

Background

The Sister MacNamara Wading Pool was closed in fall 2017 after it reached the end of its serviceable life. The Council adopted Recreation, Leisure and Library Facility Policy specifies that older wading pools will be replaced over time with the introduction of better wading pools or spray pads in the vicinity.

Construction of a new spray pad at the nearby Freight House Recreation Centre is underway and will replace the former Sister MacNamara Wading Pool. The City of Winnipeg (the City) intends on restoring the former wading pool site to green space as part of the Sister MacNamara Park Redevelopment project. In early 2018, public input was gathered on potential park improvements to help guide the redevelopment.



Potential park improvements being explored at the public workshop.

Engagement

A public workshop was held February 5, 2018 at Pinkham School. At the workshop, participants discussed the existing outdoor recreation and park amenities available in the West Alexander neighbourhood while considering which amenities are overused, underused or are currently unavailable. Following this discussion, participants provided suggestions on park enhancements that would better serve park users and the surrounding community. A survey was also available on the project website from January 23 to February 22, 2018 to gather additional input on the Sister MacNamara Park Redevelopment. A summary of the input gathered at the workshop and through the online survey can be found in the *What We Heard* section.

Promotion

The public workshop and online survey were promoted using the following methods:

- City of Winnipeg website;
- Postcard invitations mailed to 951 households – January 23, 2018;
- Facebook posts – January 23 to February 9, 2018;
- Twitter posts – January 23 to February 9, 2018;
- News release – January 24, 2018; and
- City of Winnipeg public engagement newsletter mailed to over 5,000 recipients February 1, 2017.

To learn more about the Sister MacNamara Park Redevelopment, please visit winnipeg.ca/sisternamaramapark

What We Heard	How It Was Considered*
The pathway through the park is well-used by area residents, and Health Sciences Centre patients and staff. The existing pathway should be incorporated into the park improvements.	The existing pathway through Sister MacNamara Park will remain in place and has been incorporated into the park improvements.
The neighbourhood has plenty of spaces for organized activities but few spaces for unorganized activities. The park improvements must include a space for unorganized activities.	The north end of Sister MacNamara Park will feature a basketball court for unorganized pick-up games.
Court sports could provide an area for unorganized activities. A basketball court would be well used by the community.	The Sister MacNamara Park Redevelopment design features a basketball court. A chain-link fence will be located along the northern portion of the court to prevent balls from entering the roadway.
The park must include a passive area for relaxing and enjoying nature. Existing trees must be incorporated into the park improvements.	The southern end of Sister MacNamara Park will be a passive area with new sod and existing trees.
Many of the park and recreation facilities in the neighbourhood are in poor condition. The park improvements must be simple and inexpensive to maintain.	A low-maintenance acrylic paving surface will be used for the basketball court.
Safety must be a top consideration for Sister MacNamara Park, including improved lighting.	New lighting will be installed to improve safety and nighttime visibility in the park.
The nearby wading pools, splash pad and outdoor swimming pool are well used by the neighbourhood in the summer.	Due to the close proximity of other parks with aquatic facilities, the City is not including a wading pool or splash pad at the Sister MacNamara Park Redevelopment.

*The design is being finalized and may be subject to change from the concept that is presented.

Next Steps

The City will finalize the design for Sister MacNamara Park Redevelopment project. Construction is expected to begin in summer 2018 with landscaping on the park site, followed by installation of the basketball court, bench, lighting and new sod. The redeveloped park is expected to be open to the public in late summer 2018.

Appendices

- Appendix A – Postcard Invitation
- Appendix B – Workshop Boards

To learn more about the Sister MacNamara Park Redevelopment, please visit winnipeg.ca/sisternamamarapark