



**Chapel Street Splash Pad  
Revitalization**

**Survey Results (Long Version)**

**A *Celebration Sandy Hill* Initiative**

**Summary of Responses  
Garnering Support of  
Over 10% of  
Respondents**

**1. *What brings you to the Splash Pad?***

- a. Close to home (80%)
- b. The water feature (72%)
- c. The play structures (60%)
- d. The green space (48%)

**Additional Comments**

- To dig in the sand
- Close to T.A.N. Coffeeshop

## ***2. What would you like to see celebrated in the Splash Pad?***

- a. Children playing on play equipment (80%)**
- b. Children running and jumping (72%)**
- c. Family & Friends (60%)**
- d. Beauty & Nature (56%)**
- e. Gardening (48%)**
- f. Shade (40%)**
- g. Intergenerational Use (40%)**
- h. Music & Song (36%)**
- i. Sandy Hill's Heritage Character (36%)**
- j. Sun (28%)**
- k. Outdoor Activities (28%)**
- l. Space for Seniors (28%)**

### **Additional Comments**

- Incorporate a small Zen garden from donations from the Community.**

**3. *What kind of programming would you like to see at the Splash Pad?***

- a. Seasonal Events (84%)
- b. Art-in-the-Park (56%)
- c. Gardening Initiatives (56%)
- d. Camping Under the Stars (32%)
- e. Outdoor Sing-alongs (28%)
- f. Outdoor Reading Circles (28%)

**Additional Comments**

- How about installing some picnic tables and brick BBQ's so people can picnic there?
- NOT camping under the stars
- Educating U Ottawa students on how to behave in residential areas, the cost paid by the university.

**4. *For what reasons do you use the Splash Pad park?***

- a. To use the water feature (76%)
- b. To play on the structures (72%)
- c. To sit and eat a snack or meal (60%)
- d. To play in the sand (60%)
- e. To run around in the open space (48%)
- f. To meet up with friends (44%)
- g. To stop and read a book (28%)
- h. To throw a ball or Frisbee (20%)

**Additional Comments**

- Tai-chi

**5. *What type of equipment/structures/spaces would you like to see in the Splash Pad park?***

- a. Seating (92%)
- b. Climbing structures  
(Ladders/bridges/monkey bars/walls)  
(84%)
- c. Slides (72%)
- d. Water Fountain (68%)
- e. Swings (68%)
- f. Picnic Tables (60%)
- g. Sand Pit (60%)
- h. Treehouse (44%)
- i. Balance Beam/Stepping Stones (44%)
- j. Secret Garden (44%)
- k. Bird Feeders (40%)
- l. Herb Patch (36%)
- m. Seasonal BBQ Pit (32%)
- n. Foursquare/Hopscotch/Chess (28%)
- o. Reading Nook (28%)
- p. Track Rides/Zip Lines (24%)
- q. Tunnels (24%)

**r. Suspension Bridges Between the Trees  
(24%)**

**s. Open Field (20%)**

**t. Musical Structures (20%)**

**u. Rockers/Seesaws (20%)**

### **Additional Comments**

- **Tables with chess / checker boards marked on top. Players will have to bring their own game pieces.**

**6. *What type of materials would you like to see used for the equipment/structures?***

- a. Mixed (Natural & Modern) (78%)**
- b. Natural (Wood Etc.) (13%)**
- c. Modern (Metal Etc.) (9%)**

**Additional Comments**

- Molded Plastic**

**7. Which of the following playground surfaces do you think is most suitable?**

- a. Sand (62%)
- b. Grass (62%)
- c. Rubber Tile (43%)
- d. Wood Chips (24%)
- e. Poured Rubber (19%)
- f. Artificial Turf (14%)

**Additional Comments**

- Equipment such as rakes can be left in a storage shed to allow volunteers to help with the maintenance of the park.
- Grass would just get worn down but you could have A-turf over rubber tiles or even poured rubber for softer landings
- Something soft to land on that wouldn't be affected by water
- Sand is needed for digging and creating

**8. *What do you think could be done to make the Splash Pad safer?***

- a. More Clean-Up Maintenance (80%)**
- b. Better Lighting (71%)**
- c. More/Improved Fences (25%)**
- d. Different Materials Used for Ground Cover (25%)**
- e. Emergency Access Buttons (17%)**
- f. More Signage (13%)**

**Additional Comments**

- Better lighting is irrelevant as the city turns off the water and the park closes when it gets dark.**

***9. What else do you think would make this playground more beautiful, more exciting or easier to use?***

- The addition of colour through paint and plants. The trees are great for shade during the high heat of summer but they can also make the park quite gloomy for the other days. Even simply painting the black fence that surrounds the park with a brighter colour will be helpful.
- More sun would be helpful as the kids are often chilly after playing in the splash pad
- We are frequent visitors to the park, with two small children...[comments removed to protect privacy]. Our son's favourite activity is digging in the sand and we would hate to see that disappear. Sand provides a soft landing and it is versatile - it allows kids to dig, play with trucks, create mud pies, footprints, sand castles, their own gardens, cities and just about anything else. The swings are a close second on our "favourites" list and both the infant and big kid/adult swings should remain.

[Comments removed to protect privacy]...we are also concerned with any proposals: 1) to add extra lighting (the park currently closes at night and already has nighttime lighting - any additional lighting would flood...would add to the urban light pollution); 2) to add washrooms, which would take up valuable space in the small park, would produce unpleasant odours, and would encourage people to camp out in the park, which is currently not permitted; 3) camping under the stars, which has the potential of creating a lot of noise at night and garbage and debris in the morning; and 4) to add barbecue pits, which would take up valuable play space, could add extra garbage and could potentially create a fire hazard to nearby homes and property (it is a small park - it would be hard to keep the barbecue pits well away from all neighbouring properties). We would also hate to see the park over-developed. There are lots of great ideas in this survey, but many of them would take up a lot of space in the small park and if all were implemented there would be little or

no free space left for general running around and playing.

- As the space is not large and we have Strathcona Park, picnic tables, and the river nearby I believe we should focus on younger children and the water features for them, and play structures appropriate for their age. More seating for adults and seniors. Indeed an improved version of itself without too much interference, its simplicity and shade is a treasure.
- PLEASE Keep it a kid-friendly space!
- Small windmills that go around the gates
- Place for visual art work that can change – artwork of children, by children, for children, featuring local families
- Colourful fence, similar to the one at the children’s garden in Old Ottawa East
- More big swings, tire swings, climbing - for older kids
- A garden for kids and adults to look after
- An obstacle course for little kids and big kids and adults – “ultimate obstacle course”

- More benches and tables and a small jungle gym for kids
- With the conversion of the retirement residence to student housing, we have noticed an increase in garbage (cigarette butts, bottle caps, etc.) Why not put up a fence, as a deterrent to those who want to use the park as a place to hang out, smoke and drink – after hours
- Would love a park that is fun and safe in the WINTER – covered structures? And no sand (or less sand), more wood chips and mulch
- Musical structures!
- Seating arrangements that encourage conversation/connections between people in clusters facing each other etc.
- Colourful tires that are little gardens and a garden shed
- A bathroom for men and women and for kids – so important – YES!!
- A water fountain
- Creative, attractive, flexible “bulletin board”, to feature (Sandy Hill) places/activities of interest to parents and children

- To add colour to the park and a sense of life even when no one is in the park I was thinking of light filtering through panes of small glass pieces on a vertical design in a grid formation which could be manipulated by children into either a playful arrangement of colour or a picture. If a figure, inspiration could come from Laurier House in the shape of PM King's dog. Or the figure of a child at the turn of the century. The images could be simple line drawings on colour glass.
- A dedicated pathway for bikes. Some sort of nature corner where kids can explore.
- It could include some spots where kids could display the nature treasures they find. A found bird's nest, some little shell, a cool stick, a rock, a twisted root...
- I would like colourful garbage bins with recycling decorated with children made designs. I noticed way too many bees/wasps in the park attracted to the open garbage. Food and diapers exposed. Need to fix this.
- Grass needs improving generally.

- I think a front community garden, between the fence and sidewalk would be fun. People could donate garden plants in spring and or fall. It could be a gradual build up. Then could do a day of gardening as a group. Could become an established plant corner with sale of annuals or perennials in summer as an annual one day sale. Could invite a plant company with some small margin back to the community association. Maybe wreaths or Xmas trees in dec. create some life there.
- Draw inspiration from Laurier house and tradition.
- Be nice to have a cobbled entrance to park.

A few inspirational ideas...

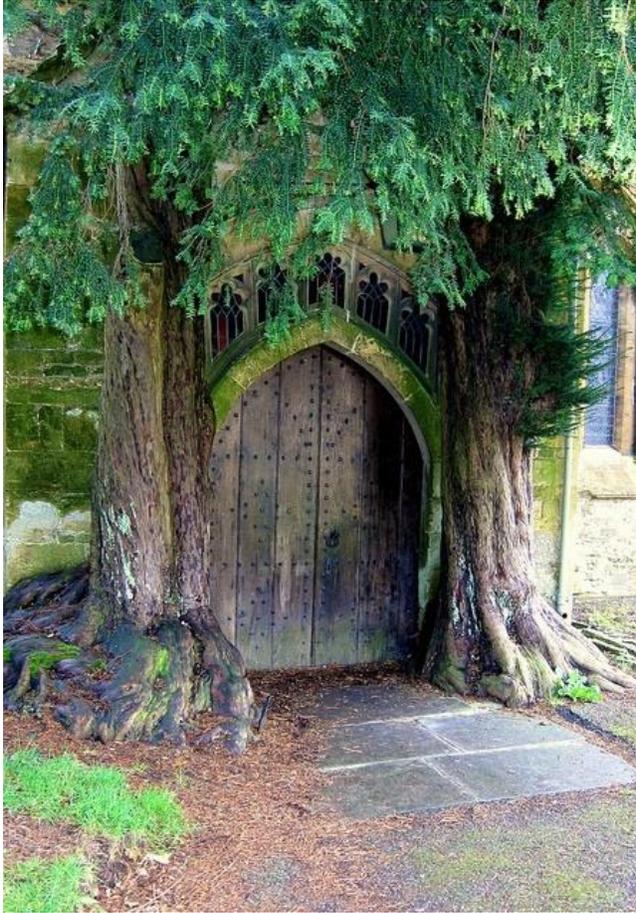












one that alerts my interest and outburst  
the wildflowers and native  
of our land—to encourage and promote  
areas, and thus help pass on to general  
satisfactions I have known since my childhood

**Have your say! Plant a seed in the IDEAS  
GARDEN...**