

## APPENDIX C

This Appendix contains feedback gathered from the community about the Draft Goals, Strategic Directions, and Recommendations. Feedback was gathered online through [www.getinvolved.london.ca](http://www.getinvolved.london.ca) (March 11 to April 15, 2019) and at two Open Houses on April 3, 2019 and is organized in order of frequency of comments received.

<b>ACTIVE LIVING</b>	
<b>#</b>	<b>Summary of comments</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments related to specific program or camp requests including ideas for programs, locations, times, pricing, or advertising. (all referred to program staff).</li> <li>• Expand opportunities for children with disabilities</li> <li>• Ideas for engagement with business community, Age Friendly London etc.</li> <li>• Ideas to engage with specific partner organizations (Canadian Centre for Activity and Aging, homeless serving organizations, schools, other program providers)</li> </ul>
<b>INCLUSION &amp; ACCESS</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments related to inclusion for <u>all</u> in programs and at facilities. Specific references to those with disabilities, the homeless, isolated individuals, and those living in poverty</li> <li>• Consider budgeting for rubberized surfacing for every new playground installation (the only surfacing that is accessible). (Also in Supportive Environments)</li> <li>• Accessibility of pathways including designating a pathway for use by those requiring electric bikes, skateboards etc. Ensure all pathways are walker and wheelchair friendly</li> <li>• Reference to Vancouver Parks and Recreation Reconciliation initiative</li> <li>• Facilities animal friendly to assist with service dogs</li> </ul>
<b>CONNECTING PEOPLE &amp; NATURE</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There should be no paved pathways or built structures such as bridges within Environmentally Significant Areas (ESAs), Significant Woodlands, Significant Valleylands, and Significant Wildlife Habitat. Protection must take priority over the desire to close gaps in the Thames Valley Pathway System</li> <li>• Strategic directions are misleading suggesting that recreational pathway development within natural areas is a norm rather than an exception</li> <li>• Support for nature education and interpretive signage including three comments related to building awareness about the importance of protection of the natural areas (ESAs, health of the natural system)</li> <li>• Caution about enjoying nature versus playing in nature</li> <li>• Specific requests for comfort amenities in parks and along pathways: garbage cans, recycling, composting, washrooms, fountains, benches, shade, accessible parking spaces, and a request for City to deal with aggressive geese</li> <li>• General statements about protecting nature from overuse. Most of the wording is about utilization and not about protecting nature. Environmentally Significant Areas and Significant Woodlands must be protected and enhanced in their natural state - these environmental features are not parks and have no recreational attributes and should be excluded from the Master Plan</li> <li>• Comments related to enforcement of by-laws within parks and patrols needed (dogs off-leash, urban camping issues identified)</li> <li>• Support for more pathways and connections across the city for walking and cycling. Where are the gaps and how are they being filled?</li> <li>• Support for access to the river for rowing and canoeing, enhanced wildlife viewing, fishing and other recreational activities</li> <li>• Attention to the fact there was no mention of ESAs in the recommendations. The Plan should include a statement that ESAs are not parks.</li> <li>• Caution about accessing river and making sure protection of the shoreline by restricting access points, no trails or pathways in ESAs of the shoreline</li> <li>• All Londoners should be able to walk out their front door and walk to a green space.....either big or small.</li> </ul>
<b>SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for 6 lane, 25 meter pool built at Canada Games Aquatic Centre (CGAC) for a training centre and warmup pool for provincial and national competitions. Best location is at CGAC. Sport tourism benefit. An additional 22 comments were left in other sections of the Plan further indicating support for this recommendation</li> <li>• Opposition to the potential loss of Farquharson Arena as a location for ice skating. Concern raised over the loss of a high use arena by the local neighbourhood and the loss of a facility close to downtown that serves many seniors and children. Requests for repurposing identify the maintenance of ice with additional multi-purpose space created (2-storey if possible)</li> </ul>

- Work with Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) to create a two-story multipurpose space which still has ice pads. Indoor walking track included. Need ice plus a creative and innovative space with an indoor ice pad, large gymnasium, community kitchen, multi-purpose space, specialty/partner spaces based on demonstrated needs
- Requests for other facilities:
  - Curling (potential for partnership)
  - Track and Field – Track at TD Waterhouse needs budget for track replacement
  - The roller derby community needs a home
  - Lack of mention of the need for a multi-use 5,000-person stadium to host major music/ sporting events
  - Need for new indoor track facility
  - Multi-court, outdoor pickleball tournament facility
  - Need for more beach volleyball and outdoor concrete volleyball courts that are open to the public at all times (no permits needed)
- Support for more community centres – specific locations of need mentioned (River Bend, Northwest, East, Southeast) and support for keeping Silverwood arena remaining open as a dry pad, Farquharson repurposed to a community space
- Support for acquiring green space within London including expanding ESAs, land adjacent to ESAs, the Coves
- Comments relating to Sports Fields:
  - Concern over the plant and animal communities that live in the natural areas that will be disrupted by the construction of sports fields
  - Consider partnering with a local business or agency to build an accessible baseball diamond. Example sites in other Municipalities provided
  - Ensure ample parking and discourage lighting within subdivisions.
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- Support for more bike infrastructure – bike rental, secure places for bike parking in downtown
- Comments on specific court locations (overuse, underuse, disrepair)
- Support for more dogs off-leash areas including an additional dog park in West London as well as other types of places to let dogs run off-leash: individual fenced dog runs, within fenced baseball diamonds when not in use
- Climate change will have a huge impact on outdoor recreation in London, and should be mentioned explicitly in such a long-term plan
- Importance of maintaining affordable golf opportunities

#### **RECREATION CAPACITY**

- Supportive of partnerships to build facilities including support for a future partnership with Curling organization, affordable housing, and Library as well as with other program providers (identified in Active Living Section).