

Let's Play, Courtenay! Playground Design Standards

FAQs

What is this project about?

- The City of Courtenay is developing guidelines to help design City playgrounds to be more fun, inclusive, and accessible for everyone in the community.
- The City will be reviewing leading-edge playground design and industry best practices to inform our approach to playground design.
- The Let's Play, Courtenay! project is a chance for residents of all ages to help shape Courtenay's playgrounds, including:
 - What materials to use
 - Which activities to include in a play area
 - Where to put plants and furnishings
 - How to make playgrounds fun and accessible for everyone

Who is the city engaging with on this project?

- Kids, grandparents, and everyone in between are invited to provide feedback on new playground design standards, The City is also consulting many community partners about the new playground standards.

Where do I go to find out more about the project and take the survey?

- Go to www.courtenay.ca/letsplay to fill out an online survey.
- Email rsc@courtenay.ca or call 250-334-4441

When with the survey close?

- The survey is open until **February 16**. A second survey will come this spring for the community to review the draft playground design standards. The final version of the guidelines is expected later in the spring.

Why is the City working on this project?

- Playgrounds are community gathering spaces as well as active play places. As playground facilities age over time, they all eventually need to be replaced.
- The new playground design standards will be a set of steps the City will follow to make sure Courtenay's playgrounds are designed and upgraded to best meet our changing community's needs.
- We want to ensure our playground inventory reflects the diverse needs and interests of Courtenay residents and provide unique, community oriented, and inclusive play environments.
- This project is a 2024-2026 strategic priority for Council.



**City of
Courtenay**

How will the information be used?

- Planners, designers, and builders will use these guidelines when designing new playgrounds or upgrading existing play areas in our City's parks.
- Woodcote Park playground is a top priority for replacement in 2024, and would be the first playground replacement using the updated playground design standards.
- The City of Courtenay has 19 playgrounds and one fitness park in its current inventory. The standards will inform the replacement of these playgrounds as they come up for replacement.
- The Playground Design Standards only apply to City of Courtenay playgrounds, they do not apply to School District 71 playgrounds or playgrounds on private property.
- Courtenay's capital budget includes \$1.036 million for playground replacements in 2024 and 2025, which includes \$1 million from the [Growing Communities Fund](#).