

Hello, I am a resident of Guelph emailing in support of Councillor Caton's motions on the Parks and Recreation master plan. I think it's so important to make sure every child has a space to play, and that has to begin with and center accessibility in meaningful and measurable ways.

the motions i am in support of are as follows:

1. A minimum of two accessible play options for non-rubberized surface playgrounds, which are independently accessible for people who cannot move across wood chips, be included in all RFP's. "Talking tubes" cannot be considered a full play option.
2. A minimum of one play structure should be wheelchair accessible in all new playgrounds and upgraded playgrounds, regardless of surface type.
3. That an incremental maximum distance in between playgrounds with rubberized surfaces be established to determine accessibility gaps, beginning with 2.5 km for 2024, moving to 1.5 km in 2026.
4. Rubberized surface playgrounds will be selected not solely on distance, but also economic needs of neighbourhoods to further bridge the equity gap between intersections of disability and financial status. Financial needs will have a higher weight metric than distance in playground selection.
5. That staff do public engagement with participation from the AAC on a target goal ratio of rubberized surfaces for playgrounds in Guelph and establish a goal timeline and budget for completion.