

# Cranston Public Workshop Summary of Public Input

## Parks and Open Space

### Concerns:

- Maintenance and Condition:
  - Need for better maintenance of current open spaces.
  - Specific areas like Meshanticut Lake need cleaning up.
  - Preservation of trails and ensuring better access to city ponds.

### Opportunities:

- Expansion and Development:
  - More parks and green spaces are desired.
  - Creation of more picnic areas and community gardens.
  - Expansion of trails and connections to existing recreational areas like Sprague Reservoir.

## Community Spaces

### Concerns:

- Limited Availability:
  - Need for more community spaces and gathering spots.
  - Specific call for a library in Ward 3.
  - Better maintenance of existing recreational facilities.

### Opportunities:

- Enhancement and Utilization:
  - Opportunities for more cultural events and community engagement.
  - Utilization of existing spaces for community programs, especially for children.
  - Creation of more green spaces within the community.

## Bike Path

### Concerns:

- Maintenance and Safety:

- Current bike paths need better maintenance and security.
- Safety concerns due to poor lighting and lack of security measures.

**Opportunities:**

- Expansion and Connectivity:
  - Updating and expanding bike paths to connect different parts of the city.
  - Better promotion of existing bike paths to encourage use.

## Historic Preservation

**Concerns:**

- Lack of Awareness and Resources:
  - Preservation of historic buildings and sites needs more focus.
  - Schools are seen as historic landmarks that require preservation and better utilization.

**Opportunities:**

- Promotion and Education:
  - Increased marketing of Cranston's rich cultural heritage.
  - Organizing historical tours and educational programs.
  - Better recognition and celebration of indigenous culture and history.

## Roads and Traffic

**Concerns:**

- Maintenance and Condition:
  - Many roads need better maintenance and repair.
  - Issues with traffic control and poor street lighting.
  - Need for more traffic calming measures.

**Opportunities:**

- Infrastructure Improvement:
  - Enhancing road infrastructure and traffic management.
  - Implementing better lighting and safety measures on poorly lit streets.
  - Preservation and expansion of existing road networks to support growing traffic needs.

## Facilities and Services

### Concerns:

- Accessibility and Maintenance:
  - Existing facilities require better maintenance and accessibility improvements.
  - Specific areas like the Budlong Pool need renovation or replacement.

### Opportunities:

- Development and Enhancement:
  - Creation of new recreational facilities such as dog parks and tracks.
  - Better support and resources for public health facilities.
  - Enhanced emergency services and better communication about their availability.

## Public Transit

### Concerns:

- Limited Availability:
  - Need for better communication of public transportation schedules.
  - Desire for more frequent and reliable public transit services.

### Opportunities:

- System Improvement:
  - Expanding and improving the transit network to better serve the community.
  - Promoting public transportation as a viable option for daily commutes.

## Environmental Sustainability

### Concerns:

- Resource Management:
  - Better stormwater management is required to prevent flooding and maintain cleanliness.
  - Concerns about the degradation of forest land and the impact of invasive species.

### Opportunities:

- Green Initiatives:
  - Promotion of renewable energy and green infrastructure projects.
  - Preservation and conservation efforts to protect natural resources.

- Encouragement of community involvement in sustainability projects.

## Health Care

### Concerns:

- Access and Equity:
  - Issues with the accessibility and availability of health care services.
  - Need for more support and resources for the unhoused population.

### Opportunities:

- Community Health Improvement:
  - Inclusion of diverse languages in health services to cater to all community members.
  - Greater support for public health facilities and programs.
  - Enhancing the overall quality of health care facilities.

## Housing

### Concerns:

- Affordability and Diversity:
  - Lack of affordable and diverse housing options.
  - Issues with housing sprawl and the need for better zoning regulations.

### Opportunities:

- Development and Preservation:
  - Investment in both new and existing housing to provide more options.
  - Promotion of mixed-use developments to prevent sprawl.
  - Support for accessory dwelling units and preservation of existing housing stock.

## Schools and Education

### Concerns:

- Facility Condition:
  - Need for better maintenance and investment in existing schools.
  - Specific call for new educational facilities and resources.

### Opportunities:

- Educational Enhancement:

- Focus on early childhood education centers.
- Providing better resources and support for schools to ensure a comprehensive educational environment.

## Sidewalks and Pedestrian Facilities

### Concerns:

- Maintenance and Condition:
  - Much of the sidewalks need repair.
  - Sidewalks are in poor condition in some areas and need to be fixed or replaced.
- Safety:
  - Improved lighting on sidewalks is necessary to ensure pedestrian safety.
  - Traffic calming measures are needed to make sidewalks safer for pedestrians.
- Accessibility:
  - Difficulties in traveling to some locations due to inadequate pedestrian facilities.
  - Better accessibility for pedestrians, including more and safer crosswalks.

### Opportunities:

- Improvements:
  - Expanding and maintaining sidewalks to ensure they are safe and accessible.
  - Implementing better pedestrian pathways and connections to promote walkability.
  - Encouraging community involvement in maintaining and improving pedestrian facilities.