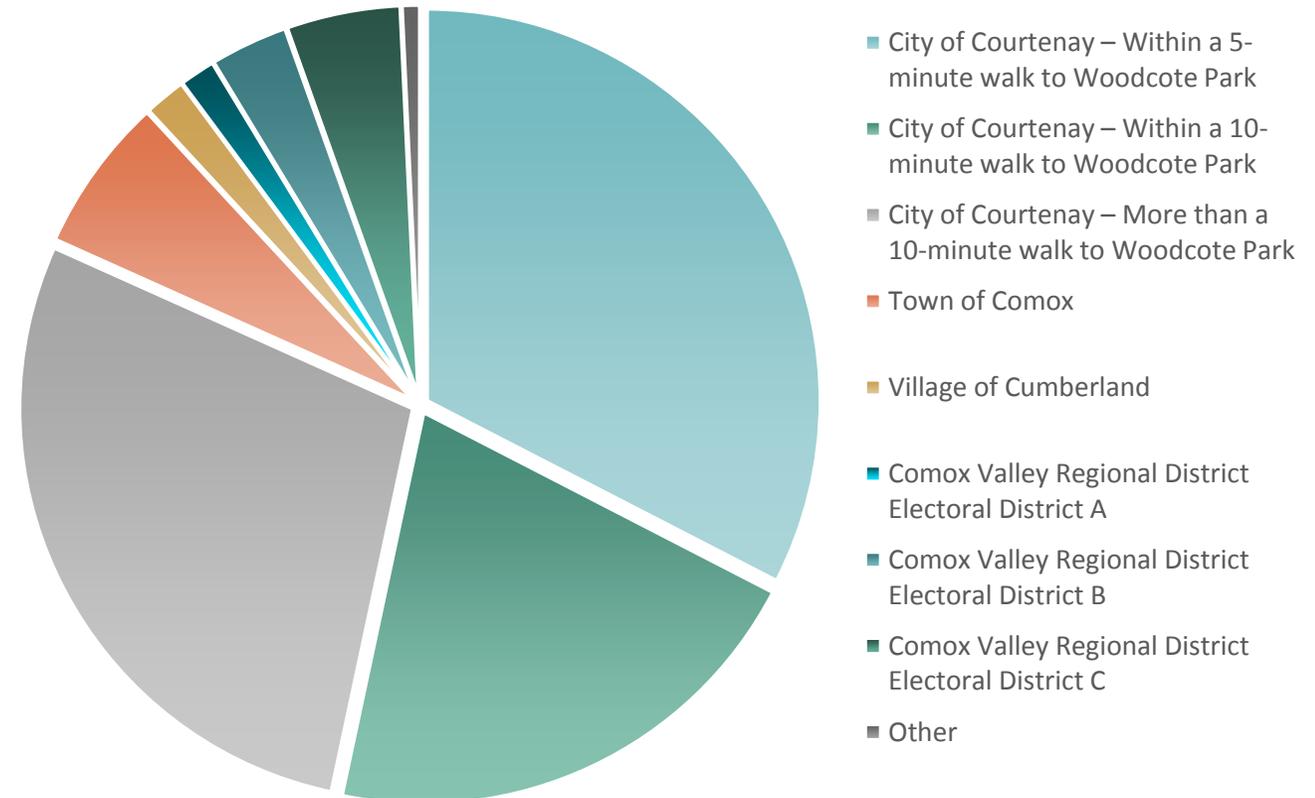
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What We Heard

409 Survey Respondents

- 82% live in the City of Courtenay
- 75% were 18 and older
- 25% were 17 years old or younger
- 62% indicated they were a parent or caretaker of a child under 12

Where do you live?

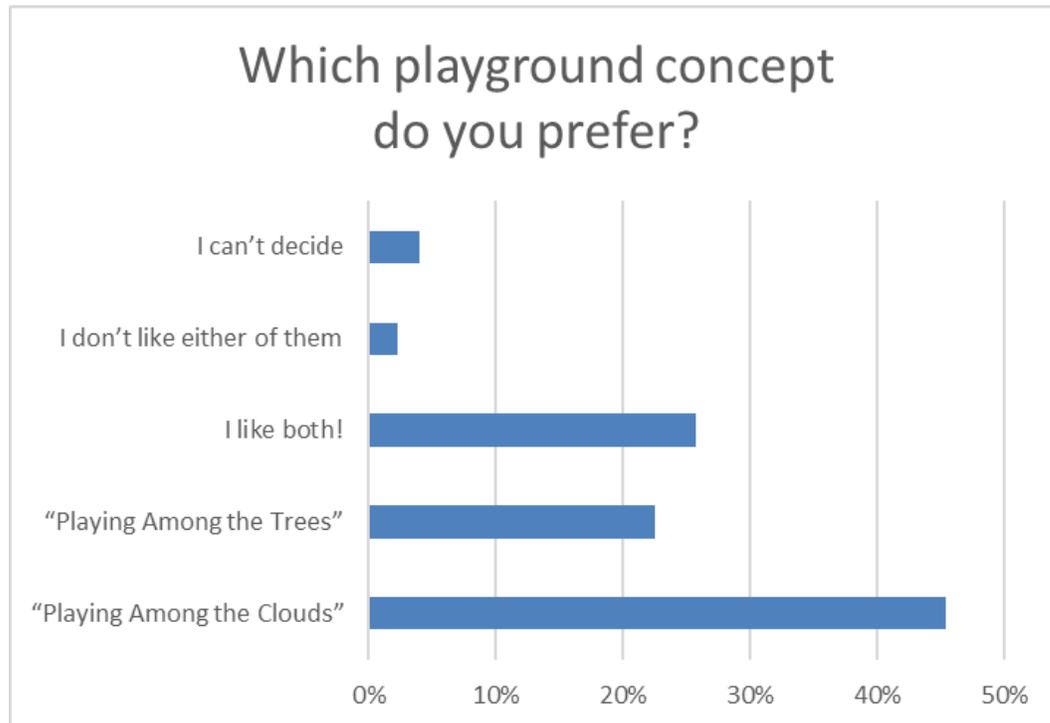


Woodcote Park Playground Replacement Project

What We Heard

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Survey
Comments



- “Playing Among the Clouds” is the preferred option
- Suggestions to combine the natural elements in Option 2 with inclusion and accessibility elements in Option 1.
- Concern with visibility and safety near exits and adjacent roads.
- Concerns with safety and cleanliness of sand
- Importance of multi-generational spaces, accessible pathways, seating, shade, picnic areas and water play.
- Safe play areas for young children and neurodivergent children.

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What We Heard



Community
Interest
Groups
Feedback

- Natural wood elements, sensory items, and Indigenous language and artwork.
- Prioritize all rubber surfacing to remove barriers from wood chip overflow.
- Consider more basketball hoops – encourage play for older children.
- Current playground currently under utilized due to poor condition
- Inclusive design: multi-level play and self-directed play

Woodcote Park Playground Replacement Project

Preferred Concept Plan

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- Concept 1- Playing Among the Clouds
- Inclusive play equipment accessible from the ground, chin up/monkey bar, net swing, nature-based sensory items, and expanded resilient rubber surfacing.
- Smaller sand play area, informal seating, and new water play runnel.
- Inclusive design: multi-level play and self directed play
- Basketball court improvements and pavilion/shelter for future consideration.

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Next Steps

- Detailed design to inform updated costing.
- Continued discussion with community partners for potential funding.
- Final design will be confirmed with minor changes to ensure project stays within budget.
- If significant changes are required due to budget, staff will return to Council for direction.

Woodcote Park Playground Replacement Project

Recommendation

THAT Council receive the “Woodcote Park Playground Replacement and What We Heard Report” staff report; and

THAT Council endorse the Preferred Concept Plan (Attachment 4), with minor changes to be approved by staff as required.