



# COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

## Vic West Park

JUNE – JULY 2015

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# Feedback Summary

## About Victoria West Park

The City of Victoria is currently preparing a parks improvement plan to guide future upgrades to Vic West Park.

Vic West Park is the second largest park in the Victoria West neighbourhood and the eighth largest in the City. The park was first established in 1921 and has seen many improvements since then to address the changing needs of local residents. It currently offers a multi-use sports field for baseball and soccer, a skate park, a lawn bowling club, a basketball court, a leash-optional area, a playground, two parking areas and a public washroom.

The key factors driving the need to update the park include:

- The age and condition of the playground equipment
- The condition of the beginner portion of skate park
- Possible fencing of the leash-optional dog park
- Use of the sports field for some activities is limited due to the condition and grading of the field
- Increased density in the neighbourhood

## A Summary of What We Heard

Responses were predominately from Vic West. The most common feedback we heard included the following requests:

- Fenced in dog park, with increased seating
- Upgrades to playground: natural play, climbing structures, water features
- Improvements to skate park
- Lighted areas – walking paths, park areas, dog park
- More seating – picnic tables and benches, community picnic area
- Community gardens
- Water fountains, for people and dogs
- Water play/water feature
- Improvements to sports fields – grading, better maintenance, more seating
- More trees
- Zipline

## Engagement

During June and July 2015, three in-person events were used to collect general feedback about future improvements to Vic West Park: Vic West Street Fest, Vee DubSk8 Competition and the City-hosted “Ideas Picnic”. On-site ideas boards and an online survey were also used to collect feedback. A full overview of all feedback received is available in Appendix A and Appendix B.

A skate park specific engagement summary, which outlines feedback received at the Vee Dub Sk8 Competition at Vic West Park and a skate park specific survey is also available at [victoria.ca/parks](http://victoria.ca/parks).

### Vic West Street Fest

The popular community event Vic West Street Fest (June 7) was used to promote engagement opportunities and collect feedback. Approximately 50 residents stopped by the City's information station.



#### Feedback:

The most common ideas received included: a fenced in dog park, more picnic tables, water play or water park, more trees (possibly fruit and nut), community garden.

### Ideas Picnic

The City hosted an Ideas Picnic on Tuesday, July 7 in Vic West Park. This picnic-themed open house provided an opportunity for 100 residents to share ideas about future improvements to Vic West Park. The City provided ice cream sundaes and used hamster balls to show how the space could be used and attract families to come out and share their thoughts on the park. Information was available about all areas of the park and staff were available to answer questions. Surveys, ideas boards and a large map were used to collect ideas.



## Feedback:

### Ideas Boards



### Leash-optional

The most popular improvement to the leash-optional dog area was to have a fenced in area. Bag dispensers and garbage receptacles were the second favourite followed by play elements or agility training elements for dogs. Other common ideas included: fencing, more seating and lighting of the dog park at night.

### Sports Fields

The most common comment was requests for a well maintained and programmed soccer field. This included requests to grade the soccer field, provide a junior soccer field, and the idea that a soccer area could be used for sportball as well.

### Playground

The most popular play features were things to climb on (climbing nets, climbing boulders, overhead climbers). Things that spin, swings and slides all were quite popular. Things to crawl through (tunnels, crawling tubes) were the least popular.

When ranking other playground features the idea of water play was most popular, closely followed by a zipline. Imaginative elements such as play structures, themed play were third and natural play areas were fourth.

Other common ideas included: water feature/water park, keep the trees near the playground, zipline, more swings, better teeter totter/keep teeter totter, natural play features

### General Ideas

The two most common ideas were lights on the walking path and a fenced in dog area. Other popular ideas were a community garden and more seating with benches or picnic tables. Another common idea was an adult fitness circuit.

## Ideas Boards from Vic West Park

The most common requests were as follows:

- Separate fenced in dog area (48)
- Water park/pool/wading pool (26)
- Lighted walkway/park at night/dog park (25)
- More seating – picnic tables, benches, community picnic area, covered picnic table, benches near dog park, move picnic table from behind washrooms, benches along the walkway (22) community garden (15)
- Water fountains, fountains for dogs (quite a few requests! almost half) and people (13)
- New playground, bigger playground, new equipment (12)
- Tennis courts (7)

## Vic West Park Survey

- 241 online surveys were completed.

## Neighbourhoods

- 62% of respondents were from Vic West.
- Other neighbourhoods represented included Fernwood, Fairfield and Downtown.

## Distance from Park

- 43% live within a five minute walk of the park
- 17% live within a 10 minute walk
- 41% live further than a 10 minute walk to the park

## Age

- 52% of the respondents were 25 – 39
- 29% of the respondents were 40 – 59
- 6% of the respondents were 19 – 24 years
- 8% of the respondents were 60 and over

## How often do you visit Vic West Park?

- Daily: 25%
- Weekly 37%
- Monthly 23%
- Rarely 14%
- Never 1%

## How do you most often travel to Vic West Park?

- 56% walk
- 25% drive
- 11% bike
- 5% transit

## What are your thoughts on the amount of parking at Vic West Park?

- 50% there is the right amount of parking
- 21% there is not enough parking

**Most frequently used areas of the park (daily, weekly and monthly combined – in ranked order):**

- Walking paths
- Open grassy area
- Parking areas
- Public washrooms
- Playground
- Leash-optional dog area
- Skate park
- Baseball diamond
- Basketball court
- Soccer pitch
- Lawn bowling

**What do you like best about Vic West Park?**

- Central location, variety of activities, something for everyone, skate park, trees, open green space

**What could be improved at Vic West Park?**

- Most popular: sports fields, playground, dogs fenced-off areas
- Followed by: more seating, better washrooms, lighted walkways
- Other: better drainage, garden

**What do you think is missing at Vic West Park?**

- Fenced in dog area, better playground, more seating, better lighting, water fountain, water park

**What kinds of play features would you like to see?**

- 1) Climbing: overhead climbers, climbing boulders, climbing net: 109 votes
- 2) Natural play: logs, boulders, sand play: 103 votes
- 3) Water play: water pumps, water channels: 98 votes
- 4) Swings: 87 votes
- 5) Zipline: 68 votes
- 6) Slides: 65 votes

**What improvements would you like to see to existing sports fields?**

- Grade field better – now it is quite dangerous and unfair
- grass needs to be better maintained or replaced with modern safe surface – not safe
- Better soccer field – none in Vic West
- Fix infields – aren't safe now
- Better spectator seating
- Only one ball diamond is needed
- Grounds need to be better maintained
- Possibly volleyball court

### Do you have other comments about the leash-optional dog areas at Vic West Park?

- Please fence in the dog park was by far the most common suggestion – will be safer for dogs and everyone else
- Love the leash-optional area, it's very popular
- More benches
- Need to have responsible pet owners to clean up pet waste
- The current area can be swampy in the winter
- Need clear signage about the rules
- Water for dogs would be great
- Lighting

### Please provide any additional comments or ideas you have about how Victoria West Park can be improved?

#### Most common:

- It's a great park, a real asset for Vic West residents
- Great for a wide range of activities
- Great spot for dogs
- Maximize the existing parking areas
- Leave the trees please
- More lighting in the park
- Fence in dog park
- Skate park should be expanded
- Improve washrooms, some requests for a second washroom by skate park, need better lighting around washrooms

#### Other:

- More information about the lawn bowling club would have been useful for engagement
- Please don't allow camping in this park
- Great to have summer staff – feels safe for kids
- Make the park accessible for everyone
- More gardens, flowers
- Bright colours would be great
- More signage in dog park re fines for not picking up after dog
- Needs more regular maintenance
- Could playground incorporate some of the large rock outcroppings

### How did you hear about this survey?

- 35% Facebook
- 16% Postcard (mailed to Vic West residents)
- 16% Word of mouth (friend, family member, neighbour)
- 8% signage at Vic West Park
- 6% City of Victoria website
- 5% Twitter
- 4% Neighbourhood association
- Other: Vic West Street Fest, notice board in condo, notice board at Dockside Green, Softball league's facebook page, signage at park, Jeff Brehaut



### Correspondence

One letter from the Little League Association was sent to the City of Victoria in April 2015. The request was for field renovations to be undertaken so that Junior Baseball (age 13/14) and Senior Big League (age 15 – 17) could play at Vic West Park.

## Next Steps

This community feedback will inform a draft parks improvement plan which will be brought back to the community in October 2015 for another round of feedback. After hearing from the community this fall, a final parks improvement plan will be developed by the end of 2015. Parks improvements will be completed in phases.

# Appendix A

## Engagement

During June and July 2015, two in-person events were used to collect general feedback about future improvements to Vic West Park: Vic West Street Fest and the City-hosted “Ideas Picnic”. On-site ideas boards and an online survey were also used to collect feedback.

## Vic West Street Fest

### Sounding board feedback

- Plant trees!
- Old folk outdoor fitness equipment
- Finish fencing of the dog park!
- New playground, clean sand
- Small unit just for young toddlers with no 3' or 5' “drop-off”
- Pay phone for safety
- Seating with roof
- Picnic tables near skate park
- Picnic tables near ball diamond and washrooms
- Fitness equipment like Beacon Hill Cook Street please!
- Water park for children
- Zipline
- Rope climbing
- Connectors from Tyee-Wilson through Park to bike trails through Esquimalt
- More trees (Fruit and nut)
- Perimeter walk/run trail with crossfit stations
- Is a ball diamond the best use of this space?
- Water play
- Concert stadium/bandshell
- Community Garden (+1)
- Teeter-totter
- Community Gardens!!!!
- Water! That said it's quite good :) oh and pedestrians overpass to roundhouse and dockside
- Picnic shelter with solar pv cell roof
- A fireman's pole
- Communal brick bbq's
- Water park so children can play during the summer (+1)
- Fenced off-leash dog park
- More trees (for picnic, playing, for kids to climb)
- Natural space
- Climbing wall
- High quality infrastructure for special event BEER GARDENS
- Fence off-leash dog park for security reasons for dogs and people
- More trees! Food forest to provide fruit and other food for the community, would also provide shade, beauty, natural space, habitat

- Water feature – aquatic habitat, water storage for landscape irrigation
- Frisbee golf nets
- Picnic tables
- Some slowing/stopping mechanism – bicycles still travel way too fast by playground
- Waterpark for kids (and adults) – water features, splash parks
- More outdoor live music, bbq's, potlucks!
- A climbing wall
- Water!! (spray park)
- Shade – permanent umbrellas and tables
- Climbing feature (+1)
- Fenced in dog park
- Community gardens
- Ability to turn left across Esquimalt when heading east
- Fenced in dog park
- Clean the sand!!
- Pickle ball courts

### Ideas Picnic

During the Ideas Picnic on July 7, which 100 residents attended, ideas were written on themed ideas boards.

### Leash-optional board

The most popular improvement to the leash-optional dog area was to have a fenced in area. Bag dispensers and garbage receptacles were the second favourite followed by play elements or agility training elements for dogs.

Other ideas included:

- Fencing (5)
- Lighting of the dog park at night (3)
- More seating, benches, picnic tables (3)
- Relocating fenced area to rocky area that will double as agility training
- Dog toilet
- Off leash dogs must still be in control
- Garbage cans
- Clear signage to show where dogs should be on leash and off leash

### Sports fields board

The most common comment was requests for well maintained and programmed soccer field. This included requests to grade the soccer field, provide a junior soccer field, and that a soccer area could be used for sportball as well.

Other ideas included:

- Tennis courts
- Exercise circuit
- bleachers

## Playground boards

The most popular play features were things to climb on (climbing nets, climbing boulders, overhead climbers). Things that spin, swings and slides all were quite popular. Things to crawl through (tunnels, crawling tubes) were the least popular.

When ranking other playground features the idea of water play was most popular, closely followed by a zipline. Imaginative elements such as play structures, themed play were third and natural play areas were fourth.

Other ideas included:

- water feature/water park (4)
- keep the trees near the playground (4)
- zipline (2)
- more swings (2)
- better teeter totter/ keep teeter totter (2)
- natural play features (2)
- enlarge
- update
- sunlight – a structure out by the rocks
- a crosswalk to the park from Henry street
- a spinning spiderweb
- more trees
- more monkey bars
- picnic table
- another slide
- equipment for age appropriate activities with surfaces toddlers are comfortable on year round
- seating
- wheelchair accessible activities

## Skate Park and Basketball Court board

(All feedback can be found in the skate park engagement summary)

## General Ideas Board

The two most common ideas were lights on the walking path (5) and a fenced in dog area (4). Other popular ideas were a community garden (3) and more seating with benches or picnic tables (3). Another common idea was an adult fitness circuit (2).

Other ideas that were shared included: more recycling and garbage bins, a beautiful washroom like outside of Rebar, more trees, more general access to the lawn bowling club for all ages, BBQ grills, community pizza oven, yoga area, bmx track, two good tennis courts, mason bee houses and a gazebo.

**Map with Ideas** (aranged by zones on the map)**Pathway**

- lights for walking path (2)
- pave pathway
- seating along pathway

**Skate Park**

- move basketball court
- better drainage in existing dog park
- water bottle fill station by skate park(3)
- trim trees by skate park
- picnic tables by skate park
- shaded area for spectators by skate park
- add new washrooms by skate park
- skate board trail through park from Save On to skate park

**Playground**

- use natural features for play park
- zip line by rocks (2)
- climbing wall
- exercise fitness circuit
- community garden
- flowers
- rock outcropping is unique glacier feature – don't mess with it
- anchor bolts for slackline to rocks
- tennis courts
- keep the trees by the playground
- water park like in Granville Island (4)
- stage in the park for outdoor shows
- updated advanced playground
- get rid of sand in playground
- slackline area under trees
- Crosswalk signs/make 30 km zone on Bay by playground/lighted crosswalk (4)

**Ball Diamond**

- add bleachers to ball diamond
- benches
- flashing lights at crosswalk on Wilson

**Dog area**

- fully enclosed off leash area
- reduce dust – grass will be gone with intensive use
- poop powered solar light
- seating – picnic tables

**Other**

- add BMX dirt bike track

## Ideas Boards from Vic West Park

### Most popular ideas included:

- separate fenced in dog area (48)
- water park/pool/wading pool (26)
- lighted walkway/park at night/dog park (25)
- more seating – picnic tables, benches, community picnic area, covered picnic table, benches near dog park, move picnic table from behind washrooms, benches along the walkway (22) community garden (15)
- water fountains, fountains for dogs (quite a few requests! Almost half) and people (13) new playground, bigger playground, new equipment (12)
- tennis courts (7)

### Other comments:

- landscaping
- more trees (3)
- nice garden of flowers
- flower beds for bees
- attractive shrubs along Kiwanis townhomes please
- playground
- better swings (3)
- slides, big slide (2)
- natural play area like Cadboro – Gyro Park
- rubber mat playground
- zip line for kids

### pathways

- pave on hard top walkway please (5)
- don't pave walkway (3)
- better paths through park
- dogs
- no dogs (3)
- leashes on animals (3)
- allow dogs
- more space for dogs
- low log fence for dog park
- designate times for greater off-leash enjoyment
- move dog area to rock area
- benches at off leash dog park and lights
- art
- artwork/community art project (2)
- street art project on washroom buildings

**activities**

- tennis (7)
- more soccer/soccer field, nice flat field for soccer, put soccer nets in (5)
- volleyball/beach volleyball (4)
- outdoor exercise machines/circuit (3)
- BMX dirt jumps (3)
- Basketball court lights/better basketball courts (2)
- mini golf (2)
- pickle ball court
- horseshoes
- properly maintained ballpark
- community piano
- red and green baseball diamond like Victoria's Hollywood Park

**homelessness and other issues**

- no homeless camping (2)
- no smoking (2)
- no booze, no drugs
- designated camping for the homeless – show compassion
- needle disposal for homeless and instructions how to use
- more affordable housing
- help drug addicts

**food**

- concession stand (drinks and icecream) (3)
- allow food trucks

**maintenance**

- clean garbage more often (2)
- no to water park – conserve water
- get rid of wasps in sand area
- don't waste water on ballpark spraying
- water grass so it is soft
- clean up rock

**well maintained grass (no weeds)**

- soap in washrooms please

**Other**

- better parking lot, more space
- free events
- bigger park
- no pool or water park (too cool)
- add more equipment
- bike racks
- Thanks for asking!
- Park is so well used! Love it!

## Survey

241 online general Vic West Park improvement surveys were completed.

### Neighbourhoods

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- Other neighbourhoods represented were Fernwood, Fairfield and Downtown.

### Distance from Park

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### How do you most often travel to Vic West Park?

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### Most frequently used areas of the park (daily, weekly and monthly combined- in ranked order):

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- Public washrooms
- Playground
- Leash-optional dog area
- Skate park
- Baseball diamond
- Basketball court
- Soccer pitch
- Lawn bowling

### What are your thoughts on the amount of parking at Vic West Park?

- 50% there is the right amount of parking
- 21% there is not enough parking

### What do you like best about Vic West Park?

- Central location
- Variety of activities, something for everyone
- Skate park
- Trees
- Open green space



**What could be improved at Vic West Park?**

- Most popular: sports fields, playground, dogs fenced-off areas
- Followed by: more seating, better washrooms, lighted walkways
- Other: better drainage, garden

**What do you think is missing at Vic West Park?**

- Fenced in dog area
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**What kinds of play features would you like to see?**

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**Please provide any additional comments or ideas you have about how Victoria West Park can be improved?****Most common:**

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## Correspondence

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There is currently no suitable location for these ages in Victoria. They would like to run these age group program out of the Vic West field starting in the spring of 2016.

# Appendix B

## Survey

### October 2015 Vic West Park Survey

Which neighbourhood do you live in?

Response	Count	
<b>Victoria West</b>	149 61.8%	
<b>Burnside Gorge</b>	5 2.1%	
<b>Hillside Quadra</b>	5 2.1%	
<b>Oaklands</b>	5 2.1%	
<b>Fernwood</b>	12 5.0%	
<b>North and South Jubilee</b>	4 1.7%	
<b>North Park</b>	1 0.4%	
<b>Rockland</b>	3 1.2%	
<b>Fairfield</b>	7 2.9%	
<b>James Bay</b>	4 1.7%	
<b>Harris Green</b>	2 0.8%	
<b>Downtown</b>	5 2.1%	
<b><u><a href="#">Outside of the City of Victoria. Where?</a></u></b>	39 16.2%	
Total: 241		

Saanich

Gordon Head

Langford

Metchosin

Langford

Nanaimo

## Ward Name

Cordova Bay

Quadra/cloverdale

Colwood

North Saanich

Colwood

Metchosin

Colwood

Esquimalt

Esquimalt

Esquimalt

Gorge/Admirals

Blinkensop and Union

Langford

Saanich

Esquimalt

Saanich

Esquimalt

Colwood

Saanich

Duncan

Esquimalt

Colwood

Esquimalt

Dockyard

North Saanich

View Royal

I live in Oak Bay. I work next to the park.

Highlands

saanich

View royal

esquimalt

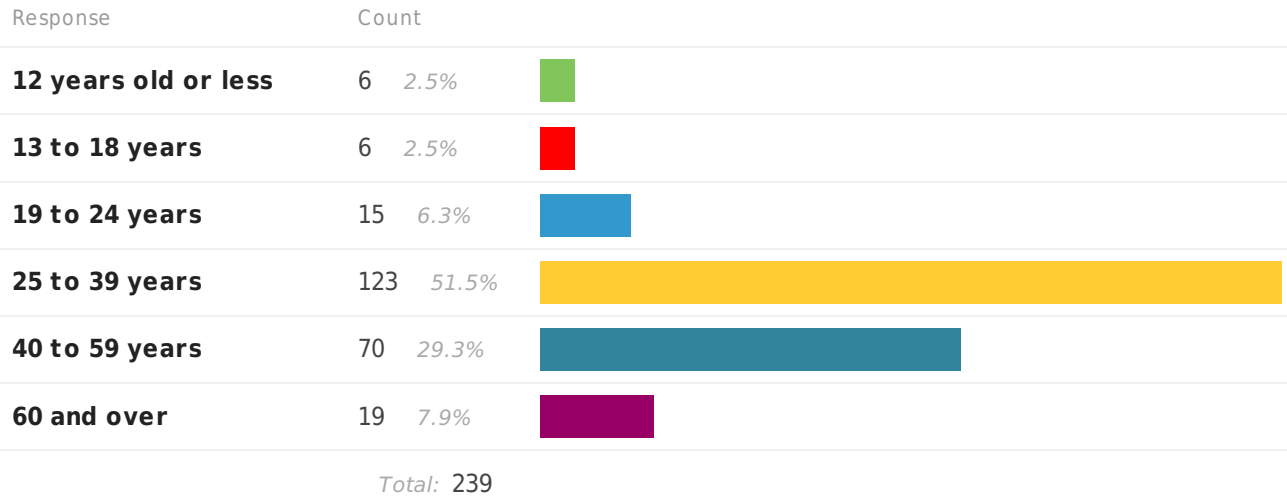
Oak Bay

Saanich

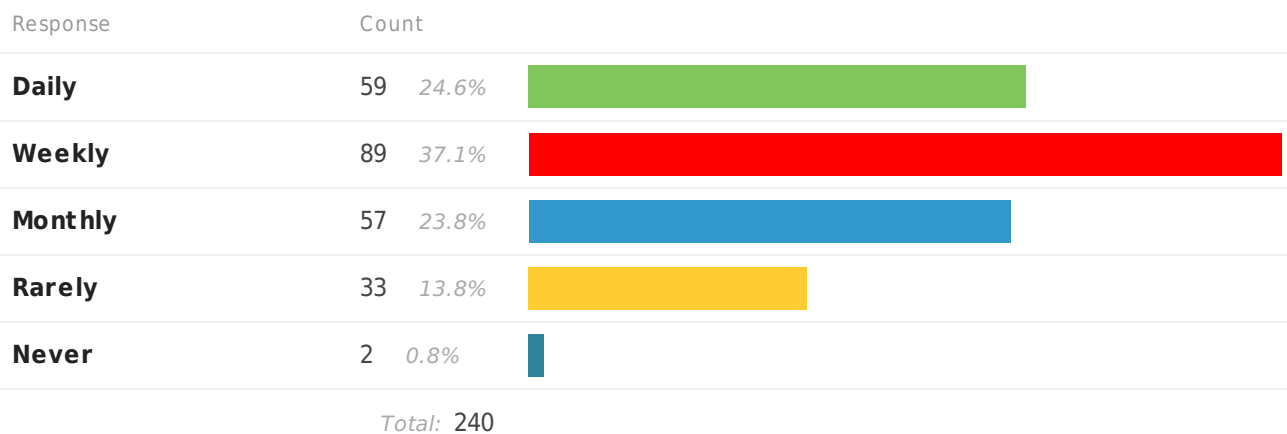
How close do you live to Victoria West Park?

Response	Count	
<b>I live within a five minute walk to the park</b>	101	42.3%
<b>I live within a ten minute walk to the park</b>	40	16.7%
<b>I live further than a ten minute walk to the park</b>	98	41.0%
Total: 239		

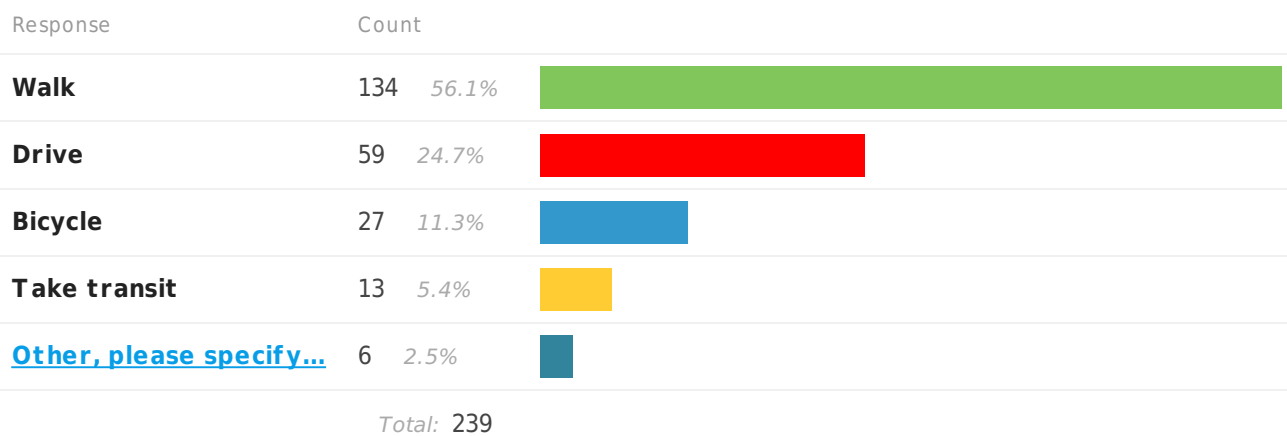
What is your age?



## How often do you visit Victoria West Park?







## How do you most often travel to Victoria West Park?



skateboard
Bike and Skate
Skateboard
Skate
Various, bus, drive, bike
I work a 5 min walk away

What are your thoughts on the amount of parking at Victoria West Park?

Response	Count	
<b>There is too much parking</b>	2 0.9%	
<b>There is the right amount of parking</b>	116 49.4%	
<b>There is not enough parking</b>	50 21.3%	
<b>unsure / don't know</b>	67 28.5%	
Total: 235		

How often do you use the existing park facilities?

Varab e	Da y	Week y	Month y	Rare y	Never	
<b>Playground</b>	7 3.2%	36 16.7%	29 13.4%	51 23.6%	93 43.1%	Total: 216
<b>Skate Park</b>	11 5.1%	24 11.2%	16 7.5%	33 15.4%	130 60.7%	Total: 214
<b>Basketball Court</b>	2 0.9%	9 4.3%	9 4.3%	46 21.8%	145 68.7%	Total: 211
<b>Baseball Diamond</b>	0 0.0%	21 9.9%	8 3.8%	39 18.3%	145 68.1%	Total: 213
<b>Soccer Pitch</b>	1 0.5%	5 2.3%	10 4.7%	44 20.7%	153 71.8%	Total: 213
<b>Lawn Bowling</b>	0 0.0%	1 0.5%	1 0.5%	19 9.2%	186 89.9%	Total: 207
<b>Leash-Optional Dog Area</b>	26 11.9%	19 8.7%	27 12.3%	27 12.3%	120 54.8%	Total: 219
<b>Open Grassy Areas</b>	36 15.9%	63 27.9%	46 20.4%	41 18.1%	40 17.7%	Total: 226
<b>Walking Paths</b>	54 23.7%	62 27.2%	49 21.5%	31 13.6%	32 14.0%	Total: 228
<b>Public Washrooms</b>	5 2.2%	40 17.9%	35 15.7%	74 33.2%	69 30.9%	Total: 223
<b>Parking Areas</b>	8 3.7%	35 16.2%	34 15.7%	37 17.1%	102 47.2%	Total: 216

### What do you like best about Victoria West Park?

Response	Count
184 responses	

The park is family friendly , I enjoy the big leafy shade giving trees . The young people at the skate park are great fun to watch , they support each other , at times have helped me carry groceries home . The family ballgames . too bad there is NO place for a bbq area.

- its trees
- its size & variety

it right beside my home



the space and activity

The location to my residence

Easy accessibility to a large rropen park, with a big lawn area, trees, and a variety of activities taking place

Open grassy areas, playground

The dog park.

The Dog park

Central location

Location. Playground. Proximity to Save-On

The fact that their are baseball diamonds

Was the park I grew up around, some 50 years ago. The open area is great to relax in.

Location

Location

you can have dogs

Central location

Location

I like the location and accessability of Victoria West Park

The size and accessibility.

Green space next to where I live

It's a park for everyone.

The amount of amenities available at the park. There's something for everyone!

Playground and skatepark.

Nice skatepark with grass around it

Biggest skate park in south Vancouver island

The skate park, and the basketball court

Skateboard park

The diverse and concentrated snorts facilities

the diverse and concentrated open spaces.

Playground

Best skatepark ever!

Size, Maple Trees, diverse uses,

My children and I love to play on the rocks by the playground although there is often broken glass that we must watch out for.

Location

Lots of different areas to play and many activities are available for play in the park.

The natural environment: the shade trees and the large boulders.

Proximity to home

the mixture of facilities

the rock outcrops and the grassy areas

the beautiful sycamore trees

The field

the skatepark and public washrooms

The skate park

Skatepark is nationally renowned for its quality.

One of the biggest if not the biggest Skateparks on Vancouver Island and how the city keeps it looking clean and paint free.

Skate Park

Playground

skate park

Openness.

The variety of recreation areas.

Location

Convenient location with large open areas.

its close to home and has something for everyone

The trees that provide nice shady areas, the proximity to downtown, the openness between Wilson and Fernmount Roads

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Esquimalt roads,

big green space

how spacious it is and that there are options. ie: skate park, basketball courts and playground.

how large it is, and my son loves the playground facilities

It is a green area we should not lose.

the skate park!!

Green space and wide range of community use.

Shaded area

the rock for kids to climb on

its location

the water fountain

I walk my dog through the park at least 3 times a day year round. There is a great community of people with and without dogs. Because I live on my own, the park has made it possible to connect with other locals. I really enjoy the group that uses the skate park. I have found them to be polite and very helpful. I've been trying to train my dog not to bark at skate boards when passing and every person I've asked to help has. Also, very enjoyable to watch!

Close to the ocean and good food close by.

Multi purpose park with many options for everyone

Size, location

That the park space is there and that it is multi-use

Open space, walkway to businesses and Esquimalt Rd., Playground

Skatepark

How big it is, it is close to the store

The trees by the walkway, please ensure they stay or plant more!

Location

Open multi use area

The different spaces available for use.

the tree lined path

it nice a near my home and my kids go skate to the park

Proximity to town, and available rock outcrop for eating lunch.

The walkway under the beautiful chestnut trees.

It is wonderful green space and enhances the neighbourhood in such a great way.

I love how secluded the park feels, with trees all around you can escape the city feeling and relax in nature for a while.

Easy access (bus, bike, walk, close to downtown, close to waterways and local popular pathways)

i love that it's a multi use park that provides something for almost all ages. It feels safe and is well lit and maintained.

Openness

Large shade trees and the variety of amenities at the park

I like its proximity to retail and restaurants on Wilson. I like its open space and the view of the mountains. My daughter loves to play at the playground and watch the people at the skate park.

Convenient

It is close for me.

- diversity of activities to draw a board spectrum of community members
- really central location for a lot of residents
- skate park is the best in the city

It's a big and beautiful space with lots of trees around the children's playground. The walking path is wonderful and convenient for walking a loop from my home down to the water and back. I also love the diversity of activities that the park is set up for.

The sand in the playground (good for sand toys!)

Skate park

Only skatepark in Victoria

Trees

Up and coming area for young families

Skatepark

The variety the park offers.

baseball fields, proximity to density and shopping, multi use

### Green space in high density area

Mixed use by all in the community  
A peaceful bit of green in the city  
Neighbours all gather in dog park

### Skatepark

The transition and general park flow where there is no transition.

It has an off-leash dog area.

### The skate park

The skate park and the fields and the rocks and the trees

Watching skateboarders, baseball games, and just the path through the huge chestnut trees

Close proximity to my apartment at 420 Catherine. Diversity....skate park, off leash, baseball, playground, rocky features, access from all sides.

The off leash park as well as the landscaping. Good park atmosphere but with sight lines that help it feel safe.

The central location in the Vic West Community.

I love the access and how close it is to my neighborhood. A lovely community park

The rocks, grassy areas and trees. I so also like the fact that there's a well used skate park even though I don't use it.

i like how there is always something going on. The dog park is awesome and well used

The rolling hills and beautiful water views

It's a greatly place centrally located and convenient to access

The friendly kids at the skate park, the nature look of the big rock.

Having a leash optional place for my dog to run around and socialize. We have taught him so much by having that park as a resource.

### Dogs

The versatility of the park (it's many purposes)

Location, variety of activities, close to shops/food

The large field that is close by and accessible

The big trees, large amount of green grass, how much the city comes by to clean up all of the garbage left by people breaking the law. Safety to detail to ensure kids are safe when playing at the park is a+. You come by to clean the sand weekly. Much needed with what happens from the skate park and other people at night.

Location

I like that it is a multi-use park that is large enough to simultaneously accommodate many different users needs. I like the mature trees.

Great skate park, high quality basketball court.

The features and layout. The baseball field.

Everything

Shady trees around playground, rocks for climbing

- It is close to where I work, and I like to eat lunch outside at the park
- I like that it has trees and some "wild" areas where the rocks are visible
- I enjoy watching others enjoy the park - basketball, frisbee, etc

The diverse activities. Skate park, play ground for our little ones, big open space. We also like like the natural landscape like the rocks to climb.

I like the openness of the park, and the multiple generation attracted to the park (i.e. young kids at the playground; older kids at the skatepark, adults walking their dogs, etc.)

The trees and the rock. The skate park is a nice addition.

Vic West Park is generally flat. It lends itself to a multitude of activities.

Pathway and community feeling

Location

Playground and skate park for my kids (3 and 5).

Proximity to amenities (coffee, groceries)

The rocky outcrop for kids. Skatepark.

The atmosphere is the only thing it has going for it.

I like the big trees, the open space, the large rocks, and I love to see the youth engaged at the skate park.

Size and location in an urban area. Proximity to amenities.

the skate park and basketball hoops

The open area you can run and walk with kids and dogs

The size, the mixed activities, the shady playground, the dog area, the skate park, and my son LOVES the rock area by the playground for climbing and clambering!

the variety of uses. the shade trees. the rocks for climbing/playing

Trees

Dog friendly

Playground

Area for youth to be active/hang out

Wide variety of activity areas.

I like that it's got so many options for a variety of needs. Our office staff use it to play games like bocce & ultimate Frisbee at lunch

It's close to me

It has something for all ages

Central and close to everything. Lots of green space

The grassy spots to sit under the trees.

That it is an open multi-use leisure and recreation space.

I like how there are trees in the park

There is a large green space that has trees and grass that is designed as a multi-use facility with someone for people of all ages and preferences.

Skate Park.

Big open spaces.

proximity to my work

large size, skatepark

Proximity to my work, lots of open space, both in the sun and shady areas

Public washrooms are close

Positive place for youth

Being able to see my car from the Skatepark

Great location

location

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## location

leash optional

Good location with lots of variety of activities.

Nothing

Location

Playground and the proximity to my home

Location

the off-leash dog area

big trees (summer shade)

open space for team sports/games

people young people meeting people kids dogs on pathway. Love watching events but need a place to sit so I can watch more then 5 minutes

the variety of uses available and the location

playground, swings, big trees

twirly slide location, trees, greenspace/open space, possibility for soccer (never see anyone playing), opportunity for community space

nice shady path on walk home form town washrooms open late

right next door to me - Edith gunning court

the skateboard park

the playground and the tree the rock the field

the trees in the park are beautiful! Love hearing and seeing the kids in skateboard park

great mix of activities and people; huge, lovely trees. park/skate hosts

The trees the openness, the rocks, the gathering of people in our community

The trees, the monkey bars, the field

The large trees in the North East corner and the other around the perimeter

lots of open spaces, dogs to play with, space to exercise my dog. Lots of community events.

How close it is to my home and that my dog is welcome

open space

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shaded walkway

seeing people enjoying themselves

proximity

basketball court

convenient and close to my office

It's multi-use nature. Skatepark /basketball facilities (for my kids) open space & trail

### What could be improved at Victoria West Park?

Response

Count

180 responses

please address the walking path, during wet weather there is up to 4 inches of water.

making people scoot around slippery wet grass . ,often there is city work trucks blocking the entrance into the park from the parking lot , near washrooms .for people with scooters, wheelchairs or baby strollers

- drainage beneath the big tree canopy near Da Vinci Centre (the soil doesn't absorb all the rainfall in the winter)
- better lighting along the pathway and the public washroom area
- a less dusty pathway
- better grass and improved leveling of the field
- the baseball diamond (using better / modern surface materials)
- a more efficient use of the Wilson St. parking area
- clean, fresh public washrooms
- interesting street art on the public washroom walls (refer to <http://www.streetartutopia.com> for inspiration)
- bicycle racks

it would be nice to have lights on the walk way

1. There must be a gated, secure, fenced, grassy, off leash dog area.
2. The time for off leash dog area needs to change to include anytime within the fenced in area and from 9:00 pm-7:00 am in the whole park
3. doggie bag dispenser and garbage at entrance to fenced in dog area.

Create a secure off-leash dog park with chain-link fencing. Add entire green space to Paws in Parks program during the off season. Address drainage issues ie standing water on sidewalk and muddy conditions in dog park during rainy season. Adding bark mulch to the muddy areas of the dog park may help. Add benches in

dog park for users to relax and converse with neighbors. Pave sidewalk for easier mobility for seniors with walkers. Add lighting along sidewalk for security and safety during non daily light hours. Add more garbage receptacles along sidewalk for litter.

I don't know as I, personally, see a need for much improvement. Perhaps, a greater children's playground area would be appreciated for those having small children. The main path could be improved to make it a bit higher since it can get quite muddy in the rain.

new playground, better soccer field

Improve the air quality - the exhaust from the floatplanes is blown over the Songhees & Victoria West Park area. It is unpleasant to be inhaling the exhaust while visiting the park. I suggest moving the floatplane flight path away from the Victoria West region, and monitoring the air quality at the Victoria West Park.

Fence in the dog park

Playground design and fencing of the off leash area

Playground, pathways to cut diagonally across when walking home from work, no secluded areas for unsavoury types to drink booze etc. It's pretty soggy. Can't walk through during winter.

The softball diamonds - the fields aren't properly maintained. They aren't mowed often enough, the dirt filled in isn't packed down, which is an injury risk, and the batting area doesn't seem to get any attention.

Wilson St parking lot could be bigger, easier to maneuver around. The baseball fields flatter as well as grassy infields with dirt baselines. The infield now is very dusty.

Ball fields need to be improved as the slope down from the top diamond and up from the bottom one, there has been numerous injuries with the infields and batters box. More parking and washrooms needed by bottom field and skateboard park.

The fields. They are uneven, hard, rough, unsafe for any type of sport.

The baseball diamonds are terrible. Its a danger to the players. The fields should have some better care for them.

baseball diamonds are terrible and the parking lot is tiny! you could easily push it back a few feet and take away part of the grassy area by the washrooms the homeless hang out on

The baseball fields need to be more level and further apart.

baseball diamonds are terrible and unsafe. My teammate tripped over home plate last year and smashed her head

I think the ongoing upkeep of the grounds could be improved on, especially for the soccer/baseball fields.

Quality and size of baseball diamonds.

Fencing the off-leash dog park, adding lighting to the off leash area and walk way, and adding additional benches in the in the off-leash area.

Fence off the dog park or actually enforce leash laws. I am a dog owner, and there are far too many off-leash dogs in the wrong areas of that park.

The pedestrian pathways need lights. At night it is very dark and sketchy.

Bigger playground.

Bathrooms moved closer to the skate parks for kids. Level the field so there is less of a slope. New concrete for skatepark or addition. Remove or move Basket ball court - doesn't seem to be used enough.

playground and washrooms

Larger area of flat smooth ground for basic skateboarding and beginners

More additions to the skatepark

The skate park needs a lot of improvements to the beginner portion of the park and the newer portion needs newer additions to keep up with the evolution of the sport and the growing number of skaters in the city.

Added area and maintenance of skateboard park.

A swimming pool type bowl for the skate park is a natural choice

Playground!

Extend the skatepark. Proper, functional water fountain. Addition of a Youth Centre.

Fencing around dog park

The playground is dated. More natural gathering places for young and old to cross paths.

More shade. Playground.

Improve the skate park. Equipment for older kids to play... climbing walls etc

Drainage is poor at many times of year making the grassy areas swampy (especially near the trees near the Da Vinci Centre).

There is often broken glass and other dangerous garbage on the boulders, making this otherwise very attractive feature hazardous for dogs and children. A garbage can in this immediate area may help. Kids love to climb this boulder and it's such a shame that there is so much broken glass on it.

The playground area is very outdated and small, but it's very well situated because the benches nearby and parts of the play area itself are frequently in shade. In the same location, it would be nice to see a more modern. stimulating play area for children of all ages. We would use the park on a daily basis if it had a

better playground. I have a preschool age child and Vic West park is two blocks from our home, but we walk to Banfield instead because it has a better playground.

The playground area is outdated and it is mostly suited for smaller children. Updates like what is available at the Cook street park or Jiro park would be welcomed.

Probably more benches for baseball players would be also appropriate.

Constant cleanup of the rock outcrops of glass and garbage

The playground

the skatepark

Bigger plaza area at the skatepark

Space could be better utilized on multiuse field.

Upgrades to the Skatepark

More parking. Better parking lot.

Better bathrooms

more skatepark and better washrooms

Bigger/better playground.

Bigger off-leash dog park (as it is, many people use the open space/ball diamond when they're not in use).

Safety and beauty park looks tired and old and not well taken care of

The leash optional area needs to be fully fenced as it is too close to a busy road. Older dogs are often ok at this park because they have been trained but I have seen too many close calls with younger dogs that get distracted easily and run into the street. There is also no separation between the leash optional area and the baseball diamond which makes it difficult to ensure your dog stays in the right place. We only visit the park for short periods due to these limitations and prefer taking our dog to the Uvic dog park which is bigger and fenced. If the Vic West park had a fenced dog area we would spend much more time there and not have to drive across town to Uvic. The existing layout of an off-leash area directly beside a road is dangerous for the dogs, vehicle traffic, and people using the path that are uncomfortable around dogs. I would be very pleased to see this changed.

The washrooms could be improved

more functional big green space

The playground, more climbing structures and more swings.

?

kicking out the homeless guys

More natural vegetation/landscaping

the sand is often buzzing w wasps in the summer - can this be addressed?

bicycle parking in the car parking area

more swings

- THE DOG PARK!! IT'S NOT WORKING !! Remove the designation of "Dog Park" and leave it as is or fence it in. As it's set up now, there is an assumption that people understand the concept - they don't! Also, it assumes people have control of their dogs, most don't.

Because there is no boundaries a lot of the dogs end up using the entire park to play. Not good! I would love to let my dog off leash but without a fence I'm nervous that he would run where he's not allowed (possibly into the road). At the moment it's not a safe situation for visitors to the park or the dogs.

If it's a matter of cost for the fence, I would gladly head up a fundraising campaign to raise the money. I know the dog owners would jump at the chance to let their dogs run free!!!

- Deal with the street people living by the washrooms and next to the Italian Center (park side).

The park could be better and bigger with a zipline. Look something like the park on Cook St.

make dog area leash only

People should take priority over dogs. The dog area is rarely used. Many owners let their dogs run loose over the rest of the park. Some don't bother picking up their pet's shit.

The walking path could be paved.

Some attractive benches and observation spaces.

The walkway could be lit- it's quite dark in the fall/winter with all the trees. The off leash dog area needs to be completely enclosed. Washrooms (even just a port-a-potty) could be placed by the skate park- too many kids using the bushes by the residential fence area.

skatepark, more bleachers

A WAY better playground is needed, natural play structures, natural sandbox with logs natural climbing structures, more trees for shade, tables to have lunch at with a covered area. A water park for children!

If it didn't interrupt the recreational aspects of the park, I'd like to see more gardens or landscaping and more trees

The playground. This seems like the most used part of the park, but it's old and run down. Is it possible to get some natural play elements? E.g. logs for hopping, interesting small hills, etc?

a proper playground would be a huge improvement in the park.....we would probably use it much more with our grandchildren if we had this amenity.....

Just keep it clean and safe

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just keep it clean and safe

More natural areas (trees, native plants, etc.)

fill in the holes in the leash optional area - they are dangerous.

put light along the path to esquamalt rd

The skate park is a great way to provide a unique feature for park users (skate boarders) who may be undeserved by other parks.

It would be great if we built on this, and provided more features for park users undeserved by other parks in Victoria.

More pick up of garbage. More picnic tables.

fenced in off leash area for the dogs, they do tend to run off the area into the sports fields.

increase public awareness about the park, I spent 2 years living a few minutes from it and never knew a park was there. This may be because it looks like just a skate park on the Esquamalt road side.

Adding a marked path or entrance archway on the Esquamalt road side would help identify the park as people drive by.

It feels scorched. Improvements to green areas--maybe like the oak at fisherman's wharf.

The path from Esquamalt Road to Wilson should be asphalted and the basketball court should be better maintained and programmed for youth 10 to 16 years old. The diamonds need better maintenance with additional sand . A path needs to be developed behind the play fields and better signage needs to be placed on site with directions to find different uses (washrooms ,lawn bowling location, etc

Upgrade and expand playground

The playground is really outdated and needs to be expanded. More picnic benches and better monitoring of the garbage cans would be good, too.

Playground

- more picnic tables throughout the park (the one behind the washroom isn't in the nicest location)

The children's playground isn't great. I tried to take my baby there last summer, but there were wasps everywhere and a friend found needles on the grass near the play area. So while it's incredibly close to my home, I tend to drive to other parts of the city so my toddler can go to the playground or our family can picnic and run on the grass.

Bigger, better playground - more swings, more and bigger jungle gyms, maybe a water feature although it's usually windy and cold there so a splash park might not get much use.

Playground

Keep the skatepark

### Keep the Skatepark

More trees

More family friendly and safe

Better utilization of open space ...

The walkway path during rainy weather tends to flood.

condition of the field itself, the baseball diamond and interface with the streets.

Close fencing in dog area

The baseball diamonds and their respective fields need an overhaul. Re-Do the Infields, level the ground. Keep outfield grass cut in the summer and smooth/level the unevenness of the outfield grass. It's very dangerous.

Dog park needs fencing - dangerous as dogs dash onto busy Rd as others walk by.

No water source for dogs/people

Skatepark

I think the park would be hard to improve on and would rather see another park or an addition with new obstacles. Maybe a rail or ledge at the edge of old park.

A fenced in dog park....move the dog park to one of the rocky areas where the dogs can benefit from a natural agility feature such as the rocks. No need to spend money on agility equipment. The dogs will love that space and benefit physically from the diverse terrain. Must have lighting for after dark hours.

The basketball court is generally under-serviced. The entire playing surface shifts noticeably to one end, making the post that supports the backboard dangerous during play. The surface gets dusty and slippery, leading to potential injury. Our group managed to move the entire surface back into position last week, but it still needs to be anchored permanently.

The skate park

No dogs allowed, LARGE fenced playground area to keep toddlers and children safe from dogs

The baseball diamond

In strongest possible terms, I am completely disgusted and offended by the homeless elements living in the park 24 hours a day for the full year that I have lived in that neighbourhood. These people have taken over a section of the park at the north east corner next to the rocks and also often monopolize the picnic table behind the public washrooms. These people have often challenged me/confronted me about being in close proximity to them while walking my dog near "their rock". The regular group that live there year round drink alcohol, smoke pot, smoke cigarettes (on the dry sunburned grass) and collect large quantities of cans and bottles which they store in the bushes. These same people urinate against the rock, defecate in the bushes,

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pull their pants down in plain view of children and seniors and families, sit on the grass and wipe their backsides on the grass INSTEAD of walking a few feet to the public lavatory...probably because they are too drunk or stoned to move. These people completely spoil this park for me and it's one of the chief reasons I am moving away from this neighbourhood soon. This is a public park for everyone (including these people), but I should not have to suffer this bad behaviour in my local park.

The off leash area should be bigger. Also the transient population around the washrooms can look a bit menacing at times.

Unlike nearby Banfield Park, Vic West Park doesn't feel like it has much of a community identity. Although there are a variety of different activities to meet the needs of diverse residents, the park doesn't have a cohesive theme.

The fencing in the off leash area is dangerous. Too many dogs have run across the road. There is not enough lighting. Leading to potentially dangerous situations at dark, especially in the winter when we want to have our dogs out. I walk through the skateboard area daily and it is wonderful to have something to do however there are FAR too many drugs being sold there. This needs to be stopped for the safety of everyone.

More parking and more fenced areas for dogs

there needs to be a division fence between the skate board park & the ball fields. Maybe something like the ones in MacDonald Park in James Bay. On several occasions I have seen adult ball players hit a ball that ends up at/in the skate board parks and this has resulted in yelling matches between skaters and ball players

Better architecture

We would love to have the off leash area fully fenced to stop dogs from accidentally running into baseball games after balls

dog area

Adding a full fence to the dog area would greatly increase safety, ease, and comfort of the park for all who use it.

Washroom upgraded and the ball fields upgraded/made safer

Fully fenced off-leash area.

The dogs off leash area. It's unsafe without a perimeter fence, and is too small (although I realize there's no room to grow it)

Cross Walk, better/increased awareness to travelers that there are young kids playing, putting out speed awareness detectors to show high speed offenders actual speed down this shakey clay street. The bathroom is unsafe to use due to transient population that lives there. Transients don't belong next to young children. They would do better next to the goose trail and dockyards, and lawyers offices.



### Big fenced dog park

The location and design of the play structure (please keep the teeter-totter - there are very few left and my daughter always wants to come here to use it).

The multi-use play field - one of the baseball fields is in a sorry state and the soccer one though outlined on the panels does not really exist.

The washrooms - a bonus to have at a park, especially when there with kids - but can soap be included?

Get rid of the small neglected infield by the skate park, it's a waste of space. Put a fence around the entire soccer / baseball grass field area to keep people from cutting through it during games which is dangerous. Please regrade the field as well so that it isn't sloped. And if the infield could be kept all dirt like it is, but regraded as well with new dirt that would be nice, it's usually too dry and bumpy to safely play on.

### The playground and the bathrooms

More benches around playground and in the shade (during peak hours). Bathroom signage? Been to park multiple times and wasn't aware there was one.

- It would be nice to have more than the single picnic table, which is often in use. Many people like to eat their lunch at the park
- the slope of the land makes soccer a "slanted" game - the soccer pitch should be more level
- the height of the curbs at the Wilson St parking lot causes damage to cars. The parking lot could benefit from some reshaping and standard height curbs.

Could optimize the space better and update the playground.

I'd like to see the paths paved. Since this will be more appealing to cyclists and skateboarders, it would also be great to designate a separate walking path.

Playground structures or play space for children. How about a nature playground like they did in Portland, OR. <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/57822>

Nothing

The fields need to be leveled and better uses of the fields

We would LOVE a water park (splash pad) and an updated playground.

kids park: playground equipment, location (closer to Wilson)

The garbage. Vagrancy. Begging. Old tired kids park.

The ball fields are horrible. So many teams would play there if you had decent fields. Level fields as that is the worst part, dug outs and a fence. Turn this into a real ball field. So many people would come to the park if you had that.

The fields are in very poor condition. The backstops are also in poor condition and should likely be removed.

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The fields are in very poor condition. The backstops are also in poor condition and should ideally be removed or replaced. Beacon Hill Little League and Little League Victoria are interested in working with the City and with the neighbourhood to incorporate a stand-alone baseball park into the planned Vic West Park improvements. There is currently no such facility in the City of Victoria. Youth baseball is a popular and growing sport and a stand-alone baseball park with a 300 foot fence line and 90 foot base paths would be valued now and for future generations of Victoria's youth.

basketball court

kids play ground

Larger playground with equipment for a variety of ages. Keep the see-saw! Not many playgrounds have one anymore and kids always love it. A clearly defined dog area, love being able to take our dog there.

kid play equipment. more shade trees.

Better playground.

Fenced off off leash area.

Improvement to skate park.

Small skate park for younger kids?

More space between skate park and basketball court.

More trees, by skate park. Teens need shade as well.

Not the safest area to travel through in the evening or at night, and the whole park can get pretty badly bogged down after a rain.

Upgrades to the areas you suggested.

It just looks a little tired

Needs refreshing

Washroom facilities

The upkeep of the grass and walking trails (the trails tend to get very wet in the fall and winter). The number of drinking fountains.

Minor improvements to upgrade the park.

The basketball court could be renovated

The addition of some type of entertainment stage/band shell that would bring people together under the sun and stars for community gatherings.

Litter.

Parking closer to the Skate Park/basketball court. Increase the size of the skate park

## Safety

more naturalized areas, upgraded playground

Fence in the dog park, pave the path from Wilson to Esquimalt Rds

The gravel on the baseball diamond

better washrooms

Less homeless people

The ball fields need to be improve dramatically, they are very dangerous.

the fields the ball diamonds are like beach sand dangerous for people try to play ball . Level water the fields more

conversation areas that look inviting. Currently the park looks grubby. A water feature would help. Could you do something like fishermans park?

New Skate park & a whole new park with gardens

The ball facilities are the worst I have ever seen. I have lived in Guelph, St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Toronto, Thunder Bay and Edmonton before settling in Victoria and the facilities here are atrocious. For a major city like Victoria to not have proper ball fields is sad.

better/bigger playground

Security - there are often homeless folks that sound quite drunk or high, and it makes me wary of taking my nieces there. I worry that we will stumble upon drug paraphernalia, or be harassed by those under the influence.

The playground is old and needs to be replaced. More trees planted. A waterpark for kids. Fencing around the off-leash dog park (my dogs reactive to skateboards, so never let him off right now)

fencing the entire off-leash dog area

more trees and flower gardens

more paths

lighting, seating, concession stand, waterfun!

the use of space

playground, swings (more) big rocks removed, exercise circuit, crosswalk on Bay and Henry

play equipment, glass/syringes near rock , more organized soccer

fully enclose the 'leash optional' area and make that area ( and only that area) offleash. People use the park too!

lighting along the path to my bus stop and dogs only area

the public washrooms could use an upgrade. I enjoy the skatepark as is. It would be great to have lights for the spring/fall/winter. (till 10pm)

the playground and the rock needs to be cleaner

clean up areas around washrooms! Currently not enough containers for garbage and recycling.

a water play area fenced and gate off leash area more trash and recycling bins expand skate area and ban bikes ?if lawn bowling is needed. if so abolish "white" rules so other/youth might join

The playground The rock could be kept clean

More swings

the field is pretty hard pack with scrubby grass

Lit and paved pathways, enclosed dog park.

Fence in the dog park. Lighting on pathway at night. More benches/sitting area.

lights on walkway

walkway will get increased use with development and railyards - Bayview Properties

fully fenced dog area

Dont no

The "feel" It feels somewhat neglected & dingy. Soap in the washrooms! In the past, when we visited the playground with our kids, we always felt a bit uneasy.

What do you think is missing at Victoria West Park? What additional features would you like to see in the park?

Response

Count

167 responses

2 covered pick nick table area ,one near skate park area and one near play ground . please put a bench along walking path , for many elderly it is a long walk . A second washroom near skate park .

- sand (beach) volleyball courts in the area where there is late afternoon / evening sun (the sand courts could also act as sandboxes for kids)

- outdoor strength training fitness equipment (i.e. chin-up bars, leg press, pull up & dip station, seated chest

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press, seated lat pull, squat press, etc.)

- nice soccer pitches

and the play ground for every on to use even if you a disablilites

1. low-light path lighting for walking path at night

2. fenced in off leash dog area

Benches and aesthetically pleasing sitting areas for friends and neighbors to congregate. More garbage receptacles. Pave sidewalk. Add lighting along sidewalk for security and this will also extend the hours of usage for the off-leash dog park. As it is now it is unusable after dark.

For me, there is nothing missing.

long table picnic table, creative play equipement, water park

More benches.

Fenced off-leash area for dogs

Natural play structures like the pirate stuff at gyro or dinosaur at cook St

It would be amazing to have access to a hose to water down the infield before games as it's incredibly dusty.

would like to see more bleachers as the ones now seem to get moved over to the skate park constantly.

Nothing.

better ball fields

bleachers at the ball field (for both fields and both sides)

Fencing, lighting, and benches to the off leash dog area.

A fence around the dog park. Lights on the pedestrian pathways.

More benches, more family-friendly events.

Community use structure or covered area beside skatepark. Could be placed where basketball court is.

A place food trucks can park. A water park.

New obstacles added to the skatepark

And new smaller bowl or mini ramp in the skate park. The current bowl is too high and atop advanced for beginners or for the very young or the aging skater population of Victoria. We could also use some newer flat ground ledges similar to a skate plaza which would reflect the current and new style of skate park building and skating.

## Waterpark

a bicycle park with banks and jumps like Cecila Creek

Proper, functional water fountain.

A water element like a fountain, open natural drainage or water park for children would be nice. A native plant garden. Public art, a totem pole honouring the Songhees People.

Water park for kids.

Water play park for multi-ages.

If I am sitting on the bench near the playground and my child decides to go to the swings, this area is so far away I have to relocate. It would be nice to have seating between these structures so that parents can supervise their kids wherever they are.

a woodchip trail on the perimeter of the park

A fence to keep dogs in and from running into the road

shade

Dirt jumps for bmx

Better access to amenities/water. More events/vendor access for events.

Shaded area / semi covered area at the skatepark.

Water play area for kids.

## Gardens

Larger off leash area and more picnic tables throughout the park.

## Tennis Courts

More regular programming

A splash park would be so super awesome, a wading pool and concession.

Would love to see a FENCED off leash area for the dogs

I would like to see a First Nations presence in either an historical plaque or statue.

A bike trail through the park.

Food trees and or shrubs.

Possible community garden.

actually---please remove the water spouts that come out at night.. it doesn't get dark until after 10pm in the summer, yet we can't skate/hang/play here because of the water

Picnic area

picnic tables through out

- A community garden. There are so many multi dwelling buildings in the area. People are very into a healthier lifestyle and I think there would be a long waiting list as soon as it was set up.
- Seating of some kind. Right now there are only 3 benches near the playground. I would love to be able to sit and chat by the dog area or under the trees by the path.

Bigger Park for kids to play, zipline.

Maybe a water park added. More updated.

more picnic tables

Benches/seating areas.

Aesthetic elements ... maybe a bit more landscaping

Lights on the walkway and a fence at the dog park.

lights for the skatepark, cops stopping by more often

More trees and shade

A way better play ground

ponds and natural gardens

a water park for kids

a covered area with tables

A big sand area for children

Natural play structures

Naturally challenging play structures for children

I think the amenities are good.

Is it possible to get some natural play elements? E.g. logs for hopping, interesting small hills, big rocks for climbing, etc?

the whole park needs a clean up.....more benches needed, picnic tables,

More natural areas (trees, native plants, etc.)

an area where people could go & sit/enjoy the park. in london england, green & white deck chairs are scattered throughout parks where people can go and relax/spend the day. there is a nominal fee for use, but it is very popular and is very pretty to see all the deck chairs scattered in an area of the park.

and exercise ring

Traveling Rings! A rare feature in parks, which attract strong community following, and actually draw tourists to the area (ringers!). When living in New York, I started using the traveling rings they have in Riverside Park, and since then, have made a special effort to visit other traveling ring installations in Santa Monica, CA and Rhode Island.

Adult traveling rings require a space measuring approximately 25' wide' by 15' high by 80' long, about the length of a tennis court. The cost for the galvanized steel 4-bay structure, which suspends 10 rings on swivel chains, is \$8,000-\$10,000. The additional costs of shipping, taxes (if applicable), assembly, installation, and concrete footings bring the total to the \$20,000-\$30,000 range. Junior rings consist of eight rings on a 3-bay structure. The cost is about 20% less.

A gazebo or sheltered area to sit.

some kind of water park area for the kids

A music venue or stage similar to what is in Beacon Hill for bands to play at.  
Especially with the skate park there a permanent music venue would give local bands a place to play for skate competitions without needing to set-up a mobile trailer stage.

Disc golf course, shady green areas.

A splash park for kids would be a fun addition to the neighbourhood.

Half decent path that at present is wet from broken water pipes, requires more gravel and ultimately asphalted as older women and women with children have difficulties plowing thru gravel with carts and buggies

Don't really need anything new, just upgrade existing

water fountains

Some outdoor fitness activities

- community garden or orchard - something to introduce local food production to the mix. It would be awesome to see more initiatives by the Victoria West Urban Farmers group. Less grass, more diversity!
- more attention to cultivating native plant species in less trafficked areas
- potentially add a band shell for community concerts, outdoor movie screenings, theatre groups etc.

A splash pad would be a really great addition to the children's play area.

Add picnic tables and bike racks. Add more basketball/tennis courts. Add a soccer pitch with goals. Renovate the washrooms.

Water park

More flowers

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Add (dirt jump) bike park facilities -- to much animosity at skatepark

I would love to see an outdoor exercise gym.

better seating for the baseball diamond, better condition of the baseball field grass and infield dirt. Better condition of dug out area and surrounding area of back stop.

Perhaps add some flower beds & benches near trees.

Fencing

Seating

WATER source

Improved skatepark, BBQ pit.

A bigger longer stair set than the 4 stair. A section with polished concrete.

A paved walkway for people with mobility issues, lighting for security and safety for after dark hours between Bayview and Save On Foods, benches for resting, more garbage receptacles, one more Poop Bag station at the other end of the walkway.

Out door stage, brighter lights at night

A water park and a better playground!

more seating, and picnic tables in a couple of areas near the skateboard park or diamond.

More police bicycle drive bys in the park. Police should stop and discuss appropriate behaviour with the homeless people. Public health inspectors should visit the homeless section and educate the homeless people about sanitary practices. There should be real consequences for bad behaviour in the park like a ban from the park enforced by the bylaw officers or police DAILY.

Can there be a pathway that better connects the Bay street sidewalk to the walking path on the far side of the park?

More spaces for community gathering. Most people who use Vic West park use it for a specific activity i.e. skateboarding, baseball, playground. Those that are interested in going to the park for a picnic or to read a book or grab a coffee at the nearby Starbucks and catch up with a friend don't have many options.

The playground takes a backstage which I think contributes to the vibe that it is a park for sports and teens. Most children seem to gravitate to Banfield over vicwest.

Fencing and benches in the off leash area. The washrooms are dodgy. Benches and a water tap for the dogs. Improved info structure in the playground.

Lighting along the pathway

Water fountain for dogs and people

An outdoor pool!!

More shade, perhaps more trees.

More benches

A water park and a picnic area

Keep it natural looking.

Fully fenced dog park

The dog run should be fully fenced

A fully fenced dog park

Playground having a water feature that can be utilized in the summer.

None

Exercise circuit. More swings, but keep them large and same size as is. The current swings are GREAT! Use as a soccer field. Be sure not to replicate other parks. Keep each park unique so people want to travel to all parks for variety! Tunnels and crawling tubs for agility and creative play can be combined.

Simple Dog agility equipment

Picnic tables.

A bike dirt skills track to complement the skate park.

Fenced in dog off leash area.

See above for more detail: fence around entire field play area to keep non players from taking shortcuts through the field during game play

A splash park would be amazing!

- more trees, although that might require watering. Garry Oaks would be a good choice

Water park! Updates. More playground.

Better lighting; water fountains.

waterpark

Nature playground. It's a big space but really underused, and doesn't necessarily attract families to the playground.

A water park for children would be nice.

Three Pickleball courts for sure.

Many active seniors live here

Extra diamonds

Water park/splash pad.

water park, updated kids playground, better walk paths, greenery/shrubs/trees/updated landscaping

Water park for kids. Plants. Flowers. Vegetation.

More play ground for kids. Real ball diamonds.

More benches

Victoria West Park currently has two poorly maintained and underutilized backstops. Beacon Hill Little League and Little League Victoria would like to see a Little League ball park and facilities of a size and dimension suitable to accommodate a Little League baseball program in Victoria that would include Junior (ages 13-14), Senior (ages 15-16), and Big League Baseball (ages 17-18).

tennis courts

improve playground with more fun stuff

Picnic tables.

water feature for kids in the summer. several water fountains for drinking water.

Water park!!!

Picnic area,

Seating

A more developed playground with some features for adults as well, for street workouts and the like.

More picnic tables, near shady trees.

Not sure

fenced dog park area would be good

A communal gathering space / spot to sit. Portland, Oregon has some great examples of public spaces.

tennis courts

Water fountain.

summer water feature to cool off

Water play areas.

Interesting landscaping / drought friendly gardens.

Summertime water park feature

?

Water park

Maybe a bigger kids park and better bal diamonds

covered area for all season skating, concession stand,

Benches/seating that prevent people from sleeping on or vandalizing them

Nothing

water park

see above. FW park is so inviting now that it has been given a facelift.

A water park & a edible garden for the neighbor hood

Proper slopitch facilities

It needs to be more inviting - more family friendly.

The layout is poor, and again, I worry about safety.

See answer above

adding picnic tables (include wheelchair friendly tables)

add a path from east to west across the park (for wheelchair use)

adding a stage for music and plays (summer festivals)

lighting for winter use: on the paths and off-leash dog area

Flowers, special event day ie: Skateboarding Welcome Visitors

community garden and more use of the lawn bowling club

exercise circuit, crosswalk @ Bay and Henry

natural play features

Just lighting at night is my main concern I'm sure theres something else but!

It would be great if the path form the parking lot to the park was paved. Also lights would be great (till 10pm)

I would rather see a new park somewhere else in Victoria than an upgrade or expansion of this park

I think there should be fencing around play area so dogs not able to mess in area! How about a water feature for little ones.

fenced area for dogs fenced area for playground - keep dogs out/kids safe

a community garden

picnic tables

public art

a crosswalk from the end of Henry St. to park and more swings and natural spaces to play

exercise equipment

see above

see above

water fountain

fully fenced dog area











Don't no

outdoor fitness equipment

water fountain

community gardens, picnic tables, more "eyes on the street", fenced dog area , soap in the washrooms

What kinds of play features would you most like to see at Victoria West Park?

Response	Count		
<b>Climbing elements (e.g. overhead climbers, climbing boulders, climbing nets)</b>	109	58.6%	
<b>Swings</b>	87	46.8%	
<b>Slides</b>	65	34.9%	
<b>Natural play area (e.g. logs, boulders, sand play)</b>	103	55.4%	
<b>Spinning components</b>	17	9.1%	
<b>Water play elements (e.g. water pumps, water channels)</b>	98	52.7%	
<b>Zipline</b>	68	36.6%	
<b>Tunnels or crawling tubes</b>	21	11.3%	
<b>Imaginative elements (e.g. social play, playful sculptures, themed play)</b>	48	25.8%	
<a href="#"><u>Other, please specify...</u></a>	17	9.1%	
<i>Total: 186</i>			

No opinion

exercise equipment

areas for people to sit at and enjoy the park

there is more to the VicWest community than children...a new playground should be inclusive of the whole community, including parents of children, and non-child households.

monkey bars

multi-age play equipment so the playground stays relevant as children age or families have children in different stages of ability

outdoor exercise equipments

Safety fence to keep small children safe from dogs

I like what you have done at Cook Street park. You should replicate that at Vic West. Ramp up the family presence and force out the homeless element by having larger numbers of decent people present.

tunnels are a bad idea unfortunately, hidden activity, lost kids... etc

Balance elements (low-set to reduce chance of injury)

tennis courts

like at Cadboro Gyro park

dont care irrelevant to me I am 59 but thanx

monkey bars!

boulder like at Stelley's school

Just the open field for children to run

#### What improvements would you like to see to existing sports fields?

Response

Count

113 responses

more spectator seating

use better / modern surface materials for the ball diamond

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- use better / modern surface materials for the ball diamonds

- get rid of one ball diamond

- nice soccer playing surface(s) that could double for ultimate and tag-football matches

- adding sand (beach) volleyball courts in the sunnier locations (considering how popular beach volleyball is in Vancouver, it could be really popular here too but there aren't too many good locations to play outdoor volleyball in the City of Victoria - rec leagues like Victoria Sport & Social Club & West Coast Rec would surely put volleyball courts so close to downtown to very good use)

Relocate this facility to a more functional location. This area has a very congested traffic flow problem with limited parking.

No opinion

Better soccer field

None required.

Soccer pitch grass could be improved

It's pretty soggy during the winter. Better drainage needed

Move plate to increase distance between fields, flatten infield

The slope on the field leveled out. It's a big job but would bring the field up to par with other fields in the city. The softball infield next to the skate park could use some attention or be turned into a dirt infield like the other side to eliminate dangerously bad bounces.

Flat fields with grass infields and dirt baselines

Leveling of the fields for both softball and soccer

The entire field needs to be dug up and made level and safer. Also, the alignment of the base path is not straight and causes more danger/issues in the game.

flatten them out. Make the infields better for baseball safety

Level ground and further separation from two fields

Maintained grass.

The grounds need to be better maintained or the terrain needs to be something like turf that allows for more consistent usage without the daily maintenance.

Quality of materials, upkeep and the size (currently there is a crossover when both fields are in use)

Netting along the Wilson street ball field.

Field needs a leveling. Very uneven surface for running.



More family-friendly events.

Leveled out soccer pitch.

None

I think they are well used and kept clean

Level ball field.

Area for badminton/volleyball/tennis

a woodchip trail on the perimeter of the park

Nice well kept lawn

theres a soccer pitch?

None

Maintained nicer

advertisement that fields are available - levelling

They are fairly good however i think only one ball diamond is necessary. the other end of the park, closer to the skatepark, can be used for a new purpose such as a waterpark and concession.

n/a

It would be great to know what is going on. Possibly post games and events the way they post cruise ships coming in on the walk way.

more spectator stands

Should be leveled and re-turfed.

Some spectator accommodation

The field needs to be levelled with better drainage.

N/a

Level them

to keep the dogs off it

score board.

announcement board of who is playing when

Bleachers.

Better maintained, better diamonds with clear markings

fresh seating

Improved seating

What sports field? Level the ground and add soccer goals. Add more basketball/tennis courts.

N/a

benches/bleachers, protective fence by parking lot

Removal ... we have so many sport fields but no where for mountain bikes - Ceceila bike park is for beginners.

New grass

New infield for baseball diamond

New dug outs or over all facilities for teams to change in

Infrastructure for food trucks/carts?

Better grading to improve drainage

The baseball diamonds and their respective fields need an overhaul. Re-Do the Infields, level the ground. Keep outfield grass cut in the summer and smooth/level the unevenness of the outfield grass. It's very dangerous.

Water fountain.

Make sure sprinklers don't spray the skatepark

n/a

improve the soccer pitch

NO DOGS

As above...grooming and seating

I don't play baseball, but the existing equipment needs to be updated.. The players deserve a decent ball park.

more seating

A separation fence between the field, perhaps like the low lever one at MacDonald Park in James Bay

Larger

Leveled out and better back stops and dirt. Make them true ball diamonds. It is a great park to play at but it is unsafe. We have had numerous rolled ankles and close calls with the holes in the outfield. Doesn't need to

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be turf just some nice level grass with that nice red dirt like they have at Softball city in South Surrey.

Better backstop for baseball, improved bleachers.

Just be sure they don't interfere with the play areas for children's safety.. my only concern.

It appears that space is limited for incorporating a full sized soccer field - perhaps a kids sized field or half field.

Regraded entire field to remove the slope. Regraded infield on larger infield as field is currently bumpy and dry and unsafe. A fence around the entire field soccer / baseball area to keep people from dangerously taking shortcuts through the field during gameplay

Nothing

The soccer pitch is sloped, causing unfair advantage to the team that starts on the "high side". If the grade could be modified to be (more) level, there would be more use of the soccer pitch.  
Alternatively, take away the "usage" of the park as a soccer pitch, just focus on the two baseball diamonds.

If there was a better soccer pitch perhaps I would have games there and close to home! We are the Vic West league but no pitches close to home.

Tennis court maybe?

Nothing

Make it safe and competitive

Level and build 2 much better diamonds. The ones now are unsafe.

N/A

na

Neater fencing. Clean it up.

The ball fields are horrible. So many teams would play there if you had decent fields. Level fields as that is the worst part, dug outs and a fence. Turn this into a real ball field. So many people would come to the part if you had that.

Beacon Hill Little League and Little League Victoria would like to see the existing sports fields improved to include a proper backstop, score booth and dugouts for a 90 foot base path base part with a 300 foot fence.

sports facility for adults. Running trail

Don't use them, couldn't say.

N/A

Some improvements to the general condition of the fields. Maybe installation of soccer goals for multi use.

More regular upkeep of the gravel (it's patchy at best).

minor upgrades

water the grass and keep it green

ensure there will continue to be green space for impromptu activities such as bocce ball, Frisbee, etc.

Goal posts

none

Better taken care of

Disc golf course, bmx park

Larger ball fields better grade on the fields.

fix the diamonds to proper baseball standards so they are safe the backstop area are like beach sand this is dangerous for ball players .

Not sure

Both fields are badly sloped and neither is flat. Eventually a player is going to take a ball to the face and the city is going to be held responsible for their terrible maintenance of these fields. The diamond closest to the skatepark is barely useable.

There should only be one ball field at Vic West as that is really all space allows for. If possible this field should have a fence.

If the fields are constantly used I would suggest maintaining them, but it seems that they are often empty. Maximizing the space is important - is there a way to somehow combine those two fields to make room for something more family friendly?

N/A

Better updates! bases lined! night lights for late summer events

improvements to make the space more useable

programmed soccer for different ages (sportball etc...) seems to be drainage issues near play equipment

maybe more seating for fans (often being used when we visit)

same as above

paved path along the side of the field

Think sports areas are very good

enlarge added washroom better lighting

an obscale coarse for kids

n/a

large bletches for baseball

Junior baseball diamond and team!

Alternative sports turf/area or surface I practice Highland games here on the ball diamond I dont' want to throw on the grass and damage the turf

more user friendly for kids sports, teams

#### What features would you like to see included in an improved beginner bowl?

Response

Count

68 responses

more jumps and a place to learn

I don't use the skate park but think it is an excellent facility and it seems to be heavily used and enjoyed. I think it is great that it no longer seems to suffer from graffiti

Indifferent

N/A

More segregation from the rest of the skate park so beginners are not being trampled by more experienced skaters

N/A

Re-surfacing - don't change it.

More beginner technical obstacles. More rails, gaps, etc.

A bigger bowl!

Well it's not actually a bowl, it's just a few little ramps. A bowl needs to be steeper and have metal coping around the edges to be called a "bowl". With that said, I think it needs to remain the same but just fixing the concrete. I would also add some new elements to the sides of the "bowl" such as extensions and possibly

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concrete. I would also add some new elements to the sides of the bowl such as extensions and possibly even a channel between two extensions. Also, a large drop in ramp opposite the large flat bank in the new park which leads to the "couch" obstacle would be good so that you could gain enough speed to clear the flat top between the old park and into the new park. A ledge between those 2 obstacles would also be excellent.

Spine, good drainage, traditional halfpipe

None

Just resurface it.

Separate areas for beginners and more advanced boarders. Lots of ramps of various difficulties.

N/A

does this mean the 'old' park by the lawn bowling club or the actual bowl by the basketball court?

the bowl by the basket ball court lacks flow and could use a rebuild to include more lines and possibility for a hip.

old park is great as is (besides the cracks) and shouldnt be changed. it is heavily ridden by young and old skaters / bmxers daily. the only thing i can think of it missing is a small sub box (there was a very well installed parking curb last summer that was there for a few months which was perfect).

A sub box

More ledges (capped or uncapped) banks in addition to curved bowl sides.

Mid hight quarter pipe section (like 4 foot ish?) Bigger then the current size and smaller then the bowl.

Higher.

keep it similar but add more

Stop cleaning up their graffiti - let it be

a kids only zone, it is often too dangerous for the kids to practice when the teenagers and adults are flying in and out of there.

n/a

na

Wasn't even aware of beginner bowl. Would love to be involved!

More aesthetic elements ... creative murals ... attractive spectator spaces

expand

not sure as long as it fun for who use it

no comment

More distinction that it is an area for beginners

no idea

- the existing structure is really good, although some more variety would be nice to allow for some progression within the beginner bowl

Whatever the skateboard advisors suggest

Aside from general maintenance the beginner bowl should be left as is.

new signage - include bmx, scooters and dirt jump bikes (single speed)

Not a skate boarder

Coping added to lips.

Coping on some of the transition and maybe a wall

Expand the street course part into the area

Graffiti area!

na

Nothing

I don't skate, so I don't know.

I don't know enough about the skate park to comment here.

None

na

Space for parents. Less garbage around.

nothing

Will leave this to those that know more about skate parks, but I really hope it isn't made smaller or such as my son and his buddies are super excited to be old enough to use it, and love watching the "older kids".

Snake run

N/A

no comment

?

Remove the railing beside the beginner bowl and either extend the park 5 feet or add a patio style concrete platform with benches for seating

not sure

Art work

You have a skate park yet all over Victoria the sports fields are neglected.

I dislike the skatepark. I would rather see it gone.

Lighting.

better lighting seating have a park guard or guide during events

yes forementioned lighting thank you sincerely

a spine or smaller bowl section with proper coping. (mini ramp style)

I would like to see skatepark expanded and more lights

enlarge add washroom

n/a

Don't no

I'm not knowledgeable enough to know!

Are there other improvements you would like to see to the skate park in the future?

Response

Count

67 responses

No opinion

Indifferent

N/A

No

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Expansion of the park with more bowls. Covered areas for shade.

More challenging obstacles!

A new smaller bowl or mini ramp with metal coping about 4 feet high. So that beginners can learn to use the large 7' bowl. Also new ledges around the park made "plaza style", such as granite ledges.

Oaklands needs a skatepark too.

A kidney shaped bowl or something more articulated that would allow for more complicated and interesting lines. Pie in the sky dream choice would be a covered foam pit to practice airs

Manual pad. More ledges on the North side of the park.

this park is ridden year round but with its current 'anti-graffiti' sprinkler system, the park becomes flooded and icy for months of the year.

More rails

Additional water fountains

Covered shade zones and better water fountain, A closer bathroom that the majority of the park users will use closer to the skatepark.

larger obstacles

Is there a water fountain anywhere?

more seating

n/a

na

More updated also for bikes.

Smart components that share information about use and events.

lights, security guard?

not sure as long as it fun for who use it

no comment

covered rest area for shade on the hot days. Easily installed on the north side of the park between the skate section and grass

space for small children

kids bathroom, the other one is too far away, and I don't like them peeing through the trees on to the

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lawnbowling side.

- more garbage cans and recycling bins to encourage people to keep the facility clean

Again what skateboarders recommend

A new small bowl, 2-4 feet deep beside the existing beginner bowl could be a good addition

Area for bikes ...

Expansion.

no

Make it bigger

Regular maintenance, expansion to make it larger, area for smaller children to practice

Just keep it pristine as it is now...we are proud of it and the young people are doing a great job!!,

Ongoing park host presence to deter riff raff elements from spoiling the skate park for families.

More garbage receptacles or more frequent emptying. Is there a way to incorporate recycling as well?

Security features to deter the amount of drugs being sold.

Ask the skaters, go there to visit them. It's far too crowded for young kids to safely use.

I don't skate, so I don't know.

To enable a design where little kids can still be around safely with the teenagers.

I don't know enough about the skate park to comment here.

None

na

Less garbage around. Too many kids drinking alcohol on the stands.

no

more graphic elements, get artists to paint

Larger

trees on both sides. Shade.

Small kids learning area.

Snake run

Clearer division between beginner and advanced areas especially for those starting out. Maybe some

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posted safety tips.

N/A

no comment

An additional bench along the sidelines.

More areas dedicated to different levels of expertise. Perhaps some 'one way' pathways to take users through certain areas. More non-smoking enforcement...

range of skill level options

covered section

Less drunk people

A skate instructors

No

Better lighting. The park is pretty scary after dark.

Better design so the little ones have a fair share!

I would love to see regular maintenance for the cracks in the concrete but feel money would be best used on creating new parks around the city for more diversity and less overcrowdedness.

n/a

leave all walkways as permeable surface






information plaque imbedded in glaciated rocks - re: last glacier

Keep mentors

Artistic elements

Keep the hosts/mentor system

What kinds of improvements to the leash optional area would you most like to see?

Response	Count	
<b>Fenced-in dog park</b>	132 73.3%	
<b>Play elements / agility training elements</b>	60 33.3%	
<b>Bag dispenser</b>	138 76.7%	
<b>None. I do not support improvements to the leash-optional area</b>	11 6.1%	
<b><u>Other, please specify...</u></b>	26 14.4%	
<i>Total: 180</i>		

a better pet waste disposal / management strategy, large trees along the Wilson Street edge ,  
garbage can just outside entrance of fenced in area

The ground gets very muddy during the rainy season so I would recommend back mulching the low lying areas

Lighting and benches

Garbage cans.

Nearby benches so that passers by can enjoy watching the dogs play without actually entering the area.

Made bigger

Larger in size.

leash area only so dogs don't bother other users of park

Dog area should be removed.

fill in the holes in the ground - dangerous to walk

Before doing anything you should do a survey of usage . I see it used seldom

A source of water for thirsty dogs

Water source

Relocate off-leash dog park to one of the nature rocky areas fence it in and this will provide a natural

relocate on leash dog park to one of the nature fenced areas, fence it in and then provide a natural agility course for them with spending a single dollar.

PLEASE MAKE A FENCED AREA FOR DOGS AND SEND ANIMAL CONTROL FOR REGULAR ROUNDS TO ENSURE CHILDREN'S SAFETY FROM IRRESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS

it's fine as it is.

Benches. Water station.

I'm not necessarily impressed to see running dogs when my kid is laying there.

Clear signage of where the dog area ends.

Water fountain

lighting for winter use and safety

Happy the way it is!

fenced in and STRICT adherence to the leashing in rest of the park Solar light powered by poop

dog designated would be nice...not relevant to me but....

Do you have other comments about the leash-optional dog area at Victoria West Park?

Response

Count

72 responses

I am very happy we have this area.

- don't make it any bigger
- provide better lighting (perhaps optional push-button or motion-sensored lighting)

yes peopl seem to let dogs go other place beside the dog area

A secure, fenced in area is SO needed at Vic West park. Currently, the by-law officers wait in the parking area for the dogs in the off leash area to cross the invisible boundary as they run around with the other dogs and then ticket the owners. As a result, many dog owners have had to stop using the park.

See above

I do not support the idea of (generally) fencing in the park to accommodate dogs and their owners. I should point out, however, that the area next to Wilson Street, between the path and the low rise housing is already partly fenced/closed off. I would have no objection to fencing it completely as it is already partly bound by

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the building and the existing fence and I don't use it anyway (partly because it is fenced and used by dogs and their owners).

keep dogs away from kids

Needs to be fully fenced in.

Need the fenced area dogs come onto the playing field, disrupt games and leave deposits

Dogs are always running onto the field while sports are happening - it needs to be fenced in for their safety.

Fence it in.

Please keep it!

Great for pet owners!

A fence along the road all the way across the front boarder on Bay Street would be a good idea

Necessity... not all dogs want to be social, some are passing through park but are forced into engaging dogs at play.

Guardians to be responsible for placing their pet on a leash if the pet is not behaving well. Cleaning up after pet. Not letting a dog wander off leash in the non-dog area.

It should be securely fenced and much larger than the current area. I don't have a dog, but fully support an off-leash area in the park if it is fenced and well removed from where children play. The current area for dogs is also really swampy in wet weather, so a lot of dog owners let their dogs play on the sport fields instead. Better drainage here would be really great.

Not all dogs are well-trained. If leashes are optional, there are needs to be fenced in to protect small children who can be attacked by "playful" dogs.

It's very convenient, but also quite small, and the lack of the fence means that dogs are constantly over in the other open areas.

I love leash-optional dog parks. Thanks for keeping this one open!

fenced in would be awesome so that poop doesn't continue to end up all over and so that the kids playing at the park are kept safe :)

There is only one fenced dog park in Victoria over by UVIC, having a fenced area in Vic West would be amazing and keep the dogs safe while they play.

- THE DOG PARK!! IT'S NOT WORKING !! Remove the designation of "Dog Park" and leave it as is or fence it in. As it's set up now, there is an assumption that people understand the concept - they don't! Also, it assumes people have control of their dogs, most don't.

Because there is no boundaries a lot of the dogs end up using the entire park to play. Not good! I would

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I love to let my dog off leash but without a fence I'm nervous that he would run where he's not allowed (possibly into the road). At the moment it's not a safe situation for visitors to the park or the dogs. If it's a matter of cost for the fence, I would gladly head up a fundraising campaign to raise the money. I know the dog owners would jump at the chance to let their dogs run free!!!

Dog area should be removed. It just encourages people to bring dogs to the park. Few people restrict their dogs to the dog area. Dogs frequently run wild in the rest of the park.

They're great. We the dog owners should continue to keep it clean by picking up after our dogs.

would like to see the fence run in long the fence where the wing so that there dogs can not get out peopl do not come out and whach them.

benches, picnic tables for owners

People in the Wing apartments should not be tying their dogs up in the dog park or leaving them unattended. My only worry

Instead of the leash dog area ,why not consider a circular development of a circular path.

rather than fencing, shrubbery dividing the park from the skate park/ esquimalt avenue would be nice.

- this is a very well-used area for dogs and I think it's great to have it in the community (I don't own a dog). Clear signage of where the area begins and ends, and bags/bins to dispose of waste are all that is needed. I don't think it's appropriate to spend tax dollars on a playground for dogs.

It would be nice to have the option to be off leash if they wish.

I love it :)

No

n/a

I would like to see the city taking a tougher stance on dogs off leash outside of leash optional areas. Please FENCE all leash optional areas

no

Please keep it as grass. Fenced in all gravel "dog parks" are just sad.

It is most important to have proper fencing for everyone's safety. Lighting, benches and water access would be a benefit.

Please keep it!!

With so many other things going on in the park, I prefer not to take my dog off leash in this area because she may get excited by the balls at the ball field and run after them. I would like a fenced area where she

can run free and not worry. Also the dog area is along Wilson Road which is a dog runs can get hit by a car.

It will be a great help to the communities dog owners to provide a fully fenced park! In a city where most people do not have yards but want to provide a loving home for dogs in need it's definitely an important option-- especially in a high traffic area and not wanting to disturb the other elements of the park.

The fence is most important..with double gate. While Victoria has a fair amount of off leash areas, it lacks in fully fenced parks.

It's great but would be better if fully fenced.

Please fence it fully!

As the only option in Vic West, combined with the fact that the growth in Vic West is mostly from multi-family units, it's super important to have a great off leash park for dog owners. Having your dog on leash for exercise is useless and doesn't allow a dog to exhibit normal behaviours.

We like supporting off leash dog areas (and we have a dog) but considering all the other feature of the park (and more to come) fenced in might be better.

Reminder to people to use it rather than the sports fields and too clean up after their pets

Why is it leash optional? Is it originally designed as a dog park?

no

Better enforcement of leash areas

no

It is a great feature!

Please keep the leash optional area! Having it fenced in I feel would help those who aren't in favour of one feel more comfortable with having one there.

No pitbulls off-leash.

no comment

It's great and not overused.

Make that area leash optional, and make the rest of the park leash mandatory.

for the number of dogs in the area, needs to be a bigger park. usage is every day all year.

Fencing is a must, with a separate area for smaller dogs.

No

I'm okav with an off leash area. but bvlaw officers must be available to check in on it and issue fines for

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owners not picking up excrement, or owners not in control of their pets	
Benches to sit while watching	
needs to be fenced in	
clear rules about where the leash-optional areas are. they are not by the playground equipment. Fenced along path to minimize conflicts between people walking & off-leash dogs.	
have areas where theres some kind of surface that will reduce dust. grassed areas will become bare/dusty (we saw this in Portland Chapman School park --nasty poopy dust -ikk!)	
more of the same as above.....	
no	
n/a	
bench lights water spigot	
Needs to be fully fenced. Having access to Wilson St is just asking for dead puppies	
No Not my priority	
Please provide any additional comments or ideas you have about how Victoria West Park can be improved.	
Response	Count
	55 responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- maximize the allotted parking areas (to fit as many vehicles as possible to account for insreased usage due to improved park facilities and existing neighbourhood street parking situation)</li> <li>- please don't touch any of the mature trees</li> <li>- more information of the lawn bowling club would have been useful in completing this survey</li> <li>- please don't designate this park as a 'camping permitted' or micro-housing park</li> </ul>	
I do like in summer when has staff it make me feel safe that my kid will be ok	
Keep it simple and ensure the fenced in dog area is large enough to allow the dogs to run and play freely, and safely for their exercise. The treed walking path is wonderful for Vic West residents and others to get quick access to Esquimalt Road, waterfront walking paths as well as West Side Village. No camping overnight.	
<div> <div></div> <div>55 of 64</div> </div>	

I would like to remove the homeless people that live behind the large rock outcroppings. I call the police regularly about this problem.

There is an expression that if something is not broken, don't try to fix it. Please bear this in mind when you are considering plans for the park. Basically, it appears to me that the park works fine and it does not appear to me to need any significant changes to it. The items mentioned above in my comments, would not appear to me to be significant changes.

Lighting and cleaning around the rocky crag

Some sort of lighting in all areas of the park to stop vandalizing the park, also for safety in games.

Fence it in.

Thank you for all your hard work!

Toilets closer to the skatepark.

Please please do not remove trees.

vic west is a great park and is the reason i moved from oak bay to vic west.

I feel that the skatepark should be expanded out into some of the lesser used areas of the park. Since it is one of the most consistently in use areas of the park over most of the year I think it makes more sense to add onto that than any of the other sections of the park.

The air quality at the park is not good because of the floatplanes. It smells bad and we worry it may be unsafe for children.

I just wanted to say thank you for opening this up to public input, our family is so excited that the kids are going to have a new and improved space to play!!!

if you can't smoke in parks, the least you can do is get a butt garbage

park definitely an asset to Vic West residents

I indicated that additional parking seems to be needed because park users frequently park on streets near the park.

Making it more visually appealing will make me want to go there more often! Better kept gardens and grass

may look at way that any person can use it from young to old  
even if they have disabilities that they can have fun too  
have bright color

More walking paths that are short cuts, through the park. Less open field.

More garbage pick up- no overflowing cans.

A garden.

More signage in the dog park about fines for not picking up the dog poop.

Love this park. Visit all the time with my children as it is one of the few parks that provide shade as well as a wide variety of options for play - we fly kites, climb on the rocks, skate park, and playground.

?

Over the years, I have noticed fewer undesirable characters around the skate park easing my mind walking near there.

Can the playground incorporate some of the large rocks into outdoor activities.

- consider lighting, both to promote safety and also to create gathering spaces
- ensure that seating, play equipment etc. is accessible

Vic west park needs more frequent grounds maintenance - pick up litter, broken glass, dog poop, cigarette butts, etc.

More additions to the skatepark.

ban scooters

n/a

#### DOG CONTROL

More police presence. Police must be proactive about the homeless people and the riff raff at the skate park.

Ensure there is good lighting around the washrooms. Also work with the condos that border the park - I don't think their residents are allow to smoke on the property so they congregate on the edge of the park and smoke.

More seating and gathering spaces for people not interested in a specific sport but interested in spending time to sunbathe, read a book, people watch etc.

this is a great spot for dogs! very well used and perfect location

Just an upgrade to the washrooms would be nice. Kind of dark and sketchy now so most of us go over to Starbucks

Once the survey period is complete will park improvement designs be shared with the community before they are implemented.

Better landscaping and a cleaner look.

I'm excited that the city will be improving this park; however I'm troubled by Council's proposal to designate certain parks as campgrounds for our population without homes. I do not wish to see Vic West Park used as a campground

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a campground.

At this time we do not often use the park as it is not family friendly. I would love for this to change! It would be great if it was more like cook street village park. We drive across town to go to parks that are better equipped for kids.

Bathrooms at both ends

Background and details of Beacon Hill Little League's proposal to expand its baseball divisions and to identify a location suitable to accommodate Little League Junior, Senior and Big League division are provided in our May 21, 2015 submission to Mayor and Council which was presented to Council on May 28, 2015.

the pathway of park is always flood and we can't walk through when it is rain.

a cross walk across Bay street to the park.

picnic benches for picnics

BBQ/Briquettes spots for family BBQs

garbage cans

lots of shade trees

Provide something to entice people to leverage the space who are not coming to participate in a specific activity (e.g. baseball, playing with dog in park, etc). This could include a square, a fountain, some sort of gardens, outdoor seating, etc. See Jamison Square for an example in Portland at:

<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/finder/index.cfm?action=ViewPark&PropertyID=1140>

keep the park!

A playful water feature would be great.

hold festivals there - maybe link in with the Vic west street fest and things like that. Give the community a reason to attend the park. Clean it up, and they will come.

Bandshell lighting, special events ie; Fair! Concession stand, water fun! List of events

community garden!!!

lighting in applicable areas.....

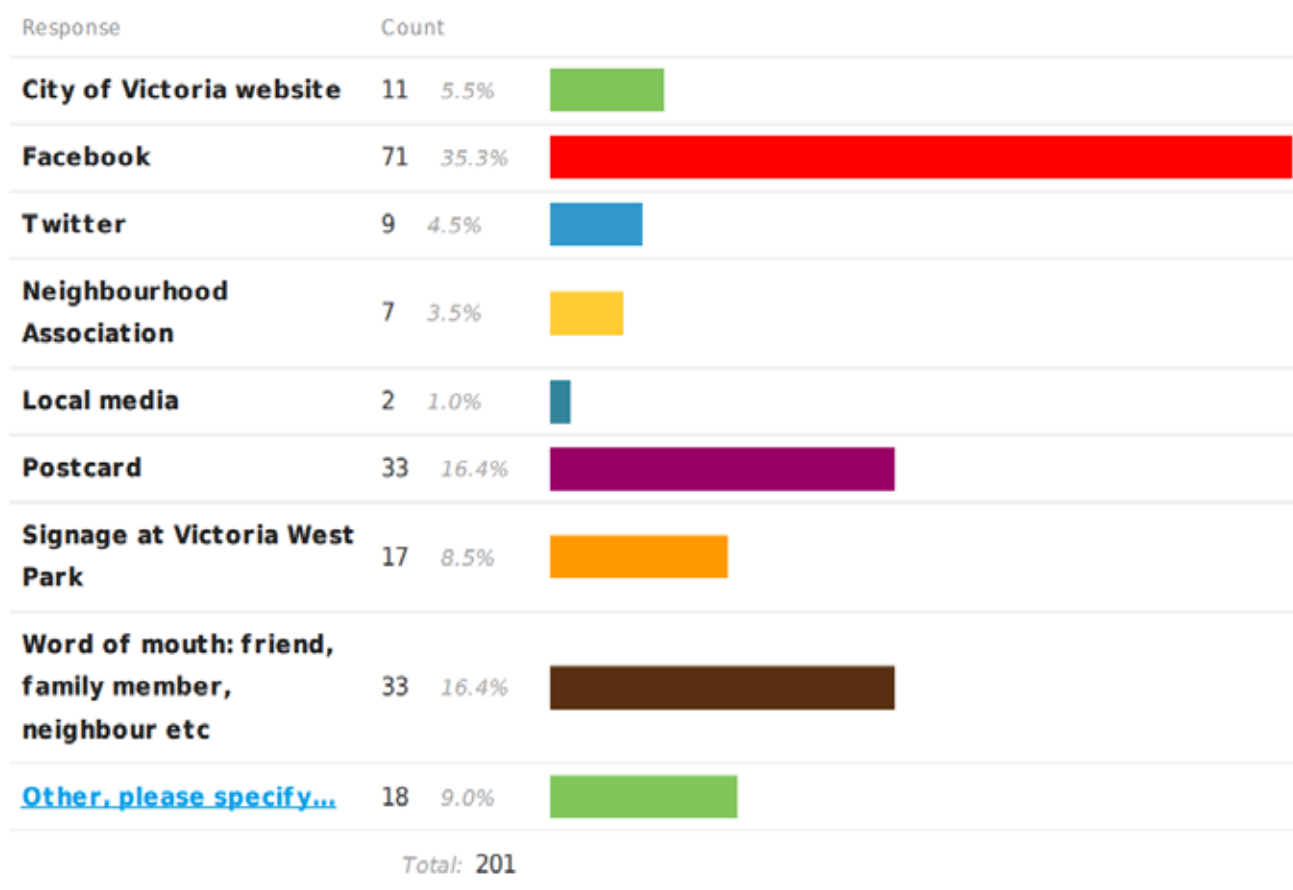
no

a native plant garden. cleaner washrooms a water element and public art.

A crosswalk from Henry St. to park and reduce speed on Bay st

do not fill it up with "facilities"

## How did you hear about the survey?





Vic West Street Fest

Vic West Street Fest

Notice board in building elevator where I live

Strangely I was browsing the Internet - nothin from community association and didn't see signs

Vic West Fest tent

Vic West Street Fest

Card in lobby at Synergy, Dockside Green

KIV (Kids in Victoria)

kidsinvictoria

Posted on our Softball League's Facebook Page

Vic West Fest on Harbour Road

You held an awareness event at the park yesterday

Postcard and signange at park

invitation to Beacon Hill Little League from the City of Victoria's Sport Services Coordinator, Jeff Brehaut

Work colleague

instagram

Neighborhood Assoc'n - could have been more intensely promoted

Do you want to be added to our email list to hear about upcoming news for Victoria West Park? (Your email will not be shared publicly and will only be used to contact you about updates to this park.)

Response

Count

[Yes, please contact me!](#)

[Email address:](#)

79 42.2%



**No, thanks.**

108 57.8%



*Total: 187*

## Correspondence

April 27, 2015

Julie MacDougall  
Jeff Brehaut  
City of Victoria Parks Department

Dear Julie:

Little League District 7 is actively looking to expand its age divisions for baseball starting in the 2016 Spring season. Currently we offer baseball starting at age 3 with our Blastball division up to age 12. After the age of 12, players have had to leave Little League to play BC Minor Baseball through parks like Carnarvon in Oak Bay.

We would like players to be able to remain in Little League for the duration of their youth baseball experience. Little League was first established in Victoria in 1953 with National Little League and there are currently six Little Leagues in operation in the Greater Victoria Area.

Although registration fees are charged, the Little League philosophy does not permit any eligible candidate to be turned away even if parents are not able to pay. Emphasizing the spirit of Little League, rules require that every child plays in every game.

We would like to extend the Little League program in Victoria to include Junior Baseball (13/14) and Senior Big League (15/16/17). This program would be District-wide, meaning that players from all over Victoria would be able to register to play teams from the Lower Mainland and Washington State with a chance to represent Canada at the World Series.

Existing Little League parks (ie Hollywood Park) are not a suitable location for these two divisions due to the size and setup of the field. We are looking at locations in Victoria and Esquimalt that could accommodate a 300 foot fence line with a 90 foot diamond.

In the 1970's through the early 90's, Big League baseball in Victoria was played out of Bullen Park in Esquimalt.

We are interested in the Vic West field for these programs and we understand that there is a currently a revitalization plan for the area and upgrades to this field could be an integral part of that plan.

We would like to formally enquire at this time whether it would be feasible to run these age divisions out of the Vic West field starting in April of 2016. Upgrades and improvements would need to be made to the facilities, but to start the first season, minimal accommodations could be made to make it work. Since the program will likely be run in partnership with Beacon Hill Little League, the licensing of the park could be done as part of the extension of our current License Agreement with the City.

We would need a fairly quick response (ie end of May) so that we could hit the ground running on recruiting players and volunteer coaches for next year at this time. Please let us know if you would like to meet in person to discuss this proposal.

Sincerely,

Gus Niketas  
VP Player Development  
Victoria Capitals  
Little League District 7, Victoria



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Victoria, British Columbia  
V8W 1P6  
**victoria.ca**