

What We Heard Report

Redpoll Park



WHAT WE HEARD REPORT

Background Information

Redpoll Park is a new 0.63ha neighbourhood park in Riverside. The park was added to the area structure plan (ASP) after the Riverside Park Master Plan was completed and therefore no concept plan and no public engagement had been completed on this park prior to this engagement. The Riverside neighbourhood is expected to have 10,313 residents once fully built out, anticipated in 2035. Redpoll Park is currently within a developing area next to Redpoll Wynd and Rosa Street. The park is planned to be surrounded by low density residential on three side. The park is also facing the street on 2 sides.(see Figure 1).



Figure 1: Redpoll Park Location and Context

Purpose of Engagement

The purpose of public engagement for Redpoll Park is to gather information to help determine park-related amenities for the future site while considering City-wide needs, community identity, financial feasibility and existing City standards, policies and levels of services.

Engagement Objectives

- To hear from Riverside residents and the public.
- To understand what program gaps exist within their neighbourhood.
- To understand what needs and desires are for park amenities in Redpoll Park.

Engagement Activities

Public engagement activities for Redpoll Park were completed between February 12, 2026 and March 2, 2026 (Table 1). Information about the project was hosted on the City's Cultivate the Conversation (CtC) website, which can be found at [Redpoll Park | Cultivate the Conversation](#)

Phase	Milestone	Date	Engagement Method
Project Launch	Project announcement	February 12, 2026	Website, social media, resident letters, temporary neighbourhood signage
Engagement	Online survey launch	February 12 – March 2, 2026	Online (Cultivate the Conversation)
	Pop Up – Fire and Ice Festival	February 16, 2026	In person
	Virtual Town Hall	February 24, 2026	Online – (Microsoft Teams)

Table 1 Engagement Opportunities

Participation Summary

The City would like to thank everyone who participated and provided their feedback on the Redpoll Park project. Social media was used to communicate the engagement opportunities along with direct mailouts to residents south of McKenney Ave and west of Raven Place along with temporary signage in three current Riverside parks. Over 13,000 impressions were made on City Facebook accounts and over 1300 reaches over Instagram. Sponsored posts on social media were used to promote the engagement opportunities and through these ads, over 15,500 people were reached and over 1200 people visited the CtC webpage.

Online Surveys

- 55 surveys were completed
 - 78% of respondents are Riverside residents, 18% live in other St. Albert neighbourhoods and 4% preferred not to say.
 - 78% of respondents are between the ages of 25-44, with 15% between the ages of 45 to 64.

Pop Up Event

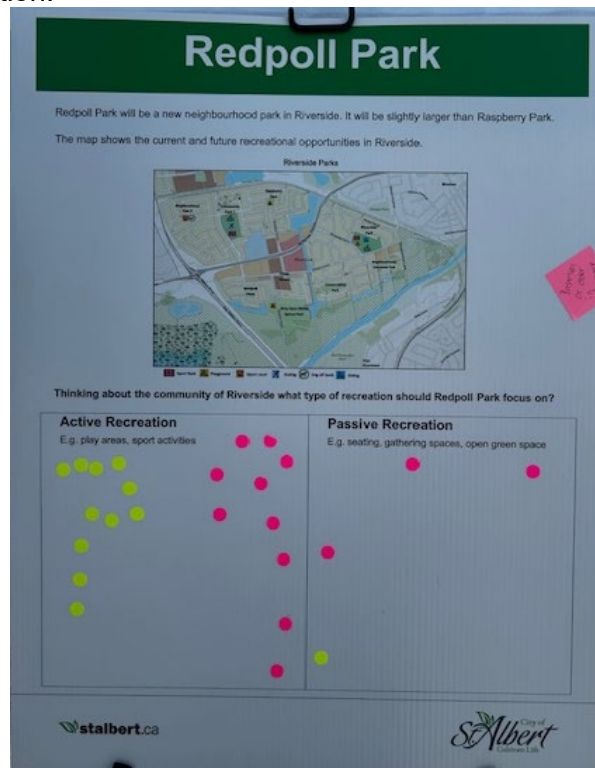
- It was estimated that 350 people visited the engagement booth at the Fire and Ice Festival.
 - 80 people chose to participate in the Redpoll Park engagement boards with 37 of them being Riverside residents.

Virtual Town Hall

- Three people registered for the town hall, however no one attended.

Summary of Feedback

The first question that was asked of participants was: What type of recreation should Redpoll Park focus on, either mostly active recreation (e.g. play area, sport activities) or mostly passive recreation (e.g. seating areas, nature-focused areas)? Combining the participation from the pop-ups and the survey 73% of the people chose mostly active recreation and 27% chose mostly passive recreation.



Those who participated in the survey were asked who in their household would use Redpoll Park. Figure 2 shows the results, with 30 respondents indicating adults age 18-54 (pink), 29 respondents for children age 5-12 (yellow) and 21 respondents indicating toddlers under the age of 5 (green).

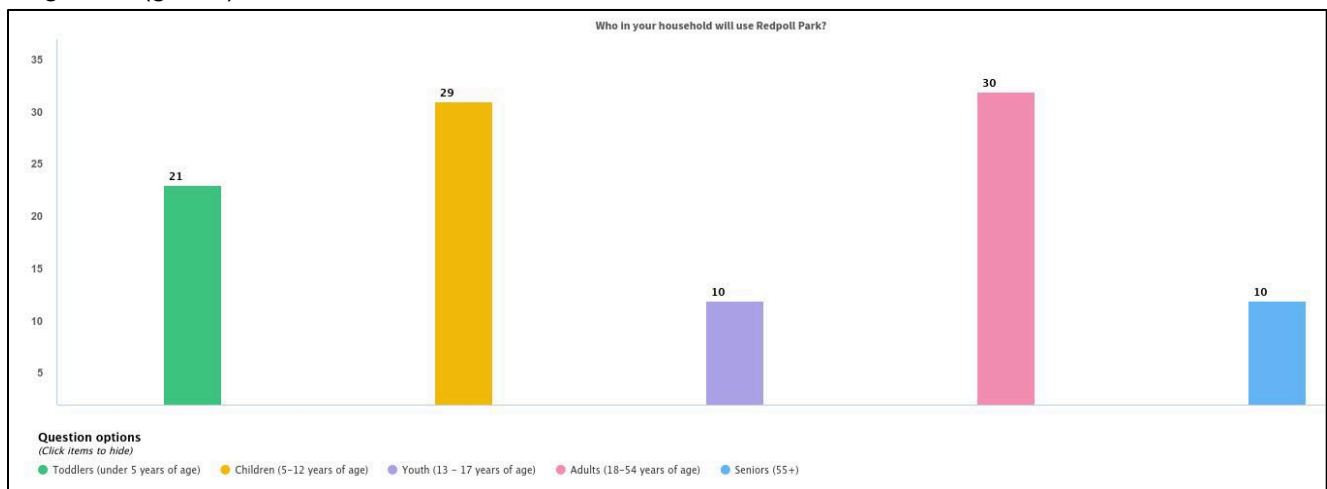


Figure 2: Who would use Redpoll Park

The survey showed a map of the amenities in current and future park spaces in Riverside and asked participants what two activities they think Redpoll Park should focus on. Figure 3 shows the results with child-focused activities with 33 responses, community gathering spaces with 23 responses and larger open space for spontaneous play at 22 responses.

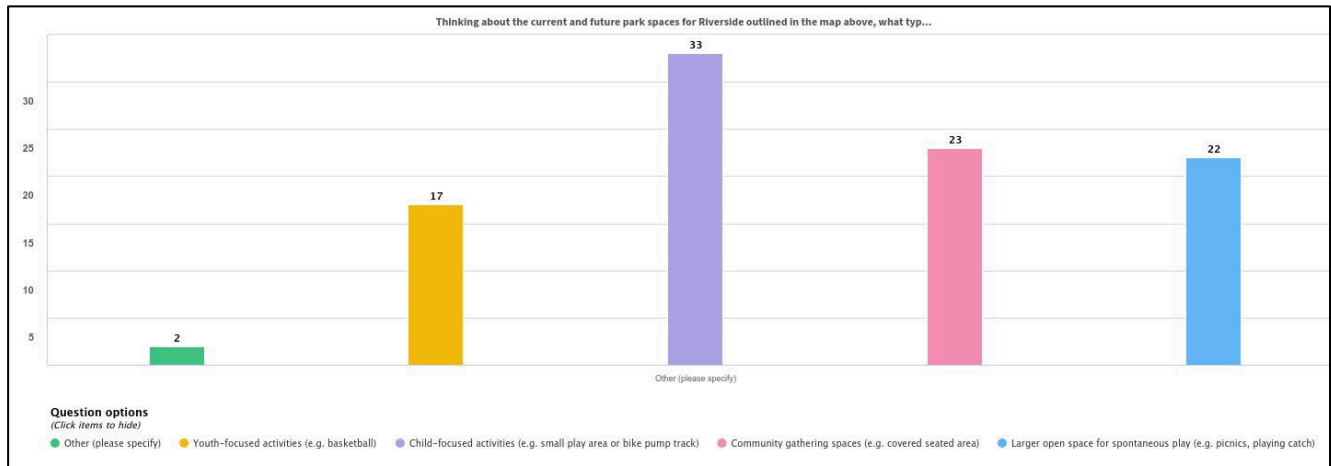


Figure 3: Type of activities to focus on

Four different park concepts were presented and participants were asked to rank them from their most preferred to the least preferred. The options in order of preferred ranking were:

- Play – specialized play area, basketball court, seated gathering spot, and large open space for spontaneous play.
- Active – bicycle pump track, basketball court, and some open space for spontaneous play.
- Calm – large open space for spontaneous play and large covered seated area.
- Blank – I prefer something other than what was presented.

Table 2 outlines the major themes of why the participants chose their top preference.

Theme	What We Heard	Sample Quotes
Spontaneous Play	Participants emphasized the need for space to play a variety of activities for all ages.	"Spontaneous play options allows creative play scenarios at all ages."
Kid focused	Many children live in the neighbourhood that need active outdoor spaces.	"Lots of kids in Riverside, need an active play area to accommodate sport/play"
Bikability of neighbourhood	A pump track would be attractive to many as they currently ride through the neighbourhood.	"High concentration of bicycle use throughout neighbourhood – supports activity for widest range of ages"
Active	Residents need to stay active so providing active amenities is ideal	"Basketball hoop and bike track are great addition for our neighbourhood to support active play for older kids/teens"

		“Lots of kids in Riverside, need an active play area to accommodate sport/play”.
Multiple age groups	Important to focus on elements that support multiple age groups	“...focus on all different age groups and encourage people to stay...”
New and unique	Provide amenities that the neighbourhood doesn't have yet.	“We don't currently have basketball and bike track nearby.” “Something unique for a playground”. “There's already “calm” areas right there in White Spruce”
Quiet space	Residents are looking for quiet spaces as the park is near residential houses. The park is intended for neighbourhood residents and shouldn't bring in people from all over the community or the city. Large gatherings should not be encouraged.	“There will be a future school in Riverside that will be better suited for a park for children to play. This one is quite small and should be a calm atmosphere” “Do not want to have noise or attract teenage crowds with a pump track. Small space to have small gatherings spots preferred.”

Table 2 Design themes

In the Play Concept for the park, a specialized play area was featured. Survey respondents were asked if they would support a specialized play area, defined as a play area that focuses on one or two play elements and provides a different opportunity than a traditional playground. 75% of the respondents said they would support a specialized play area and 25% said they would not support it.

Participants were asked to provide any additional design considerations, elements or choices that the project team should consider. Table 3 summarizes the key themes for the responses.

Theme	What We Heard	Sample Quotes
Benches and seating	Residents value benches and seated areas. This amenity can provide surveillance over children playing or create quiet spaces for gathering.	“Is it possible to have more tables or multiple covered areas” “It is important to add benches for seniors and people with disabilities in whatever design is chosen. Being able to watch children and teens playing contributes to our quality of life.”

		<p>“More benches near the pump track/court and at key nodes; add a shaded picnic spot so families can stay longer.”</p>
No sand	<p>If a play space is selected, the community prefers options other than sand for play surfacing.</p>	<p>“Please do not use sand if you build a playground, the adults and kids enjoy it less, it’s a total mess, and dangerous (less able to identify hazards, clean up broken glass, etc.).” “Also, NO more sand-please use wood chips or rubber”.</p>
Shade	<p>Shelter from the elements, in particular the sun, is desired by residents. This shelter can be man-made or provided by tree canopy.</p>	<p>“Please take into consideration shade spots”. “Whether they be man made spots to hide from the sun or more tree’d areas to provide shade”.</p>
Trees	<p>Residents value trees in the park spaces and would like to see more in Redpoll Park.</p>	<p>“The more trees the better!” “Lots of walkways, trees, bushes and grass”.</p>
Spray park	<p>Residents have a desire to have a spray park in this neighbourhood.</p>	<p>“A spray park would be amazing in this area,” “It would also be great if we could have some sort of splash park.”</p>
Noise levels	<p>Residents backing onto the park are concerned about the noise some amenities could bring to the neighbourhood.</p>	<p>“There will be a future school in riverside that will be better suited for a park for children to play. This one is quite small and should be a calm atmosphere”. “It’s a small park so if it is filled with too many attractions in a tight space it could get very loud and disruptive.”</p>

Table 3 Design Considerations

Key findings and Insights

Feedback provided through public engagement both online and in person gave a variety of insights into who Redpoll Park should be designed for, what activities are missing in the

Riverside neighbourhood and what types of activities the neighbourhood is looking to do in the park. The feedback provided will guide the project team and consultant in the design of Redpoll Park.

The following are key findings and insights from the feedback.

- Redpoll Park should focus on children and adults while ensuring the space is welcoming to all.
- Some residents who identified that they are backing onto the park would prefer the park to stay a calm and quiet-focused space, while the majority are looking for active amenities in the park space.
- It is important to include child-focused activities, community gathering spaces and open space for spontaneous play.
- If a play area is chosen, a specialized play area would be supported by the majority of residents; however, the preference would be to not include sand.
- The bicycle pump track was supported by residents as a unique activity, something for many ages, and a good way to stay active.
- Benches and seating are important to residents to allow for rest and observation of the park.
- Shade structures or tree shade are desired to keep people sheltered from the sun.
- A spray park or spray feature is desired in this community by participants who took the survey.

How Feedback Will Be Used

The City will review the feedback and alongside technical requirements, site considerations, park design standards, policies, financial feasibility, and overall project consideration to help design Redpoll Park. The key feedback that the City will take into consideration from the feedback provided includes:

- The design of Redpoll Park should provide active spaces for a variety of ages while providing spontaneous spaces for play.
- Park noise is a concern; park amenity setbacks should be adhered to, whenever feasible, to minimize noise to nearby residents.
- Seating, shade, and trees are important and should be considered throughout the park space.

Some feedback provided is not feasible for a neighbourhood park and therefore cannot be accommodated at Redpoll Park (e.g. spray park). This feedback will be considered in future park design processes.

Next Steps

The feedback provided along with the other factors listed above will be used by the project team in the upcoming months to finalize the design for Redpoll Park. It is anticipated that a final design will be completed with construction starting early fall of 2026.

For more information and to stay updated as the project progresses, please visit [Redpoll Park | Cultivate the Conversation](#)

If you have any questions regarding the development of this summary, please contact Tara Feser, Park Planning Specialist, at tfeser@stalbert.ca

Appendices

Appendix A – Online Survey

Q1. What type of recreation should Redpoll Park focus on? (Select one)

- Mostly active recreation (e.g. play areas, sport activities)
- Mostly passive recreation (e.g. seating areas, nature-focused areas)

Q2. Who in your household will use Redpoll Park?

- Toddlers (under 5 years of age)
- Children (5-12 years of age)
- Youth (13 - 17 years of age)
- Adult (18 – 54 years of age)
- Seniors (55+)

Q3. Thinking about the current and future park spaces for Riverside outlined in the map above, what type of activities do you think should be the focus for Redpoll Park? (select up to two answers)

- Youth-focused activities (e.g. basketball)
- Child-focused activities (e.g. small play area or bike pump track)
- Community gathering spaces (e.g. covered seated area)
- Larger open space for spontaneous play (e.g. picnics, playing catch)
- Other (please specify)

Q4. We are considering a specialized play area for Redpoll Park, which will provide the community with a unique experience different from a traditional playground. A specialized play area focuses on one or two play elements and provides different opportunities to explore them. For example, a specialized climbing area with different climbing equipment that provides multiple climbing challenges. Do you support Redpoll Park having a specialized play area?

- Yes
- No

Q5. Redpoll Park is a neighbourhood park with limited space, with no access to on-site parking. Below are some options on what Redpoll Park could look like. Option 1 - Active (bike pump track and basketball court with some open space) Option 2 - Calm (large open space for spontaneous play, large covered seated area) Option 3 - Play (specialized play area, basketball court, seated gathering spot, large open space for spontaneous play) Option 4 - Blank - I prefer something different (Please provide details in the next questions on what you would like to see) Please rank the options from 1-4 with 1 being your preferred option.

- Option 1 – Active
- Option 2 – Calm
- Option 3 – Play
- I prefer something different – Please specify on the next question

Q6. Why did you choose your top preference?

Q7. Are there any additional design considerations, elements, or choices that you feel the project team should consider when designing Redpoll Park?

Q10. What neighbourhood do you live in?

Q11. What is your age?

- 16 to 17
- 18 to 24
- 25 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 to 54
- 55 to 64
- 64 to 74
- 75 or older
- Prefer not to say

Q12. How did you hear about the survey?

- Fire & Ice Festival
- Letter/Mailout
- Word of Mouth
- City Website
- Social Media
- Other (please specify)

Q13. How satisfied were you with the level of information provided through the survey and the Cultivate the Conversation webpage?

- Very Dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Neutral
- Satisfied
- Very Satisfied

Q14. How satisfied were you with the opportunities available to provide your feedback?

- Very Dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Neutral
- Satisfied
- Very Satisfied

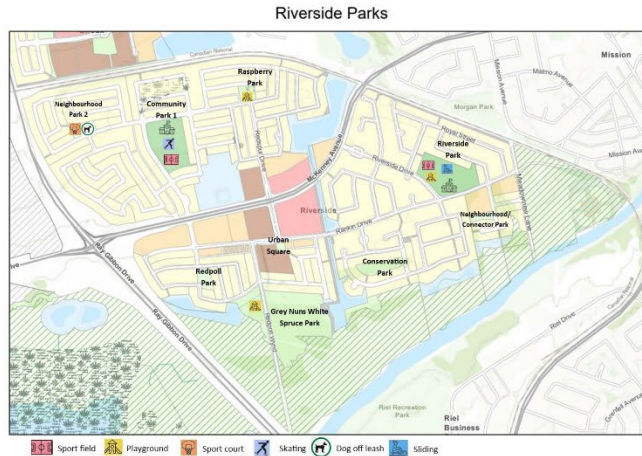
Q15. Do you have any suggestions on how to improve our public engagement processes or opportunities?

Appendix B – Pop Up Engagement Boards

Redpoll Park

Redpoll Park will be a new neighbourhood park in Riverside. It will be slightly larger than Raspberry Park.

The map shows the current and future recreational opportunities in Riverside.



Thinking about the community of Riverside what type of recreation should Redpoll Park focus on?

Active Recreation	Passive Recreation
E.g. play areas, sport activities	E.g. seating, gathering spaces, open green space

Redpoll Park

The amenities, plantings, layout and overall design of a park influences how people will use and enjoy the space.

What do you value most in these themes and why? Is there anything that may be missing? Please add your comments and ideas below.

Calm
Covered seating and open green space



Active
Pump track and basketball court



Playful
Seating area, play area, basketball court with open green space



Add your own ideas

