

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Holton Heights Park Upgrades - 2025 Budget Submission

Hello Councillors,

On behalf of my family and the other young families that are residents in our community I am writing to request the following upgrades to Holton Heights park be included for consideration in the 2025 Oakville Budget Review Process.

1. **Addition of Shade Structures** - at present there are no shade structures available in the park/surrounding area posing a safety hazard to residents using the park during summer temperatures. Shade structures, such as those that have been included in newer parks north of Upper Middle not only provide heat relief to ensure residents can safely enjoy the park, they also provide common space to support community gatherings (picnics, family meet ups etc.)
2. **Splash Pad**- While I understand that Falgarwood Public Outdoor Swimming Pool will be going through upgrades in fiscal 2025 I would like to recommend a splash pad be considered for Holton Heights considering the below factors:
  - a. Demograph in Falgarwood/Holton Heights continues to transition to younger families as it remains a slightly more affordable neighbourhood option for home ownership creating an increased draw on community infrastructure like leisure spaces/parks.
  - b. The next nearest splash pads require crossing major traffic arteries (Upper Middle or Trafalgar) which poses a safety hazard for young children/pedestrian traffic.
  - c. The Falgarwood Public Swimming Pool to my knowledge does not have zero-access entry, thereby limiting the audience of individuals who can safely enjoy the pool (both those with physical disabilities and young children in the infant-preschool/kindergarten age range). Splash pads provide greater accessibility and a safe way for these populations to enjoy the water fun without risk of drowning for populations unable to swim especially in the case when only a single caregiver is available for families with multiple children.

I appreciate you sharing the above with Budget Council for review.

Please let me know if you require any further information or support from the community on this request.

Kind regards,  
Jamie Reddekopp