

Land Acknowledgement

The City of London is situated on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lunaapeewak and Attawandaron. We honour and respect the history, languages and culture of the diverse Indigenous people who call this territory home. The City of London is currently home to many First Nations, Metis and Inuit today. As representatives of the people of the City of London, we are grateful to have the opportunity to work and live in this territory.

Introduction

The City of London invites Old South and Central residents to the second public meeting to have a conversation about potential improvements in Thames Park.

The purpose of this meeting is to update the community on the status of the project, report back on feedback received to date, provide preliminary design alternatives and seek your feedback.

What is informing our decisions?

2023-2027 Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan identifies the City of London's vision, mission, values, and priorities for the next four years, reflecting the needs and expectations of the community. As part of the Strategic Plan, one of the expected results is that "Londoners have safe access to public spaces, services, and supports that increase wellbeing and quality of life."

The London Plan (Official Plan)

This plan provides the policy framework for all planning in London, Ontario. This plan emphasizes London, Ontario will become one of the greenest cities in Canada by continually expanding, improving, and connecting our parks resources. This plan also notes London's system of parks will build upon the Thames Valley Corridor and parks will be connected and well distributed throughout the city to provide active and passive recreational opportunities for all Londoners and serve as focal points within neighbourhoods.

2019 Parks & Recreation Master Plan

This plan is used to assess the current state of the parks and recreation system, identify gaps and needs, and plan for future investment that is strategic and in alignment with the policies of the London Plan, and in accordance with the Planning Act.

Council resolution (s) - July 26, 2023

- a. Proceed with the process to decommission Thames Pool;
 - b. Undertake a community consultation with respect to implementing potential new amenities in Thames Park, including but not limited to, pickleball courts, basketball courts or other amenities;
 - c. Undertake a feasibility study of a new spray pad installation in Thames Park or in Wortley on the Village Green, in consultation with the community on preferred location;
 - d. the location of a potential new indoor pool opportunity including: Murray Park, Rowntree Park, and other appropriate City owned properties within the same general geographic service catchment areas as Thames Pool;
 - e. Continue to work with the community to provide transportation opportunities to other aquatic facilities; and
 - f. Parts b,c,d and e above not exceed a combined budget of \$1.92 million consistent with the lowest cost temporary repair option for the current Thames Pool location outlined in the staff report dated July 18th 2023.
- it being noted that any costs associated with part a) related to any required demolition of decommissioning the existing pool, are not included in the \$1.92 million noted above;

Public Feedback to date (November 2023)

Sticker Board 1

Preliminary Suggestions for Park Improvements

Place a sticker next to the improvement you would like to see at Thames Park.

Improved pathways	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	Naturalization improvements	☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☐	7
Improved playground	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	Sports field improvements	☒ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	1
Storm water management/flood mitigation/wetland	☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☐	Improvements for pollinators	☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☐	5
Pickleball courts	☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒	Basketball courts	☒ ☒ ☒ ☐ ☐	3
Dog-related amenities	☒ ☒ ☒ ☐ ☐	Other improvements	☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☐	4
Community events space	☒ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	Do nothing	☒ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	1

Thames Park Improvements



Sticker Board 2

Preliminary Suggestions for Park Improvements

Place a sticker next to the improvement you would like to see at Thames Park.

Improved pathways	☒ ☒ ☒ ☐ ☐	Naturalization improvements	☒ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐	4
Improved playground	☒ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐	Sports field improvements	☒ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐	4
Storm water management/flood mitigation/wetland	☒ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐	Improvements for pollinators	☒ ☒ ☒ ☐ ☐	5
Pickleball courts	☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒	Basketball courts	☒ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	1
Dog-related amenities	☒ ☒ ☒ ☐ ☐	Other improvements	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	
Community events space	☒ ☒ ☒ ☐ ☐	Do nothing	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	

Thames Park Improvements



General Summary table

Preliminary Suggestions for Park Improvements	No. of Dots placed by the public	Aprox. Attendees [34] & Percentage
Pickleball Courts	15	44%
Naturalization improvements	11	32%
Improvements for Pollinators	10	29%
Storm Water Management/flood mitigation/wetland	7	21%
Dog-related amenities	6	18%
Sports Field improvements	5	15%
Improved pathways	4	12%
Community Events space	4	12%
Basketball Courts	4	12%
Other improvements	4	12%
Improved playground	3	9%
Do nothing	1	3%

Thames Park Improvements

Results from the November 29th 2023 public meeting at Mountsfield Public School. Number of attendees: Approximately 30.

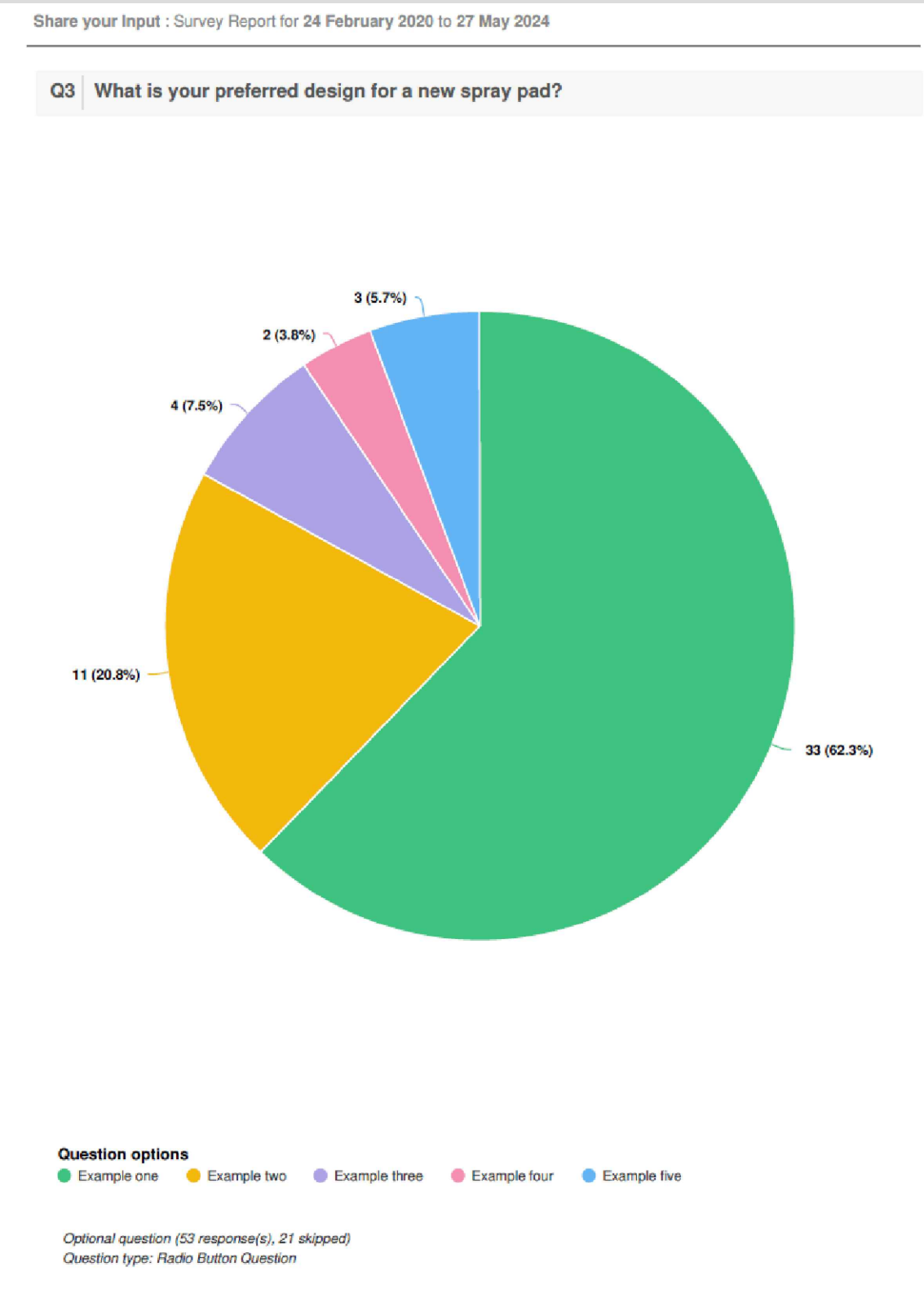
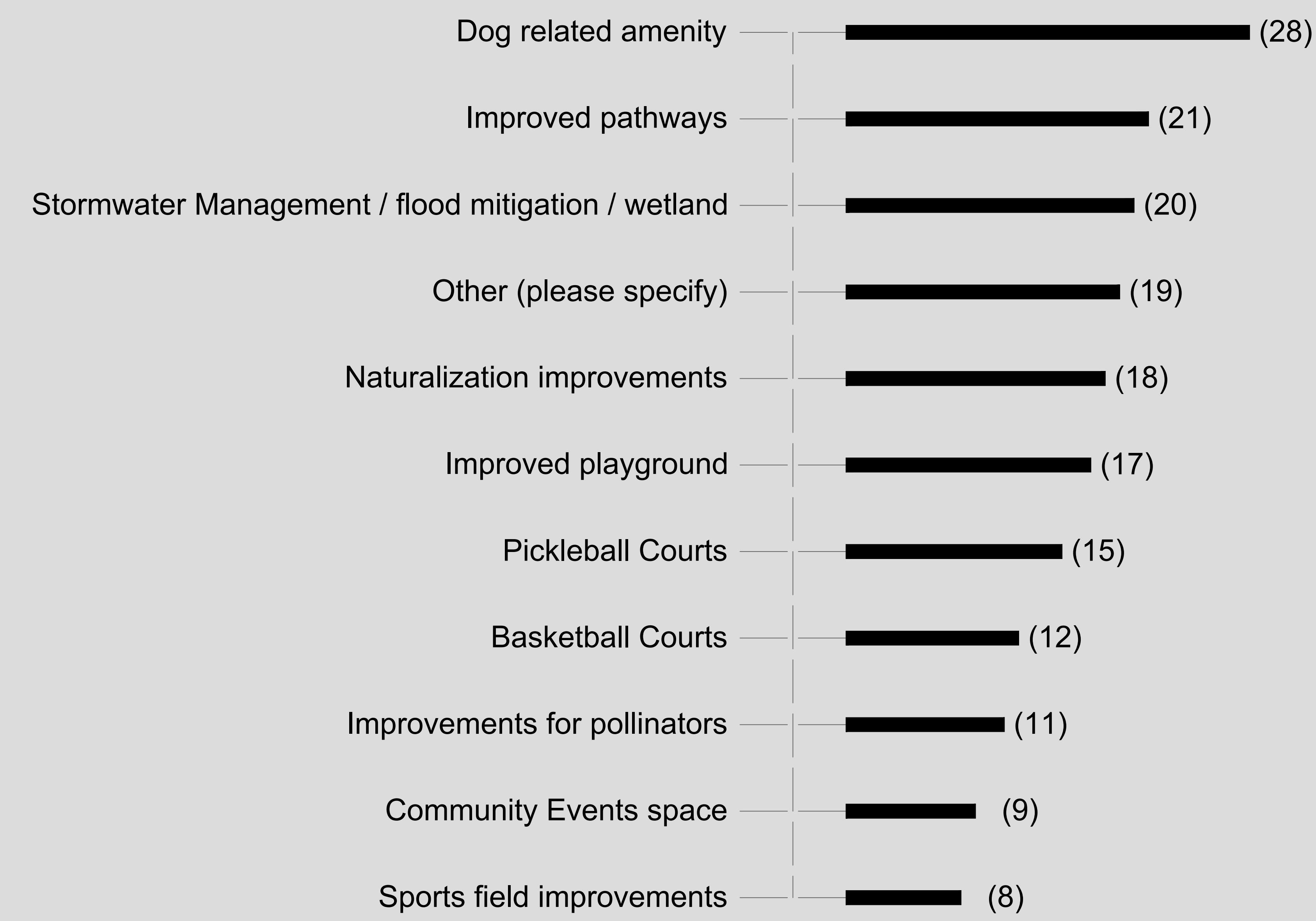


Public Feedback to date

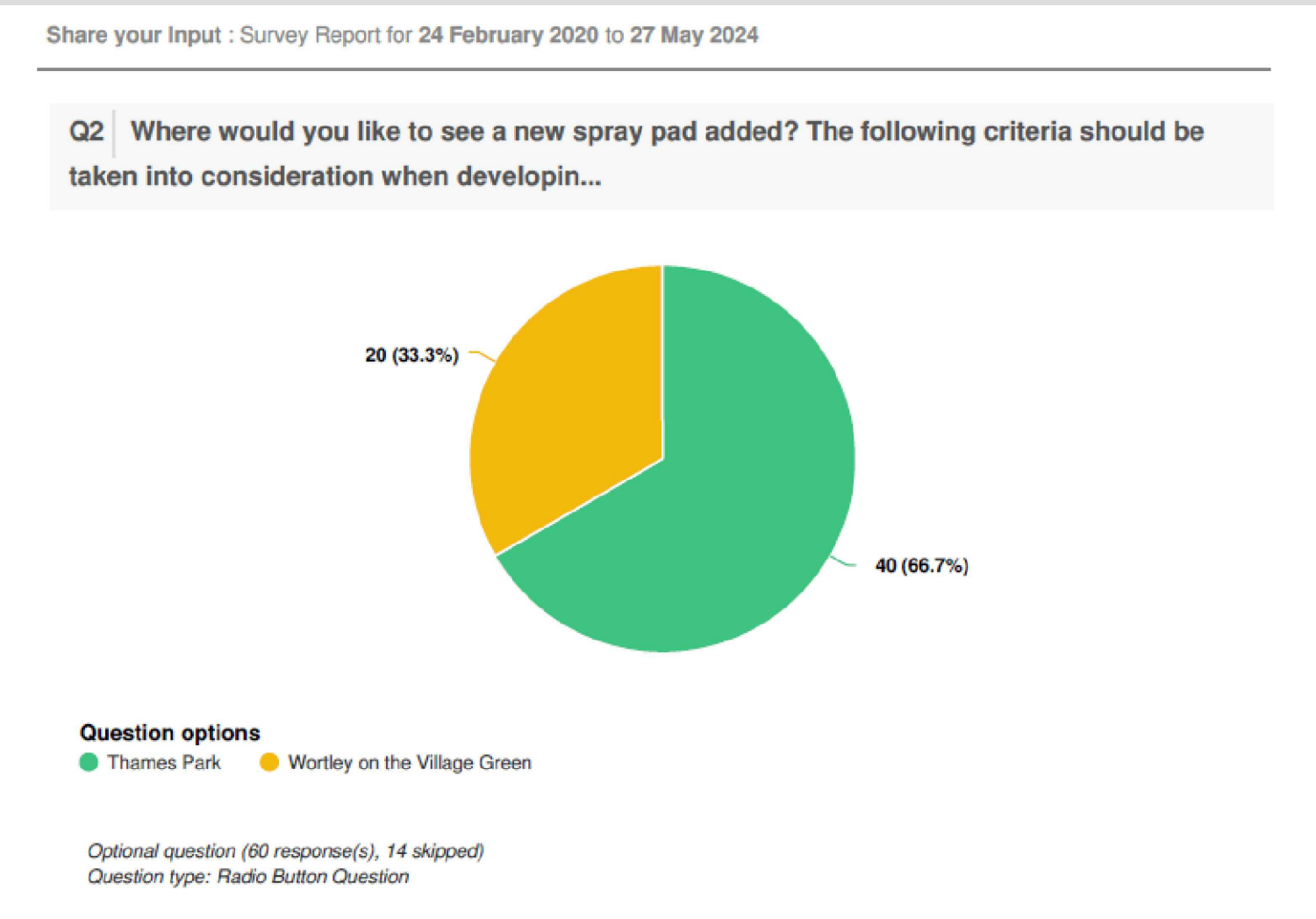
(December 2023 - May 2024)

Survey Responses - First initial getinvolved survey - December 2023 - May 2024

What amenity or improvement would you like to see at Thames Park ?
Please select up to three options.



Preferred spray pad design (per public feedback)

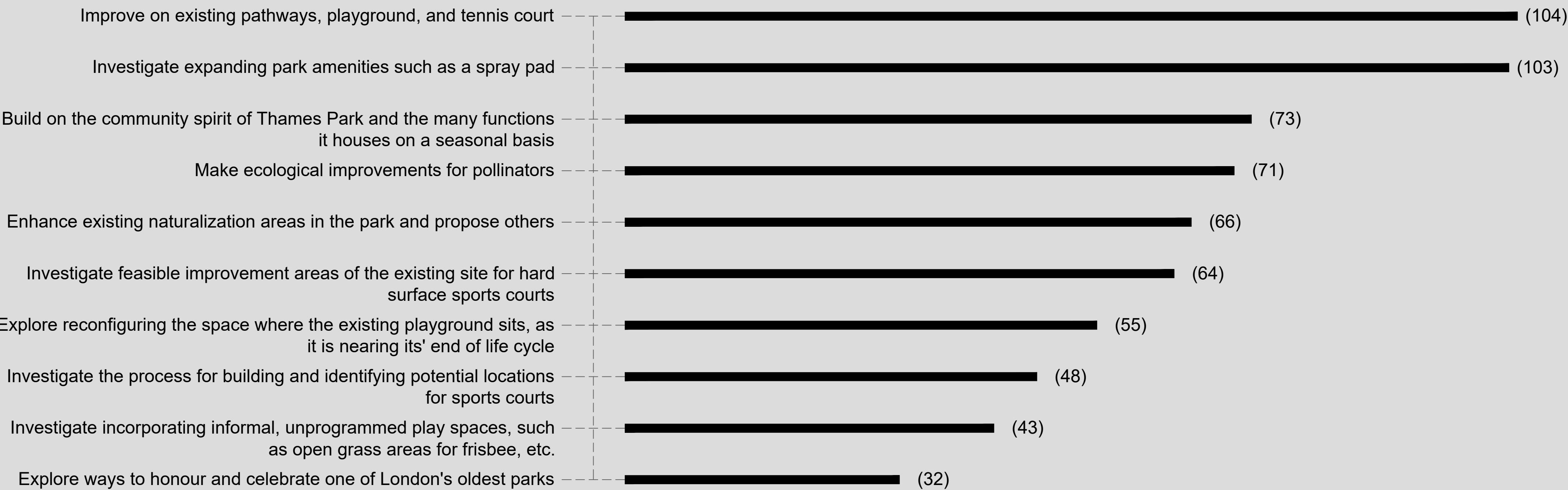


Results indicate Thames Park is the preferred location for a spray pad.

Public Feedback to date (Spring 2024)

Opportunities

Which opportunities in the list below would you like to see prioritized (select all that apply)

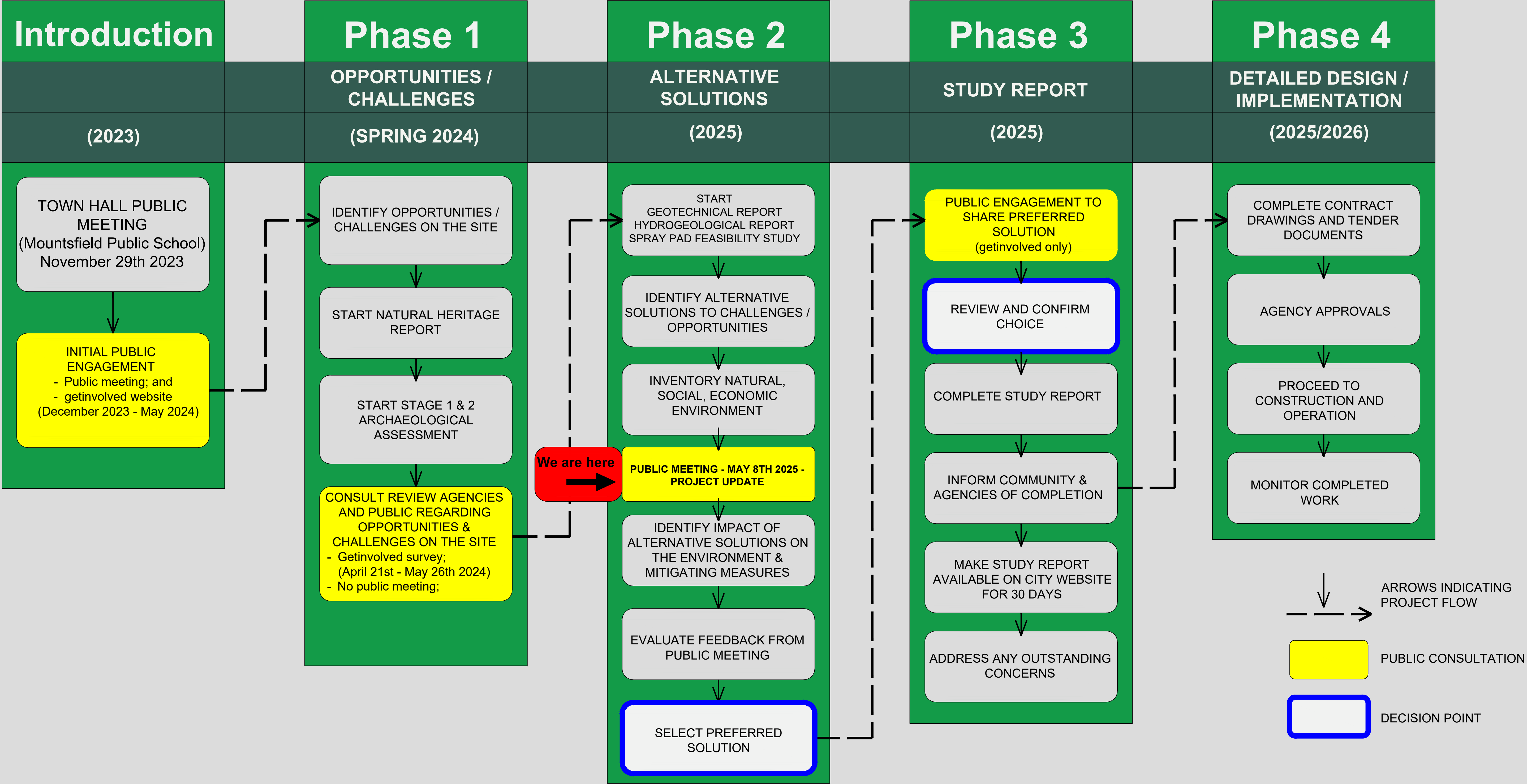


Challenges

The points below are a list of challenges developed by the project team. Which challenges do you agree should be considered.



Project Process



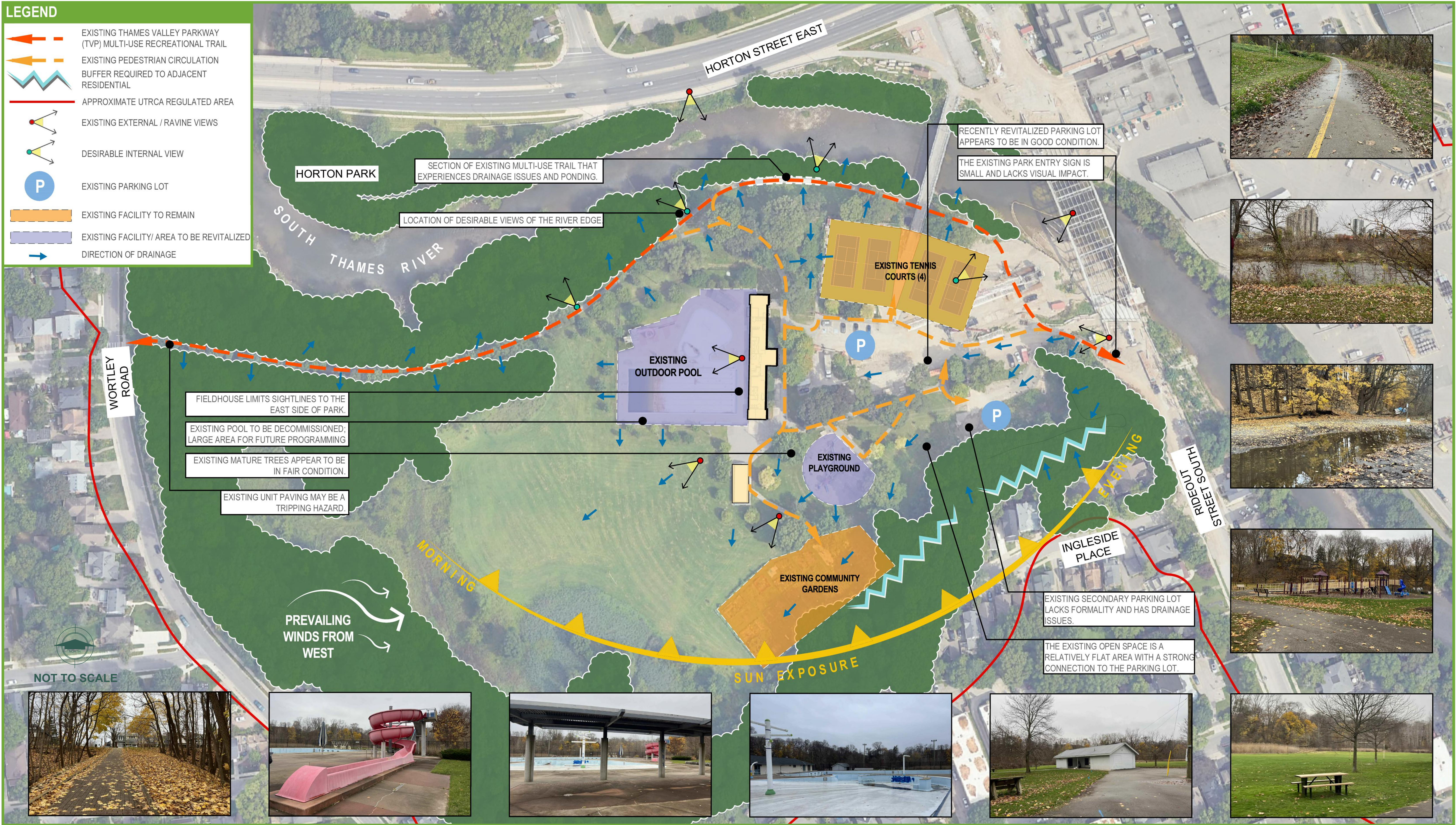


Context map

Thames Park Improvements



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Site Analysis

Thames Park Improvements



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LEGEND

- EXISTING THAMES VALLEY PARKWAY (TVP) MULTI-USE RECREATIONAL TRAIL
- EXISTING PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION BUFFER REQUIRED TO ADJACENT RESIDENTIAL
- APPROXIMATE UTRCA REGULATED AREA
- POTENTIAL SEATING LOCATION
- POTENTIAL SECTION OF MULT-USE TRAIL TO BE RECONSTRUCTED
- POTENTIAL LOCATION FOR NEW AMENITIES
- EXISTING FACILITY TO REMAIN



Opportunities & Constraints Thames Park Improvements



- ### KEYS
- 1 Existing Tennis Courts to Remain
 - 2 Existing Community Gardens to Remain
 - 3 Proposed Standard Pickleball Courts with Acoustic Fence (4)
 - 4 Proposed Plaza with Shade Structure and Seating
 - 5 Proposed Area for Reforestation/ Naturalization Initiative by Others
 - 6 Proposed Playground (750m2)
 - 7 Proposed Splash Pad (300m2)
 - 8 Proposed Open Lawn
 - 9 Existing Parking Lot / Laneway to Remain (43 Parking Stalls)
 - 10 Existing Asphalt Walkways to Remain
 - 11 Existing Open Space to Remain
 - 12 Proposed Water and Manifold Location
 - 13 Potential Community Garden Expansion (10 Plots)
 - 14 Existing Entrance from Rideout Street South

- ### LEGEND
- Existing Asphalt Paving to Remain
 - Existing Concrete Paving to Remain
 - Existing Planting Bed to Remain
 - Proposed Standard Concrete Paving
 - Proposed Coloured Concrete Paving
 - Proposed Wood Fibre Safety Surfacing
 - Proposed Coloured Concrete Paving (Splash Pad)
 - Proposed Formal Planting Bed
 - Limit of Existing Hardscape (Pool)
 - Connection to River (if existing outlet is not permitted)
 - Proposed Acoustic Screens
 - 30m Forest Buffer
 - 15m Wetland Buffer
 - Existing Trees / Vegetated Area to Remain
 - Proposed Trees
 - Proposed Gathering Table with Umbrella
 - Proposed Concrete Seatwall

Design Alternative (1)

Thames Park Improvements

Please note that preliminary alternatives are subject to change based on the outcome of the geo-technical and hydro-geological reports



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Design Alternative (2)

Thames Park Improvements

Please note that preliminary alternatives are subject to change based on the outcome of the geo-technical and hydro-geological reports



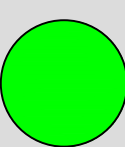
Design Alternative (3) Thames Park Improvements

Please note that preliminary alternatives are subject to change based on the outcome of the geo-technical and hydro-geological reports



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Tell us your preferred design alternative

 Place a green sticker next to the alternative you prefer for Thames Park

Alternative 1	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Alternative 2	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Alternative 3	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Please provide staff with your comments on your handout form.

Preliminary alternatives will be posted to the City's getinvolved website for a 30 day public comments period.

Next Steps

- Review all public feedback to date;
- Identify the impact of alternative solutions on the site and recommend mitigating measures;
- Evaluate alternative design solutions, and identify recommended solutions;
- Update the community in the fall of 2025 through the [getinvolved website](https://getinvolved.london.ca);
- Select a preferred design for the project
- Review project schedule;
- Complete Study Report;

Please visit [Get Involved London \(getinvolved.london.ca\)](https://getinvolved.london.ca), the City of London's online engagement portal, to stay in the loop on information and upcoming engagement opportunities related to Thames Park.

Get in touch with us!

To discuss aquatics amenities, like pools and spray pads, please contact **Jon-Paul McGonigle, Director of Recreation and Sports**, at jmcgonig@london.ca

To discuss park improvements, please contact **John Griffin, Landscape Architect** at jgriffin@london.ca

Thames Park Improvements

