

**Municipality Of Chatham-Kent**  
**Infrastructure and Engineering Services**  
**Parks, Recreation and Cemeteries**

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council  
**From:** Deborah Veccia, D.P.A., Supervisor, Chatham Parks and Horticulture  
**Date:** June 16, 2021  
**Subject:** Long Term Maintenance and Park Viability - Lark Park

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This report is for the information of Council.

**Background**

On May 10, 2021, Council reviewed an information report regarding the Parks and Sports Fields utilization at Lark Park. The following motions were voted on and approved:

- a. That staff develop a report with options to assist and promote re-launching youth sports and extra-curricular activities in our community coinciding with the end of the Provincial COVID lockdown. Including options and costs to temporarily waive the youth per participant fee for the next two years.
- b. That staff work with all sports groups using Lark Park to come and identify the requested level of service for the field maintenance program respecting safety and liability standards, league needs, and long term league and park viability. This could include but is not limited to updating timing of standard maintenance from an approved vendor, and new field lining technique. The outcome of this process, including league and municipal commitments as well as any pertinent updates be reported back to Council.

In addition, Council verbally requested staff to address the neighbourhood concerns expressed in the deputations and review the outstanding user fees associated with the park.

This report will specifically deal with motion b. and the verbal requests from Council.

**Comments**

Since the May 10, 2021 Council meeting, administration has been diligently working with the various user groups and neighbourhood to identify the service levels required for field maintenance and safe level of play at Lark Park.

### Community Survey:

A survey of the local neighborhood was undertaken to capture all park related concerns and suggestions for improvement. On May 21 2021, 430 notices were hand delivered to neighbourhood residents requesting feedback through an on-line/paper survey located on the Municipality's Let's Talk portal. The online survey closed on June 3, 2021 and in total 110 responses were completed. Of the 110 surveys, 23 responses were submitted by residents outside of the designated catchment zone. These responses were excluded to ensure the results were specific to the neighbourhood (Attachment A).

The results of the survey indicate that neighbours support the youth programming that occurs at Lark Park and enjoyed seeing the park used by the community. In fact, 94% of the respondents to the survey stated they use the park for general recreation and leisure activities. Residents also indicated a desire to see the park used for other activities including:

- Outdoor fitness classes
- Grass volleyball
- Soccer leagues and skill development camps
- Outdoor recreation summer programs such as spike ball and children's summer recreation camps

The key issues that were identified by the neighborhood survey included the following:

- A lack of parking when the field is in use and concern for the safety of the children between parked cars
- Grass cutting service levels
- Inappropriate use of the park including -
  - Alcoholic beverage consumption by adults
  - Public urination on fences
  - Proper adherence to COVID protocols
  - Late night loitering after games
  - Use of fireworks close to homes
  - Smoking
  - Lack of stoop and scoop
  - Practicing golf chipping

In response, staff will review and erect additional signage to ensure the public is well aware of the appropriate uses of the park.

### Discussions with Sport Groups

Past usage of Lark Park has been limited to the Flag Football league. Staff has received several requests for usage in 2021, but no formal booking has taken place at the time of this report.

Two on-line meetings were held with the Flag Football league convenor, along with a one on-site meeting to review the following issues:

1. Improving communication and understanding of Municipal policies
2. Grass cutting service levels
3. Lark Park field conditions and potential alternative sites
4. Outstanding usage fees

1. Improving Communication and Understanding of Municipal Policies:

All municipal policies and procedures were formally reviewed with the Flag Football league convenor. Minutes were created at each meeting and agreed to by both parties. It is requested that all future inquiries are to be directed to the Supervisor of Chatham Parks and Horticulture, or designate, in writing on a go forward basis.

As defined in the Sport field Allocation Policy, in exchange for the Municipal field services provided, the following user requirements exist:

- Communication by field users to the Municipality regarding the locations, dates and times requested for all organized sport field use
- A user provision of \$2M in general liability player insurance
- A user COVID-19 compliance plan
- A signed rental permit and payment of the appropriate fees

2. Grass Cutting Service Levels:

Lark Park is currently cut at an A+ level comprising 22 cuts per season. During non-usage or drought/heat times, cutting may be reduced to properly manage the turf and remain within the budgetary allotment. Grass cutting begins seasonally around April 15 and ends November 15 depending on weather and growing conditions (approximately a 31 week season). Frequency of cutting will vary as grass and weeds grows faster during the spring. Standard grass cutting schedules are set with a variable for an additional day in case of rain. For example, Lark Park is cut on Mondays and Thursdays with the rain day cut being on Friday.

The flag football convenor agreed that the service level defined above was acceptable.

3. Existing Lark Park Conditions and Potential Alternative Sites:

Administration reviewed the field conditions at Lark Park and recommend remediation and rest due to damages caused from over usage and low mowing practices. The field will require soil testing, a prescribed fertilization program, regular aeration, over seeding in the fall, and higher grass height levels to return the field to an acceptable condition. It is recommended that Lark Park be rested permitting passive use only and returned to an A level of grass cutting.

In response, alternative sites for the Flag Football league were considered and discussed. The Flag Football field needs were defined as follows:

- 2 fields - 80 yards x 40 yards with a 10 x 40 yard end zone
- An A+ grass cutting level scheduled on Thursdays or Fridays as league play is typically on Sundays
- No lines required during regular league play; cones will be used to demarcate the field locations
- Line paint will be used during playoffs and championship games

It was agreed that Thames #2 field site (Attachment B) meets all needs of the league. In addition, Thames #2 field addresses the parking, seating and washroom concerns previously raised by the neighbourhood. The Flag Football League convenor has agreed to move the youth flag football needs to this location. At this time, no adult flag football leagues or tournaments have been confirmed for 2021. As with all organized sporting leagues, every effort will be made to accommodate this relocation on a long term basis. Thames #2 is currently at the A+ grass cutting level.

#### 4. Outstanding User Fees and Damage:

To date, there are outstanding fees owing from the Flag Football league to the Municipality totaling \$5,197 for park use in 2019 and 2020.

The Sport Field Policy states that “Failure to pay seasonal contract fees will result in automatic rejection of allocation request until fees are paid.” Further, “If your account is in arrears, you will not be able to book additional dates until account is paid.”

Unless directed otherwise by Council, administration will continue to follow this policy for all user groups. The remaining 103 user groups have paid all required fees for the 2019 and 2020 calendar years. The Municipality is open to discussions regarding a payment plan to assist the Flag Football League in resolving the issue.

In addition, in a subsequent Report to Council, staff is recommending Council waive all youth fees of \$12.03 (including GST) per player for all organizations in 2021 and 2022.

**Financial Implications**

Based on the recommendations in this report, the following is the estimated financial impact:

**Table #1 - Field Remediation Costs  
(Funded from Parks Lifecycle Reserve):**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Estimated Amount</b>
Signage	\$925
Lark Park Remediation Costs over 3 year period	\$8,775
<b>Total Signage and Field Remediation Costs</b>	<b>\$9,700</b>

**Table # 2 - Past Due User Costs**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (tax included)</b>
<b>Total 2019 and 2020 Past Due User Fees (per the May 10, 2021 Report to Council)</b>	<b>\$5,197</b>

Prepared by:

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Attachments: Attachment A – Community Survey Results

Attachment B – Thames #2 Site Overview Drawing – Flag Football Field  
Layout

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Park Viability - Lark Park.docx

## Lark Park Survey Post Card



Use the camera app on your mobile phone to scan the QR code or visit <https://www.letstalkchatham-kent.ca/lark-park> to take the survey. Questions? Call 3-1-1 for more information.

# WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

May 10, 2021 Council reviewed a report regarding the use of adult and youth sports leagues at Lark Park.

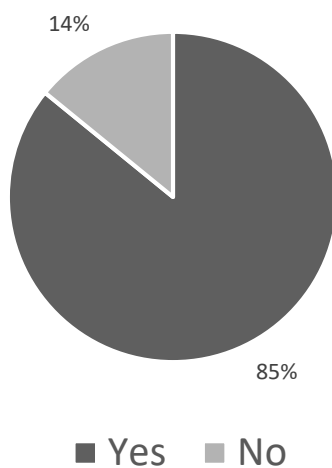
Take the Lark Park Survey and share your feedback.

**Survey closes June 3, 2021.**

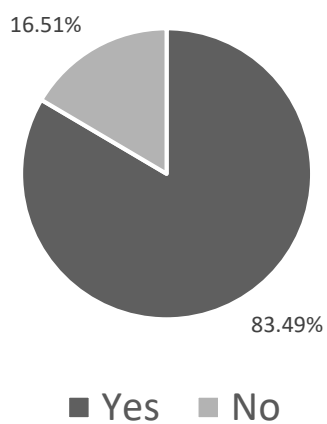


**Lark Park Neighbourhood Survey Results**

Percentage of Respondants who would like to see Lark Park Used for a Sports and leisure Activity Location  
(Surveyed Area)

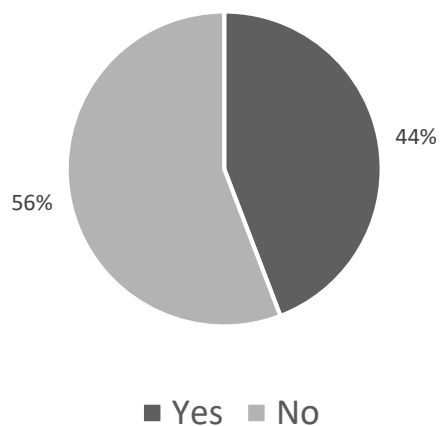


Percentage of Respondants that use Lark Park  
(Surveyed Area)

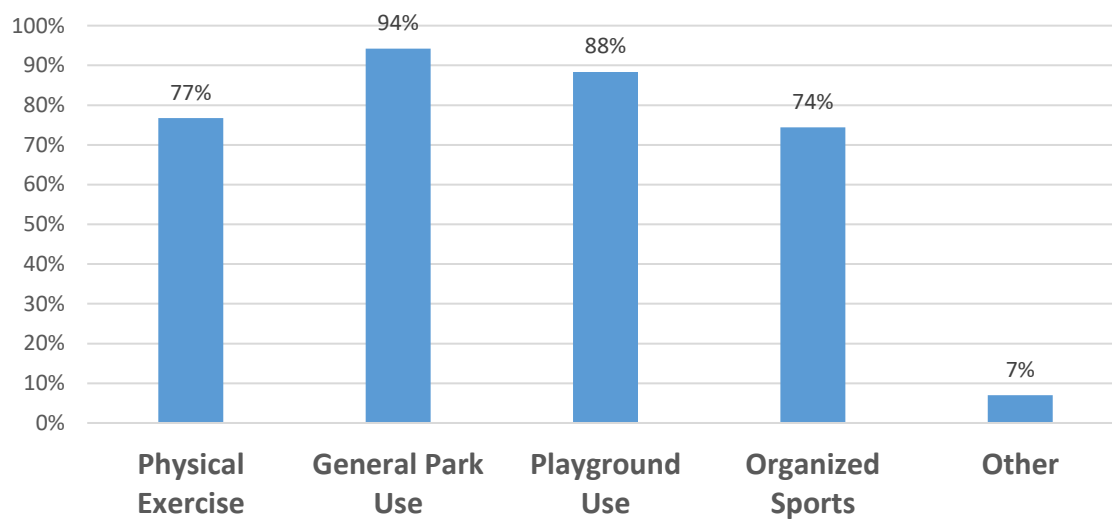


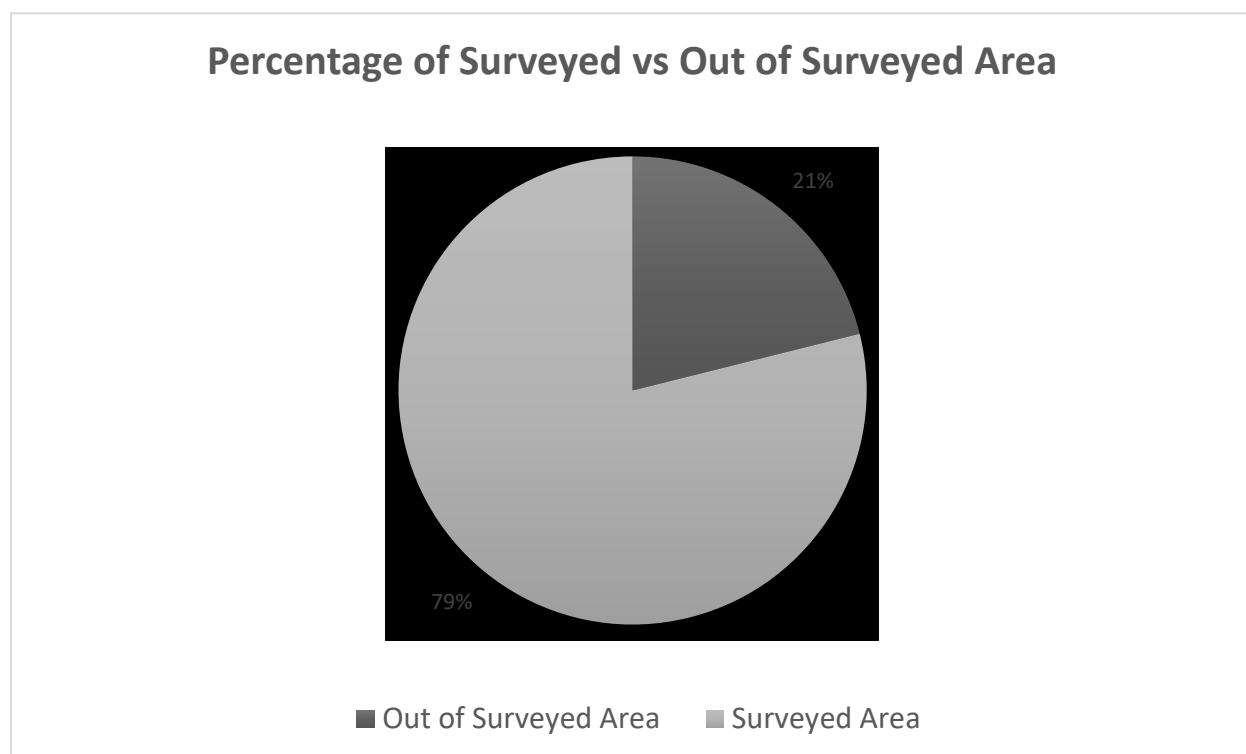
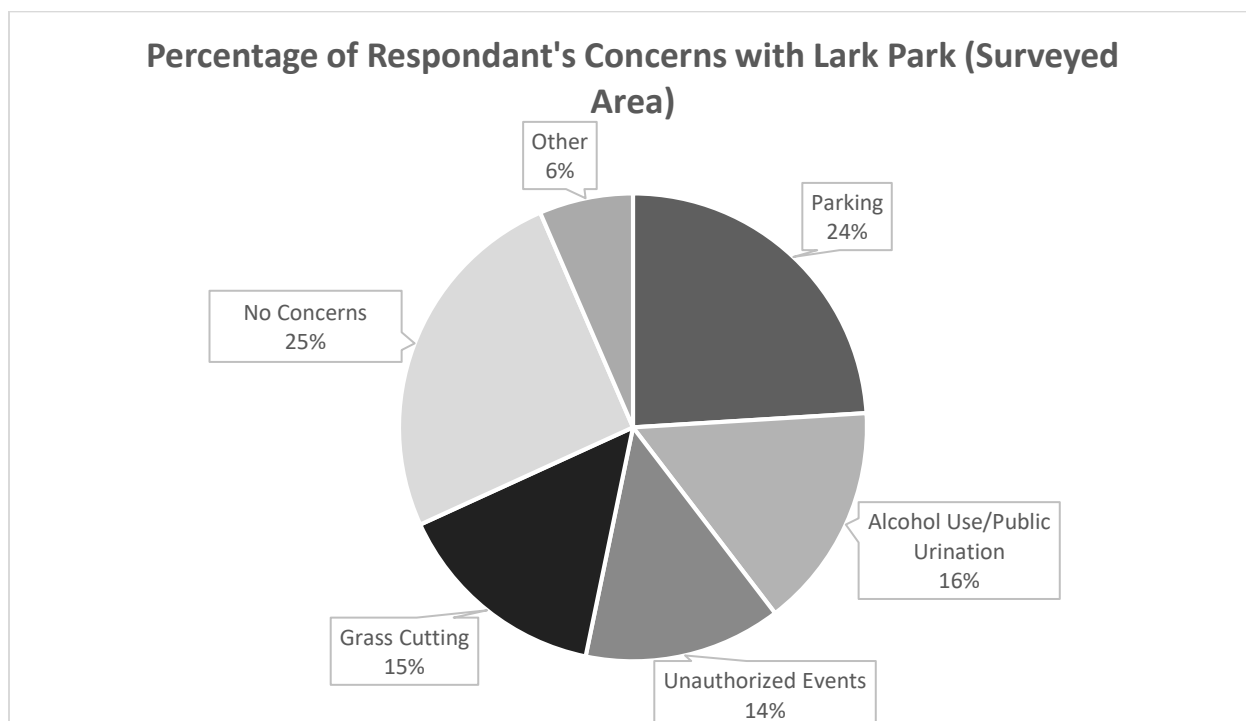


Is there Enough Parking at Lark Park (percentage) (Surveyed Area)



Percentages of How Respondants would like to see Lark Park (Surveyed Area)





Multiple Responses: These are included all times in data

1 home on Quail has responded 3 times

1 home on Quail responded 4 times

1 home on Pheasant responded 2 times

### Lark Park Survey - Summary of Comments

Survey Question	Number of Responses	Summary of Comments
Enter comments you would like to share regarding keeping Lark Park as both a sports and leisure activities location.	71	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I love to see the kids playing soccer.</li> <li>• Jason Reynolds is doing good.</li> <li>• With proper permits or as leisure.</li> <li>• Purchase the school yard lot that's near the Lark park, extend and upgrade the park with more playground sets, splashpad, picnic pavilions etc - similar to Kingston Park setup.</li> <li>• I would simply enjoy as leisure activities.</li> <li>• Great walking path.</li> <li>• Lots of garbage left in the fields when games are done "gross" vehicles parking all over the park and curbs leaving no room for people who live in building to park when they are done work.</li> <li>• It is nice to see the Park being used for recreational activities, although I don't think I would appreciate it as an every day/evening occurrence.</li> <li>• We walk through the park often and many kids use the playground. We don't see a problem with sports and leisure activities, although the football seems to take over at times.</li> <li>• You need to have the grass cut regularly (every week) if you keep it as a sports and leisure activities location.</li> <li>• It's a neighbourhood park it was never designed for the size of leagues that has been operating here. No parking for that many people it causes major concerns if an ambulance or fire truck had to come to this area.</li> <li>• Its better that it be used for sports and recreational events as nothing else is done with it. Awesome for the kid's mental health especially during this pandemic.</li> <li>• I do not want organized sports in the park as there is no parking or washroom facilities.</li> <li>• Please allow these kids and adults to play sports in the Park. In my opinion it's healthy and inspires our family to be more active. Also it creates many positive healthy memories, that some children otherwise may never have.</li> <li>• This park is large enough to be utilized as a sports and leisure park, actually I enjoy going to watch the kids really enjoying themselves playing flag football, the talent of these kids is overwhelming.</li> <li>• It is a multi use park and should be available to everyone to use.</li> <li>• When park is used for sports activities I want the people using it to respect our neighborhood. They leave garbage, diapers, empty their cars out at our curb with their garbage from their cars, urinate in public with no regards to kids or anyone around them.</li> <li>• I go watch the kids and walk my dog there. I hope this gets resolved soon. The only ones loosing out is our future (the kids).</li> <li>• I would like to have a volleyball court.</li> </ul>

Survey Question	Number of Responses	Summary of Comments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There's nothing wrong with men women and kids playing flag at that park. Let them do what their doing.</li> <li>• I think Chatham Kent should welcome the football league. The athletic field needs to be maintained properly.</li> <li>• Lark Park has been used for years for Flag Football it should continued to be used by Jason Reynolds. I think no extra fees should be charged as well.</li> <li>• Volleyball.</li> <li>• I walk by Lark Park daily and enjoy seeing the open green space. I like to see people being active and playing sports as this develops transferable skills as well as helps mental health of youth and adults. I do not want my local taxes to be increased to support a FOR PROFIT organization.</li> <li>• Please find a different park that could be built into a sports rec area. Give the kids a washroom, and garbage area, so neighbours are well respected.</li> <li>• I love the organized weekend activities provided by an eager young man.</li> <li>• Young people are criticized for being in front of their phones/computers too much. Sports activities keep them physically active.</li> <li>• It's essential to our community and kids. In a prime re-established location.</li> <li>• Our children love their sports league at Lark Park.</li> <li>• Some children have no back yard, let them play, adults too, its harmless fun.</li> <li>• It is a PARK. OPEN SPACE. PUBLIC AND FREE FOR ALL.</li> <li>• This is what a park is for. FREE LARK PARK to be used by the people.</li> <li>• Cut the grass on a weekly basis, not just this park but all parks! Wilcox park especially. Get it together Chatham-Kent.</li> <li>• I actually think you should add more play equipment &amp; picnic tables. There are so many people who come and use the park.</li> <li>• There is a lot of space not being used for anything. I like seeing people use the park both leisurely and in an organized environment.</li> <li>• Flag football does not interfere with anything we use the park for- there's plenty of room for everyone.</li> <li>• My concern is you letting people operate here with no fees and insurance like is required at other facilities.</li> <li>• Grass cutting is NOT done appropriately or weekly in Lark Park.</li> <li>• Kids need a place to play.</li> <li>• This is a great area for our youth to play sports activities, play on the playground and overall just get the good exercise we all need.</li> </ul>

Survey Question	Number of Responses	Summary of Comments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We see a group regularly use the park for games and practices. Perfect use for such a large park. My grandkids love to walk the paths and play at the equipment.</li> <li>We would like to see more playground equipment.</li> <li>Regular maintenance-garbage pick up, grass cutting and port a potties would go a long way in keeping this green space user friendly.</li> <li>The joy and happiness on all the faces says it all! It's our park so everyone should be entitled to use it, regardless where you live.</li> <li>Grandson loves to bike and use equipment when he comes over.</li> <li>It's big enough for many activities. Both leisure &amp; sports are important. Many of us walk our pets through the park. I enjoyed seeing the open &amp; often empty area being used for sports. The path is great. The children's play area is great. It's a mighty fine park as it stands for all to use.</li> <li>I support all activities for the Park. Parks are for people to enjoy in a variety of ways.</li> <li>Some low level of organized sports ie flag football.</li> <li>It's nice to see a large park being used by our community of all ages and abilities, whether it's sitting down, walking a dog, children playing or seeing a sports event.</li> <li>With or without municipal garbage's to use, the park is always cleaned up after sporting events.</li> </ul>
You indicated "other" for how to utilize Lark Park in the future? Please explain.	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of paths and just for kids and parents.</li> <li>Walking and enjoying the outdoors.</li> <li>Any type of legal activity. It's a park with a GIANT field. Sports or down time should be for anyone and everyone!</li> <li>Summer programs for children that can't afford other activities.</li> <li>Walking.</li> <li>Soccer games could take place. More playgrounds also.</li> </ul>
You indicated "other" for concerns you may have regarding current activities occurring at Lark Park. Please explain.	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unauthorized groups without proper screening.</li> <li>On event nights, people are constantly walking across the road from their parking spots, not looking for traffic and is a safety hazard as well as young children run ahead of the parents and run across. They don't look for cars driving around and I'm afraid someone is going to get hurt if they have not already.</li> <li>Length of games and when. Length of season. Fireworks too close to homes. Pot smoking. Trash in park and in neighbour yards. People loitering in park after games late into night. Lark Street congested and hard for EMS and fire to get through. Blocking of neighborhood driveways. Loud music.</li> <li>The public urination on private resident fences and basically exposing themselves when small children are a few feet away. No parking. The cars block driveways and clog up Lark Street making it very unsafe for kids to cross street.</li> </ul>

Survey Question	Number of Responses	Summary of Comments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parking is a big concern for us. Our driveway has been blocked and when asked to please move we get the look that we are bothering and inconveniencing them and not us. These are adults who should be more aware of their actions.</li> <li>• None.</li> <li>• This survey contains bias questions which lead the results. A survey is meant to gather information which become facts. A survey is not meant to be a method to prove one's desired outcome. The multiple choice questions are ridiculous. There is a lot of money being spent to defend a position, what outcome is the city hoping to achieve?</li> <li>• Wild life often are there.</li> <li>• Upkeep of green space, not cut enough.</li> <li>• Cut the grass Chatham Kent.</li> <li>• What unauthorized events? Please be more specific. Flag football is the only event we ever see or hear.</li> <li>• The park looked better when it was cut with a hand lawnmower. I had lots of pride when walking through the park.</li> <li>• Nothing as long as the government stays out of it.</li> </ul>
You indicated that "no", there is not enough parking. Please state any concerns you have regarding parking near Lark Park.	48	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Late comers have to park on the neighbourhood.</li> <li>• Cars park all down Lark St., starting at Baldoon Rd. Have to be very cautious going around the bends.</li> <li>• Baldoon Rd. is a busy road, afraid children might be hit by on going traffic.</li> <li>• Very few residential spaces available.</li> <li>• There is no parking lot - only street parking on Lark St which can get quite congested.</li> <li>• When there are organized sporting events happening at the Park, Lark St. in the area of the Park can become very concerning to travel on. Two way traffic becomes very tricky as well as event goers not paying attention and opening car doors randomly.</li> <li>• Don't think the park was designed for that many people and subsequent cars. It creates a danger when walking down the street with so many cars.</li> <li>• Blocking driveways and Lark Street congested making unsafe for pedestrians and vehicles to drive safely.</li> <li>• The parking on the road can be dangerous as parking is on a bend. Lots of adults and children going in and out of vehicles.</li> <li>• All parking would be on the road. My concern would be kids running from parked cars. A sidewalk would be helpful.</li> <li>• Some people using the park for sport teams park on both sides of the street illegally.</li> <li>• Parking in the street creates traffic and safety issues. Large gatherings would be better suited at other locations unless dedicated parking can be provided.</li> </ul>

Survey Question	Number of Responses	Summary of Comments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People have parked in front of my house numerous times all day blocking my vehicle from leaving if I wanted to do so.</li> <li>• Streets are congested with vehicles making it unsafe for the kids in the surrounding neighborhood to play outside safely.</li> <li>• There used to be no parking signs that have been removed can't turn from Baldoon onto Lark as they park at the corner people that live in the area can't park on the road dangerous driving there.</li> <li>• There is only street parking on a corner. No parking lot available.</li> <li>• Lark gets pretty congested at the park.</li> <li>• I believe parking on Lark St. bothers the residents!</li> <li>• Other then the street there is no parking.</li> <li>• Street parking is lacking and I would support an enlarger parking area like what was done at Paxton's bush.</li> <li>• The street gets very crowded at times. Something similar to the parking at O'Neil Park (Paxton Bush) would be great.</li> <li>• Open up the schools parking lot and keep the kids off of the roads.</li> <li>• Just street parking if kids are not local.</li> <li>• Parking typically takes place on Lark Street, and will span from Baldoon to the first street on the right down Lark Street. This spans a bend on Lark Street. There is enough space for vehicles to meet and proceed, you just have to be cautious.</li> <li>• Maybe put parking area in some part of the park.</li> </ul>
You indicated "other" users at Lark Park. Please explain.	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family reunions, block or street parties, yard sales.</li> <li>• Fairs and other city BIA activities.</li> <li>• Splash pad.</li> <li>• Adding trees and picnic tables.</li> <li>• More relaxing just family green space area. Plant lots of trees and gardens to go along with the nice walking path.</li> <li>• There are a lot of children in the apartments. Most on some sort of assistance for income. It would be great to have a pool for them to have access to.</li> <li>• Basketball court, we don't have a good outdoor court in Chatham.</li> <li>• The park has a very successful flag football league actively trying to use the space. Take care of the park facilities properly and perhaps additional leagues could be set up and draw more revenue to support operations.</li> <li>• An outdoor basketball court would provide youth a place to play. Wildcats basketball is a growing organization and a public outdoor court would be beneficial for youth. There is only 1 public outdoor court in Chatham.</li> <li>• Maybe a safe, soft material "loop" for kids biking. A place with lined paths (similar to roadways) where kids can learn to ride</li> </ul>

Survey Question	Number of Responses	Summary of Comments
		<p>bikes. It can have another/separate paved lane around it for parents to ride beside their kids, or run beside them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the center of the paved land and training lane area, there could be an outdoor fitness area, or other activity area.</li> <li>• I think people should be able to do whatever is available &amp; offered. There should be no limits by the city.</li> <li>• More equipment for kids.</li> <li>• Give the kids another water park, it keeps the young kids busy.</li> </ul>
Please provide any additional comments.	65	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is a beautiful space for the whole city (leagues) and the neighborhood. I don't think you should have stopped a neighbour from cutting the grass. The dandelions are disgrace and nuisance to the neighbourhood. They should have been cut before they went to seed.</li> <li>• No flag football please, doesn't have proper screening and approval.</li> <li>• He is doing a lot of good for those kids, and clearly didn't mean any harm by cutting the grass, he was just taking it upon himself rather than expecting the city to do it. Figure out some sort of arrangement and let him run his league and keep those kids off the street. Let the kids play flag football.</li> <li>• At the very back of the park by the walking path that butts up to the various streets I would like to see more trees planted, it's a non use part of the park.</li> <li>• Hopefully the Municipality and the Council will look carefully at the huge opportunity that will arise near the Lark Pak with the Monsignor Uyen School closure. Don't miss this opportunity in creating something great in this side of the town. Investing more money into it and make it similar to the Kingston Park will make lots of residents, especially families with children's, happy.</li> <li>• We love to see the park used for organized sports especially. I thought that's what city parks were for. I walk my dog in the park and enjoy the paths provided. I really hope that Lark Park will continue to be used for both adult and youth sports leagues.</li> <li>• Stress to anyone using the park that they leave it better then they found it. Clean up the trash, use the facilities provided.</li> <li>• We were appalled when the adults tore up the field in the fall playing games in the mud they created. Don't see the need for constant grass cutting.....it doesn't get long enough to stop playing on it.</li> <li>• This is more just neighbour green space for a few kids to kick the ball or walk your dog and fly a kite. It was not designed for sports leagues.</li> <li>• I have lived in this area for most of my life. As a child and now raising my family. This park has never been used for this size of sports league. It has always been just a family park and field day</li> </ul>



Survey Question	Number of Responses	Summary of Comments
		<p>extension area for Monsignor Uyen School. As a tax payer this park does not accommodate sport leagues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any and all outdoor activities should be supported and encouraged. Keeping our kids engaged in something meaningful keeps them off the streets causing trouble. It's a win win</li> <li>Any use of the park for outdoor activities is highly encourage. Let the kids play!</li> <li>Let the man cutting the grass for his flag football to keep doing it. The park looks more cared for when he does it. A lot of people use the park for walking, running, playing with their dogs/children. Having more events there is nice for the community around the park, plus good for morale of everyone using it.</li> <li>I want to keep Lark Park as a small family oriented park for local use only.</li> <li>Get Gypsy moths under control and plant more native trees.</li> <li>I gain much enjoyment seeing the park used and everyone I have noticed respects the property and neighborhood.</li> <li>With the rise of ticks in the area I believe that this park needs the grass kept short, it is safer for us and our dogs that walk through that park.</li> <li>There are many streets that back onto the park that can be utilized for parking...no different then when the school for many years had concerts, plays, graduations, meet teacher night, etc they used side streets for parking. We also have a large parking lot in front of planet fitness that could be utilized for parking.</li> <li>The grass is hardly ever cut except for where it is cut for flag football. I can't use Ellis park for my dog to enjoy because the grass is shin deep most of the year.</li> <li>Our concern is the public drinking, urinating, driving thru the parkway and especially the parking which is a very big concern.</li> <li>Please take the time to think of our future. To Jason R I support what you have been doing. Please keep it up our kids.</li> <li>Build outdoor courts ASAP.</li> <li>The constant noise of the grass cutting and leagues going on is annoying can't even relax in my own backyard in peace.</li> <li>Let them play flag football, and cut the grass as Jason Reynolds has been.</li> <li>I have witnessed multiple times adult players from the flag football league urinating on my fence. Its ruining my fence and not to mention public indecency in front of children setting a bad example.</li> <li>Unauthorized events such as setting off fireworks close to my property I have found casings and shells from fireworks that have been set off.</li> <li>Let Jason have the flag league.</li> </ul>

Survey Question	Number of Responses	Summary of Comments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Let the kids play!</li> <li>• This ongoing campaign against Jason Reynolds is avoidable. It should not be happening, the city in my opinion is missing an opportunity to do something great.</li> <li>• I have never ever saw public urination or alcohol usage at Lark Park. I think that is something a neighbor made up because they were not happy with the team playing there for whatever reason. Whether it is ethic related which I think could be part of the problem for some neighbors.</li> <li>• Summer of 2020 sporting events were happening at Lark Park when others were cancelled due to COVID restrictions. People using the field for events should still follow the rules and go through the proper channels so it's fair for everyone.</li> <li>• I do not understand why Lark Park should be cut more often then other fields. Who will pay this fee? Also as much as I support this youth flag football league, I feel that ALL youth leagues should fall under the same guidelines and fees. The real conflict should be unpaid fees and maintaining equity between YOUTH groups. Again as adults we should pay our fees.</li> <li>• Jason has spent a great deal of time &amp; effort with &amp; for the young people &amp; should be commended but he must comply with the liability terms. His picture in the paper also showed his lack of adherence to the sign. City grass cutting &amp; the use of lines on the field might solve one of the problems.</li> <li>• Some trees have been added to the park in recent years. I would like to see more trees added along the trail leading to the playground. Re Grass Cutting: I see damage to trees caused by grass cutting machines. I would suggest there is a policy for the grass cutting companies that no machine comes within one meter of a park tree.</li> <li>• There are plenty of sports fields for teams to use. Keep the park for the residents to utilize.</li> <li>• It's free land. Any Canadian citizen should be free to use a park to do any type of outdoor activity they desire to do.</li> <li>• It's just that simple, cut the darn grass. Period.</li> <li>• I enjoy seeing people use it for sports and recreational, I hope it grows and gets used even more.</li> <li>• I would like to see the municipality plant more trees around the playground equipment. The metal equipment gets hot in the summer, and trees would be great shade to help keep the equipment cool.</li> <li>• Regarding the flag football league that uses it- they do not interfere with other uses of the park. They leave it clean, pick up garbage etc. no issues there.</li> <li>• More playground equipment would be so nice for the kids in the area. We need more trees for shade.</li> <li>• There has been a lot of misinformation about the flag football league that was previously been allowed to happen the public</li> </ul>

Survey Question	Number of Responses	Summary of Comments
		<p>needs to hear. The previous person ran the leagues with no insurance or accountability to the people he supposedly signed up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It would serve the whole of Birdland to have better use of this large green area.</li> <li>• We bought our house here when our children were 5 and 6 years old because of the walkways to the school and the family friendly atmosphere, togetherness.</li> <li>• We have more problems with parking/traffic because of the school nearby. Public urination could be stopped with the installation and maintenance of 2 port a potties. It's a bit short sighted to have sporting events with no facilities available. No alcohol use has been observed- littering of empty cans/bottles or loud drunks. The grass cutting, pre- Covid was sufficient but it has suffered a lapse in maintenance and upkeep lately.</li> <li>• Just let everyone use it and get on with your lives!!</li> <li>• Soccer could be played in the park however the current field is extremely rough and a soccer field has to be maintained extremely well.</li> <li>• More places for parents to sit so they can supervise their kids.</li> <li>• I don't want to see them with no place to play football but perhaps one of the sport fields or even one of the closed school fields could be used they would have ample parking.</li> <li>• In my opinion the park is great as it stands with the exception of the grass not being short enough in the football area.</li> <li>• Park has not been take care of ie. Grass cutting and trimming.</li> <li>• Regarding flag football, I did observe parents sitting way too close during summer of 2020. Needs to be monitored as Pandemic continues.</li> <li>• It's a huge park, with lots of potential. If we can spend millions on Kingston Park. At a fraction of the cost you could make Lark Park a nice place for families and friends to gather, play and be active.</li> <li>• Lark Park should be a leisure park. It's not equipped to be a sports league field. The men that play there are very inconsiderate of the neighbourhood, I've seen them urinate on my neighbours fences repeatedly, they play for hours on end with loud music and hold barbecues right on the other side of my fence. This used to be a peaceful neighbourhood to live in but since they've started playing I feel like I can't enjoy my backyard anymore.</li> <li>• Parks being utilized for anybody to have fun (legally fun) should not be an issue. I pay taxes that allow me to use the park in such a way and it should be looked after by the municipality. As long as the people using the park are not leaving litter everywhere nor defacing the property there shouldn't be an issue.</li> </ul>

Attachment B - Thames Campus Layout

