Centennial Park Improvement Survey Results

What We Heard



September 2026

Centennial Park: What We Heard

Engagement Background

The Centennial Park Improvement Plan has been informed by more than one round of community input.

The 2026 Budget Survey asked residents about potential improvements to Centennial Park. That feedback helped identify community priorities and informed the concept presented for further consideration.

This next phase of engagement ran from July 1 to Aug. 19, 2026. Participants were asked to review the proposed concept, indicate their overall level of support, identify what they liked and provide feedback on what should be considered as detailed design moves forward.

How We Reviewed the Feedback

The Town collected feedback on the Centennial Park Improvement Plan through Engage Olds from July 1 to Aug. 19, 2026. A total of 70 people contributed to the engagement, providing 74 contributions.

The engagement included one multiple-choice question about overall support for the proposed direction and two open-ended questions that allowed participants to explain what they liked and what they thought should be considered as the design moves forward.

How responses were analyzed

Each written response was reviewed against the original submission and coded according to the subjects raised. A response could be coded under more than one subject.

The analysis considered how often subjects were raised and what respondents said about them, including concerns, suggestions, conditions and differing views. A mention was not automatically treated as support.

Automated tools assisted with organizing the responses. The subject coding and findings presented in this report were reviewed against the original comments. All written comments are included with the report so Council can review the source feedback.

How to read this report

This engagement is not a statistically representative survey of the population of Olds. The results reflect the views of people who chose to participate.

The findings should be considered as one source of information to help Council and the project team understand community priorities, concerns and ideas as detailed design moves forward.

Participation and Overall Direction

The engagement received input from 70 contributors, with 74 responses to the question about overall support for the proposed direction for Centennial Park.

Overall, most respondents supported at least some aspects of the proposed direction:

Response	Number	Percentage
Yes	34	46%
Somewhat/Mostly	24	32%
No	15	20%
Unsure	1	1%

Combined, 78 per cent selected either “Yes” or “Somewhat/Mostly.” About one in five respondents did not support the proposed direction.

The results show broad support for at least some aspects of the proposed direction, while the number of respondents who selected “Somewhat/Mostly” also points to qualified support. The written responses provide important context about which features people valued, what they would change and where priorities differed.

What We Heard: Community Values

Written feedback showed that respondents value Centennial Park for its existing green space, recreation and role as a community gathering place. At the same time, they see opportunities to make the park more comfortable, practical and useful while building on what is already there.

Better basic amenities

Washrooms and outbuildings were the most frequently raised subject when respondents were asked what they liked most about the proposed direction, appearing in 24 of the 64 written responses. Seating and gathering spaces were raised in 20 responses.

Comments focused on making the park more comfortable and practical for people who use the splash park, skate park, green space and other amenities.

> *"Washrooms are essential. Taking care of what's there is the most important. The stage idea would be nice."*



QUESTION: What do you like most about the proposed direction?

Keeping the park green and building on what's there

Preserving and renewing existing assets was raised in 19 responses, while green space and trees were raised in 15.

Comments described the value of maintaining grass, trees and open areas, while improving the amenities already in the park. The feedback suggests that respondents value investment in Centennial Park that builds on its existing strengths without losing its open character.

More places to gather and spend time

Gathering and community connection emerged across several subjects. Seating and gathering spaces were raised in 20 responses, community spirit in 16, and tourism, events and Uptowne in 14. The performance stage was also raised in 14 responses.

Comments described opportunities to make Centennial Park a more comfortable place to gather, attend events and spend time with others. Some respondents connected park improvements with increased activity in Uptowne and support for nearby businesses.

Views about the proposed stage varied and are explored further in the Key Findings.

> *"I think Centennial Park is a real jewel in our town. I want to see our Uptowne survive and thrive and all improvements to our park can benefit our businesses on main street as people come to enjoy it."*

Building on existing recreation

Respondents also valued opportunities to improve and make better use of existing recreation amenities. Comments referenced the splash park, skate park and other existing facilities, including ideas for expanding their use.

> *"More seating areas, continuous upgrades to skate park and splash park"*

Key Findings

Overall, the feedback shows support for improving Centennial Park, with clear direction about what respondents value and where they would like further consideration.

Children's play emerged as an item for future consideration

Feedback identified interest in more ways for children and youth of different ages to play and be active at Centennial Park. A playground was the most frequently raised subject when respondents were asked what should be considered during detailed design, appearing in 20 responses.

While many respondents specifically requested a playground, the comments point to a broader interest in recreation for different ages and interests. Suggestions included expanding the skate park, providing space for BMX users, making greater use of the outdoor rink and pickleball courts, and retaining open grass for informal play.

Several comments also emphasized the value of free recreation. Together, the feedback suggests an interest in providing a range of accessible opportunities for children and youth, including those who may not participate in organized sport.

> *"There needs to be a jungle gym, play park for kids. There is a skatepark, great for older youth and teenagers. A splashpad for young children. nothing for kids who are too young for skate park, and don't want to get wet."*

> *"What about expanding the skatepark? It's getting more use and it's an outlet for youth who can't afford organized sports? Also, why not add basketball nets to the outdoor rink and keep an area open for other uses like ball hockey. Pickleball isn't 24/7."*

Gathering space and the proposed performance stage

Respondents expressed different views about the proposed performance stage. Some supported opportunities for music, events and community gatherings, while others questioned the cost, expected use or need for a new permanent stage. Several suggested that the existing gazebo could be improved or adapted instead.

At the same time, feedback across the engagement identified interest in seating, shade, picnic areas and places for people to gather. Some respondents specifically described a covered, multi-use space that could support families, events and everyday park use.

The proposed stage is intended to provide covered space as well as support performances and events. The feedback suggests that detailed design should consider how a structure could serve multiple purposes, including shade, picnics, informal gathering and community events.

> *"I would like to see a large covered area with tables that could be multifunctional for families and events. I would also like to see more tables around the splash park, including some larger ones for larger families/groups. I also value the open green space for kids to play and run that is relatively away from vehicles. Weekly concerts in the park are an awesome summer event that could show case different genres of music and local/non local talent with the addition of a performance stage."*



Example of a multipurpose space with performance stage capabilities

"It would be nice to maybe have a bbq area with shelter (like Red Lodge has). It would also be nice to have some fire pits around for wiener roasts or just to stay warm by in the winter. I've always thought the gazebo was cute but not super useable."

Practical improvements are a strong priority

Practical improvements were among the strongest and most consistent themes in the feedback. Washrooms and outbuildings were raised in 24 of the 64 responses about what people liked most, while seating and gathering spaces were raised in 20.

The comments went beyond simply asking for more amenities. Respondents discussed how they should work within the park, including shaded seating, larger picnic tables for families and groups, and washroom facilities that better serve busy areas such as the splash park.

Together, the feedback points to a focus on comfort, function and making better use of the park, alongside larger proposed improvements.

"Washrooms are essential. Taking care of what's there is the most important. The stage idea would be nice."

Open space is an important part of the park

Respondents repeatedly identified green space, trees and shade as qualities they want to retain or strengthen.

Some comments cautioned against filling open areas with new structures or assigning a specific activity to every part of the park. Others called for additional tree planting, including planting now to replace mature trees as they age.

Together, the comments suggest that open grass, mature trees and unprogrammed space should be considered park amenities in their own right:

"I don't like that every space has to have a purpose it's nice to have just open grass for kids to run and play and make up games."

Another respondent focused on the long-term tree canopy:

"Planting more trees so that as older ones may deteriorate over time there are additional trees up and coming to maintain comfortable shade."



QUESTION: What should be considered as detailed design moves forward??

Centennial Park is valued as a community gathering place

Respondents described Centennial Park as more than a recreation space. Comments reflected its role as a place for families, community events, informal gatherings and spending time together.

Some respondents also connected activity in Centennial Park with a more active Uptowne, including opportunities to bring people downtown and support nearby businesses.

Together, the feedback suggests that respondents value the park not only for its amenities, but for the role it can play in community connection.

"I think Centennial Park is a real jewel in our town. I want to see our uptown survive and thrive and all improvements to our park can benefit our businesses on main street as people come to enjoy it,"

Cost, value and competing priorities matter

Cost was a recurring consideration throughout the written feedback. Respondents raised questions about the overall level of investment, the value of individual features and whether other municipal needs should take priority.

Some respondents supported improvements to Centennial Park but questioned whether every element of the concept was necessary. Others placed a higher priority on maintaining existing park amenities or addressing infrastructure and other needs elsewhere in the community.

The community also weighed the value of individual proposed features against their expected use and long-term cost. The comments show that support for improving Centennial Park should not be interpreted as support for every proposed feature or any level of spending.

PROJECT CONTEXT: Future Costs & Funding

Cost and long-term affordability have been considerations throughout the planning process. Projects will be assessed for both upfront costs and ongoing maintenance.

The Town will pursue grants, partnerships, sponsorships, Mountain View Power contributions and community fundraising, with a goal of funding at least 75 per cent of capital costs through non-tax sources.

Projects will only move forward where they align with the plan and Council's strategic priorities. Operating impacts will also be considered to protect long-term affordability.

How the Feedback Will Be Used

The feedback in this report will help inform the next stage of the Centennial Park Improvement Plan.

As detailed design moves forward, the project team will consider what respondents said about practical amenities, recreation for children and youth, green and open space, gathering and event spaces, and cost and long-term value. This feedback will be considered alongside previous engagement, available funding, project scope and technical requirements.

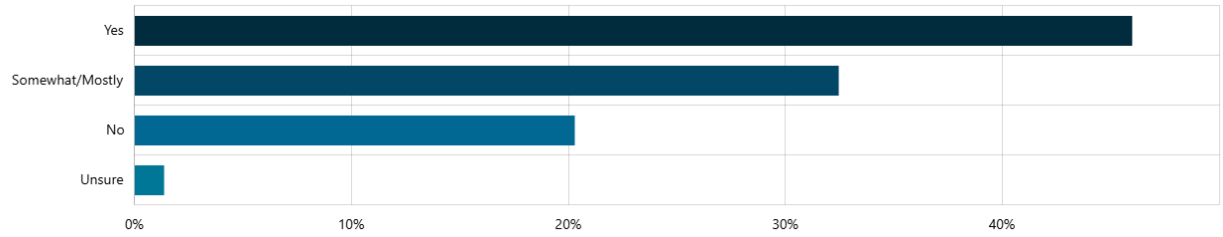
Not every suggestion can be incorporated into the final design, and some respondents expressed different views about what should take priority. The feedback provides important direction about what people value, where there may be opportunities to improve the concept and what should be carefully considered as decisions are made.

APPENDIX

Share your thoughts on the future of Centennial Park

July 1, 2026-August 19, 2026. 70 Contributors, 74 Contributions.

Question 1. After reviewing the concept, do you support the overall direction for Centennial Park?



Answer Choices	Percent	Count
Yes	45.95%	34
Somewhat/Mostly	32.43%	24
No	20.27%	15
Unsure	1.35%	1
Total	**100.00%**	**74**

Question 2. What do you like most about the proposed direction?



Tag	Percent	Count
Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings	37.50%	24
Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces	31.25%	20
Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets	29.69%	19
Community Spirit	25%	16
Green Space & Trees	23.44%	15
Tourism Events & Uptowne	21.88%	14
Performance Stage	21.88%	14
Planning Ahead	9.38%	6
Nothing	7.81%	5
Everything	6.25%	4

Question 3. Is there anything you think should be considered as detailed design moves forward?



Tag	Percent	Count
playground	32.79%	20
cost & priorities	29.51%	18
Sports & Activities	21.31%	13
splash park	18.03%	11
stage	18.03%	11
Green Space & Trees	16.39%	10
Tourism Events & Uptowne	14.75%	9
Seating & Shade	14.75%	9
Washrooms & Outbuildings	14.75%	9
Preservation	11.48%	7
gazebo	4.92%	3
Gathering Spaces	4.92%	3
safety & lighting	3.28%	2
free events	1.64%	1
picnic area	1.64%	1
green space	1.64%	1
Parking & Access	1.64%	1
trails & pathways	1.64%	1
accessibility	1.64%	1
Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets	1.64%	1

Centennial Park Improvement Plan - Question 2

Title/Question: Share your thoughts on the future of Centennial Park
Report Date Range: 1 Jul 2026 - 19 Aug 2026

What do you like most about the proposed direction?

ID	Date Submitted	Contribution	Tags
822	Aug 19, 2026, 09:47 AM	Better bathrooms. Making the park more of a town centre (stage, green space, future expansion)	Community Spirit; Green Space & Trees; Performance Stage; Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets; Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces; Tourism Events & Uptowne; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
814	Aug 18, 2026, 01:08 AM	A music stage. Or revamp the current gazebo. Revelstoke BC has music in the square regularly and draws so many people. Not sure how musicians are paid. Even Hanna Alberta has music in the park every Sunday during the summer. Musicians paid by donation. Food trucks could be present, a service club could sell ice cream to raise funds, so much community spirit could happen.	Performance Stage; Tourism Events & Uptowne; Community Spirit
808	Aug 16, 2026, 09:53 PM	Centennial Park will remain a vibrant hub for community events, family activities, and individual use for years to come in Uptowne Olds.	Community Spirit; Tourism Events & Uptowne
806	Aug 16, 2026, 09:08 AM	Pretty much everything	Everything; Planning Ahead
798	Aug 12, 2026, 12:21 PM	All good except the performance stage-we do not need that in the park	Green Space & Trees; Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets; Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces; Tourism Events & Uptowne; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
796	Aug 12, 2026, 10:59 AM	Adding more seating and maintaining existing infrastructure	Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets; Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces
793	Aug 12, 2026, 07:57 AM	Just having a plan is important enough. I don't use the park enough to have strong opinions on it.	Planning Ahead
786	Aug 11, 2026, 06:46 PM	Replacing the washrooms with a better facility. I like the stage idea. Expand the park if you ever get rid of the ugly cow palace.	Performance Stage; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
784	Aug 11, 2026, 06:07 PM	I really like the idea of more seating at Splashpark and more washroom facilities	Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
782	Aug 11, 2026, 05:07 PM	Enhance what is there, unclear if the performance space is still part of the project. If it is, delete it.	Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets
772	Aug 07, 2026, 04:27 PM	Encourages a variety of uses in a very nice setting.	Community Spirit; Everything; Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces; Tourism Events & Uptowne
769	Aug 05, 2026, 04:33 PM	If the Town of Olds was not in such TREMENDOUS debt, then I might support making changes at Centennial Park.Unfortunately, because of council's decision to give a $250,000 piece of property away for one dollar., cosigned a loan for Onet leaving taxpayers responsible for $1.5 million debt and front ended the servicing cost for a out-of-town builder to the tune of $2.9 million, you should not even be considering this project! We can't even remove snow in our town. Please listen to the taxpayers and get your out of control spending under control. no more projects until you get control of your spending.	Nothing
745	Aug 05, 2026, 10:01 AM	Performance stage, lighting.	Performance Stage
731	Jul 30, 2026, 10:30 AM	added seating continual upkeep of the pathways and lighting upgraded, accessible washrooms	Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets; Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
727	Jul 29, 2026, 03:30 PM	Seating/gathering places, and a multiuse building	Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
725	Jul 28, 2026, 05:01 PM	Pleased to see the effort being put into Centennial Park	Community Spirit; Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets; Planning Ahead; Tourism Events & Uptowne
724	Jul 28, 2026, 04:25 PM	Happy to see washrooms are getting a much needed upgrade. More seating area would be wll used too.	Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
723	Jul 28, 2026, 03:59 PM	The splash park is a money pit with ongoing upkeep and maintenance for a very short usable system. Phasing it into a soft surface playground with misting stations and cycling the much smaller amount of used water into watering of flowers and trees would save a lot over problematic underground recycling systems.	Green Space & Trees; Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets
722	Jul 28, 2026, 02:28 PM	Upgrade washrooms and add change rooms would be great. The current washrooms often have a line on warm, busy splashpark days and usually pretty filthy. A change room for splash Park users would probably help mitigate this.	Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
693	Jul 24, 2026, 09:55 PM	I think I like it all. A plan is better than no plan.	Everything; Planning Ahead
692	Jul 24, 2026, 02:07 AM	The washroom upgrades and adding change rooms, also the extra seating areas.	Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
688	Jul 23, 2026, 11:13 AM	Keeping the greenspace as a top priority. Porta potties are cheaper. Stage is a good idea.	Green Space & Trees; Performance Stage; Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets
686	Jul 22, 2026, 04:46 PM	Dont waste money on an amphitheatre/ stage, these just dumb. The college has an amphitheatre, people can use that one, and if the precious data center is denied then the botanical gardens and amphitheatre at the colleg wont be completely ruined by Town decisions. So sorry Olds, you dont need a stupid performance stage, its a waste of money. Use that money to build a [redacted] park for kids. Green space on the East side is being reduced by Town decisions. Give us another accessible kids playground. My wife shouldn't have to drive to the Rotary athletics park for a nice day with the kids....	Green Space & Trees
666	Jul 20, 2026, 01:24 PM	Washrooms are essential. Taking care of what's there is the most important. The stage idea would be nice.	Performance Stage; Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
599	Jul 13, 2026, 10:54 AM	I likw the idea of perpetual upkeep, ensuring all facilities and infrastructure remains usable and functional, and the idea of adding more to the park.	Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets; Planning Ahead; Tourism Events & Uptowne

591	Jul 12, 2026, 12:40 PM	I think Centennial Park is a real jewel in our town. I want to see our uptown survive and thrive and all improvements to our park can benefit our businesses on main street as people come to enjoy it.	Community Spirit; Everything; Tourism Events & Uptowne
586	Jul 11, 2026, 12:51 PM	New bathrooms are a must. I think a stage is a good idea.	Performance Stage; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
571	Jul 10, 2026, 10:34 AM	washroom facilities and seating areas	Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
567	Jul 10, 2026, 07:52 AM	Performance stage and washrooms	Performance Stage; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
513	Jul 09, 2026, 09:32 AM	Nothing is said about this proposed stage or where it will be, cost, etc. upgrading the toilet rooms would be great to make them year round. What will happen to the old swimming pool building? Why two buildings in the same place? Seems like a huge amount of money for a few more benches! More and more cement does not seem like a great idea. Talk of preserving green space but no words about it at all. Trees were completely missed as an asset. Will the historical village still be set up?	Green Space & Trees; Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
511	Jul 08, 2026, 10:43 PM	Nothing. Need a playground or outdoor pool	Nothing
508	Jul 08, 2026, 04:24 PM	Remove the skate park and the pickle ball court & splash park and place them out at the Rotary Athletic park as that's where that belongs. Centennial park used to be enjoyed by many and all I see is clutter. I used to take my kid and have a picnic there everyday in the summer we can't now there is nothing left to enjoy.	Green Space & Trees; Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces
506	Jul 08, 2026, 03:16 PM	The small concert stage is it resting, but I see no cost attached to that	Performance Stage
505	Jul 08, 2026, 12:19 AM	Seating with Tables to sit at so you can actually have a little picnic, or on a lunch break you can sit at a table to enjoy your lunch or snacks.	Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces
502	Jul 07, 2026, 04:22 PM	Upgraded washrooms. Otherwise, it's a park. LEAVE SOME GREENSPACE. There doesn't have to be something on every square inch of this park.	Green Space & Trees; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
500	Jul 07, 2026, 01:33 PM	Performance stage, new toilets, and keeping greenspace green.	Green Space & Trees; Performance Stage; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
499	Jul 07, 2026, 01:30 PM	Preserve the precious green areas.	Green Space & Trees
498	Jul 07, 2026, 01:26 PM	Increased and improved washroom facilities and anchor community life and tourism are important. The park is already very full and the town needs to pay attention to having actual green space. There is 12 picnic tables present. An outdoor performance stage will be a waste of money due to Alberta's climate. Noise and parking will also also an issue. Work with ORE and the use of a portable stage seems a better option. Other locations also may be a better option of the use is reasonable related to the cost to build, maintain and operate.	Community Spirit; Green Space & Trees; Tourism Events & Uptowne; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
489	Jul 06, 2026, 10:01 PM	I like keeping it a green space, and not really adding a ton of buildings.	Green Space & Trees
488	Jul 06, 2026, 09:42 PM	Splash park improvements and upgrades.	Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets
487	Jul 06, 2026, 08:47 PM	Increased seating, especially around the splash park makes sense. As well and general maintenance.	Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets; Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces
484	Jul 06, 2026, 06:58 PM	The stage would be nice for event days and extra seating appreciated.	Performance Stage; Tourism Events & Uptowne
483	Jul 06, 2026, 06:55 PM	More seating.	Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces
481	Jul 06, 2026, 06:25 PM	I like the plan for more/better washrooms, more seating areas and picnic tables (especially near splash park). I also like the idea of a performance stage but I don't think it would be used that much because of our short summers and frequency of severe/inclement weather	Performance Stage; Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
480	Jul 06, 2026, 06:15 PM	Nothing. All these "improvements" seem like a colossal waste of resources. We already have seating areas and washrooms. The pavilion/gazebo can act as a stage, if required. Put in something new! A jungle gym.. an outdoor heated POOL! That can be used by families who don't want to run through a sprinkler	Nothing
479	Jul 06, 2026, 06:15 PM	People oriented.....theme based ie agriculture or western theme.....seating seating seating....not enuf places for folks to sit and visit with neighbors. One way traffic on main street to increase pedestrian use and reduce aoutomobile traffic.. A lot more picnic tables, especially near splash park.	Community Spirit; Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces
478	Jul 06, 2026, 06:11 PM	I think it will be a boatload of money spent for no reason.	Nothing
477	Jul 06, 2026, 06:04 PM	More seating areas.	Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces
473	Jul 06, 2026, 03:47 PM	The community aspect is great	Community Spirit; Tourism Events & Uptowne
472	Jul 06, 2026, 03:21 PM	Takes an existing community space and makes it more useable/accessible to some user groups which may not currently be able to use it (ie those with health concerns or mobility issues where the existing washrooms and seating isnt suitable for them).	Community Spirit; Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces; Tourism Events & Uptowne; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
470	Jul 06, 2026, 02:32 PM	The washroom and changerooms that have desperately been needed	Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
469	Jul 06, 2026, 02:13 PM	More seating areas, continuous upgrades to skate park and splash park	Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets; Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces
466	Jul 06, 2026, 12:54 PM	This plan needs to be expanded to consider Centennial Park as part of a larger recreation planning exercise. A long term plan exploring future development of the ORE lands in conjunction with the Sportsplex site and Centennial Park is needed. I think it is fair to anticipate the ORE relocating to another area in the coming years and we should be working with them now to plan for that. I believe an option needs to be explored that provides for future expansion of the sportsplex site that will ultimately allocate space for an additional ice surface and field house. There is great opportunity to have a hub of activity adjacent to our downtown offering recreation opportunities, library services, and downtown restaurants and amenities. While this may be many years out, the planning should be done now to ensure the space is efficiently allocated and provides for the flow of pedestrian, cyclists, and vehicles throughout this area and all of these amenities (continued below...)	Community Spirit; Planning Ahead; Tourism Events & Uptowne
464	Jul 06, 2026, 12:28 PM	I like the trails if they are well lite all year around.	Green Space & Trees; Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets
463	Jul 06, 2026, 12:22 PM	Upgrade washrooms only The outdoor skating rinks, warming shed, sea can and deck are an eyesore in what used to be a beautiful open green space No to the stage No to more ugly metal picnic tables	Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
462	Jul 06, 2026, 12:22 PM	The stage as it will bring community together and give the park a updated feel as well as the outdoor building as in the summer the two bathrooms can get a line up and let's be real who want to be 15th in line to the toilet?	Community Spirit; Performance Stage; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
461	Jul 06, 2026, 12:16 PM	Preserving green space and washroom facilities	Green Space & Trees; Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings

460	Jul 06, 2026, 12:08 PM	Absolutely Nothing!	Nothing
458	Jul 06, 2026, 11:50 AM	I think a big playground for all ages should be added. Olds doesn't have enough "cool", challenging for all ages playgrounds. It would be a perfect spot for one.	Community Spirit
457	Jul 06, 2026, 11:47 AM	Improving existing facilities to make them more user and community friendly.	Community Spirit; Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets
456	Jul 06, 2026, 11:46 AM	Seating & gathering spaces and preserving green space.	Green Space & Trees; Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets; Seating Areas & Gathering Spaces
455	Jul 06, 2026, 11:45 AM	It adds to the existing space rather than removing valuable community assets.	Community Spirit; Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets
444	Jul 03, 2026, 12:29 PM	I like washroom replacements and the stage idea.	Performance Stage; Washroom Facilities & Outbuildings
424	Jul 01, 2026, 02:41 PM	More free events	Community Spirit; Tourism Events & Uptowne

Centennial Park Improvement Plan - Question 3

Title/Question: Share your thoughts on the future of Centennial Park
Report Date Range: 1 Jul 2026 - 19 Aug 2026

Is there anything you think should be considered as detailed design moves forward?

ID	Date Submitted	Contribution	Tags
822	Aug 19, 2026, 09:47 AM	Think more on this being the only cost barrier free amenity in town and what can be done to enhance that service over time. Some things that come to mind is a more varied use for the pickle ball courts and expanding the skate park (or building a separate park for bmx elsewhere to take pressure off the skate park)	cost & priorities; Perserve and Renew Exisiting Assets; Sports & Activities
814	Aug 18, 2026, 01:08 AM	Covered stage, (lights and electrical) but seating could even be minimal and be a bring your own chair kind of thing. Or some seating provided and people also bring their own. Shade umbrellas would be nice	Seating & Shade; stage
808	Aug 16, 2026, 09:53 PM	Over the past ten years, Centennial Park has become increasingly crowded. I'm not sure why the town seems intent on cramming every piece of park planning into this one recreational space. Surely a skatepark, ice rink, gazebo, and splash park are enough. Upgrade washrooms/outbuildings and existing assets and leave the park alone.	
798	Aug 12, 2026, 12:21 PM	No perfromance stage needed	
796	Aug 12, 2026, 10:59 AM	I want to see more trees planted in the park that will eventually replace the large trees that will be taken down. It would be great for the park to have more shade trees for family to use for shade near the splash park	Green Space & Trees; Seating & Shade
793	Aug 12, 2026, 07:57 AM	With the stage idea, I can support it so long as its used and not left to grow moss. Hopefully the town will include this in future events and partner with the local kiwanis group to host shows here. The buildings at the north end of the park are looking awful. I think they should all be taken down. But in the meantime, can you paint them?	
786	Aug 11, 2026, 06:46 PM	Expand the skate park or add a pump track for BMX users. It's too busy for both to coexist safely	
784	Aug 11, 2026, 06:07 PM	Family friendly, for all ages	Tourism Events & Uptowne
782	Aug 11, 2026, 05:07 PM	Consider maintenance cost, great if other funding sources provides the capital funding, what about the maintenance?	
772	Aug 07, 2026, 04:27 PM	Music piped in for all seasons enjoyment	stage; Tourism Events & Uptowne
769	Aug 05, 2026, 04:33 PM	Every other town around us is doing better financially than the Town of Olds . I wonder when you councillors will figure that out? People are exiting this town faster than they are coming and one only has to look at how the town is handling the data centre to understand why this is occurring. People have lost trust in the Town of Olds council and especially in the administration. and it seems you are doing nothing to change that perception. Just more bad decisions. I was at a presentation with Danielle Smith and she said "this is 100% in control of the counsellors of the town of olds. If they wanted to, they could shut this project down. immediately. She also reflected on why it is totally inappropriate in that location. Listen to the towns people and stop this insanity.	cost & priorities
745	Aug 05, 2026, 10:01 AM	Durable, low maintenance structures; Innisfail has had property damage issues.	safety & lighting; cost & priorities
731	Jul 30, 2026, 10:30 AM	As stated, Centennial Park is one of Olds most valued community spaces. Goal # 3 states preserve cherished green space. When we moved to Olds in 2001 , it was just that..... a cherished beautiful green space! Over the last number of years , Centennial Park has lost its charm. I support maintaining and updating the existing structures, however, i do not support new construction using up more green space.	cost & priorities; Green Space & Trees; Preservation; Washrooms & Outbuildings
727	Jul 29, 2026, 03:30 PM	Looking for places to sit together in the shade is a consistent problem at Centennial Park. Consider placing some of your picnic tables and benches under trees. A lovely addition would be swinging benches - look up images of Cincinnati metal swinging benches. They look sturdy and long lasting, and so lovely to sit on enjoying the outdoors. A playground would be SO wonderful. We have felt the lack of one at Centennial Park keenly for years. And one that involves a little risk is always more enjoyed, even if there's a risk of a few more bumps and bruises. An addition of a running water trough at the splash park would get a LOT of use by those - often younger ones - not wanting to be splashed in the face as much. They get hors of entertainment just interacting with running water a couple inches deep, usually around waist height for them, especially with simple gates and channels to manipulate the water. We LOVE Olds, and are excited to see the plan pan out!	Green Space & Trees; playground; Seating & Shade; splash park
725	Jul 28, 2026, 05:01 PM	Inclusion of a playground structure in the splash park area	playground; splash park
724	Jul 28, 2026, 04:25 PM	In the budget survey there were more votes for a playground then a performance stage. Why was the decision to go with the stage when clearly people would like to have a playground instead. A playground would be complement the Splashpark nicely and encourage young families to use the park more.	cost & priorities; playground; splash park; stage
723	Jul 28, 2026, 03:59 PM	table seating for picnics and visiting should be prioritized over bench seating.	Seating & Shade; Gathering Spaces

722	Jul 28, 2026, 02:28 PM	Why is a stage a potential when playground was in the top three votes from the 2026 survey? An accessible park would be a great addition to centennial. It's already a popular place and would add another amenity to our uptowne olds. Nearby BGC groups would also frequent the park as there's limited ones available to them. I have a hard time understanding the benefits of a permanent stage. One is set up occasionally for events in the park. There's also the rodeo grounds and future ag event centre a stones throw away for stage events.	accessibility; playground; stage; Tourism Events & Uptowne
693	Jul 24, 2026, 09:55 PM	Get more use out of the pickle ball court. It could be multiple sports	Sports & Activities
692	Jul 24, 2026, 02:07 AM	It would be nice to maybe have a bbq area with shelter (like Red Lodge has). It would also be nice to have some fire pits around for wiener roasts or just to stay warm by in the winter. I've always thought the gazebo was cute but not super useable. It seems like it needs a big fire pit or something in the middle of it. But the number one thing I've always wished that park had was a path that actually made a loop. A figure 8 would be nice too but at very least a loop. You could fork it right at the skate park so people could either go to the road (as it is now), or they could take a path in front (north side) of the skatepark and head along down towards the fence and then down all along there and loop back in front of that storage shed thing that's there (no idea what that buildings there for actually) and then I suppose you could just connect it to the regular sidewalk at the parking lot. Also, turn the little shack into a concession stand with the serving window along the south side.	Gathering Spaces; gazebo; trails & pathways; Washrooms & Outbuildings
688	Jul 23, 2026, 11:13 AM	Nah	
686	Jul 22, 2026, 04:46 PM	A park. Stop with the grand ambitions. Were [redacted] broke. 1 park and continue paying down debt.	cost & priorities; playground
666	Jul 20, 2026, 01:24 PM	What about expanding the skatepark? It's getting more use and it's an outlet for youth who can't afford organized sports? Also, why not add basketball nets to the outdoor rink and keep an area open for other uses like ball hockey. Pickelball is not 24/7.	cost & priorities; Sports & Activities
599	Jul 13, 2026, 10:54 AM	I struggle to understand why adding more seating is expected to be so expensive. I understand the town must jump through various legal hoops to do absolutely anything, and that they must consult with various professionals to ensure safety in case of liability, but really? $50K for some seats? Hun, you can buy cute, sturdy benches from the local Home Hardware at roughly $65/piece. Is no one employed by the town who can build seating? Like, the waste...	cost & priorities; Seating & Shade
591	Jul 12, 2026, 12:40 PM	I would like to see a large covered area with tables that could be multifunctional for families and events. I would also like to see more tables around the splash park, including some larger ones for larger families/groups. I also value the open green space for kids to play and run that is relatively away from vehicles. Weekly concerts in the park are an awesome summer event that could show case different genres of music and local/non local talent with the addition of a performance stage.	Gathering Spaces; Green Space & Trees; Seating & Shade; stage; Tourism Events & Uptowne
586	Jul 11, 2026, 12:51 PM	Expanding the skate park would be ideal.	Sports & Activities
567	Jul 10, 2026, 07:52 AM	Playground maybe with slides and swing.	playground
513	Jul 09, 2026, 09:32 AM	MORE TREES and better care for them especially when they are planted. MULCHING THE TREES, lawns are very detrimental to trees and do not allow them to have proper and full growth. Planting trees should be done by professionals who actually know what they are doing - not planting them too deep or in the grass as in so many parks in Olds. Nothing was mentioned about trees as they are extremely important assets in the park. It would be nice to have less lawns, maybe different kinds of ground cover but maybe Olds is not ready for such a futuristic ideal. Lawns are huge resource hogs and there are better things out there such as clover beds that attract pollinators. Maybe some raised garden beds with annual vegetables and more fruit trees and shrubs. It would be nice if Olds took a role in guiding other municipalities in future food security by having more prairie fruit edibles available to the public. There is a huge variety that can be grown here.	Green Space & Trees
511	Jul 08, 2026, 10:43 PM	Playground and outdoor pool. Stage is silly.	playground; Sports & Activities; stage
508	Jul 08, 2026, 04:24 PM	Anything sports related needs to go to the rotary athletic park not in centennial park.	cost & priorities; Sports & Activities
506	Jul 08, 2026, 03:16 PM	The cost	cost & priorities
505	Jul 08, 2026, 12:19 AM	Moving forward, relocating the Ag Society to another location. It blows my mind on a busy road that it is, we have livestock crossing, quads, horse trailers, etc. The track when bikes are flying around it makes no sense bordering a park setting. The parking is horrible around Centennial Park. Anytime you have a ball tournament, parking is so limited inside the ballpark area, people are having to park outside on the street. The spruce trees to the south outside the Outdoor Rink have gotten so large, and the ground is so undeveloped beneath them that it truly is tough to get around them. I know this because I go there to play pickleball, and you have to duck under the trees to get there. Would love to see some kind of playground structure there, that should have happened when they first designed Centennial Park.	Green Space & Trees; Parking & Access; playground; Sports & Activities; Tourism Events & Uptowne
504	Jul 07, 2026, 11:29 PM	New hockey rink	Sports & Activities
499	Jul 07, 2026, 01:30 PM	Update and improve the washrooms & gazebo.	gazebo; Washrooms & Outbuildings
498	Jul 07, 2026, 01:26 PM	The town needs to think fiscally responsible. We have not money to maintain green spaces in town and you want to add more buildings etc to one location. consider the weather conditions and plan with that in mind. We have several playgrounds in the community that need to be upgraded so I hope aplaygroud is not in the proposal.	cost & priorities; Green Space & Trees; playground; Preservation
492	Jul 07, 2026, 07:15 AM	Putting in a medium size park and swing set. That would be a hit during activities hosted in centennial park. And better bathrooms	playground; Washrooms & Outbuildings; Tourism Events & Uptowne
489	Jul 06, 2026, 10:01 PM	It would be great to have some kind of playground there. I know we have lots of great ones, but having a park near the splash park for be so nice for young families.	playground; splash park
488	Jul 06, 2026, 09:42 PM	Planting more trees so that as older ones may deteriorate over time there are additional trees up and coming to maintain comfortable shade.	Green Space & Trees; Seating & Shade
487	Jul 06, 2026, 08:47 PM	I don't feel that over a million dollars is needed for change rooms. Kids come with bathing suits already on. Adults aren't getting bathing suits on for a splash park. That money would be much better spent in other areas of our town, or saved for the general maintenance of the park.	cost & priorities; Preservation; Washrooms & Outbuildings
484	Jul 06, 2026, 06:58 PM	A playground beside the waterpark would be nice!	playground; splash park
483	Jul 06, 2026, 06:55 PM	I think we do not need a stage. I would love to see an indoor playground possibly even connected to the washroom change table. It does need to be anything super big but something like blackfalds abbey center. I think the washrooms so far are good enough for the use and rather see money go towards indoor activities for the months we can't use the splash park.	cost & priorities; playground; splash park; Sports & Activities; stage; Washrooms & Outbuildings

482	Jul 06, 2026, 06:28 PM	It's surprising that, given the Town of Olds current financial situation, where it has struggled to provide basic municipal services such as consistent snow removal, we are considering spending on new park upgrades right now. This proposal reflects what appears to be an ongoing pattern of poor spending priorities. For example, the annual flower budget is difficult to justify while the town is facing significant financial pressures. The Town of Olds should be prioritizing essential services, strengthening its long-term financial position, and paying down the debt associated with ONet, which residents remain responsible for until 2031. Please do better.	cost & priorities
481	Jul 06, 2026, 06:25 PM	Are security issues being addressed? I hear about frequent bullying at the skate park and I wonder about the nearness of Kirstins Place's potential for domestic violence. I would like to see security cameras in the park.	safety & lighting
480	Jul 06, 2026, 06:15 PM	There needs to be a jungle gym, play park for kids. There is a skatepark, great for older youth and teenagers. A splashpad for young children.. nothing for kids who are too young for skate park, and don't want to get wet.	playground; splash park; Sports & Activities
479	Jul 06, 2026, 06:15 PM	A theme that provides clarity to merchants and town planners	Tourism Events & Uptowne
478	Jul 06, 2026, 06:11 PM	I think Centennial park desperately needs a playground for children. There is so much space for it. Since we no longer have an outdoor pool, and we now have a splash park, a playground only makes sense. I genuinely don't think we have any use for a performance stage. What already exists in the park is just fine. There's nothing wrong with the washroom. Why are we spending all of this money on nothing? The only addition that Centennial park needs is a playground, and perhaps more seating. That's it. Let's spend this money where Olds needs it, like fixing the roads, alleys, and creating AFFORDABLE housing for families.	cost & priorities; playground; Preservation; Seating & Shade; splash park; stage; Washrooms & Outbuildings
477	Jul 06, 2026, 06:04 PM	Ensure change tables in both male and female bathrooms. I think the gazebo is more than enough for a stage and we do not need a separate performance stage.	gazebo; stage; Washrooms & Outbuildings
473	Jul 06, 2026, 03:47 PM	. I would like to see a full children's park near the splash park as well. I'd also like to see a water bottle fill station for people at ge skate park and splash park	playground; splash park; Sports & Activities
472	Jul 06, 2026, 03:21 PM	As a long time resident there were aspects that used to be part of Centennial Park which have since been removed or were replaced with other features. Most notable to me being the beach volleyball court. Many people within the community play volleyball and in the summer months I could see something like that getting a ton of use.	Sports & Activities
470	Jul 06, 2026, 02:32 PM	We really need a playground structure there, it's very strange that there is nothing	cost & priorities; playground
469	Jul 06, 2026, 02:13 PM	The addition of a playground structure would be great! The park is frequently used by children, families, and local child care centres - having a playground space in addition to the splash park and skate park would be a great asset that would make it even more family friendly	playground
466	Jul 06, 2026, 12:54 PM	Upgraded washroom facilities are needed to serve the park area, particularly the splash park. Given the weather in our area, I am not sure if the cost would match the potential benefits for an outdoor stage. It would likely carry sizable costs to build in a manner to make it useable in the cold or rainy weather conditions that we often have in our short summers. I also did not see where this is supposed to be located on the plans provided. Although some additional seating areas may be useful, some thought needs be put into their placement and how they relate to the overall plan for the site. There need to be anchor points or amenities to draw people in to stop and sit. The plaques and historic building facades along the pathway should be taken out and scrapped. There are other ways that we can honour the history of our downtown. During the summer this area looks unkept and sits unused and I would question how much it really adds to the area even in the winter when the facades go up.	cost & priorities; splash park; stage; Tourism Events & Uptowne; Washrooms & Outbuildings
464	Jul 06, 2026, 12:28 PM	I don't like that every space has to have a purpose it's nice to have just open grass for kids to run and play and make up games.	Green Space & Trees; Preservation
463	Jul 06, 2026, 12:22 PM	Go back to the drawing board and keep open green spaces	Green Space & Trees; Preservation
462	Jul 06, 2026, 12:22 PM	A outdoor pool would be nice I have heard we once had one bring that back?	Sports & Activities
461	Jul 06, 2026, 12:16 PM	The splash park is maybe open 3 months per year yet it is a major cost for maintenance. I don't see that as worth it. A playground with a shade structure would be more cost effective and require less annual maintenance. It also only caters to a portion of the population, similar to a playground but it costs tax payers a lot for the actual usage it gets. It was warm out for over a month this spring before the town actually opened it and even when it's open it's consistently closed on days, which means there's a costly repair most likely. It's a wonderful asset, just not worth the cost and time for the usage it can receive.	cost & priorities; playground; Preservation; Seating & Shade; splash park; stage
460	Jul 06, 2026, 12:08 PM	Looks like another Town of Olds afterthought..... Maybe you should have focused on this as a priority prior to building the outdoor rink and pickleball courts.... The washroom facility is now on the opposite end of the park.... Most places would have centralized a bathroom/ change facility etc central to the splash park and rink. What happened to a beautiful central washroom facility and potential community fire pit and BBQ area that can service both the splash park and the rink during all 4 seasons. A place to put your skates on warm up in the winter and rinse shower off kids etc in the summer.... Oh right you built the rink in the Wrong Spot.... And Still no room to Park! Not to mention you have a god awful ugly Seacan in the heart of your park and you have never landscapes around the rink. Just another waist of tax payer money!	
458	Jul 06, 2026, 11:50 AM	A playground worth playing at! Smaller towns have better and bigger playgrounds.	playground
457	Jul 06, 2026, 11:47 AM	Keeping the green space for families in all seasons.	green space
444	Jul 03, 2026, 12:29 PM	Concession option in the future washroom building.	Tourism Events & Uptowne
424	Jul 01, 2026, 02:41 PM	More free events or picnic areas	free events; picnic area