



Richmond Green Park Design Concepts – Frequently asked questions

As you review the two design concepts for Richmond Green Park, you might have questions or have been hearing about the following topics. These considerations are included in the budget and planning as part of the Richmond Green Park Design.

Will there really be an increase in public park space?

- In May 2022, Council directed City Administration to market and sell a 5.5-acre parcel of land at Richmond Green Park. The purchaser application process opened on October 3 and closes December 2, 2022. The entire proceeds of sale will be reinvested into improving the park.
- Once completed, Richmond Green will be 48.5 acres of fully accessible public park. A total of 48.5 acres will become a fully publicly accessible park. Due to the re-purposing and incorporation of the former golf course (+17.5 acres) and operations depot (+10 acres), an increase of approximately 22 acres will now be open park space available for free public use, despite the loss of the development parcel (-5.5 acres).

What are you doing about soil contamination and remediation?

- A portion of the Operational Workplace Centre (OWC) contains soil contamination that came from the storage of road salt and pickled gravel that is used on city streets in the winter. The contamination does not pose a risk to human health and all areas of the park are safe for human use. The salt could impact which types of vegetation will be able to grow in the OWC area and will be a consideration through the park design.
- Salt contamination in the soil will need to be managed during redevelopment. Areas with salt contamination in the soil will require more remediation or capping for soft surface park amenities (e.g., amenities with vegetation like soccer fields) than hard surface park amenities (e.g., amenities without vegetation like basketball courts).
- The plan for the contaminated area is still to be determined. The information obtained from the ongoing engagement by The City will help determine the redevelopment plan for the contaminated areas.

How does the underground water infrastructure factor into the concepts?

- The two underground water reservoirs in Richmond Green Park provide clean drinking water to many Calgary residents. The design concepts consider the required setbacks and weight limitations on the reservoirs and will ensure compatible uses are proposed on the water infrastructure.
- Safety measures will be considered in collaboration with The City's subject matter experts and their recommendations to meet security requirements.

What is happening to the baseball diamonds?

- The City has been working with Calgary West Little League to relocate the one of the small baseball diamonds on the west side of the park to the Westgate Community Centre. This will be funded through the Richmond Green Park Design.
- We looked at surrounding communities to identify opportunities to relocate the baseball diamonds. The community of Westgate already has two existing diamonds, on the green space next to the Westgate Community Centre, that could benefit from improvements and there is space for an additional diamond.



- After engaging with interested parties and reviewing a number of options, the preferred design concept is to rebuild the two existing baseball diamonds on the north end of the site and add one additional in the southeast quadrant. The diamonds would be clustered in the centre with the fields facing out, to provide three new diamonds in this space.
- Construction began in Fall 2022. It paused for winter in November 2022 and start up again in Spring 2023. Construction activities may occur periodically over the winter, as weather permits. The baseball diamonds will be ready for use in the 2023 season.

What about traffic on 33 Avenue S.W.?

- The Quesnay Wood Drive roadway and 33 Avenue S.W. intersection design is still under review with the City's transportation team and engineering consultants. The proposed park designs are flexible to changes that may be required as the transportation discussion evolves.
- The City is working closely with Canada Lands Corporation (CLC) who is responsible for construction of Quesnay Wood Drive to ensure seamless interface between the two projects, and with The City's transportation experts to ensure traffic movement is considered.

Will there be a conflict of uses between park users (e.g., disc golf, open park space, etc.)?

- This design concepts illustrate the range of uses within Richmond Green Park, including recreation features, park uses and community or cultural opportunities. The City is seeking input from park users and the broader community on the concepts, which considers how the range of uses can coexist within the park.
- The improvements to Richmond Green Park will increase its useability by a greater range of Calgarians, with considerations for all-season use.

Why is a land use amendment and outline plan application required?

- When land is subdivided, 10% of the parcel is typically dedicated under a designation called Municipal Reserve (MR). After the Richmond Green Park redesign is determined, a land use application and outline plan will be submitted to formally establish a portion of the park as Municipal Reserve.
- This application is required to dedicate the road right-of-way for the portion of Quesnay Wood Drive S.W. that travels through the park and to dedicate 2.14 hectares (5.28 acres) of Richmond Green Park as Municipal Reserve. The land use redesignation will change the 2.14 hectares from the Special Purpose – Recreation (S-R) District to the Special Purpose – School, Park and Community Reserve (S-SPR) District. The land use redesignation and Municipal Reserve dedication will only affect the 2.14 hectares (location to be determined).
- This will protect the Municipal Reserve areas because this designation only allows a very limited number of uses, such as park space. The areas to be designated Municipal Reserve in Richmond Green Park will be defined after the preferred park design is determined.