

Background

The City is creating a master plan to guide future projects and funding requests for the Fort Garry Community Centre – Victoria site.

The hall building, constructed around 1945, is in very poor condition. It has significant issues including building code, accessibility, and functional problems, as well as hazardous materials. Other areas of the site could also be improved to better serve the surrounding community.

The master plan will include a plan for the old hall building, which has been closed since 2020. It will also include other recreation and park improvements at the Victoria site.

Engagement

The City and the Fort Garry Community Centre board met to discuss issues and opportunities for the site and to plan approaches to get input from the community.

The City gathered input on whether to renovate or remove the hall building and what could be provided in its place if it was removed. The community was also asked about other potential recreation and park improvements on the site. This input helped the City create a master plan for the Victoria site.

Table 1 provides an overview of all public engagement opportunities.

Promotion

Public engagement opportunities were promoted using the following methods:

- City of Winnipeg Public Engagement Newsletter with over 5,200 recipients – June 1 & 15, 2023;
- Over 2,195 postcards delivered to homes in the project area;
- Posters at the Fort Garry Library and Fort Garry Community Centre Hobson and Victoria sites;
- Fort Garry Community Centre social media; and
- Fort Garry Community Centre webpage.

Examples of promotion materials are included in Appendix A.



Image 1. Overview of Fort Garry Community Centre – Victoria Site at 80 Derek St.

Table 1: Public Engagement Opportunities

Date	Activity	Details
May 19 – June 23, 2023	Webpage	555 visitors
May 19 – June 21, 2023	Survey	163 responses
June 7, 2023	Workshop	18 attendees

Key findings

Workshop

The workshop started with a short presentation to introduce the project. After the presentation, workshop participants were placed into two groups for facilitated discussions. Discussion topics included current challenges, opportunities, and priorities for the site.

Participants placed cut-outs on a table map during the discussion (Image 2). The cut-outs showed different amenities that could be used on the site.

Both groups made the following suggestions:

- Add a new spray pad in the location of the existing hall building
- Improve the play structure including new equipment, seating, and picnic tables
- Redevelop the north rink with a new asphalt surface for pickleball, basketball, inline skating and other hard surface activities

Other ideas from the workshop included:

- Expand the skate change building
- Do not expand the parking lot
- Improve the condition of the baseball diamond



Image 2. Participants place cut-outs on the table map

Survey

A survey was available online and in paper at the workshop (Appendix C). The survey asked residents how they currently use the site and what improvements they would like to see in the future.

Figure 1 illustrates the top three current outdoor uses of the site.

Figure 2 identifies the top three current indoor uses of the Fort Garry Community Centre – Victoria Site.

Figure 1. The top three current **outdoor uses of the Fort Garry Community Centre - Victoria site.**

How often do you or your family members participate in the following outdoor activities at the Fort Garry Community Centre-Victoria site? (163 responses)

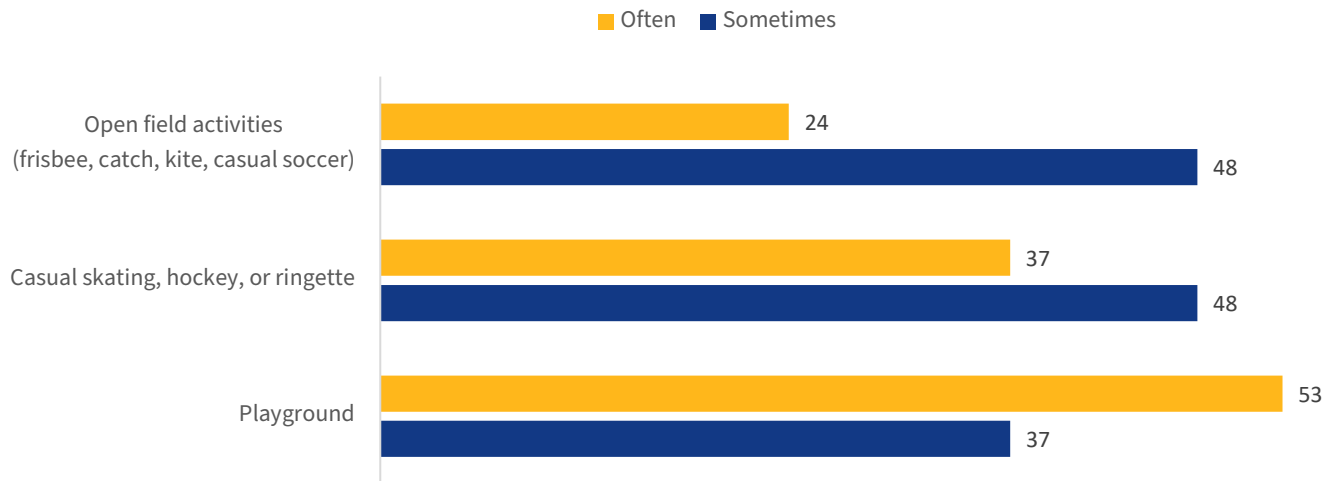
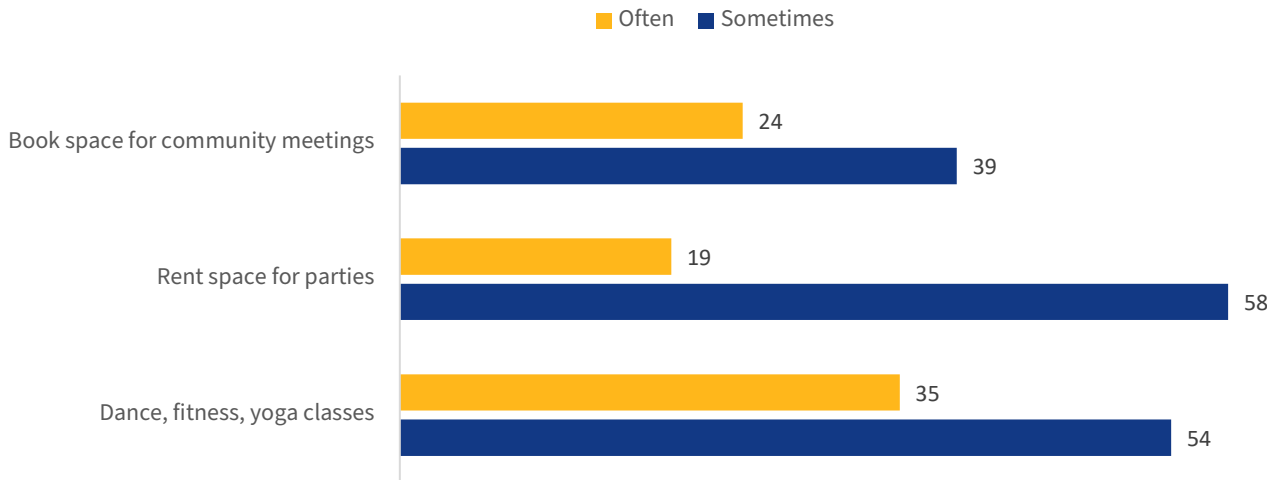


Figure 2. The top three current **indoor uses of the Fort Garry Community Centre - Victoria site.**

How often do you or your family members participate in the following indoor activities at the Fort Garry Community Centre-Victoria site? (163 responses)

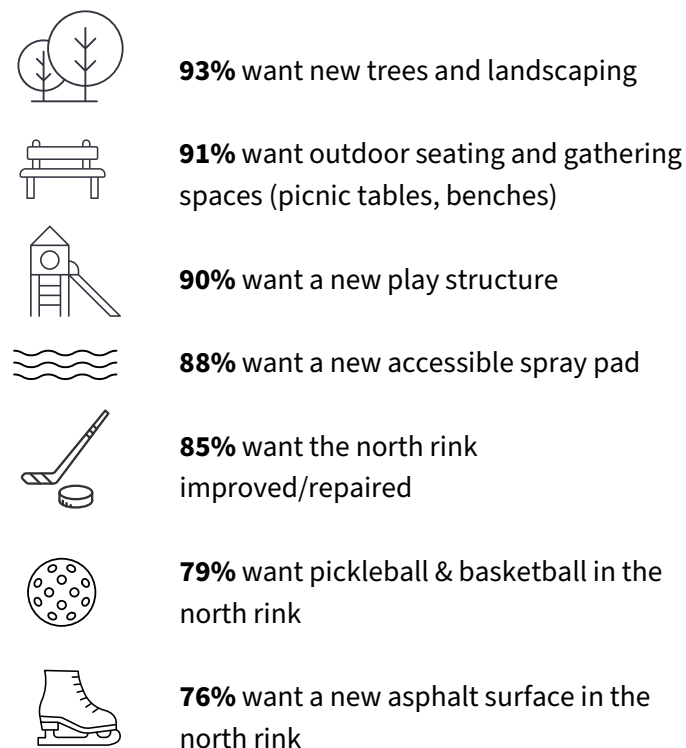


Fort Garry Community Centre- Victoria Site Master Plan

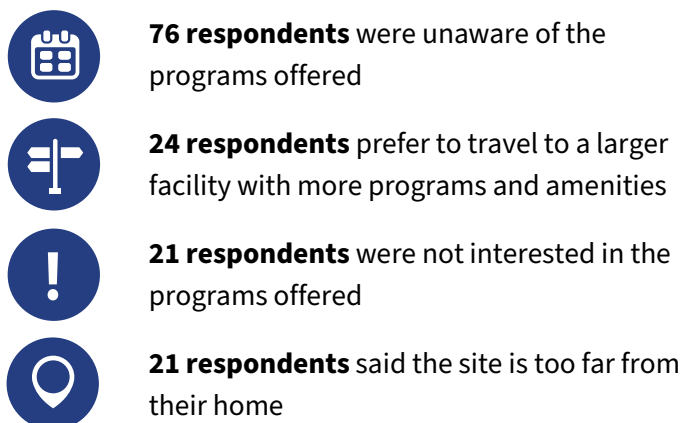
Public Engagement Summary



Survey respondents were asked about what future site improvements they would like to see to better meet the needs of the community. The improvements most strongly supported were:



Residents were asked what currently prevents them from using the community centre:



Survey respondents were also asked their views on what should replace the existing hall building if it was removed. Responses were as follows:

Figure 3. Replacement options for the hall building.

The master plan will look at whether to renovate or remove the hall building and what could be provided in its place if it was removed. What are your views on the following options? (146 responses)

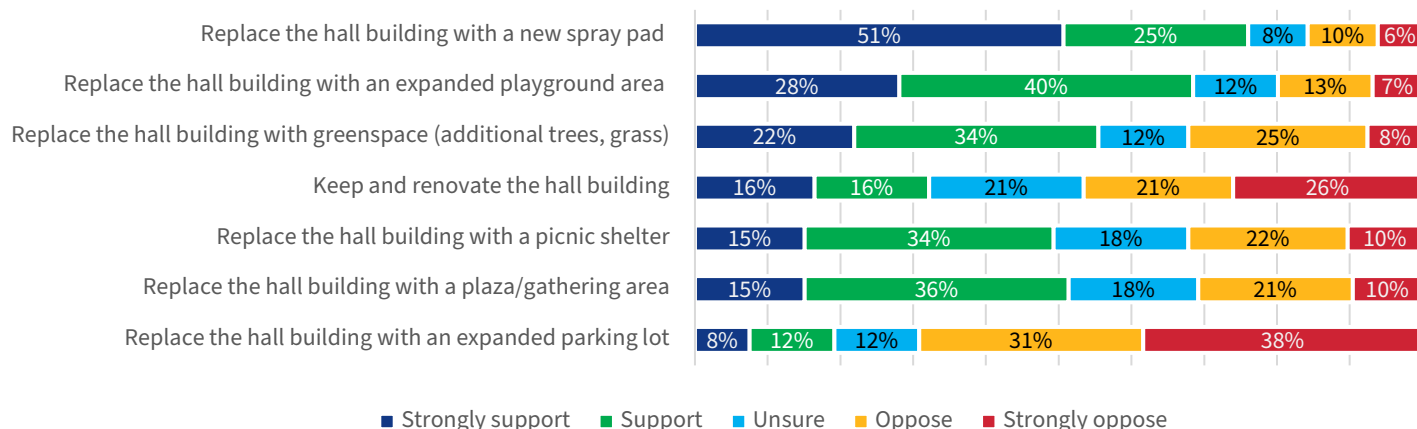


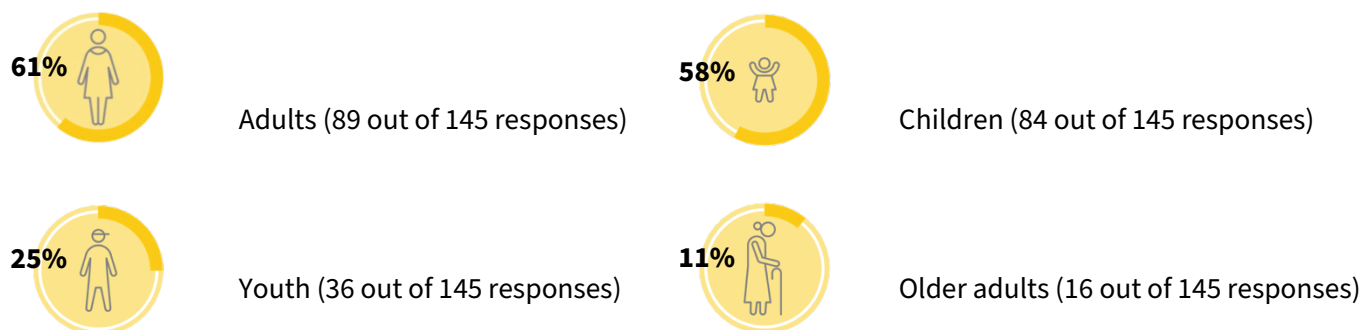
Table 2: How input was considered:

What we heard	How it was considered
Hall building	
The hall building should be removed because it is in poor condition, under-utilized, and negatively impacts the site and neighbourhood.	The master plan includes removing the hall building and replacing it with new recreation amenities.
The hall building should be renovated and reopened to the community.	The City explored the benefits and costs of renovating or removing the hall building as part of the master plan. Based on feedback, demographics, and recreation use data, it was determined that alternative recreation uses would provide greater community benefits.
If the hall building is removed, a new spray pad should take its place.	The master plan includes a new spray pad to replace the hall building.
Ice rink improvements	
The north rink needs improvements including repairing the boards, and a new asphalt surfacing for new seasonal uses like basketball courts and pickleball courts.	The master plan includes improvements to the north rink such as new boards, a new asphalt surface, and the addition of pickleball and basketball courts.
An off-leash dog park could be added to the south rink during the off-season.	The master plan does not include an off-leash dog park area due to the Victoria site's proximity to the Brenda Leipsic Dog Park.
Other site improvements	
The skate change building is too small and should be expanded to provide better program space and a full-size kitchen.	The master plan allocates space for a potential future building expansion if funds become available in the future.
Community gardens could be added to the south rink.	Community gardens would not be a good fit in the south rink because there is a lot of gravel beneath the rink. Instead, the masterplan includes community gardens outside the ice rink in the northwest part of the site.
A new play structure is needed.	The master plan includes enhancements to the existing play structure and new seating.
The Victoria site needs more trees and new landscaping.	The master plan includes locations for new tree plantings.

What we heard	How it was considered
The baseball diamond needs improvements including drainage in the outfield area.	The master plan includes improvements to the baseball diamond backstop, infield, fence, and drainage improvements in the outfield.
The parking lot needs improvements like lighting but should not impact the greenspace.	The master plan includes an improved layout and refurbishment of the existing parking lot but does not recommend expanding the existing parking lot.

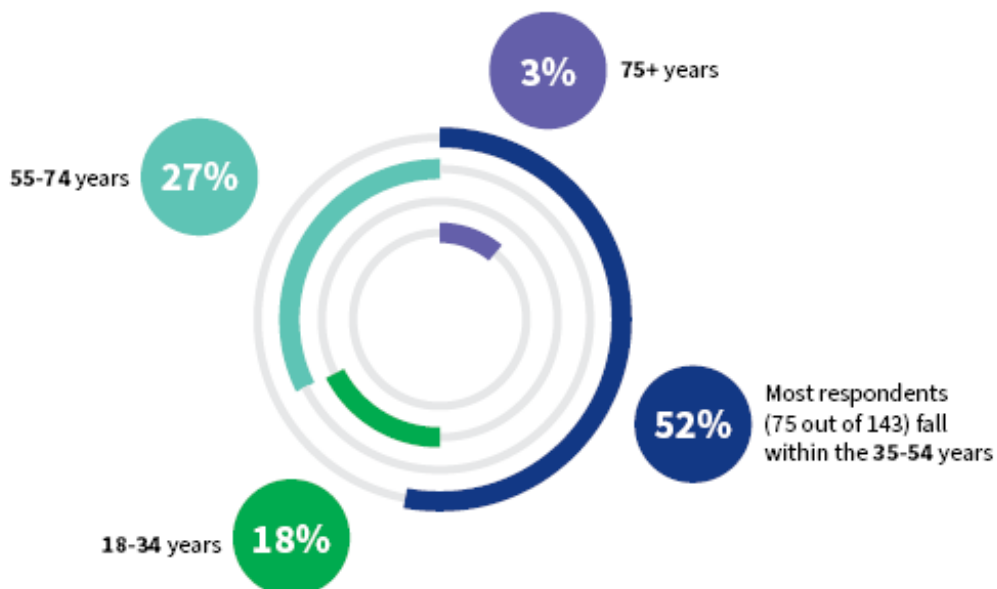
Who We Heard From

Who in your family uses the amenities at the Fort Garry Community Centre – Victoria Site:



Age of respondents:

Figure 4. Age of survey respondents.



Next steps

Input received through public engagement has helped the City develop a master plan for the Victoria site. The master plan will be presented to the Fort Garry Community Centre board and posted on the City's website.

The master plan and cost estimates will be used for future funding requests and site planning. The community will be kept informed of any changes to the site and any disruptions to service during construction.

Appendices

Appendix A – Promotion Materials

Appendix B – Online Survey Results

Appendix C – Workshop Results

Appendix D – Workshop Presentation Boards