

WHAT WE HEARD

Community feedback on the Wade Gate Park splashpad and bocce court

WHO WE ENGAGED

From May 8 to 25, 2026, we engaged:



248 survey respondents

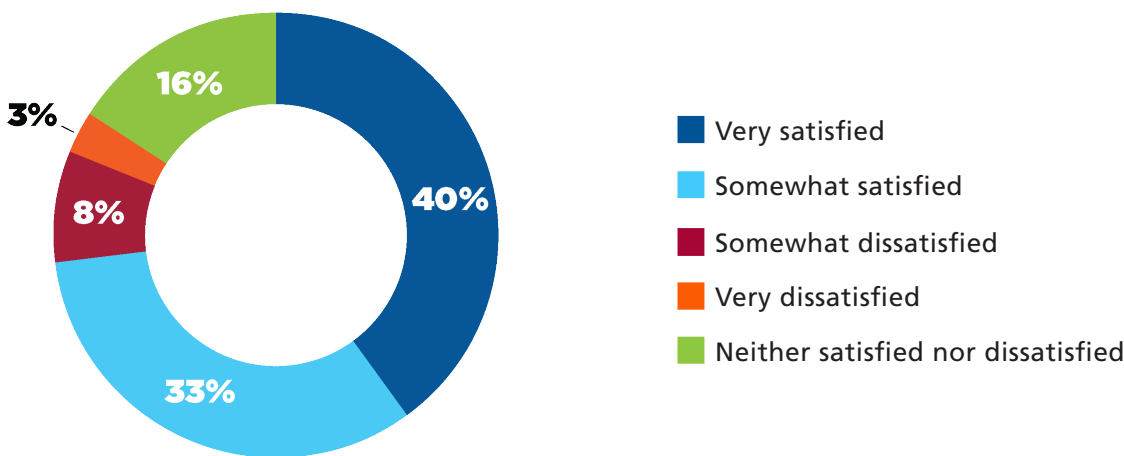


Four others by email and phone calls

...reached through a project webpage, road signs in the community, a mailed notice to local residents, a public service announcement, social media and eNewsletters.

LEVEL OF SATISFACTION WITH SPLASHPAD CONCEPT A: SPACIOUS PLAY

Concept A maintained the size of the current splashpad while introducing a mix of ground and overhead spray features similar to the existing splashpad. It also included a relocated shade structure and additional seating.



Seventy-three per cent of participants were satisfied with Concept A, while 11 per cent were dissatisfied and 16 per cent were neutral.

When asked what they like about Concept A:

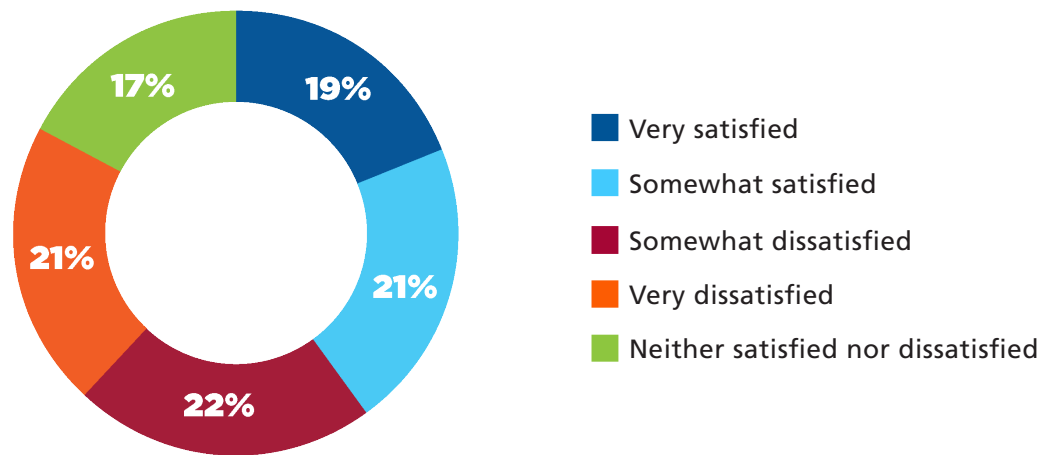
- **Splashpad size:** Many participants supported maintaining the existing splashpad size, noting it provides enough space for children to run and accommodates multiple users during busy periods.
- **Shade structure and seating:** Some participants liked the new shade structure location and additional seating under the shade structure and around the splashpad.
- **Separated play areas within the splashpad:** Some participants appreciated the option to include separate zones for younger and older children.
- **Variety of features:** Some participants liked the variety of water features proposed.

When asked what they dislike about Concept A:

- **Limited variety:** Some participants expressed a desire for a greater variety of water features.
- **Splashpad size:** Some participants felt the current splashpad is too small and would like to see it expanded.

LEVEL OF SATISFACTION WITH SPLASHPAD CONCEPT B: UNIQUE FEATURES

Concept B reduced the size of the splashpad, allowing savings from the reduced concrete to be reinvested into a wider variety of more unique and interactive water features. It also included a centrally located shade structure and seating area.



Forty per cent of participants were satisfied with Concept B, while 43 per cent were dissatisfied and 17 per cent were neutral.

When asked what they like about Concept B:

- **Variety of features:** Many participants liked the more unique and interactive water features proposed.
- **Shade structure and seating:** Similar to Concept A, a few participants liked the new shade structure location and the seating around the splashpad.

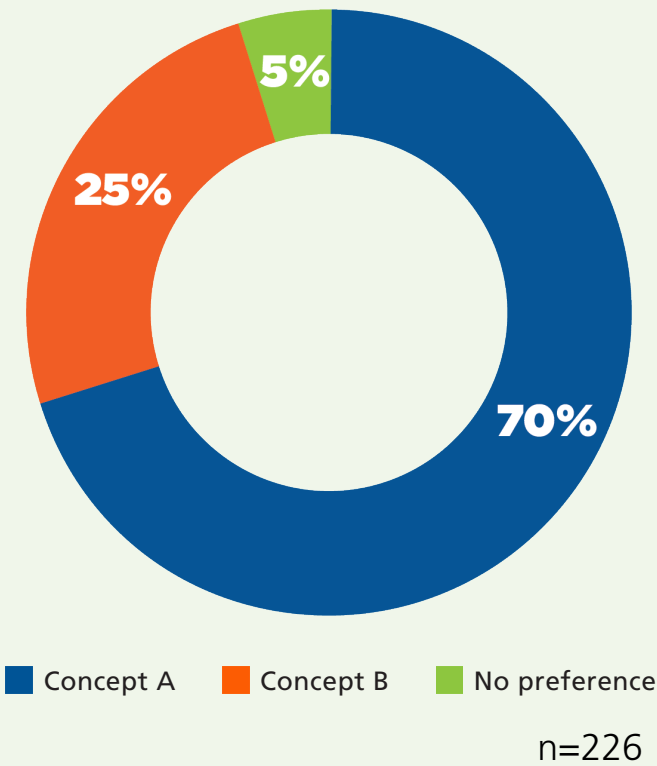
When asked what they dislike about Concept B:

- **Splashpad size:** A significant number of participants felt the reduced splashpad footprint was too small.
- **Limited variety:** Despite including more variety and unique water features in the design, a few participants felt it was not enough.



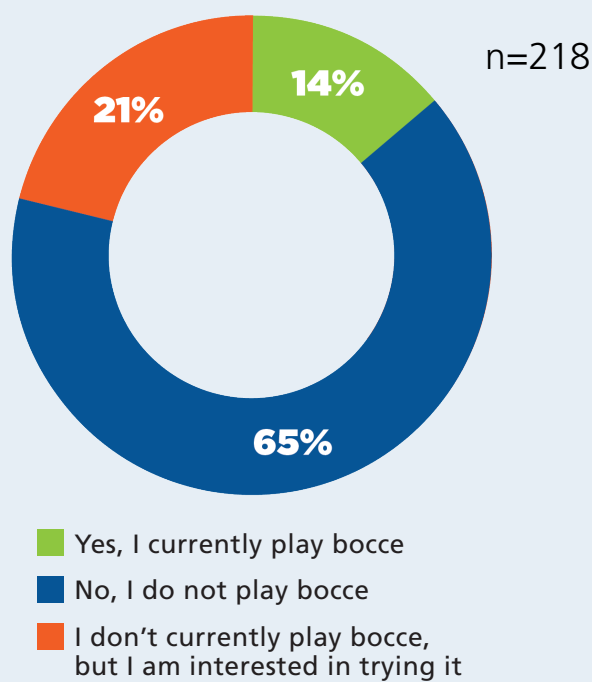
Example of a splashpad, Thornhill Green Park, City of Vaughan

PREFERRED DESIGN
CONCEPT FOR SPLASHPAD

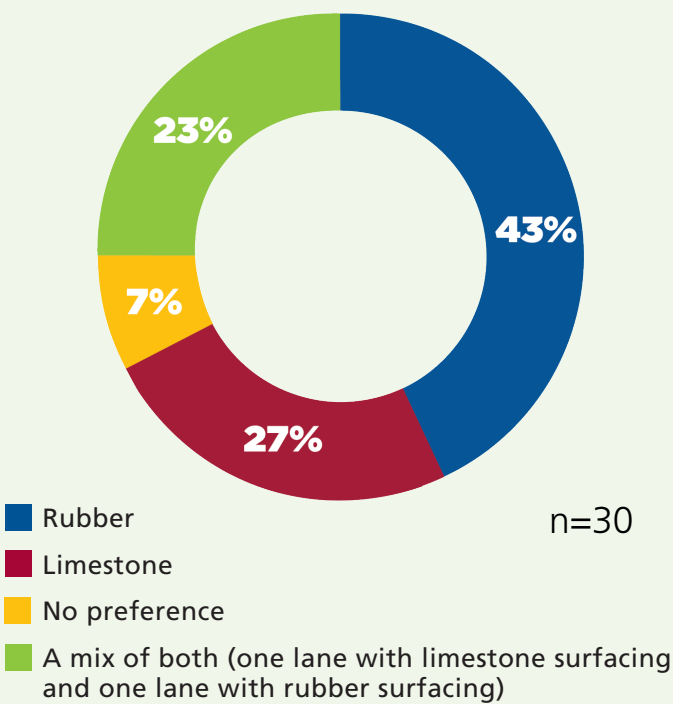


BOCCE COURT USE AND PREFERENCES

Do you play or want to play bocce?



Current players' preference for bocce court resurfacing material



OTHER CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE SPLASHPAD AND BOCCE COURT

- **Replacement of the bocce court:** Many participants felt the bocce courts are underutilized and suggested exploring alternative uses. Suggestions included replacing them with an off-leash dog area, pickleball courts, outdoor fitness equipment, basketball courts or a skate zone. Some participants also expressed concern about investing in bocce improvements, suggesting funds be redirected elsewhere.
- **Bocce resurfacing:** In contrast to the sentiments above, a few participants emphasized the need for resurfaced bocce courts.
- **Seating:** Some participants requested more seating, particularly picnic tables and benches under shade. A few highlighted the need for seating at the bocce courts.
- **Shade:** Some participants emphasized the need for additional shade, either by expanding the size of the proposed shade structure or providing multiple structures. A few participants also highlighted the need for shade around the bocce courts.
- **Splashpad features:** Some participants requested additional splashpad features, including more interactive, sensory and fun elements, with a preference for designs similar to the splashpad at North Thornhill Community Centre.
- **Washrooms:** Some participants expressed a desire for washroom facilities, including all-season options near the soccer field.
- **Other supporting amenities:** A few participants suggested supporting amenities, including lighting, drinking fountains and scoreboards for the bocce courts.
- **Combining the two options:** A few participants wondered if there was a better way to balance the trade-off between size and features. They suggested a smaller reduction in the splashpad footprint while still adding unique features to enhance the overall experience.