


Communication : C 1
VMC Sub-committee
June 21, 2022
Agenda Item # 1

VMC Parks and **Wayfinding** Master Plan Update

The City is undertaking the VMC Parks and Wayfinding Master Plan to guide the timely development of parks and open spaces in the VMC and to create a world class public realm.

A man in a white tank top and dark shorts is running on a paved path in the foreground. The path leads into a lush green park area with a river or stream flowing through it. The river is bordered by grassy banks and several young trees with light-colored bark. In the background, a dense line of trees separates the park from a city skyline featuring several tall, modern skyscrapers. A few other people are visible in the distance, walking or standing near the river. The overall scene depicts a well-integrated urban park space.

The VMC Parks & Wayfinding Master Plan will create a **compact, balanced, and meaningful parks and open space network** reflective of the urban context within the VMC boundary, with access to larger sporting facilities, trails, and green space nearby.

VMC Parks & Wayfinding Master Plan

Overview

- This master plan is being coordinated with, and informing, the VMC Secondary Plan Update, which will **deal with land use designation**.
- The VMC Secondary Plan study may **refine and adjust** the parkland as necessary.
- The study is now **concentrating on an implementation strategy** to determine **when** parks can be delivered and **how much** they will cost, including preparation of a detailed cost estimate.
- Significant **coordination** has taken place with, and input provided into, the City’s DC background study update, Community Benefit Charge Bylaw study, and Parkland Dedication Bylaw study.





80% of respondents walk to parks and 65% will walk 15 minutes to a park. Running/ walking (1st) and cycling (2nd) were ranked as the most popular recreational activities in parks.

67% of respondents go to parks to be active and healthy. 24% of respondents want off-leash dog areas and 21% want community gardens.

90% of respondents cited parks & green spaces as an important factor when considering where to live and 72% stated it was the most important factor.

56% of respondents are willing to travel more than 15 minutes by car or transit to use sports courts and fields. But 62% expect parks within a 10-minute walk to have trails for walking and cycling.

Engagement

Virtual Connections

- Consultation methods continue to focus on **virtual connections**
- Engagements have utilized the City's **Have Your Say** page to generate **online feedback**
- **Virtual focus groups** have generated valuable feedback

Recent Engagements

- Vaughan Design Review Panel - September 30, 2021
- Have Your Say 2 - December, 2021
- Landowner and Resident Meetings - March 3, 2022

By 2031



Park Development

Open by 2031

- Only **8.4 hectares** of active parkland is projected to be available for the 63,000 VMC residents expected by 2031, or about a third of the SP minimum
- If current development trends continue, and no additional active parkland is opened, **current park provision is unlikely to support the 2031 VMC population**

Cost Breakdown to 2031

- \$98.1m Construction Cost
- \$25.7m DCs Available
- (\$72.4m Funding Gap)
- \$43.9m in CIL collected to date

By 2041



Park Development

Open by 2041

- The South Urban Park is projected to be completed, along with the Millway Promenade
- Parkland north of the VMC boundary expands Edgeley Pond + Park and facilitates a cycle loop
- TRCA's Black Creek Pioneer Village North Lands are activated, serving the VMC and Steeles West

Cost Breakdown (2032 to 2041)

- \$247.9m Construction Cost
- \$66.7m DCs Available
- (\$181.2m Funding Gap) (at current DCs)

By 2051



Park Development

Open by 2051

- Far future parks include a large neighbourhood park and district parks outside of the VMC boundary
- The district parks can accommodate large sports facilities, should they be required

Cost Breakdown (2042 to 2051)

- \$333.7m Construction Cost
- \$51.7m DCs Available
- (\$282.0m Funding Gap) (at current DCs)

It is crucial to understand how the VMC relates to other parks and open spaces found within 5km, and to identify possible park locations outside the VMC, should they be necessary to meet required service levels.

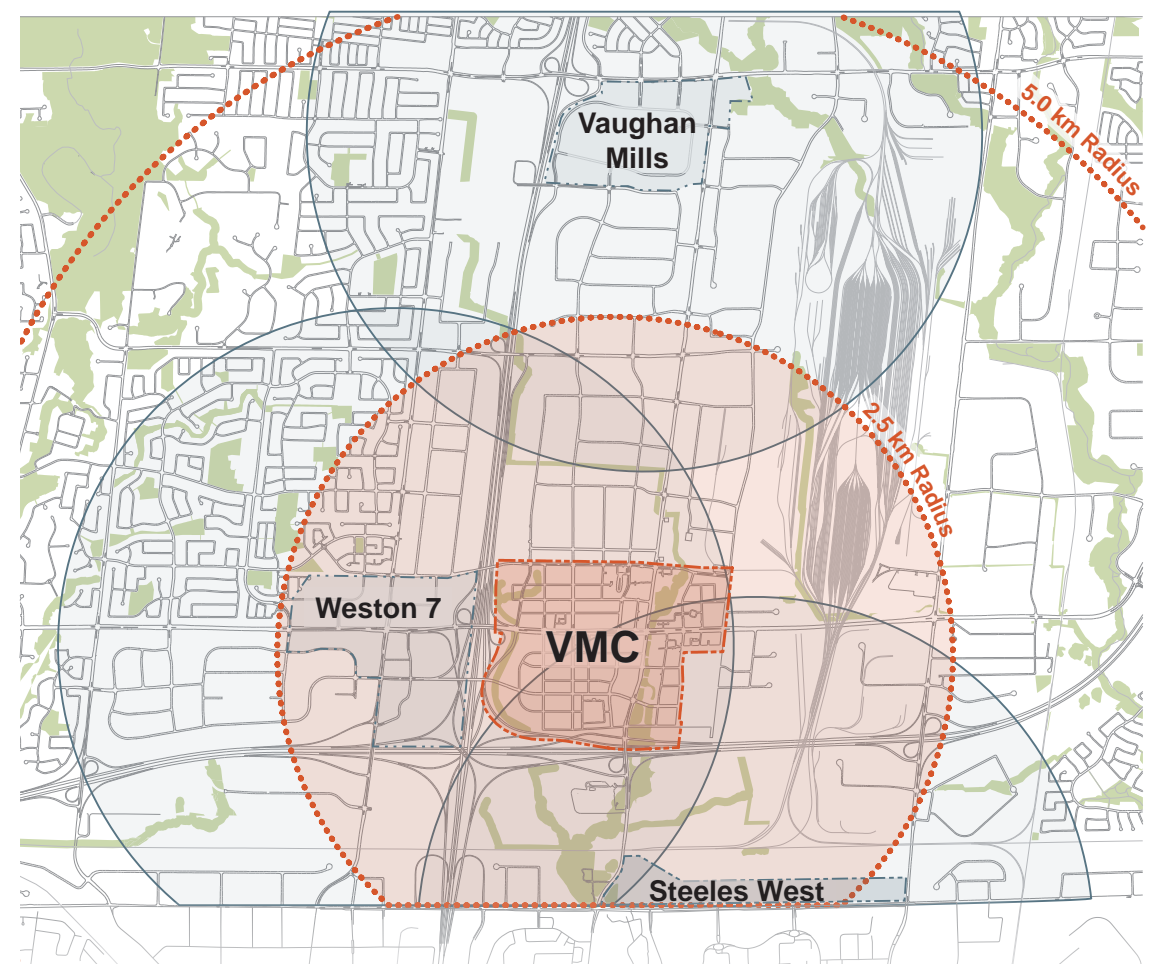
Parks Decision Matrix

VMC Parkland Context

- The study recognizes the need to identify potential parkland outside of intensification area boundaries that can accommodate large format sports facilities and other active uses

VMC Parkland Criteria

- The New Parkland Decision Matrix is being developed to guide the City in determining if land is desirable for acquisition as parkland
- It will establish criteria for assessing parcels of land as they become available



ASSESSMENT CRITERIA		YES NO	
Is the parcel within a 2.5km radius of the VMC?		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
SIZE	Is the site large enough to develop a parkland typology OR does the site allow for additional park facilities to be added to an existing park?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Is the site contiguous with existing parkland or open space?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
LOCATION & ADJACENCIES	Does the site fill a gap in an existing park or open space network?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Does the site address a parkland typology gap in the area?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Is the site located within walking distance of an existing or planned community to attract local residents?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Are site adjacencies compatible with parkland designation?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CONSTRAINTS	Does the site provide a tableland condition suitable for the development or installation of built recreational amenities (i.e. sports fields, playgrounds, courts, etc.)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
ECOLOGICAL FUNCTION	Does the site allow opportunities to celebrate natural features and functions?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Park Governance Model Typologies

1 City-Led

- Municipal Parks Department Led
- No Additional Policies/Structures Req'd.
- Dependent on City Operations Budget

2 Specialized Unit

- Specialized Unit in Parks Department
- Provides Specialized Care & Programming
- Dependent on City Operations Budget

3 Multiple Parties / Partners

- Municipality + External Partner(s)
- Broader Community Reach/Engagement
- Partner Groups can Bring in Funding
- May Involve Competing Interests

4 Hybrid

- Municipality + One NGO
- Single Partner Brings Clarity & Funding
- City Typically Funds Operations & Maintenance

5 Independent Entity

- NGO or Arms Length Government Entity
- Partner Largely Assumes All Park Operations
- Maintains Coherent Identity & Funding
- Risk of Feeling Private
- Requires Oversight (ex. Board of Directors)

Governance

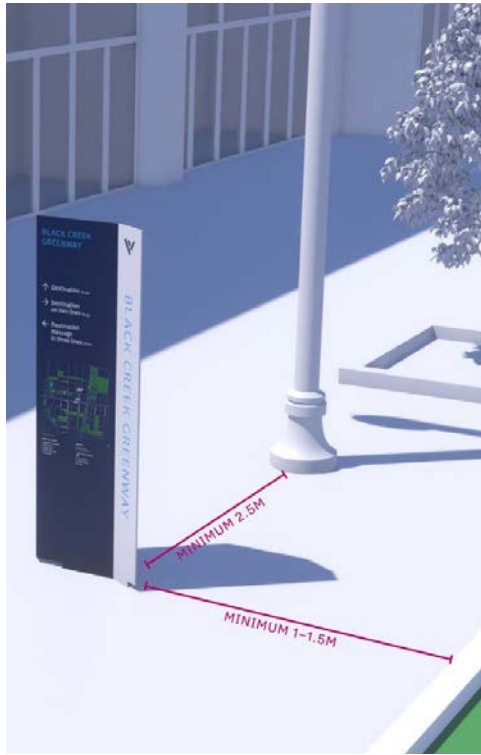
Framework

- A VMC **parks governance decision-making framework** has been developed to help the City identify beneficial opportunities to facilitate the programming, activation, and operations & maintenance of parks and open spaces.
- It will assist to **guide and define conversations** about **relevant and best-serving park governance models** (but is not meant as a prescriptive tool)
- It is intended to assist the City in determining **which models can best serve each individual park** planned for the VMC

Signage & Wayfinding

Where We Are

- Developed and **refined signage options** based on input from public consultation, coordination with various City departments and key stakeholders
- Underwent **procurement process** and retained Spectra Advertising



Use QR code to link to additional information

Keep signage simple and consistent

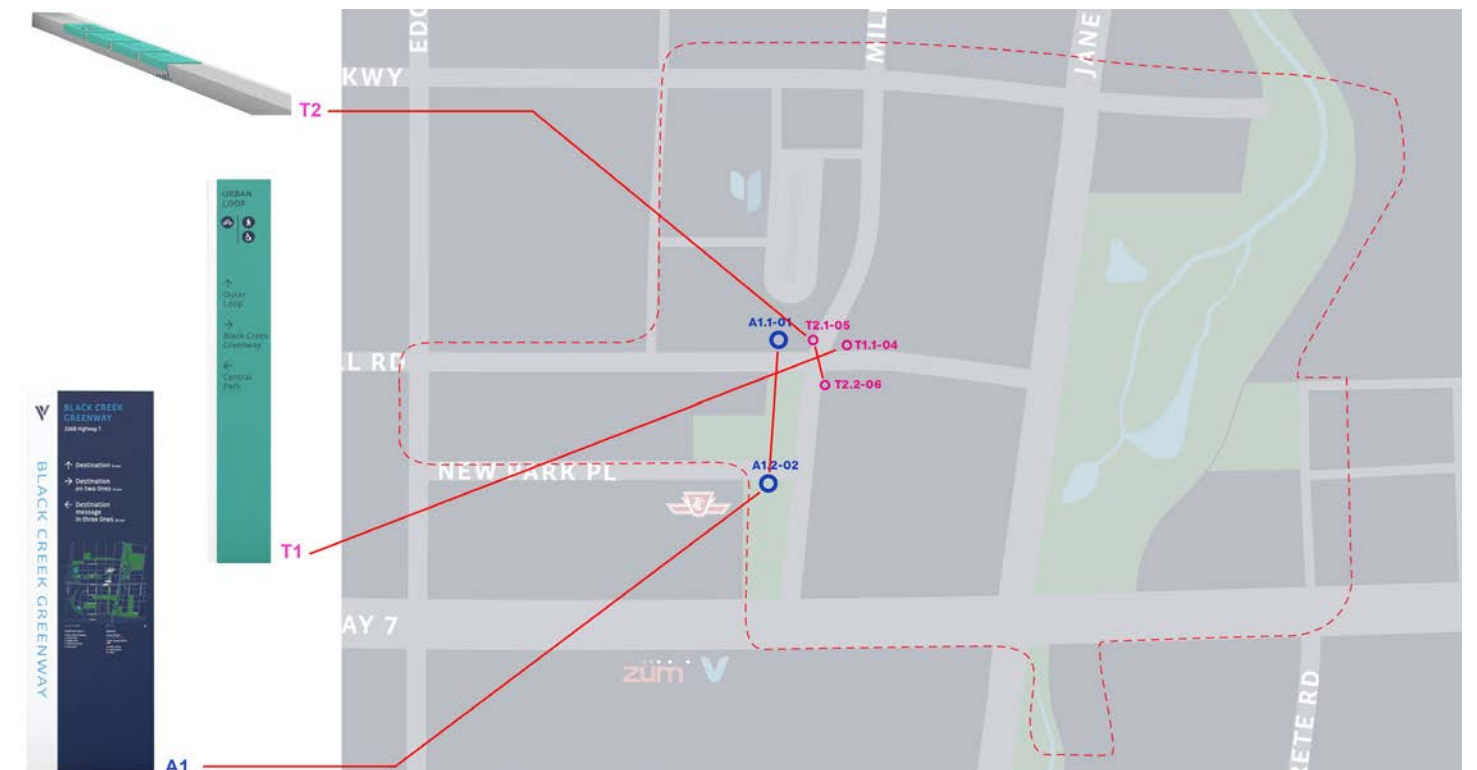
Signs must be accessible and legible during day and night



Signage & Wayfinding

Next Steps

- Spectra Advertising to **fabricate and install pilot project** by Q4 2022
- Second Consultation for signage pilot project in Q4 2022



DOWNTOWN
vaughan
METROPOLITAN CENTRE



Parks and Wayfinding Master Plan - Next Steps

Finalize Parks Master Plan

- Final **costing** and **park development timelines**
- Final **modifications** to master plan, development of **recommendations**, and draft of **master plan document**
- Continued **coordination** with the VMC Secondary Plan Update on **land use designation**

Advance Signage

- Oversee **fabrication, installation, and public consultation** related to the pilot project

Connect with VMC Program

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