



GORSEBROOK PARK – PUBLIC CONSULTATION SUMMARY

Bold are items that were designated “most important” *Italics are items that were designated “long-term changes”*

Current Park Assets

- Multi-use
 - Area for “unstructured play”
 - Community sport
 - Used year round
 - Serves different groups: sports, daycare, seniors, students
- Green, open space
- **Hill for sledding**
- Tennis Courts
- Walk through – accessible from all directions
 - Promotes active transportation
- Protected from future development

Desired Improvements

- Promote more diverse uses/accessibility
 - View as outdoor campus for community sport and recreation
 - Community Garden
 - Dogs may deter families with small children.
 - Designate certain times for dogs
 - Communicate rules for dogs that are consistent with HRM with signage
- Maintenance
 - **Basic maintenance – keeping it clean and green**
 - Keep garbage and debris from vegetated areas
 - Re-sodding
 - Repair or remove broken infrastructure
 - **Fix and paint Lacrosse box**
 - Investigate if flooding may be an issue in the Winter
 - Paint benches and bleachers
 - Fix path to Robit St.
 - Update field for Field Lacrosse
 - Revamp/Replace Splash pad (Westmount (?))

- Take down splash tree (?)
 - Update/maintain playground
 - **Winterize bathrooms**
 - **Add water fountains**
 - Take locks off outside washrooms
 - Maintain paths
 - *Trail around outside with distance marked*
 - Low/dim lighting on paths
 - Distinguish pathways better – identification and accessibility
 - Turn natural walkways into paths (worn footpaths)
 - Access from Inglis School parking lot
 - Fix tennis court pathway
 - *Better all-weather surfaces for paths (not paved)*
 - *Winter – ski paths*
- **Safety**
 - **Improve Lighting**
 - **Lighting on timers around bathrooms to protect from vandalism**
 - Security
 - Improve Wellington St. entrance for safety/visability
- Expand park boundaries
 - Purchase land when available
 - Strategic reserve – school to park (?)
 - Keep school lanes open even if school closes for park users
- Better use of current space
 - **Moving St. Francis to the corner for Baseball (?)**
 - Have design consultant evaluate for functionality
 - Move tennis court to diamone behind Gorsebrook and vice versa
- Resolve Gorsebrook/St. Francis Signage
- Promote biodiversity and wildlife
 - Areas of “naturalization”
 - Natural trees, shrubs and grasses
 - Expand garden plots
 - Connect four gardens
 - Plant native trees and shrubs
 - Good for birds and butterflys
 - Amour Cark trees, Plain tree and/or native trees
- Stop development of tall buildings on perimeter
- New Infrastructure
 - Drinking fountains
 - In washrooms, at playground and for dogs

- Tennis courts (indoor/outdoor)?
- More sitting areas
 - Picnic tables and benches
- Pizza oven
- Consider ice rink over lacrosse box for winter
- Student area
- Provide bags holders and bags for dog clean up
- Receptacles for garbage, paper and recycling (four bin containers)
- Lights at entrances by park signs
- Outdoor fitness equipment
- Small signs at entrances
 - Ensure developers are aware that they cannot encroach on the park
 - Direction to different venues

Partnership/Community Engagement Opportunities

- Engage school board, universities, APSEA, Headstart Tennis, Sport Associations, Commercial Sponsorship
- Community clean ups (spring and fall)
 - School children (do park clean-up activities)
 - School stewardship of the park
 - Churches organize neighborhood clean up
- Urban Forest projects (re: native plantings/plan)
 - Dal School for Resource and Environmental Studies
 - Mgmt 3701 - Prof. Karen B
 - Mgmt 5000 - MWB Project
- Donations
 - Lighting companies might donate
 - Benjamin Moore Paint
 - Kent
 - Plant and seed donations
 - Halifax Seed
 - Grocery Stores
- Form Gorsebrook Park Advisory Committee
 - Emphasized community consultation for playground enhancement and tennis court installation
- Have organized sports organization participate in improving the facilities they use
- Grants
 - Field of Dreams (Blue Jays)
 - Aviva Community Fund
- Enhance communication -Newsletter, Park Day website