

# **Normandy Park Playground Replacement Project**

## Survey Results Summary

Online survey open from January 5, 2021 – February 8, 2021

- 62 responses received
- 40% of respondents live within elsewhere in Saanich, followed by 39% who live within a 5 minute walk of Normandy Park
- 92% of respondents use the playground while 43% of respondents use the park for walking, followed by 26% of respondents who use the park for leisure recreation
- 29% of respondents use the playground several times a week, followed by 23% of respondents who use the playground once a month
- 63% of respondents walk to the park
- Most popular activities on the current playground include climbing (66%), sliding (59%), and rocking on teeter totter (38%)
- Top 5 most valued play features were:
  - Climbing features (87%)
  - Swings (70%)
  - Playhouse (38%)
  - Natural play (37%)
  - Spinning features (33%)
- 62% of respondents said a sand area is not important
- Open-ended responses for other ideas or comments to improve the playground at Normandy Park:
  - Equipment for older kids (7 respondents)
  - Wood chips surfacing, no sand (7 respondents)
  - Zipline (6 respondents)
  - Swings (4 respondents)
  - Benches and tables (3 respondents)
  - Natural/adventure play (3 respondents)

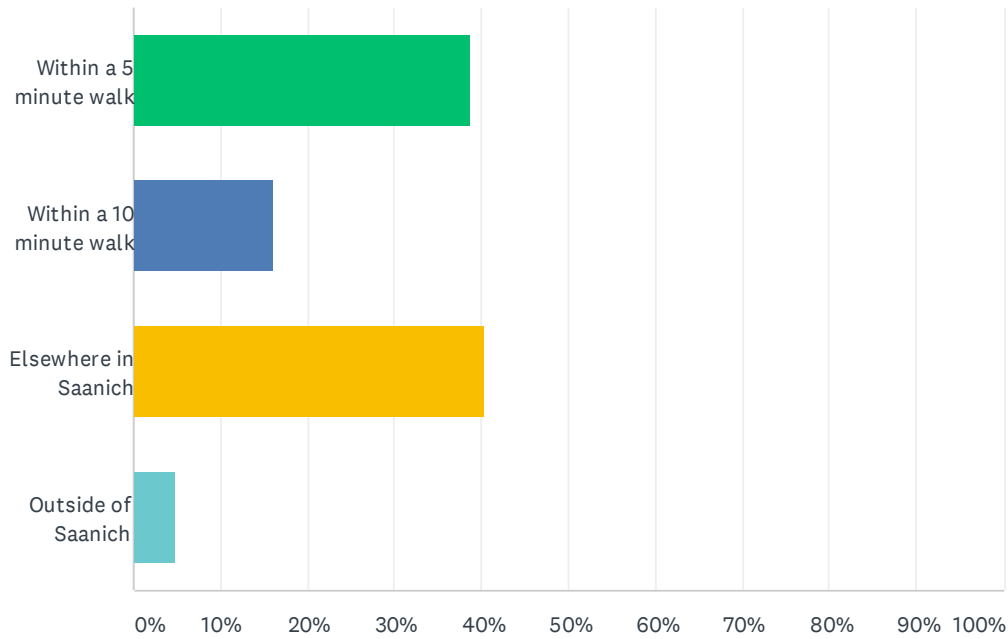
A wide variety of comments were received for additional improvements to Normandy Park playground. Given the project constraints of budget, timing and project scope, we have identified the following priorities:

- Fun & challenging climbing features
- Swings are important!
- Natural play elements



## Q1 How close do you live to Normandy Park?

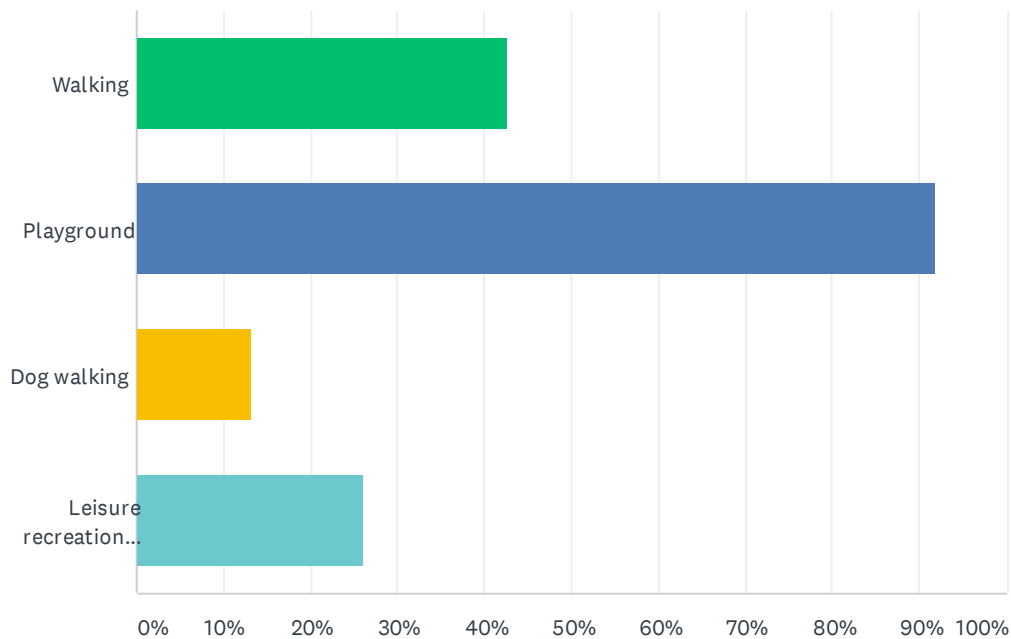
Answered: 62 Skipped: 0



| ANSWER CHOICES          | RESPONSES |    |
|-------------------------|-----------|----|
| Within a 5 minute walk  | 38.71%    | 24 |
| Within a 10 minute walk | 16.13%    | 10 |
| Elsewhere in Saanich    | 40.32%    | 25 |
| Outside of Saanich      | 4.84%     | 3  |
| TOTAL                   |           | 62 |

## Q2 What kinds of activities do you use the park for? Please check all that apply.

Answered: 61 Skipped: 1

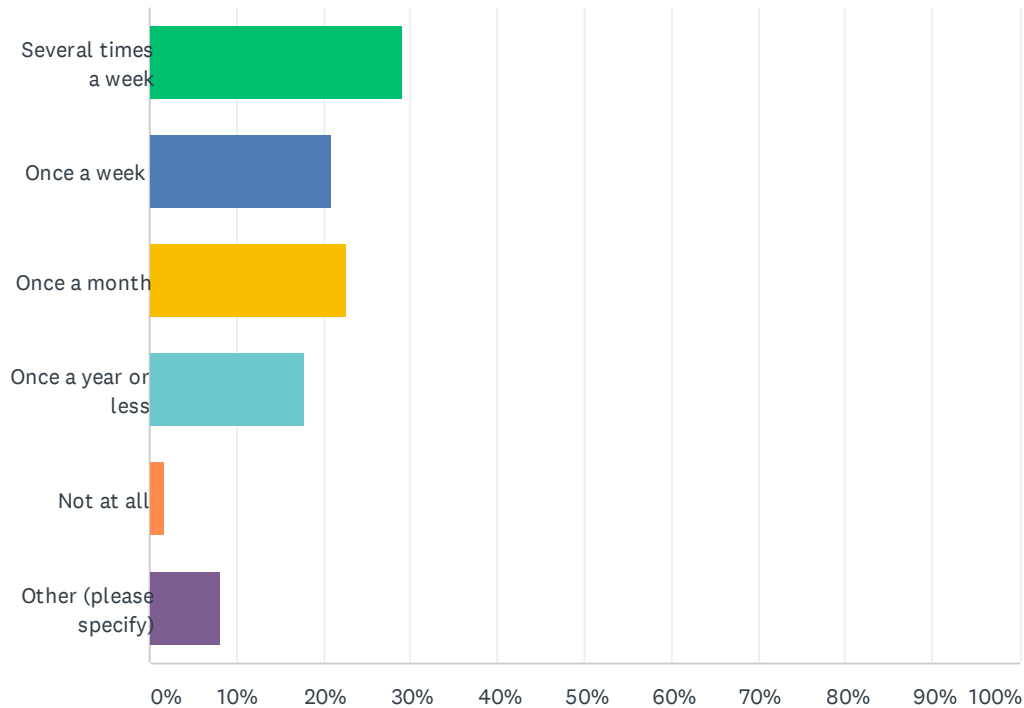


| ANSWER CHOICES                    | RESPONSES |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Walking                           | 42.62% 26 |
| Playground                        | 91.80% 56 |
| Dog walking                       | 13.11% 8  |
| Leisure recreation (i.e., picnic) | 26.23% 16 |
| Total Respondents: 61             |           |

| # | OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)   | DATE               |
|---|--|--------------------|
| 1 | My Kids ride their scooters around the paved playground path and use the paved path to Commonwealth place on scooters and bikes. We also play frisbee, catch and kick a soccer ball around on the grass. | 1/31/2021 4:17 PM  |
| 2 | Granddaughter lives 5 minutes away, she is only 2, but looking forward to using park. Current mostly just walk through with her and dogs.  | 1/22/2021 8:06 AM  |
| 3 | A bit of fitness. e.g. pushups and lat pulls while holding playground equipment.   | 1/21/2021 12:20 PM |
| 4 | Childcare Services   | 1/12/2021 9:26 PM  |
| 5 | My sons daycare is around the corner, he uses it daily for play.   | 1/7/2021 7:57 AM   |
| 6 | Summer camps through Saanich   | 1/6/2021 9:23 AM   |
| 7 | Saanich summer camps!  | 1/6/2021 2:12 AM   |
| 8 | Preschool  | 1/5/2021 10:57 PM  |

## Q3 How often do you and your family use the playground?

Answered: 62 Skipped: 0

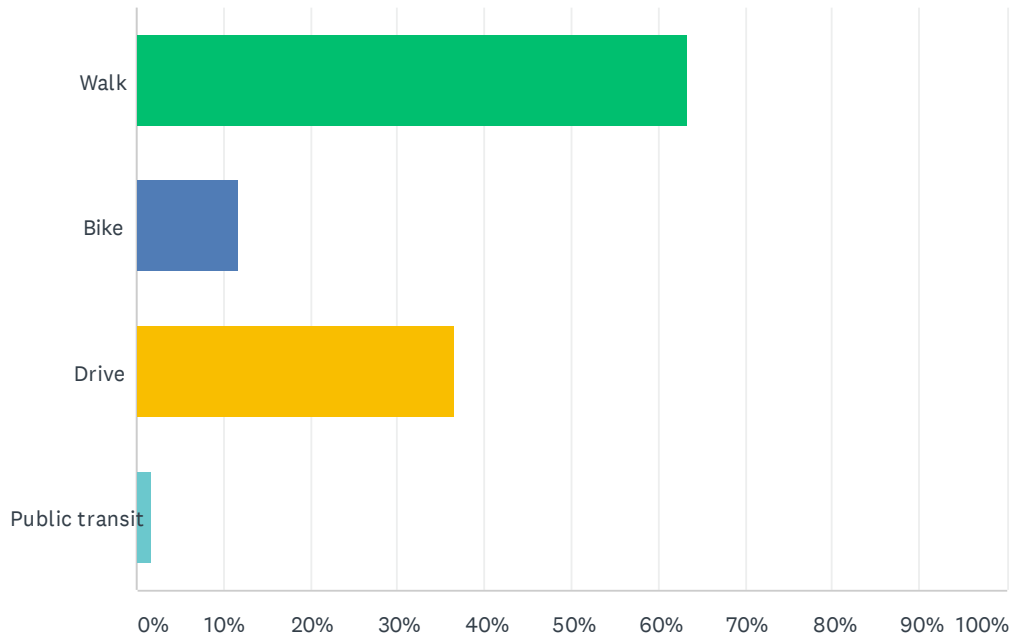


| ANSWER CHOICES         | RESPONSES |           |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Several times a week   | 29.03%    | 18        |
| Once a week            | 20.97%    | 13        |
| Once a month           | 22.58%    | 14        |
| Once a year or less    | 17.74%    | 11        |
| Not at all             | 1.61%     | 1         |
| Other (please specify) | 8.06%     | 5         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           |           | <b>62</b> |

| # | OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)   | DATE              |
|---|--|-------------------|
| 1 | See above  | 1/22/2021 8:06 AM |
| 2 | Son has previously and daughter will use during Preschool  | 1/10/2021 7:56 PM |
| 3 | Often during summer, winter, and spring break camps  | 1/6/2021 2:12 AM  |
| 4 | My kids went to preschool down the street and played there daily for 5 yrs. We don't go often now, not a playground worth visiting at the moment | 1/5/2021 9:48 PM  |
| 5 | summer camp and when we are at the rec centre or library under "normal" circumstances  | 1/5/2021 8:00 PM  |

## Q4 How do you typically get to the park?

Answered: 60 Skipped: 2

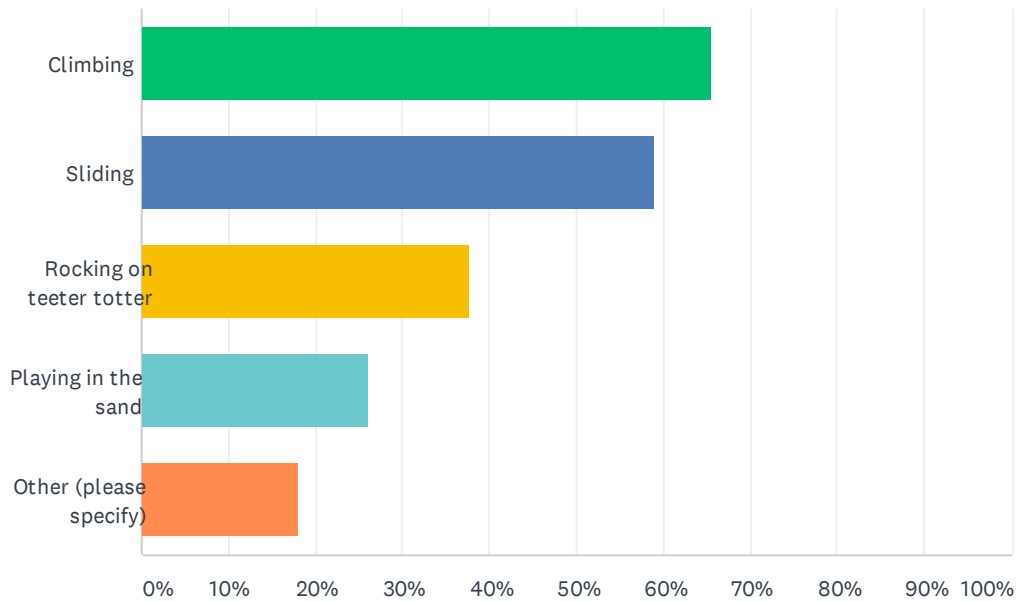


| ANSWER CHOICES        | RESPONSES |    |
|-----------------------|-----------|----|
| Walk                  | 63.33%    | 38 |
| Bike                  | 11.67%    | 7  |
| Drive                 | 36.67%    | 22 |
| Public transit        | 1.67%     | 1  |
| Total Respondents: 60 |           |    |

| # | OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)  | DATE              |
|---|---|-------------------|
| 1 | Popular to use in combination with Commonwealth activity  | 2/6/2021 7:36 PM  |
| 2 | We use it when we are at the rec centre. Drive to scp then walk to the park                     | 2/5/2021 12:29 PM |
| 3 | Scooters  | 1/31/2021 4:17 PM |
| 4 | We usually like to play at the playground before or after preschool programs at the rec centre. | 1/30/2021 2:19 PM |
| 5 | Park at Commonwealth Rec and walk over between classes  | 1/21/2021 6:16 AM |

## Q5 What's your child's favourite play activity on the current playground? Choose all that apply.

Answered: 61 Skipped: 1

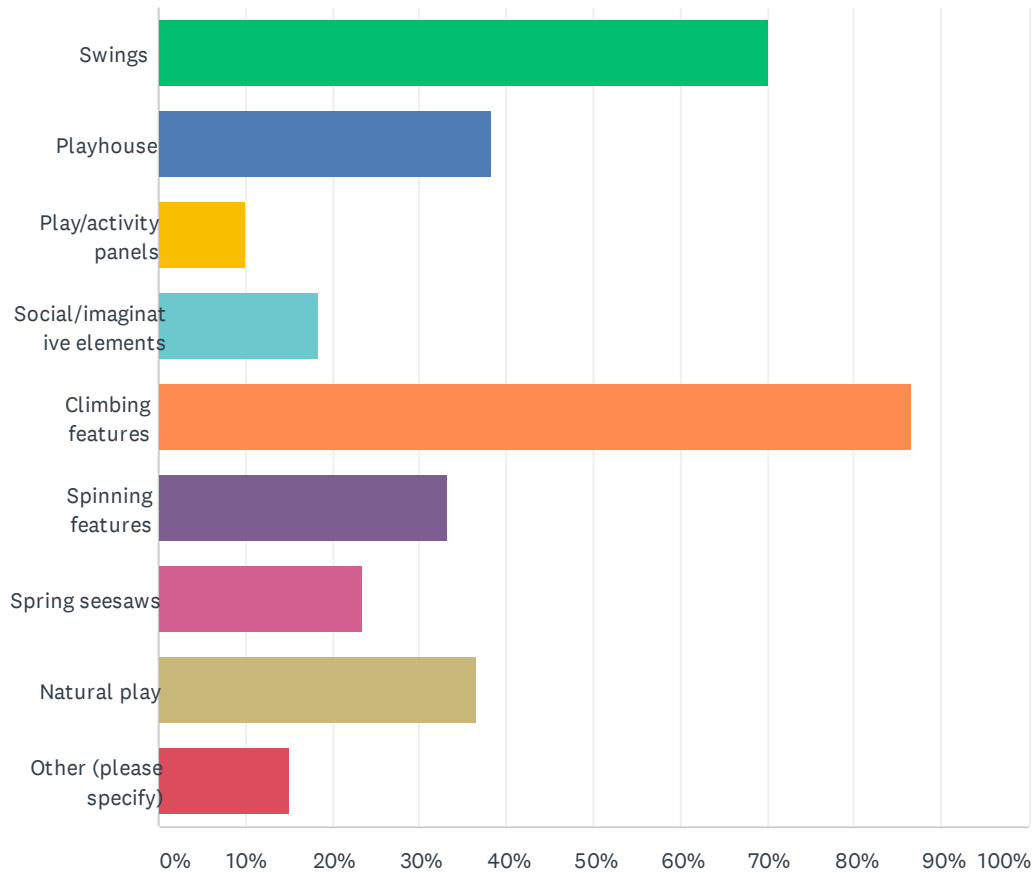


| ANSWER CHOICES           | RESPONSES |    |
|--------------------------|-----------|----|
| Climbing                 | 65.57%    | 40 |
| Sliding                  | 59.02%    | 36 |
| Rocking on teeter totter | 37.70%    | 23 |
| Playing in the sand      | 26.23%    | 16 |
| Other (please specify)   | 18.03%    | 11 |
| Total Respondents: 61    |           |    |

| #  | OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)         | DATE               |
|----|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1  | Kids like sand, parents don't  | 2/6/2021 7:36 PM   |
| 2  | No kids                        | 2/5/2021 10:29 PM  |
| 3  | Playing in treed area          | 2/5/2021 10:02 PM  |
| 4  | The car                        | 2/5/2021 5:31 PM   |
| 5  | Currently to little            | 1/22/2021 8:06 AM  |
| 6  | I have no children. Thank God! | 1/21/2021 12:20 PM |
| 7  | truck                          | 1/10/2021 1:36 PM  |
| 8  | No children                    | 1/9/2021 10:32 AM  |
| 9  | We do not have a child.        | 1/8/2021 6:40 PM   |
| 10 | The jeep                       | 1/6/2021 5:33 PM   |
| 11 | Zip line                       | 1/5/2021 10:04 PM  |

## Q6 What play features does your child value most? (Choose top 3)

Answered: 60 Skipped: 2



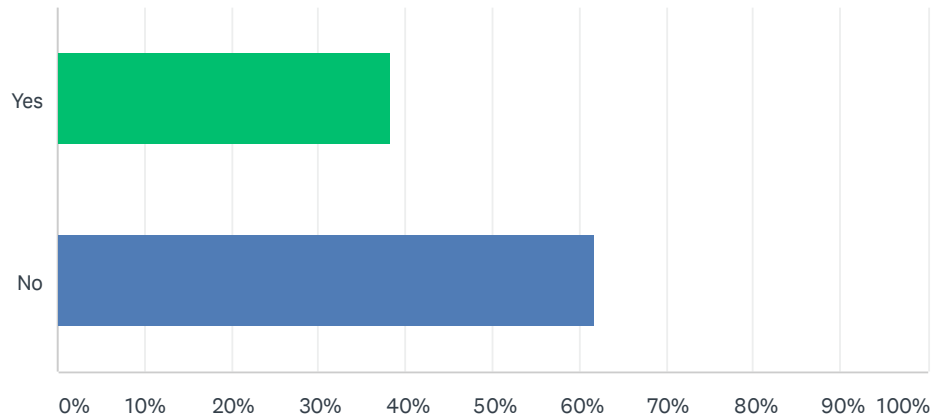
| ANSWER CHOICES              | RESPONSES |    |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----|
| Swings                      | 70.00%    | 42 |
| Playhouse                   | 38.33%    | 23 |
| Play/activity panels        | 10.00%    | 6  |
| Social/imaginative elements | 18.33%    | 11 |
| Climbing features           | 86.67%    | 52 |
| Spinning features           | 33.33%    | 20 |
| Spring seesaws              | 23.33%    | 14 |
| Natural play                | 36.67%    | 22 |
| Other (please specify)      | 15.00%    | 9  |
| Total Respondents: 60       |           |    |



| # | OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)  | DATE               |
|---|---|--------------------|
| 1 | Rope structures   | 2/5/2021 4:08 PM   |
| 2 | Monkey bars!!!  | 1/31/2021 4:17 PM  |
| 3 | Slides  | 1/22/2021 8:50 AM  |
| 4 | This is what I use.   | 1/21/2021 12:20 PM |
| 5 | zipline   | 1/21/2021 7:28 AM  |
| 6 | Monkey bars   | 1/21/2021 7:20 AM  |
| 7 | Slides  | 1/8/2021 7:48 PM   |
| 8 | I am basing my response on what the children that I work with value most in a playground. | 1/8/2021 6:40 PM   |
| 9 | web climbing  | 1/5/2021 8:54 PM   |

## Q7 Is a sand play area important to your child?

Answered: 60 Skipped: 2



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES |    |
|----------------|-----------|----|
| Yes            | 38.33%    | 23 |
| No             | 61.67%    | 37 |
| TOTAL          |           | 60 |

Q8 Do you have any other ideas or comments on how we can improve the playground at Normandy Park?

Answered: 40   Skipped: 22

| #  | RESPONSES   | DATE               |
|----|---|--------------------|
| 1  | Something fairly open and keep same amount of green space, please   | 2/5/2021 10:29 PM  |
| 2  | Picnic tables   | 2/5/2021 10:02 PM  |
| 3  | Physical barriers to prevent parking in front of park. We live on Normandy and there are often cars parked in front of the park by people heading to Commonwealth Place.  | 2/5/2021 4:15 PM   |
| 4  | Wood chips please - No Sand   | 2/5/2021 4:08 PM   |
| 5  | Focus on younger kids - under 5 please. Slides, ramps, steps etc.   | 2/5/2021 1:55 PM   |
| 6  | When choosing equipment please don't make the mistake as Whitehead Park. It is ridiculous that the big slide/tall structure has stairs (a 1 year old can climb), but the little double slide has only complex climbing (wobbly verticle ladder) that the youngest kids can't climb.   | 2/5/2021 1:48 PM   |
| 7  | Many kids of all ages use this playground. Can you please include elements that bigger kids can still have fun doing at Normandy Park? Such as monkey bars, climbing structures. I think a decent sized slide like the current bigger one is great for all ages!  | 1/31/2021 4:17 PM  |
| 8  | We'd love a sandbox with natural elements like at Reynolds or Tolmie Park.  | 1/30/2021 2:19 PM  |
| 9  | A Ziplane would be amazing to incorporate. Also curious if it's been thought of to having the park behind the commonwealth pool as it could be much larger then.  | 1/27/2021 9:27 PM  |
| 10 | Use the whole space, including current grass area. A tunnel slide would be great!   | 1/24/2021 8:55 AM  |
| 11 | Tunnels are always fun! Climbing apparatus that suits a younger toddler (2-3 years) is always appreciated (along with some for the older children). Climbing elements on playgrounds usually cater to kids 5 years and older, and the younger siblings can't keep up! Thank you.  | 1/21/2021 9:48 PM  |
| 12 | Make sure things are built to handle heavy people (at least 100kg) because some kids are very obese and they should be able to play without fear of damaging the playground. A lot of adults also use the equipment and they are often even more damaging. I know because I used to watch adult drop-in at a gymnastics school and they could do more damage in one session than 10 children in a full term of lessons. | 1/21/2021 12:20 PM |
| 13 | Bathroom or at least a port a potty so you don't have to leave if kids need the washroom. Benches facing and close to playground for parents to sit and watch. Something unique than other parks in Saanich so they aren't all the same. Things for older children so we can still go to playgrounds if with older siblings   | 1/21/2021 9:23 AM  |
| 14 | With the close proximity to SCP I think that some related structures/play/graphics should be implemented. A zipline would be amazing because a lot of the greenspace in that park goes unused.  | 1/21/2021 7:28 AM  |
| 15 | Gates to keep younger kids more securely away from the busy road as people are constantly going way to fast along that road past the park.  | 1/21/2021 6:16 AM  |
| 16 | How bout adding a mini water park feature and a zip line perhaps.   | 1/13/2021 7:55 PM  |
| 17 | Expanding the playground into the grass area would be beneficial - the grass gets majorly flooded anyways! Given that there is a large public field right behind SCP, Normandy being primarily a playground would be beneficial to the children living and playing in the area.   | 1/12/2021 9:26 PM  |
| 18 | I know Kiddie Capers from Saanich P&R uses this playground regularly. Having fun, natural elements to the playground that incorporates a preschooler's movement and love for play and the outdoors is very important to our family. Please consider the future of these children and their association to nature and play as you build this playground.   | 1/10/2021 7:56 PM  |
| 19 | wood chips surface is preferred, more plants if possible  | 1/10/2021 1:36 PM  |
| 20 | I would love to see there two play areas: one for toddlers and one for elementary kids. The current playground is very unsafe for my toddler aged kid but suitable for elementary ages  | 1/10/2021 11:06 AM |
| 21 | zip-line carousel monkey bars   | 1/9/2021 11:11 AM  |
| 22 | Normandy Park sits on a very busy unsafe street with no sidewalks and cars parked all over the road with others speeding on the street. You should also take into consideration of how to slow traffic to make it safer for the kids and elders on Normandy ie: a round about in front of   | 1/9/2021 10:32 AM  |

the park or speed bumps to slow down traffic or better yet a sidewalk down normandy to keep the public safe from speeding cars.

|    |   |                   |
|----|---|-------------------|
| 23 | Use wood chips or a rubberized surface... or anything other than sand! Or keep just a small sand pit area.  | 1/8/2021 7:48 PM  |
| 24 | Nope! But I'm super stoked for an upgrade!!   | 1/8/2021 6:28 PM  |
| 25 | Research shows risky play is a positive for childhood development. I hope there are different skill levels integrated into the park. As example, at the new McMinn park there are only two play structures and they are too similar in height and skill levels (catered to small toddlers) that I'm concerned there is no where to grow for my older kid. Conversely, at the Sidney park there are play structures that vary wildly in their "risk level" that allows continued challenges as a child ages. Thanks for continuing to improve our park system! | 1/7/2021 7:57 AM  |
| 26 | Yes!  | 1/6/2021 5:33 PM  |
| 27 | My grandson likes having wood chips or stones to create small piles with.   | 1/6/2021 4:34 PM  |
| 28 | We love the spiderweb climbing thing, swings and zip lines. Thanks for considering!   | 1/6/2021 2:05 PM  |
| 29 | It would be nice to have play structures that are suitable for both younger and older kids. A zip line is always popular.   | 1/6/2021 12:12 PM |
| 30 | Keep the duck teeter totter! The summer camp kids love it. But a more elaborate play structure would be ideal   | 1/6/2021 2:12 AM  |
| 31 | Callisthenics loop  | 1/5/2021 10:49 PM |
| 32 | A paved loop for smaller kids to ride their bike around. More sitting areas for parents. Combo locked bin with toys   | 1/5/2021 10:04 PM |
| 33 | Challenging structures for older children would be valued by our family. Not sure if there is space to incorporate a small pump track around the perimeter.   | 1/5/2021 9:59 PM  |
| 34 | Having a little bit of everything, like swinging, climbing, sand etc.   | 1/5/2021 9:24 PM  |
| 35 | Something for older kids (preteens) like a basketball net   | 1/5/2021 9:12 PM  |
| 36 | No sand its dirty and cats poop in it. We love the emily carr park and the mcmin park are a larger scale! Natural and blend in with the surrounding. A swing and baby swing would be amazing!   | 1/5/2021 9:05 PM  |
| 37 | We love this park. It has different features from other playgrounds in Saanich. It's a hidden gem in our neighbourhood. I hope it's not closed too long for construction.   | 1/5/2021 9:00 PM  |
| 38 | Woodchips rather than sand. Obstacle course play is fun and can be used by older children too   | 1/5/2021 8:54 PM  |
| 39 | Save ground: rubber or woodchips. Swings for toddlers and older kids. Colorful elements. Interesting climbing features. Interesting slide, maybe with multiple rolling tubes like in Victor school playground. Music elements   | 1/5/2021 8:44 PM  |
| 40 | adventure playground that incorporates natural elements like logs, ropes, and rocks to climb on and places to hide.   | 1/5/2021 8:00 PM  |