



Garnet A. Williams Community Centre Major Renovation Project

York Hill Park Phase 1
Project Update

November 2021



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Introduction

Garnet A. Williams Community Centre Major Renovation Project and York Hill Park:

- York Hill District Park is situated directly south of the Garnet A. Williams Community Centre.
- It was identified as a high priority for redevelopment in the City's 2018 Parks Redevelopment Strategy.
- Through multiple project phases, York Hill District Park will become an accessible park and community hub with facilities that will serve the community's needs and preserve the natural environment.
- Updates will take into consideration existing park-related issues and the changing demographic of the area.
- Phase 1 will be completed as part of the Garnet A. Williams Community Centre major renovation project.
- Includes the addition of a splashpad/waterplay feature, renovated washroom and change room facilities, new landscaping and public seating areas.

Introduction

Guiding principles behind park upgrades include accessibility for all, opportunities for free play and structured play, and the use of high-quality features that stand up to frequent use.



Accessibility



High-Quality



Multi-functionality

Introduction

In designing parks the City strives to*:

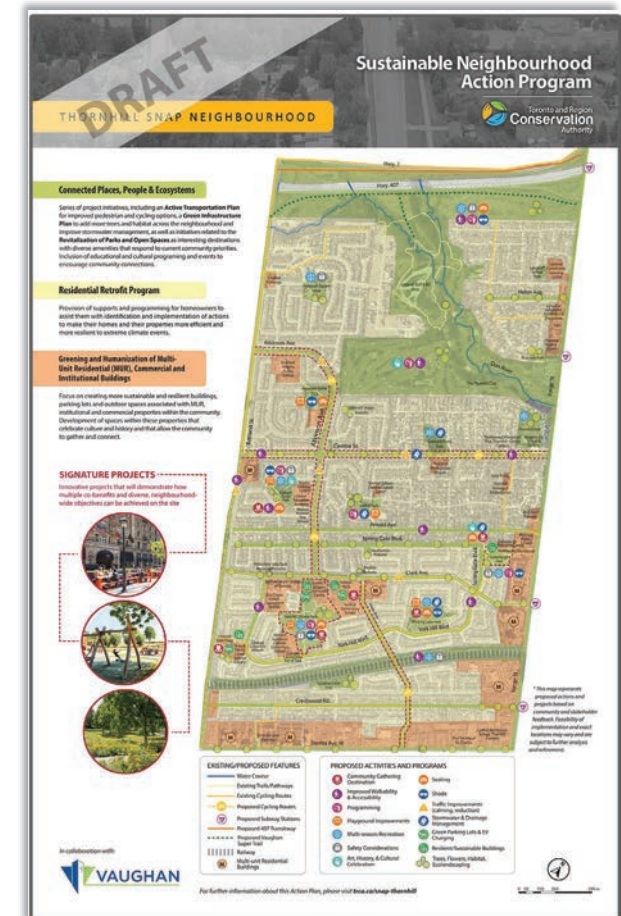
- incorporate spaces and amenities encouraging physical activity, wellness and informal use opportunities for people of all ages;
- consider the needs of a diverse and aging population through the provision of washrooms, seating, shaded areas, pathways, picnic areas, etc.;
- apply CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles;
- promote designs that encourage sustainable maintenance practices; and,
- incorporate native and drought resistant vegetative features that are biologically robust.

*Active Together Master Plan, 2018

Work to date

Community Consultation

- **Mar. 31, 2016:** Project launch with public online survey
- **Dec. 27, 2016:** Public engagement session and feasibility study presentation
- **Sept. 2, 2020:** Together with the TRCA, the City hosted a SNAP 'Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program in Thornhill' workshop for York Hill Park
- **Sept. 10, 2020:** Public information session for the community centre revitalization



Work to date

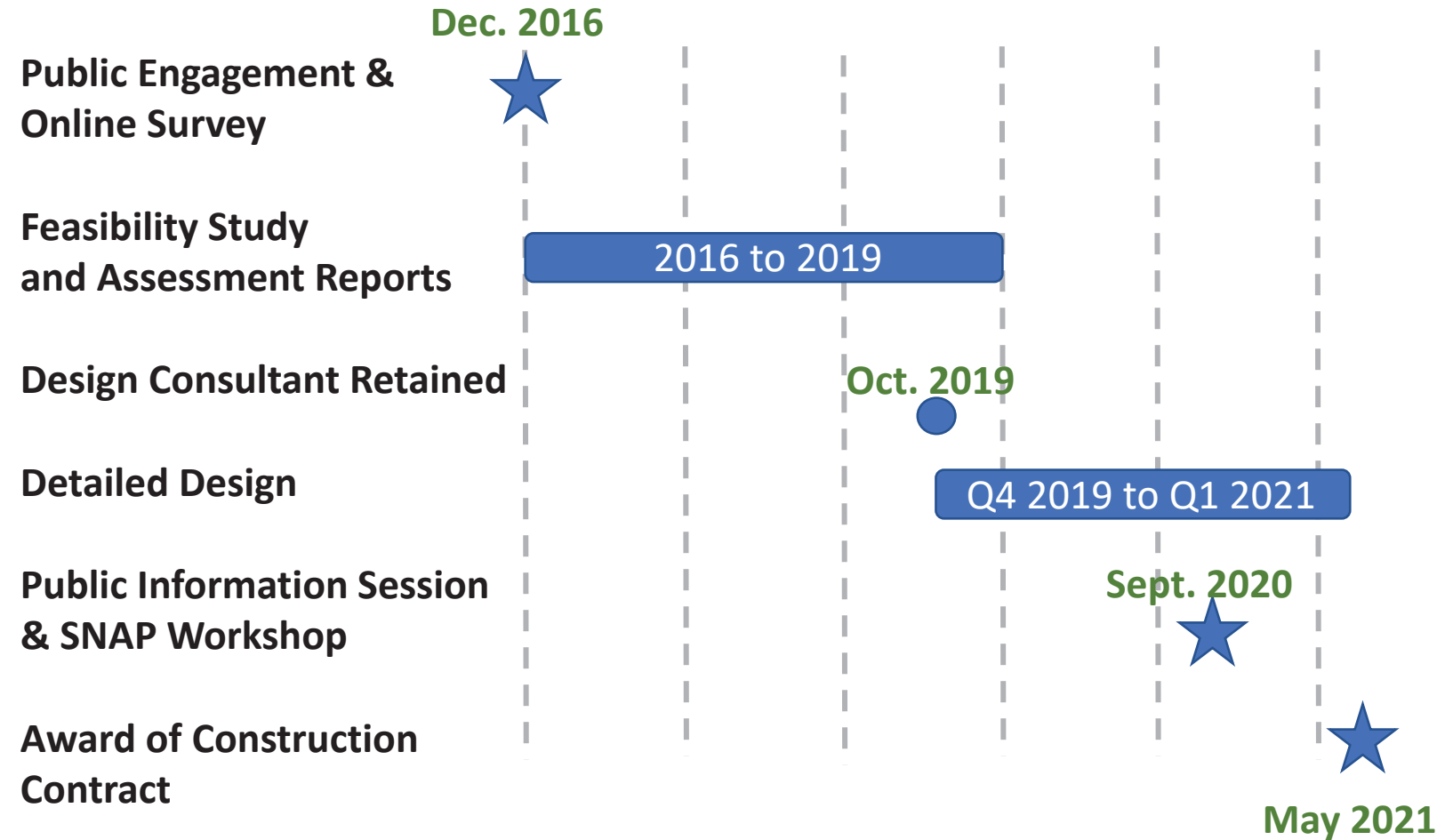
Community Consultation

The community consultation process identified the following project objectives for York Hill Park:

- Better connection from York Hill Park to Community Centre;
- Connection to Community Centre from the east side of Park;
- Wayfinding / identity signage;
- Better access points to Park from around Community Centre;
- Create gateways to enter the park;
- Improve Park recognizable theme/character;
- Provide desirable/attractive spaces for residents;
- More tree coverage;
- Group seating areas;
- Improve skate rink aesthetics; and,
- Incorporate splash pad based on numerous resident requests.

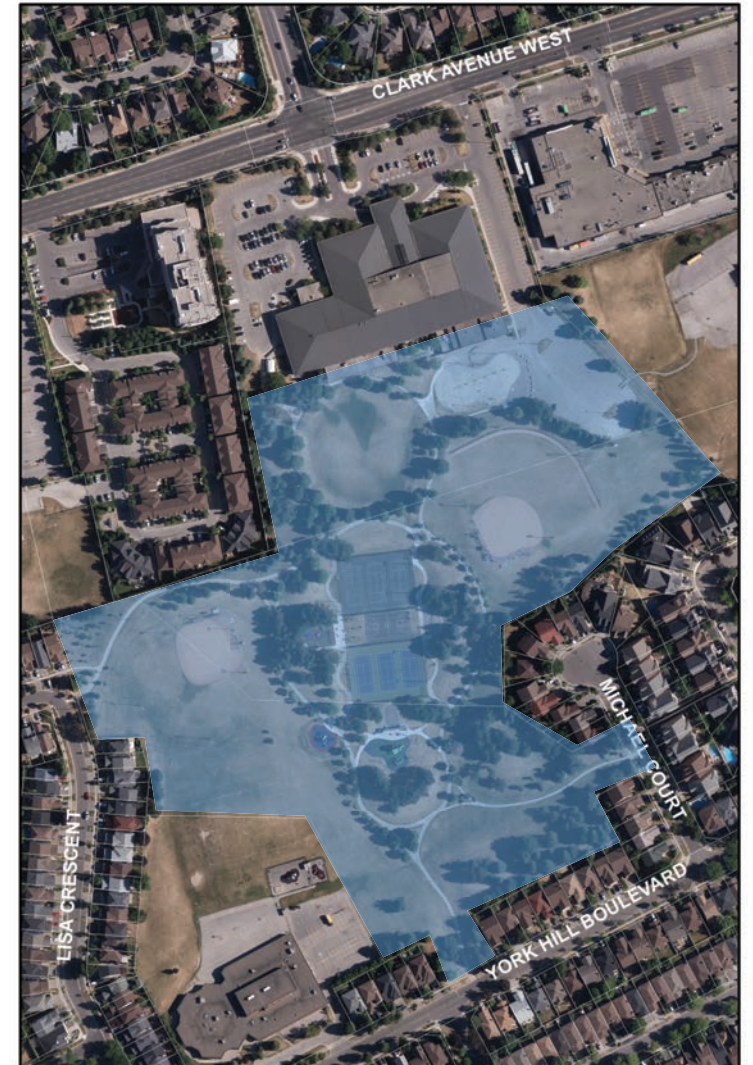
Work to date

Continuation of work



Context and Program

- **York Hill Park** is approximately 8.4 hectares and is situated at the heart of the established York Hill neighbourhood, adjacent to the Garnet A. Williams Community Centre.
- Originally built in 1980, the park contains a network of paths, playground areas, tennis courts, a full basketball court, shade shelter, senior baseball fields, artificial outdoor rink, and parking lot.



Context and Program

- The York Hill Park Redevelopment project is being planned and implemented in phases
- **Phase One:** The area shown here is characterised as the "Park-Community Centre Interface". This area will be a new splashpad/waterplay feature, renovated washrooms and change rooms, new public seating areas, and improved accessible access into the Community Centre
- Phase Two will include improvements to the facilities and open space in the remainder of the park.



Context and Program

Existing Park-Community Centre Interface



Design Goals

Renew and Reconnect

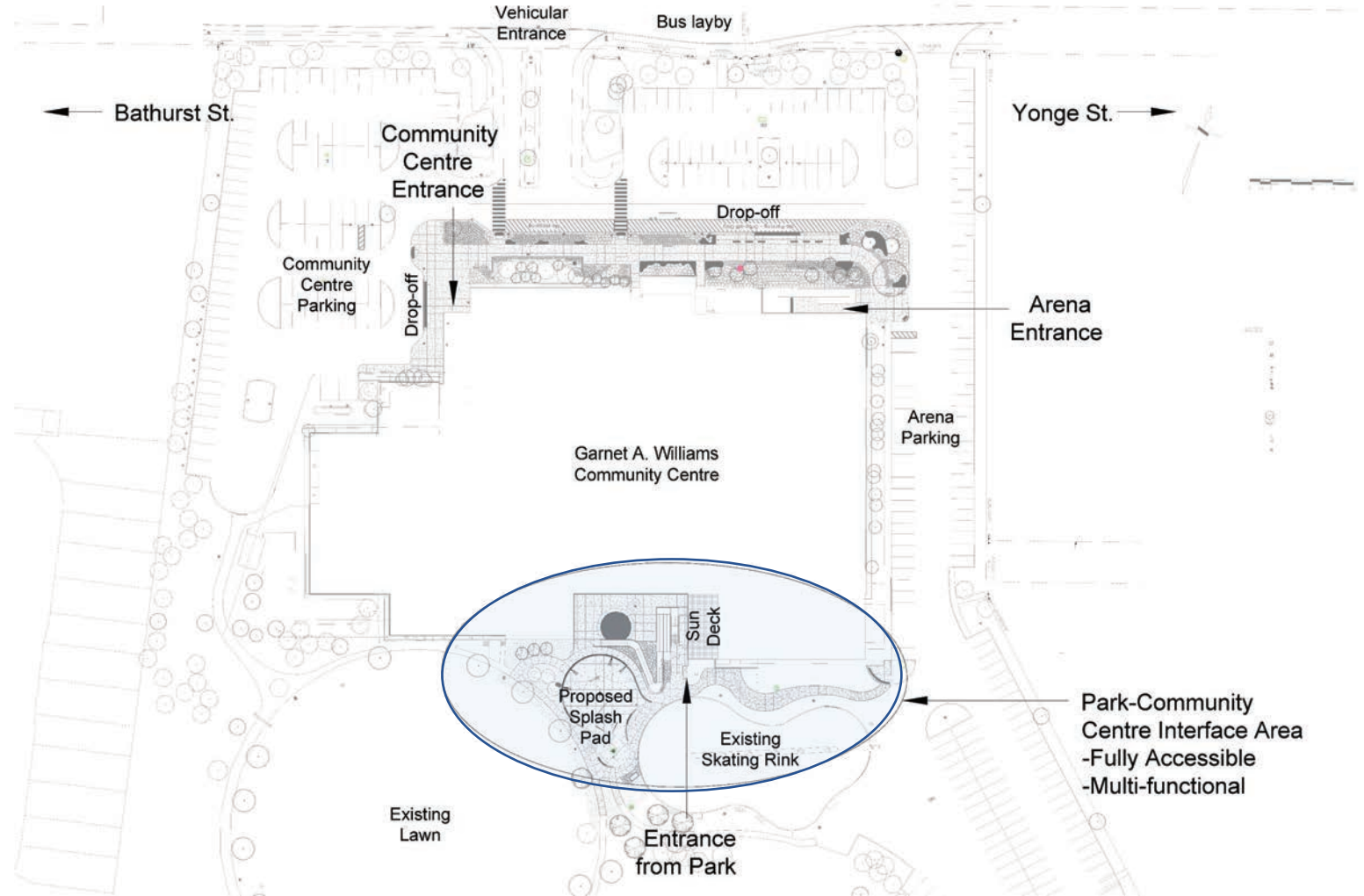
- Add new recreation opportunities to the park;
- Establish strong connections to the Community Centre;
- Upgrade change rooms and connection to the ice skating rink;
- Ensure new elements meet or exceed current accessibility standards; and,
- Make a positive contribution to the natural environment.





Reconnecting

New access to Community Centre from Park



Phase One: Existing Park Area



Proposed Splash Pad and Ramp location

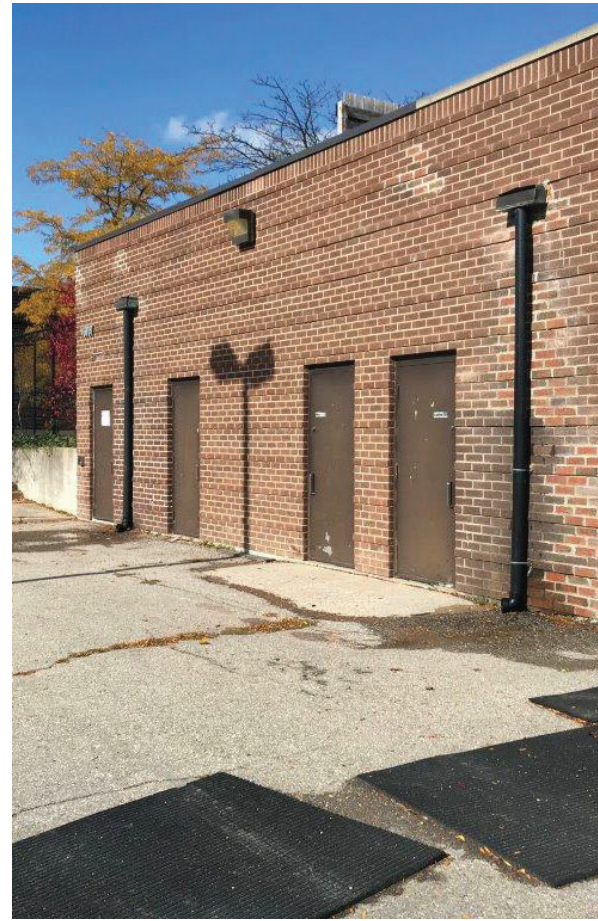


Proposed Pool Patio location

Phase One: Existing Building Area



Existing Service Lane



Existing Change Rooms and Maintenance Access



New Design

York Hill Park Phase 1



Existing Park

Community Centre Interface 'before'



New Design

New Community Centre Interface 'after'



Existing Park

Splash Pad area 'before'



New Design

Splash Pad area 'after'

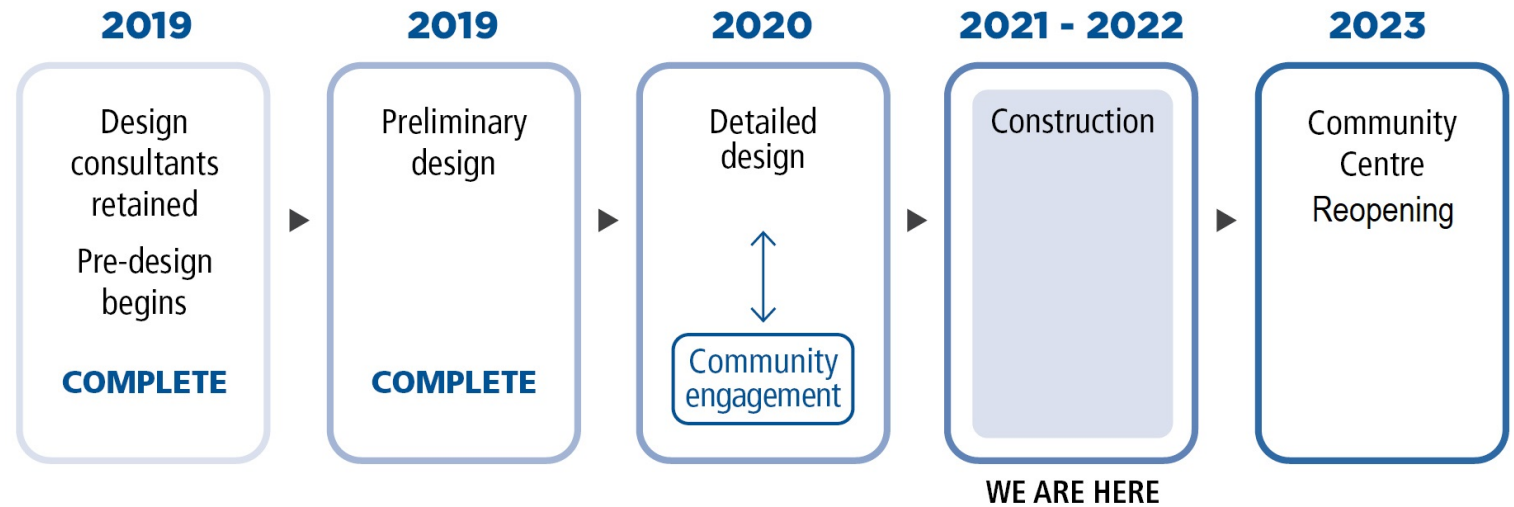


New Design

Splash Pad area 'after'



Next Steps



2019: Design Consultants retained, pre-design begins (Complete)

2019: Preliminary Design (Complete)

2020-2021: Detailed Design – community engagement (Complete)

2021-2022: Construction [Current Stage]

2023: Community Centre and York Hill Phase 1 Completion



Thank You.

