



Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

Future of Mount Pleasant Park December 10, 2009

Visit the Park Board web site at vancouverparks.ca

Future of Mount Pleasant Park

- Future of building
- Future of pool
- Future of childcare services

Background

- Discussion regarding the future of park began in 1999
- The Board requested public input to make an informed and final decision by the end of 2009
- Consultation with stakeholders and community members was conducted between August and November 2009
 - Mustel Group was retained to conduct public consultation
 - Two newsletters were published
 - Input from the public was invited
 - ❖ 32 letters and 14 phone calls (post-newsletter) were received

Option 1: Green Space

Option 1: Green Space



Includes:

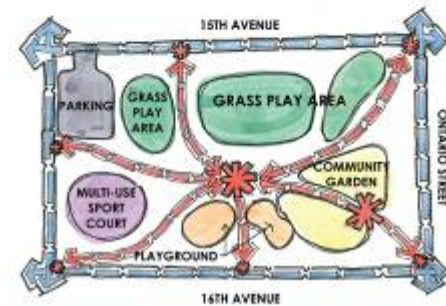
- Playground
- Daycare playspace
- Multi-use sports court
- Grass play areas
- Community gardens
- Arbour/Plaza
- Paths
- Trees
- Benches

Permeable Green Space: 85%

Parking: 20 stalls

Cost: about \$1.0 million

Timing: to be built in 2010/11



Option 2: New Pool, New Change Rooms

Option 2: New Pool, New Change Rooms



Also includes:

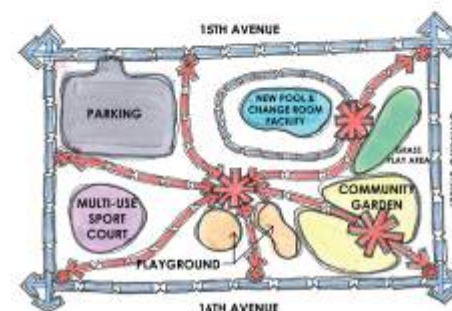
- Playground
- Daycare playspace
- Multi-use sports court
- Grass play area
- Community Gardens
- Arbour/Plaza
- Paths
- Trees
- Benches

Permeable Green Space: 70%

Parking: 40 stalls

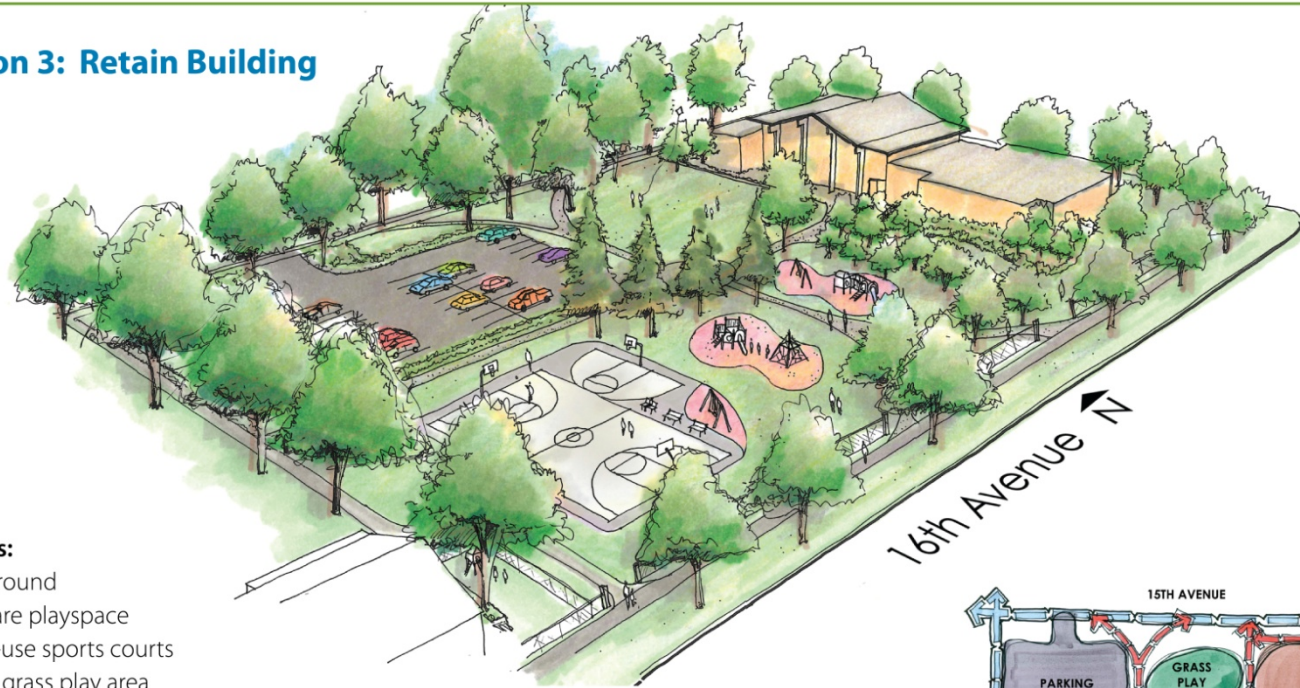
Cost: about \$6.0 million

Timing: unknown since funding for pool would have to be secured in a future capital plan.



Option 3: Retain Building

Option 3: Retain Building



Includes:

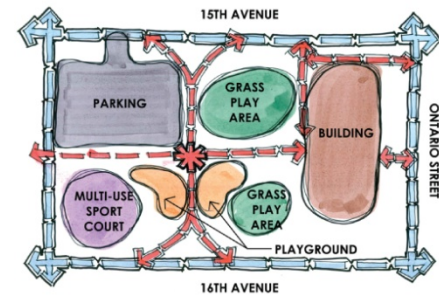
- Playground
- Daycare playspace
- Multi-use sports courts
- Small grass play area
- Paths
- Trees
- Benches

Permeable Green Space: 65%

Parking: 60 stalls

Cost: \$4 – 6 million depending on extent of building upgrades needed.

Timing: park portion could be delivered in 2010/11, building upgrade dependent on additional funding from future capital plan or outside funding.



Consultation Process

- **Components:**

- Qualitative phase — in-depth discussion groups moderated by Mustel Group
- Quantitative phase — structured + open-end questionnaire format accessible to all interested parties (no random selection)

- **Survey notification:** Posted at park, in community centre and in two Mount Pleasant newsletters

- **Time frame:** October 20 through November 12, 2009

Methods of Consultation

- Focus groups (2)
 - 1 group who live immediately adjacent to Mount Pleasant Park
 - 1 group of community stakeholders (ex. MPCCA, PAC, Pool Committee)

- On-line bulletin board (3)
 - 1 group residents of Mount Pleasant
 - 1 group residents of Vancouver living outside Mount Pleasant
 - 1 group of aquatic services users

- Open access survey
 - Open on-line survey via Park Board website, paper version available on request
 - 752 residents responded (including 6 paper surveys)

On-line Bulletin Board and Focus Group Results

- Respondents felt green space is especially important in park deficient neighbourhoods such as Mount Pleasant.
- Stakeholders and immediate neighbours of Mount Pleasant Park feel the community centre and pool were important hubs in the neighbourhood, and the move of the centre to Kingsway is a blow to the area.
- The pool is an important part of the neighbourhood and its loss is an additional blow.
- The majority of respondents favoured a park design option that included the pool.
- Timing and funding were not deterrents for respondents preferring the pool option.
- Hillcrest outdoor pool is considered insufficient for older children and teens.

Open-access Survey Results

- Ratings used to test the appeal of each option confirm that the new pool option is the most positively received by respondents.

QUESTION:

- To what extent do you like or dislike this illustration for Mount Pleasant Park? Scale: Extremely positive, somewhat positive, neutral, somewhat negative, extremely negative.
 - New pool, new change rooms: **79% positive**, 12% negative, 9% neutral
 - Green space option: **38% positive, 40% negative**, 22% neutral
 - Retain building option: 26% positive, **51% negative**, 24% neutral
- Comments made by survey responders further emphasize demand for a pool at Mount Pleasant Park.

Open-access Survey Results

- A strong majority of respondents prefer the idea of a ‘new pool with new change rooms’ — over two-thirds as their first choice and approaching 9-in-10 as their first or second choice (88%).

QUESTION:

- Which option do you prefer most?
 - 68% Option 2: New Pool, New Change Rooms
 - 19% Option 1: Green Space
 - 10% Option 3: Retain Building
 - 3% No preference/None
- Which option do you prefer second most?
 - 35% Option 1: Green Space
 - 29% Option 3: Retain Building
 - 20% Option 2: New Pool, New Change Rooms
 - 16% No preference/None

Conclusions

- Design and development of park to allow for a pool to be built at a later time when capital funds become available
- Decommission the building