

Vaughan Greenspace Strategic Plan

Phase 3 What We Heard Report
February 2025

Contents

About the Project	1
Public Engagement Approach	2
Purpose of Engagement	3
Engagement Principles	3
Timeline	4
How We Engaged	5
Who We Engaged	7
What We Heard	8
Key Takeaways	9
Online Survey Results	10
Looking Ahead	24

About the Project

Project Background

The City of Vaughan is preparing a Greenspace Strategic Plan (GSP) that will set out a vision for the future of Vaughan's parks and green spaces, guiding the expansion, development, and operations of Vaughan's parks system as the city grows.

The third phase of engagement, which took place in fall 2024, sought to validate three key components of the draft GSP with interested parties, city staff, and members of the public.





PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

Purpose of Engagement

Public engagement for the Greenspace Strategic Plan (GSP) is centered around gaining an understanding of how Vaughan's residents utilize its parks and greenspaces. This includes exploring the needs, desires, and potential barriers faced by park users. The insights and inputs gathered through this engagement process are integral to the development of the GSP, ensuring that the principles, policies, and recommendations accurately reflect the diverse needs of Vaughan's residents in a rapidly growing city.

In the third phase of this engagement journey, the City of Vaughan sought to validate three critical components of the draft GSP. In 2025 the City will share the finalized GSP with the public and celebrate the collaborative effort that went into its creation.

Overall Engagement Goals

The engagement process for the Greenspace Strategic Plan provided opportunities for participants to share meaningful, appropriate, and actionable input that was used to develop the Plan. The goal of public engagement for the GSP was to:

- Ensure broad awareness of the project.
- Make all relevant information about the process readily available to interested parties.
- Gather meaningful input from a wide range of interests, areas, and partnerships.
- Authentically incorporate input into the creation of the GSP.
- Ensure all engagement reporting is clear, concise, and transparent and reflects both qualitative and quantitative feedback.

Engagement Principles

All engagement aimed to be:

- **Inclusive:** By creating a welcoming space for conversation that respects the diverse lived experiences of all participants.
- **Accessible:** By making it easy to participate and access information, by considering diverse abilities, learning styles, and amount of time required.
- **Meaningful:** By providing opportunities for participants to share ideas and concerns openly and authentically.
- **Transparent:** By providing clear information about the process, how decisions are made, and report back on what we heard.
- **Adaptive:** By being flexible to respond and adapt to the changing needs of participants over the course of the project.

Measures of Success

Engagement will be considered successful when:

- Project awareness has increased and participants feel well-informed about the process.
- The public and interested parties had a range of diverse opportunities to contribute.
- Council, interested parties, and the community are active participants throughout the process.
- The project team can demonstrate how public input has been considered to inform the development of the plan strategies and recommendations.
- Satisfaction response increases on the citizen satisfaction survey.

Timeline

Phase 1 (Fall 2023)

Where We Are and Where We Need to Go

Phase 1 engaged Vaughan residents and interested parties to raise awareness about the GSP, assess how greenspaces are currently used and valued, and identify satisfaction levels, challenges, and opportunities.

Phase 2 (Spring 2024)

How We Are Going to Get There

Phase 2 identified residents' and interested parties' preferences and priorities for greenspace location, function and amenities within Vaughan's growing and changing environment. The results of this phase of engagement will inform the development of a framework for guiding greenspace acquisition and enhancement.

Phase 3 (Fall 2024)

Confirming the Plan

Phase 3 sought to validate three key components of the draft GSP with residents and interested parties. This phase gathered feedback from participants on proposed greenspace guidelines and strategies, and identified potential gaps in the plan to ensure alignment with community needs and preferences.






Phase 4 (Winter 2025)

Celebrating the Plan






The final phase of the project will conclude the engagement process with a community update to share and celebrate the approved Greenspace Strategic Plan with Vaughan residents and interested parties.

How We Engaged

The section below describes each of the engagement tactics leveraged in Phase 3 of the GSP.

Format	Description	By the Numbers
 Online Survey	An online survey asked participants to reflect on a series of questions related to three key components of the draft GSP, which included concept images that illustrated connectivity, growth and diverse greenspace experiences.	121 survey responses.
 Self-Guided Engagement Stations	10 self-guided engagement stations (two per ward) were set-up at libraries and community centres around the city. The engagement stations allowed participants to learn about the GSP, access the online survey and StoryMap, and share feedback on three comment cards, each representing one of the three key components of the draft GSP.	296 completed comment cards.
 Pop-up Engagement Events	Two in-person pop-up engagement events were held at Vellore Village Community Centre (Oct. 28) and North Thornhill Community Centre (Oct. 29). These events provided members of the public with an opportunity to speak to a member of the Project Team, learn more about the project, and provide feedback on the three key components of the draft GSP.	Over 120 participants.
 Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting #4	One in-person Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) meeting was held. The purpose of the fourth SAG meeting was to share the three key components of the draft GSP and facilitate discussion amongst members.	October 16, 2024 from 6-8pm @ Vaughan City Hall. Five members of the SAG attended the meeting.
 BILD	One meeting with the Building Industry and Land Development Association was held. The purpose of this meeting was to provide an update on the GSP project and to review key components of the draft GSP with BILD staff and members.	October 18, 2024 from 10am – 11am. Meeting was held virtually and was attended by 15 members of BILD and the development industry.

Communications and Outreach Tactics

	Format	Description	By the Numbers
	Project Webpage	The online hub for all project information and engagement opportunities (vaughan.ca/GreenspacePlan).	
	StoryMap	A “StoryMap,” created on the ArcGIS StoryMap platform to share information about the GSP and to act as a hub for information about the project throughout the remaining phases. The StoryMap was updated in Phase 3 to include insights from previous engagement phases and visual information relating to the draft GSP.	1,727 total views to date. 953 views in Phase 2. 774 views in Phase 3.
	Social Media Campaign	Social media posts were used to raise awareness about the project on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.	16 social media posts.
	Project Updates	The City of Vaughan shared updates about the GSP and opportunities for the public to get involved and share feedback through their e-newsletters.	1 PSA, 1 Vaughan eNews email (~24,000 subscribers), 1 Engagement eNews email (~ 2,000 subscribers), 2 Council packages.
	Promotional Signage	Digital and mobile signs were displayed across Vaughan to raise awareness about the project and its engagement opportunities.	8 mobile signs, 10 digital signs, 10 community centre TV screens.

Who We Engaged

The City recognizes the importance of engaging Vaughan's diverse community and is dedicated to fostering meaningful engagement with residents and key interested parties on municipal initiatives. In Phase 3, the following groups were invited to review and provide their feedback on three key components included in the draft Plan.

General Public

Residents of Vaughan were invited to participate in various engagement opportunities during Phase 3. These initiatives were designed to offer multiple ways for participation, catering to residents' diverse interests, abilities, learning preferences and availability. Options included completing an online survey, attending a pop-up event, or visiting a self-guided engagement station.

Indigenous Partners

During the final engagement phase, efforts were made to share project information with Indigenous partners and create opportunities for their active participation. The project team met with interested First Nations during Phase 3.

Interested Parties and Community Groups

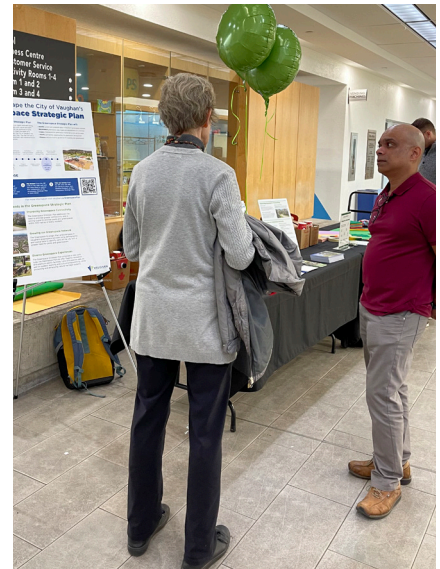
Throughout the project, the City of Vaughan has engaged a wide range of key interested parties and community groups to ensure diverse voices are represented. These efforts include reaching out to equity-deserving groups, youth, seniors and other interested parties to provide opportunities for participation and input. By informing and involving these groups, the City aims to foster inclusive and equitable planning outcomes that reflect the needs and aspirations of the entire community.

Stakeholder Advisory Group

In Phase 3, the SAG participated in one in-person meeting where the project team presented three key components of the draft GSP and sought feedback on direction and strategy. The SAG, formed in Phase 1, provides a forum for residents and interested parties to receive updates, review materials and information, and provide feedback to the project team throughout the project. The SAG consists of 18 community members and representatives from two interested parties (TRCA and BILD).

BILD (Building Industry and Land Development Association)

The project team met with BILD during Phase 3 to discuss the opportunities and challenges related to the delivery of park and greenspace amenities, along with potential ways that policy and development can work together to address parkland needs in intensifying parts of the City.





WHAT WE HEARD

Key Takeaways

Throughout Phase 3 public engagement, three themes emerged which are summarized below:

Connecting Greenspaces

Connectivity continued to be a high priority for participants, with “city-wide improvements to recreational trails and paths” frequently selected by respondents to the online survey. Participants highlighted their desire for more multi-use trails, safer connections from residential areas to parks and greater connectivity between Vaughan’s network of parks and greenspaces.

A Protected Green Network

Throughout engagement, participants highlighted the value of protecting and enhancing the natural environment, beautification of streets and boulevards, designating woodlots and parks as natural heritage sites, and enhancing green infrastructure like the urban canopy and green roofs in urban areas.

Greenspace for Connection and Rest

Residents also envision greenspaces as vibrant hubs, offering a mix of both active and passive recreational amenities and providing spaces for social connection, cultural celebration, and destination-worthy experiences such as events, festivals and markets. Together, these elements create a balanced greenspace system that caters to the needs and desires of both residents and visitors.

Online Survey Findings

The online survey asked participants to reflect on a series of questions related to the following key components of the draft GSP:

- Improving greenspace connectivity: How we'll strive to build connections between and within parks and greenspaces.
- Growing our greenspace network: How we'll prioritize the expansion of the greenspace network in areas of the city that need it most.
- Diversifying greenspace experiences: How we'll provide amenities that create a cohesive greenspace system.

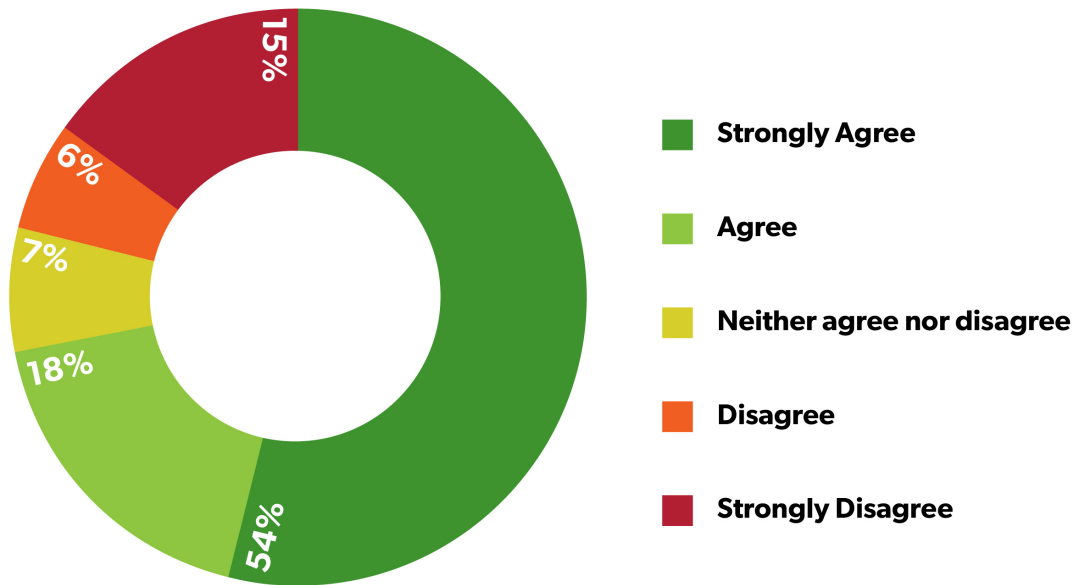
▶ **121 survey responses**
collected between
Oct 17 and Nov 8, 2024



Section 1: Improving Greenspace Connectivity

Connecting residential areas to greenspaces

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree with the City of Vaughan’s target to provide a park or greenspace within 500 metres of every resident.



Percentage of Participants
(121 Respondents / 0 Skipped)

Respondents indicated strong overall support with 72% of respondents indicating that they agree (54% strongly agree, 18% agree) with the City’s target.

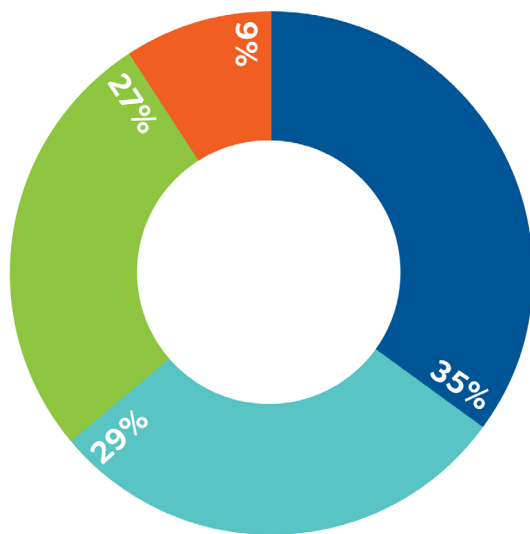
Whereas 21% of respondents disagree (15% strongly disagree and 6% disagree) with the proposed target to provide a park or greenspace within 500 metres of every resident.

Respondents were invited to share a comment expanding on their response. Many respondents described the importance of parks being accessible within walking distance of home and the benefits of greenspaces for physical and mental wellbeing, increased physical activity and social interaction.

Of those who indicated their disagreement with the target, a common suggestion was that the distance could be smaller (e.g., 300 meters) to accommodate families with young children. Other comments questioned the feasibility of meeting the 500-meter target, especially in denser urban areas of Vaughan.

Improving greenspace connectivity city-wide

Respondents were presented with four ideas for improving connectivity between greenspaces and parks and were asked to choose the option they believed the City should prioritize to improve connectivity.



Percentage of Participants
(116 Respondents / 5 Skipped)

- Continue city-wide improvements to multi-use recreational trails and paths that provide connections between greenspaces.**
- Create a network of parks across the city that provide gateways into the greenspace network.**
- Enhance greenspace access and habitat rehabilitation efforts along corridors such as ravines, creeks and rivers.**
- Continue working collaboratively with the TRCA, public agencies and school boards to enhance access to greenspaces.**

Options include:

- Making improvements to multi-use recreational trails and paths.
- Creating a network of parks across the city.
- Enhancing access to and rehabilitation of natural areas.
- Exploring collaborative partnerships with public agencies to enhance access.

Respondents expressed a preference for 'continuing city-wide improvements to multi-use trails and paths,' with 35% selecting this as their most preferred option. 'Creating a network of parks' and 'enhancing access and rehabilitation of natural areas' were selected by 29% and 27% of respondents, respectively.

'Collaboration with public agencies' such as the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and local school boards to

increase public access received the least amount of support.

Respondent views and perspectives about Vaughan's greenspace network

Respondents were asked if there was anything else they wanted to share or felt should be prioritized in relation to improving greenspace connectivity in Vaughan. Several respondents emphasized the need for improved pedestrian connections from residential areas into existing parks. Respondents advocated for more multi-use trails and paths to provide safe connections to parks and between greenspaces.

Habitat protection and enhancement emerged as a theme in the survey comments, with respondents highlighting the importance of improving greenspace connectivity to support wildlife habitat corridors. Additionally, respondents emphasized the significance of maintaining parks and trails and ensuring their safety as essential factors in preserving the connectivity of the greenspace network.

Section 2: Growing Vaughan's Greenspace Network

Focus areas or lenses to guide future greenspace expansion

Respondents were presented with eight lenses or “focus areas” that the City of Vaughan has used to assess potential gaps in the existing greenspace system. Respondents were invited to comment on these focus areas and asked whether there were any other lenses the City should consider when identifying and prioritizing areas for greenspace expansion.

The focus areas presented were:

- **Park Walking Distance Gaps:** Where are the areas that do not have access to a park within 500m from home?
- **Transit Access:** Where are the areas within a 500m walking catchment of existing transit stops?
- **High Percentage of Youth Population:** Where are the areas where 25% or more of the population is 18 years old or younger?
- **High Percentage Older Adult Population:** Where are the areas where 25% or more of the population is 65 years old or older?
- **Low Income Areas:** Where are the areas where 5% or more of households are low income?
- **2051 Population Density:** Where are the areas where population density is expected to exceed 4,000 people per square kilometre by 2051?
- **2051 Park Area Per Person:** Where are the areas where park area per person will not reach the City's goal of 2 hectares per 1,000 people in 2051?
- **District Parks:** Where are the areas where residents do not have access to a district park within 2.5 km from home?

Respondents agreed that areas of the city experiencing population growth and higher density development should be prioritized for future greenspace expansion. Proximity to public transit and walkability was also a focus for several respondents who cited the need for easy access to greenspaces.

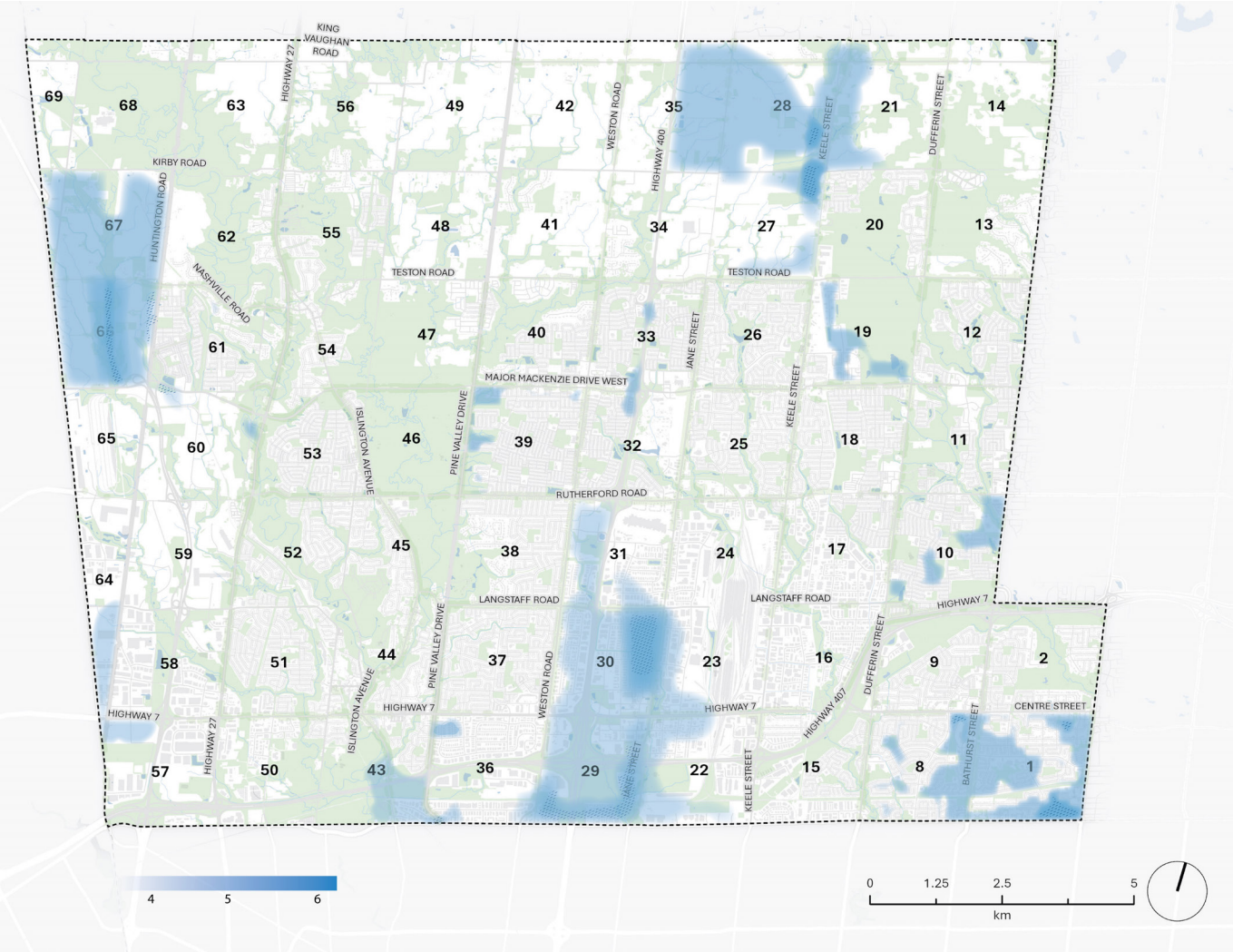
New focus areas suggested by respondents included having increased access to greenspaces near residential areas, schools and places of work, as well as in areas with higher levels of dog ownership (to prioritize the enhancement or expansion of dog-friendly greenspaces).

Greenspace priority areas

Respondents were presented with a map of Vaughan showing areas of the city that have been identified as having the greatest need for parks and greenspaces based on the factors highlighted in the previous question. Respondents were asked if there are parts of Vaughan not captured on the map which they felt were in greater need of parks and greenspaces.

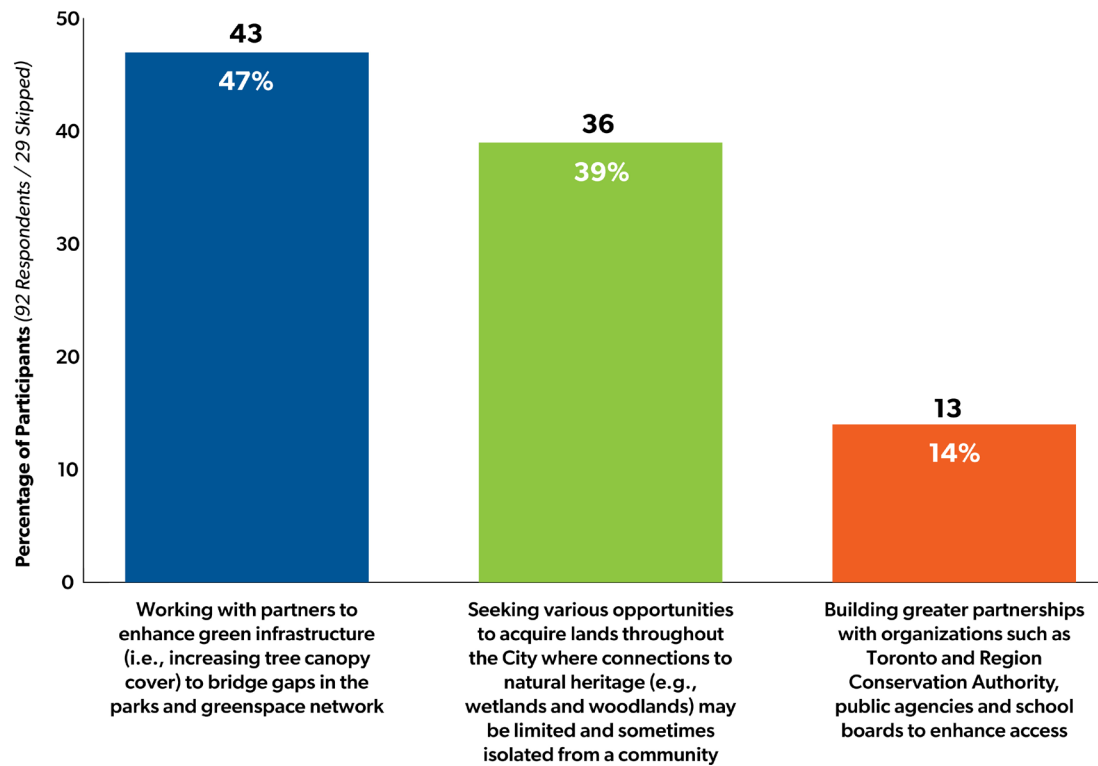
Respondents reiterated the need for greenspaces in areas of Vaughan experiencing population growth and development pressure such as Vaughan

Metropolitan Centre. Specific intersections along arterial roads, such as Highway 7 at Jane Street and Bathurst Street, were suggested as places with a greater need for parks and greenspaces. Other respondents pointed to specific planning blocks on the map as needing more greenspaces with the southeast corner of Vaughan between Yonge Street and Dufferin Street and the industrial park around the CN MacMillan train yard being areas to consider prioritizing for greenspace expansion.



Approaches for growing Vaughan’s greenspace network

Question 6: Which of the following approaches is most important for Vaughan to prioritize to grow our greenspace network?



Working with partners to enhance green infrastructure to bridge gaps in the parks and greenspace network was selected most frequently by respondents.

The second most frequently selected option, with 39% of responses, is acquiring lands to connect natural heritage areas that may be isolated or have limited community access. Building greater partnerships with organizations like the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, public agencies and school boards to enhance access, was selected by only 14% of respondents and is consistent with responses to Question 2.

Respondents were invited to share other ideas for how the City can expand the greenspace network. Responses to this question were enthusiastic, with many suggesting constructive and creative solutions.

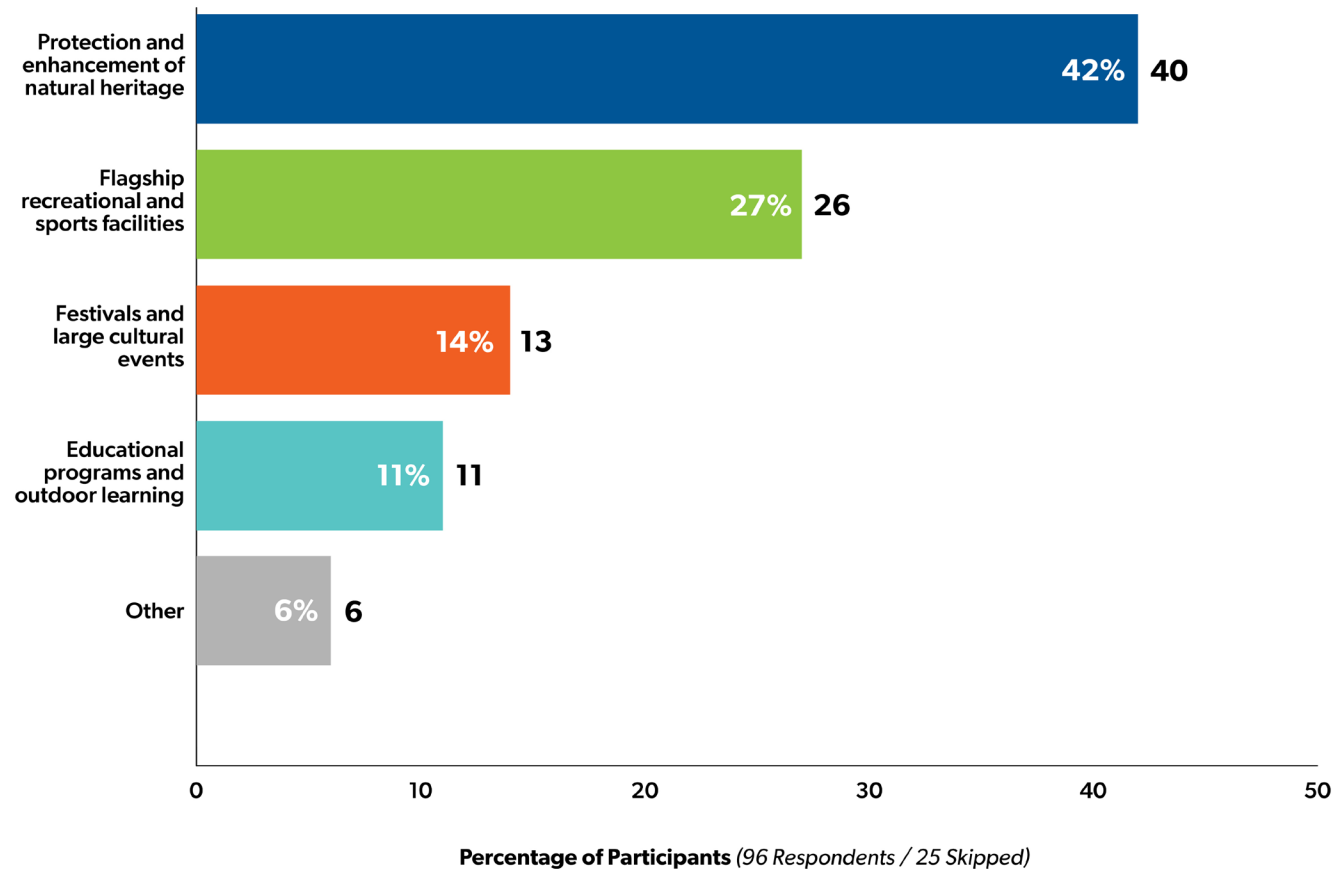
One of the most frequently suggested ideas was to find ways to ensure that new developments incorporate greenspaces into construction. In addition, respondents advocated for the protection of land, urging the designation of parks as natural heritage sites, and suggested land acquisitions to transform underutilized or industrial areas into greenspaces.

Respondents advocated for inclusion of green infrastructure, such as green roofs and street trees, to help increase access to greenspaces in an urban environment. As an approach to enhancing greenspaces on private properties, respondents requested that the City provide incentives for homeowners and landholders to naturalize their properties.

Section 3: Diverse Greenspace Experiences

Destination Parks

The survey provided details about a proposed new Destination Park being added to the City’s park classification system. Respondents were asked to share which features and benefits of Destination Parks they found most exciting.



Respondents expressed the strongest interest in the preservation and enhancement of natural heritage, with 42% of all respondents selecting this benefit. The creation of flagship recreational and sports facilities also garnered enthusiasm, with 27% of votes.

When asked what other features they would like to see included in Destination Parks, respondents expressed a desire for a variety of amenities and activities, from organized sports to casual recreation to connection to nature.

Specific recommendations included a rock-climbing structure, cultural festivals to celebrate Vaughan’s diverse community, off-leash dog areas, and meadows and naturalized areas. These responses suggest a preference for Destination Parks that offer a balance of ecological preservation and high-quality recreational infrastructure.

Self-Guided Engagement Stations & Pop-Up Engagement Events

The approach to in-person engagement in Phase 3 was decentralized with ten self-guided 'engagement stations' set-up in libraries and community centres across the city. Each station included a table with informational panels and a brochure highlighting the three key components found in the draft Greenspace Strategic Plan.

Participants could provide their feedback by scanning a QR code to access the StoryMap and online survey, or by completing comment cards. Each comment card provided information on one of the three key components of the draft GSP and included prompt questions inviting the public to provide feedback on the Plan.

Engagement stations were set up at the following libraries and community centres:

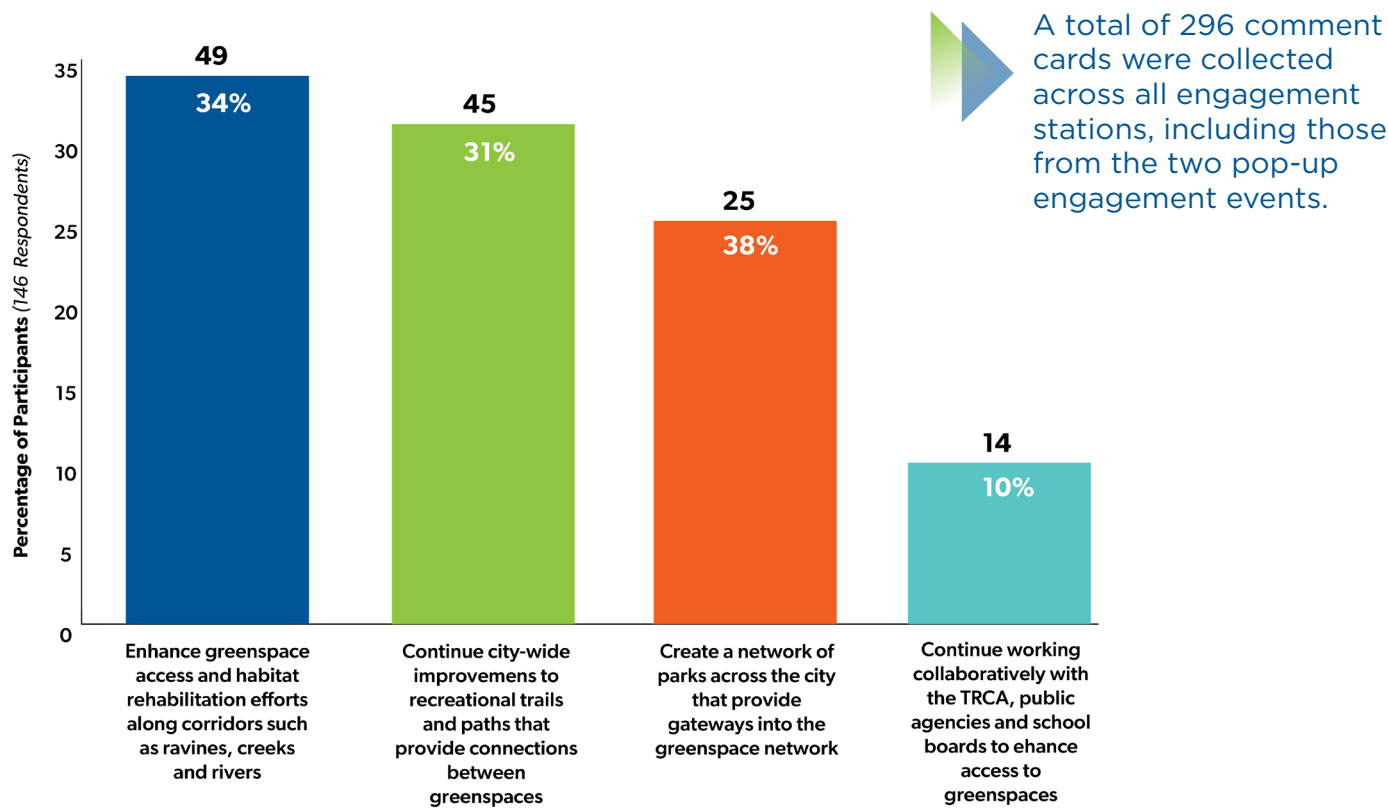
- VMC Library
- Dufferin Clark Library
- Ansley Grove Library
- Civic Centre Resource Library
- Pierre Berton Resource Library
- Maple Community Centre
- Garnett Williams Community Centre
- Father Bulfon Community Centre
- North Thornhill Community Centre
- Vellore Village Community Centre



Two in-person pop-up engagement events were hosted at Vellore Village Community Centre and North Thornhill Community Centre on Monday, Oct. 28 and Tuesday, Oct. 29, respectively. The pop-up engagement events provided members of the public with an opportunity to speak to the project team and share their feedback on key components of the draft GSP. Refreshments were provided and a children's activity station was set up to get kids inspired about parks.



Key takeaways from the engagement stations and pop-up events



Improving greenspace connectivity

In alignment with Question 2 on the online survey, respondents were asked which ideas for improving the connectivity of Vaughan’s greenspace network were the most important to prioritize.

Responses are similar to the results of the survey, with the most common response being enhancing greenspace access and rehabilitation of natural areas, and the least common response being collaboration with partner organizations to enhance access to greenspaces.

When asked to elaborate on their responses, respondents highlighted a desire to see a more connected park system in Vaughan with safe, multi-use trails and pathways to parks and greenspaces. Respondents further advocated for safe connections from residential areas to parks, including additional bike lanes.

Lastly, respondents wrote about their desire to see trails within parks better maintained or upgraded to improve overall connectivity and accessibility of the City’s greenspace network.

Growing Vaughan's greenspace network

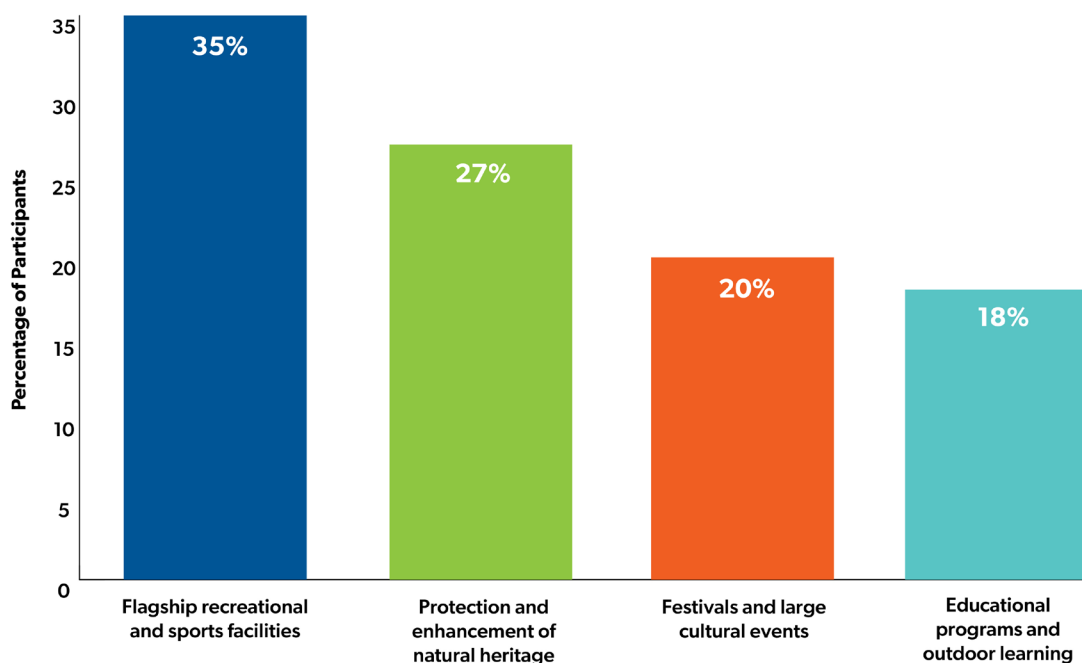
Respondents were presented with the eight lenses or “focus areas” that the City of Vaughan is considering adopting to help identify and prioritize areas for future greenspace expansion. On the comment cards, respondents were asked if they felt there were other focus areas the City should prioritize when planning for greenspace expansion.

While most responses to this question focused on broad suggestions for park and greenspace improvements, many respondents spoke about the need for access to greenspaces in areas of the City experiencing population growth and higher density development.

None of the other proposed focus areas listed were cited specifically by respondents; however, respondents spoke to the importance of parks and greenspaces for children and families, which aligns with the focus on increasing greenspace access in areas with significant youth populations and within a 500 metre walking distance of residential areas.



Diverse greenspace experiences



Respondents were presented with information about a new proposed park type being added to the City's park classification system: a Destination Park.

Destination Parks will provide unique experiences, amenities and attractions designed to draw visitors from a broader geographic area. They can serve to protect natural and cultural resources, host educational programs and provide spaces for physical activity, passive recreation, festivals and city-wide events. The Destination Park will offer flagship recreation and premium sports facilities, trails and passive uses, outdoor learning and cultural programming while providing opportunities to protect and enhance natural heritage systems.

Respondents were asked to identify which features and benefits of the park excited them the most.

Although the online survey results indicated an overall preference for natural heritage protection, comment card respondents demonstrated a greater preference for

flagship recreational and sports facilities. This difference might reflect the fact that the majority of comment cards were collected at community centres where residents access recreation programs and facilities.

The comment card invited respondents to share other ideas for features they wish to see in Destination Parks. Responses included a variety of creative suggestions, such as:

- Sports facilities like soccer fields and basketball courts.
- Trails and multi-use paths, in particular continuous or connected trails that allow residents to walk, run or cycle longer distances.
- Facilities for community and cultural gatherings such as stages, event pavilions and picnic shelters.
- Improved access to more "wild" natural areas, such as ravines, as well as access to outdoor experiences, such as camping.
- Nature-based education programs for youth splashpads and playgrounds.
- Community gardens

Stakeholder Advisory Group

*Wednesday, October 16, 2024 from 6-8pm
Meeting held at Vaughan City Hall*

During Phase 3 engagement, one Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) meeting was held in-person at City Hall and included a presentation on key recommendations developed for the GSP and opportunities for members to ask questions and provide input.

SAG members were provided with the following information:

- Summary of engagement efforts completed to date and key findings.
- Discussion of approaches for increasing connectivity within and between parks and greenspaces in Vaughan.
- Proposal to add Destination Parks as a new park type.
- Proposed criteria for identifying priority areas for greenspace acquisition
- Policy recommendations and strategic actions.

Key themes that arose during the SAG meeting are discussed below.

- SAG members were interested in proposals for increasing connectivity. Members were also interested in the maps showing how greenspaces form a network.
- SAG members discussed a variety of ways that the City could provide adequate levels of greenspace access for residents. Members discussed the role the development industry has in providing greenspace alongside new residential development.
- Suggestion to use various criteria for park acquisition including a forest layer, the number of trees per person, an impervious surface layer and urban heat islands.
- There is a need for tree growth in the city, especially within urban areas to help mitigate against the heat island effect.
- Another layer for consideration was TRCA's "Target Natural Heritage System".

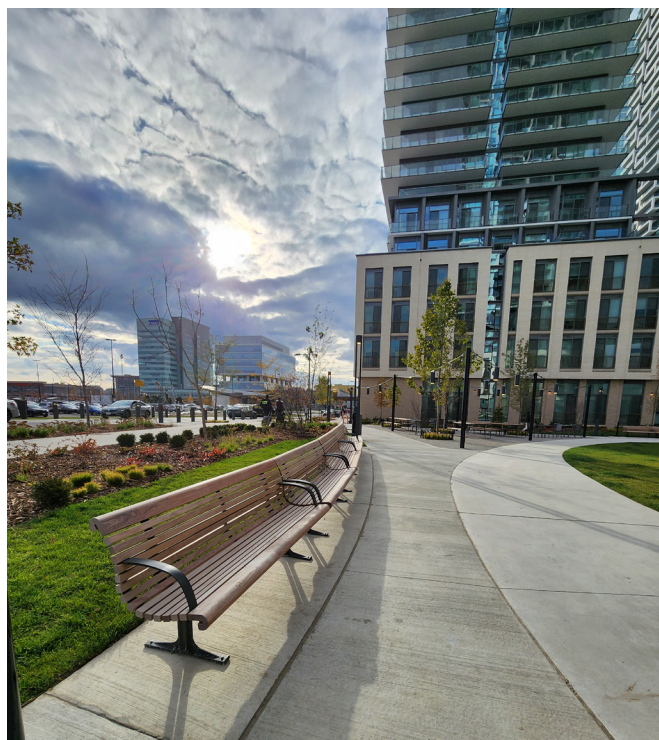


BILD Meeting

*Friday, October 18, 2024 from 10-11am
Virtual meeting held on Zoom*

During Phase 3, the project team held a virtual meeting with the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) members. The purpose of the meeting was to present key components of the draft GSP and provide an opportunity for participants to ask questions of the project team. 15 BILD members, staff and representatives of the development industry attended the meeting.

BILD members were provided with the following information:

- The purpose of the GSP.
- A summary of the engagement completed to date.
- Circuit 51 and a conceptual approaches for increasing connectivity within and between parks and greenspaces in Vaughan.
- Proposal to add Destination Parks as a new park type.
- Proposed criteria for identifying priority areas for greenspace acquisition.
- Proposed parkland targets and implementation framework.

Discussion at the BILD meeting focused on the following:

- Interconnectivity of the Plan and encouraging residents to walk and use public transit.
- Missed opportunities for parkland acquisition and challenges around delivering Privately Owned Public Spaces (POPS). POPS are important for the urban fabric, especially within intensification areas as they tend to be busier than larger parks.
- The development community faces challenges with high-water table in certain areas, leaving limited parking availability while balancing the needs and space for parks.

- The City's requirement that 50% of the frontage of new parks be situated on highly visible public streets. This presents challenges due to the limited availability of sites that meet this requirement, especially in urban intensification areas.
- Suggestion to utilize lands in the greenbelt for parkland.



Circuit 51

The existing Green and Blue infrastructure of the City presents a compelling likeness to circuitry highlighting the importance of a co-dependent greenspace network. Circuit 51 illustrates a conceptual foundation for how the GSP will address the greenspace objectives of the City at a time of unprecedented growth. The complex natural heritage network and greenspace system form a circuitry of green infrastructure and community amenity. As the City grows, so does the intricacy of this network, including differently scaled and designed greenspaces for an ever-changing population.

StoryMap

In Phase 3, StoryMap continued to play an important role as a tool to inform the public about progress on the GSP by highlighting insights from previous phases of engagement, sharing updated versions of Vaughan's greenspace vision and goals, and details about the three key areas of focus of the draft GSP. The StoryMap also served as a complementary resource to support the online survey and community engagement stations.

The StoryMap included information about:

- **Improving greenspace connectivity:** How we'll strive to build connections between and within parks and greenspace.
- **Growing our greenspace network:** How we'll prioritize the expansion of the greenspace network in areas of the city that need it most.

- **Diverse greenspace experiences:** How we'll provide amenities that create a cohesive greenspace system.

For each topic, the StoryMap provided an overview and visuals, utilizing the built-in features of the platform to construct mini "stories" around each topic to make the information accessible and digestible. At the end of the StoryMap, participants were directed to participate in an engagement opportunity, whether that was the online survey, a self-guided engagement station, or a pop-up engagement event.



Looking Ahead

Conclusion

The City of Vaughan's greenspace network is highly valued by residents, who view access to a connected, natural and balanced system, a key community asset. Throughout this phase of engagement, participants identified several opportunities to strengthen the greenspace system, ensuring it evolves to meet the needs of a growing urban population and aligns with residents' vision for the future use of parks and natural areas.

Feedback continued to emphasize the importance of a connected and well-maintained greenspace network, protecting and enhancing natural spaces, and enabling high-quality opportunities for active and passive recreation, as well as festivals, events, and social connection.

Next Steps

The final Greenspace Strategic Plan will be refined based on this input.