



Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee

Date: Monday, June 5, 2006

Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall

Present: Councillor Bill McNulty, Chair
Councillor Harold Steves, Vice-Chair
Councillor Cynthia Chen
Councillor Derek Dang
Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt
Mayor Malcolm Brodie

Absent: Councillor Linda Barnes
Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m.

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION

1. **FEEDBACK ON THE 2005 – 2015 PARKS RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES MASTER PLAN**

(Report: April 19, 2006, File No.: 01-0340-20-CSERI) (REDMS No. 1892899, 1899115, 1682019, 1715667, 1693014, 1780564, 1732161, 1737555)

Cathy Volkering Carlile, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services addressed the Committee and reviewed the guiding principles that support the Master Plan. She drew attention to the Current Facility Summary that comprises 31 facilities, and she reviewed five maps of Richmond featuring: existing PRCS places and spaces; proposed capital projects; and existing and required park open space (attached to these minutes as Schedule 1).

Ms. Volkering Carlile then referred to the Minoru Park Vision, which includes signature entry/gateways, special features and focal points, neighbourhood green links, greenway connects and promenades with special features. This is a long-term vision and its implementation will be phased in over time (attached to these minutes as Schedule 2).

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In reference to a shortage of acres of parkland by the year 2021, and excluding the Garden City Lands, Ms. Volkering Carlile reported that the City would be 485 acres short.

Discussion then took place with the following comments being made:

- the estimated capital cost to complete the Britannia shipyard facility is \$616,000 in 2004 dollars;
- a new Performing and Visual Arts Centre for Richmond would provide a performance hall for specialized uses such as recitals, musical concerts, choral concerts, as well as specialized studios; a facility of this kind would supplement the performance facilities already in the City;
- new facilities have to be adaptable, accessible and affordable and have to meet community needs; they can be gathering places, and can be combined with a retail facility or a residential development; they can include flexible programming space useable by youth and senior groups; all possibilities can be explored;
- staff is working on a City Centre Amenities plan, taking into account the City's population increase;
- an assessment of all City facilities was done and some are in very good shape while others need ongoing maintenance; Council's High Performance Building Policy, adopted in February of 2005, lays the groundwork for achieving sustainability and looking at buildings that are cost efficient; there are energy efficient refits that can be done;
- continued dialogue with the Richmond School Board will be helpful when exploring if schools are going to close and how to deal with community needs in the neighbourhood; the City and the school board can work cooperatively;
- more work has to be done to identify priorities; the Seniors Centre is obsolete and would be at, or near the top, of a priority list; more assessment has to be done to achieve a list of priorities;
- City staff is developing three year service plans for all service areas, and as part of this process it is working closely with youth;
- the City Solicitor is looking at service agreement templates and Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services will bring them forward later this year;
- Riverport is zoned a sports and entertainment area not parkland, with the City owning 20 acres adjacent to the Riverport site.

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The Chair invited members of the public to speak.

Rosemary Nickerson, a member of Richmond Aquatic Service Board and Chair, Richmond Aquatic Users Association, stated that she did not want the aquatic centre at Minoru removed with no replacement in place. Staff advised that a replacement aquatic facility would be built before the current one is removed.

Ms. Sreedevi Kuttamkulangara, a member of the Richmond Museum Society spoke briefly, stating that a Museum's role was to help members of the community visualize not only the community's past, but to help residents visualize their community in the future.

Peter Mitchell, Chair of the City Centre Community Association spoke to the benefits of determining how City facilities could be used by more than one group. Various groups, such as youth groups and seniors groups, can use spaces in a cooperative manner.

Julie Halfnights, Board Member, Thompson Community Association, advised that a partnership with the Richmond School Board was worthy of discussion, but that if the development of a partnership takes too long, the City should move ahead independently. She further advised that schools such as Burnett have performance spaces that are underutilized and that these alternate spaces could fill the gap for performance groups before a Performing Arts Centre is built.

It was moved and seconded

(1) That the 2005 – 2015 Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Master Plan be adopted with the following amendments and recommendations:

- (a) Incorporate an Analysis of Current Facilities into the Places and Spaces (Section 7.4) of the Master Plan.**
- (b) Develop a Facility Evaluation Framework for future facility development to assess how the City will make decisions regarding infrastructure investment and that this be added to Section 7.6 (Facilities and Amenities Recommendations).**
- (c) Reprioritize 2007-2011 Capital Priorities to include the Minoru Place Activity Centre (Section 7.4).**
- (d) Include a reference in the Facilities and Amenities Section (Section 7.4) that there are no plans to replace or eliminate Minoru Arenas in the next decade.**
- (e) When the Garden City Lands Master Planning process begins, bring forward the PRCS Master Plan facility and park priorities for consideration within that process.**
- (f) Incorporate the public feedback and consultation comments into Book 2 of the Master Plan (As outlined in Attachments 3, 4, and 5).**
- (g) Delete any reference to a field house on the Garden City Lands**

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(Section 7.5.)

- (h) Incorporate the results of the Museum Study into the Master Plan report.*
- (2) That staff look at the Places and Spaces chapter of the Master Plan and undertake analysis of priorities and partnerships in relation to facilities and amenities (Section 7.4), and report back to Committee by December 1, 2006; and*
- (3) That subject to the decisions on priorities and amenities in relation to facilities, and secondly the City Centre Amenity Study, that staff proceed with implementation of the Master Plan recommendations and report on the progress to Council once per year.*

CARRIED

OPPOSED: Cllr. Steves opposed to part 1(e).

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded
That the meeting adjourn (8:19 p.m.).

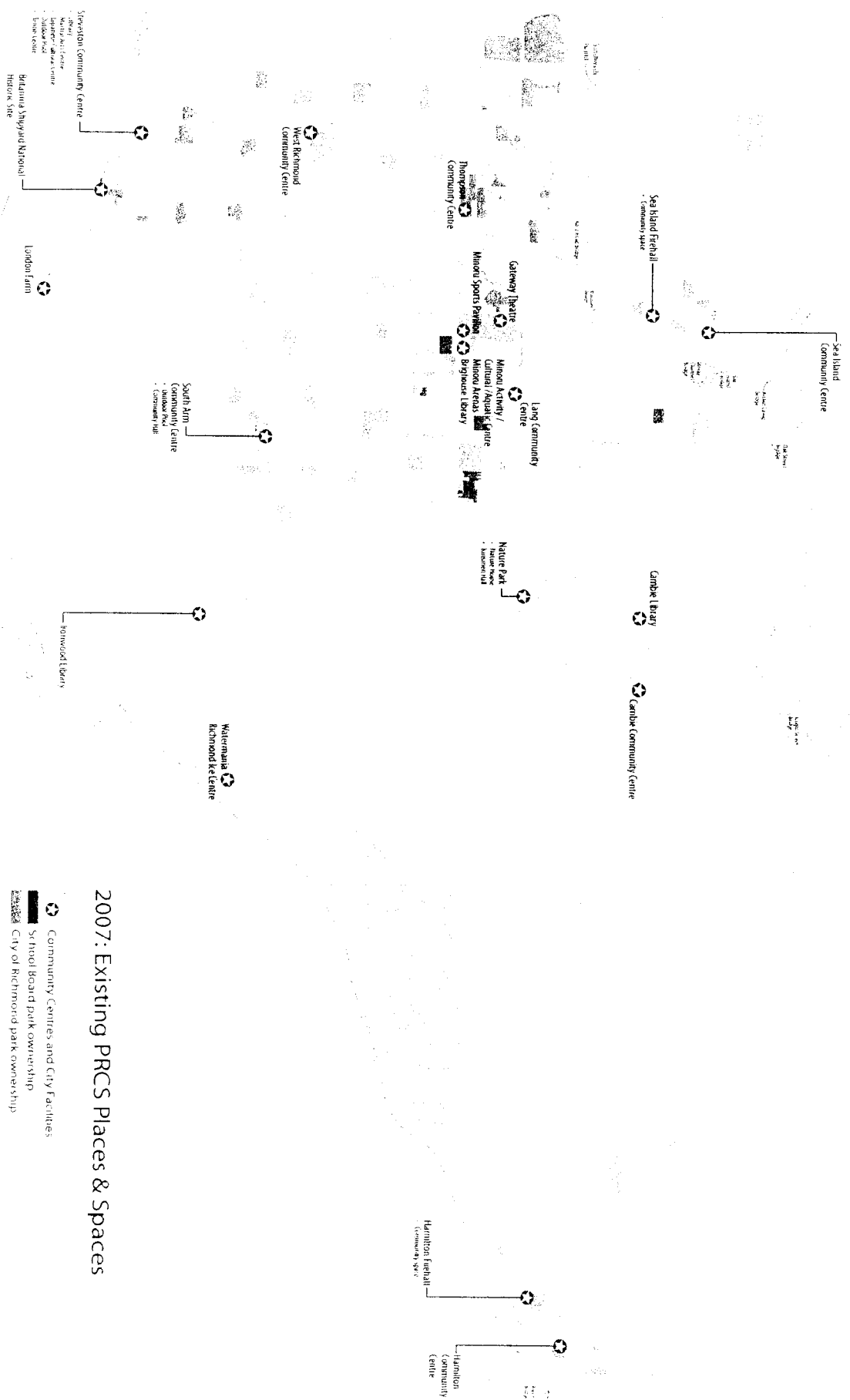
CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Monday, June 5, 2006.

Councillor Bill McNulty
Chair

Sheila Johnston
Committee Clerk

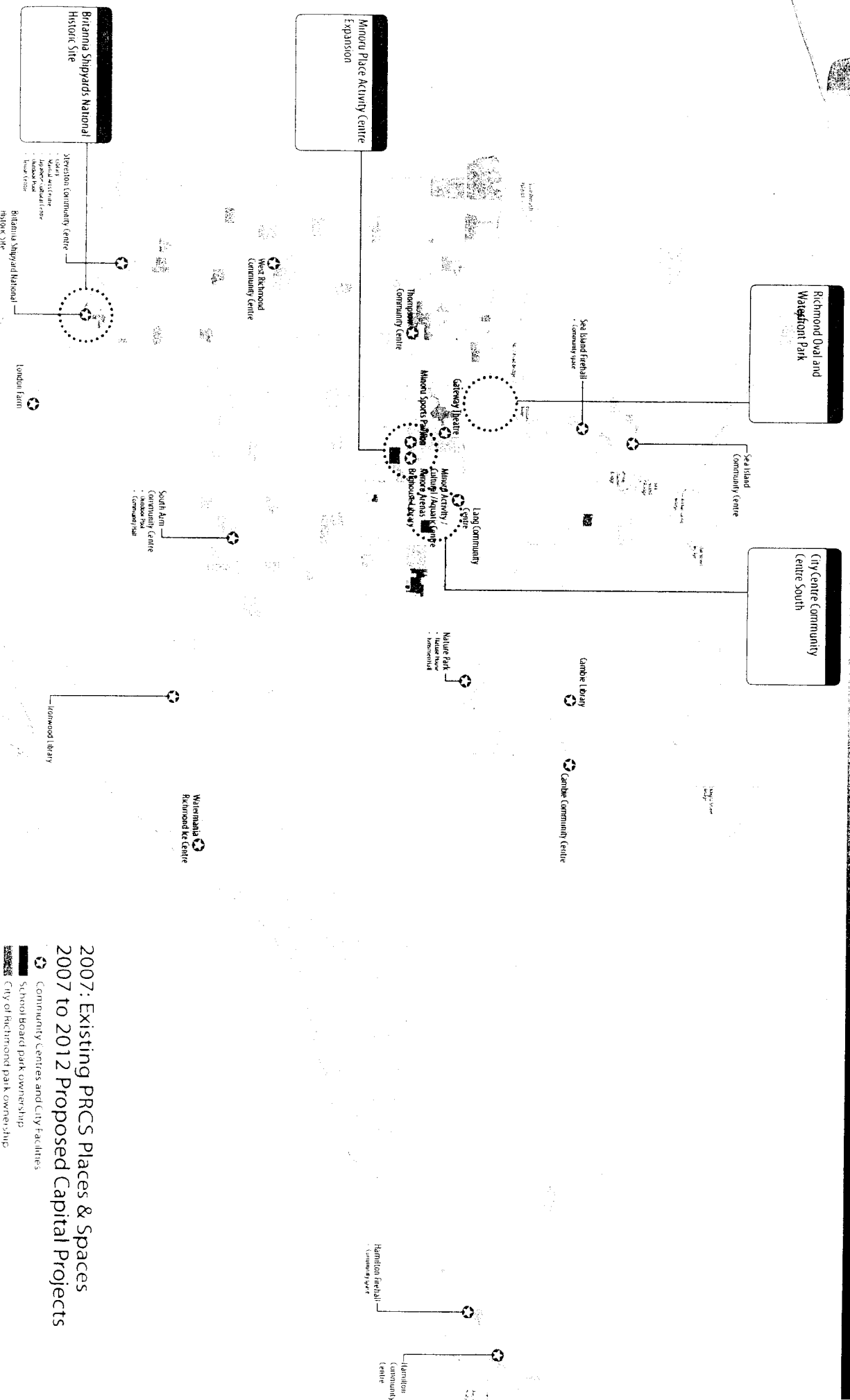
Parks, Recreation and Culture Services Capital Projects 2007 - 2017



2007: Existing PRCS Places & Spaces

- Community Centres and City Facilities
- School Board Park ownership
- City of Richmond park ownership

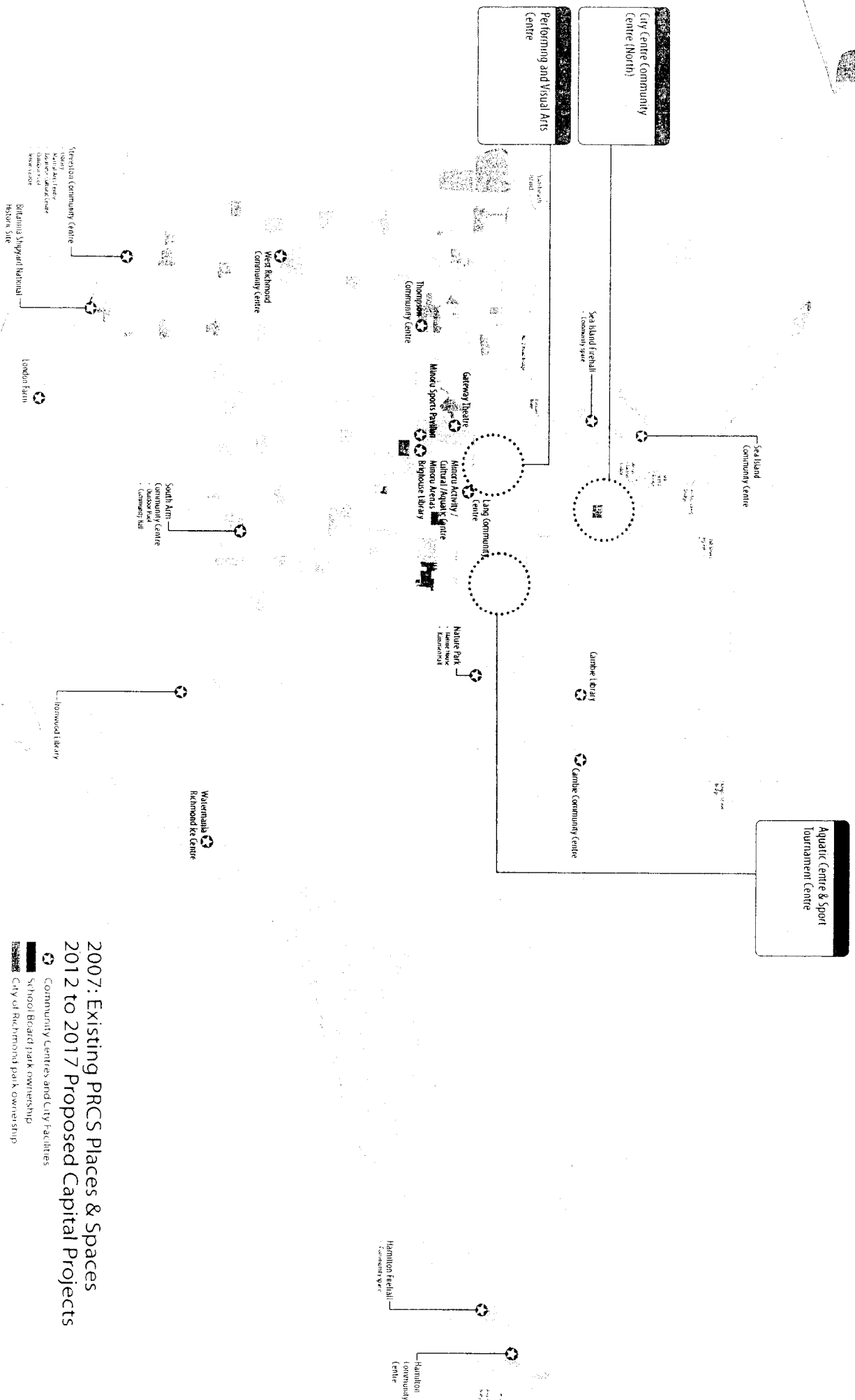
Parks, Recreation and Culture Services Capital Projects 2007 - 2017



2007: Existing PRCS Places & Spaces 2007 to 2012 Proposed Capital Projects

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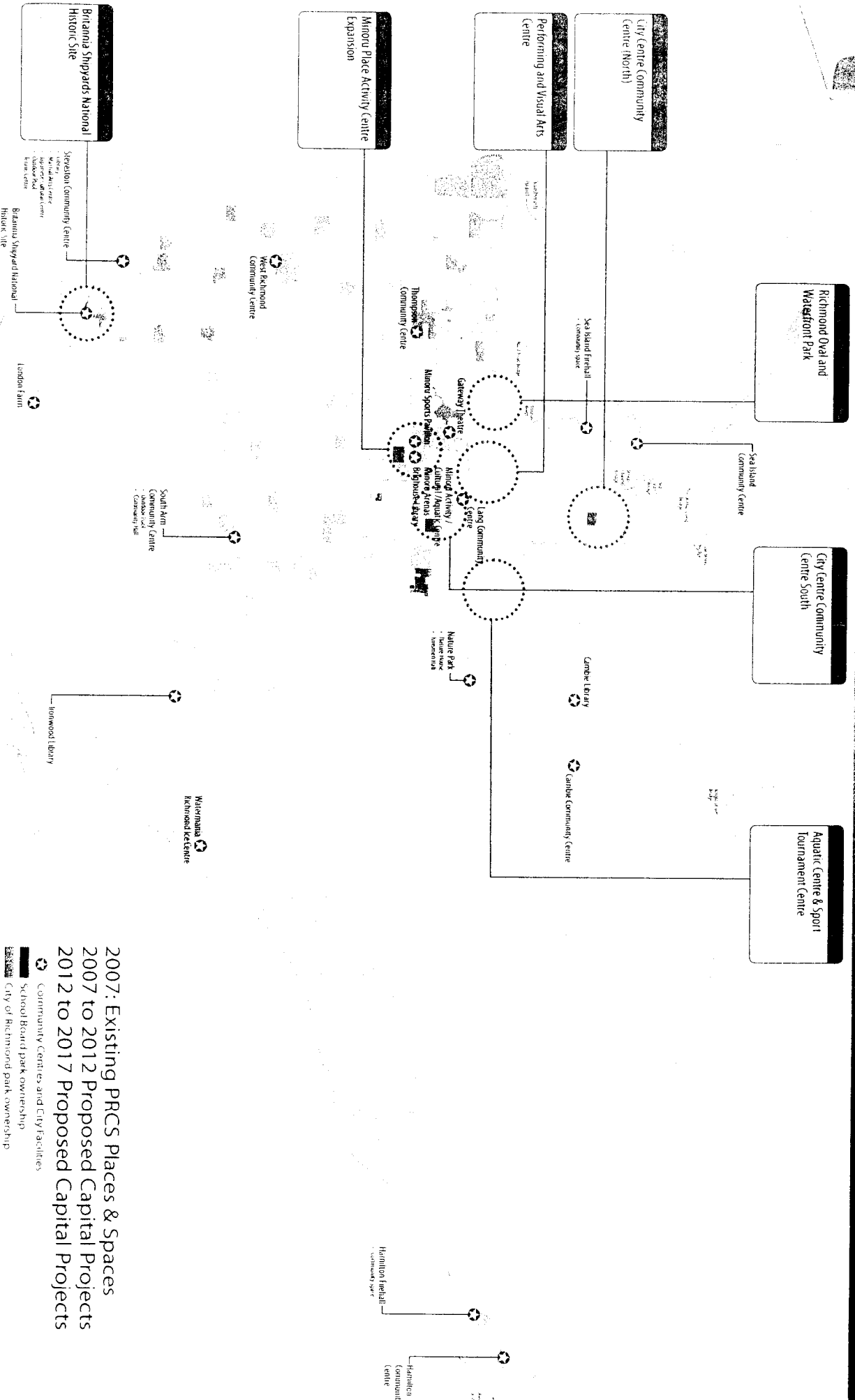
Parks, Recreation and Culture Services Capital Projects 2007 - 2017



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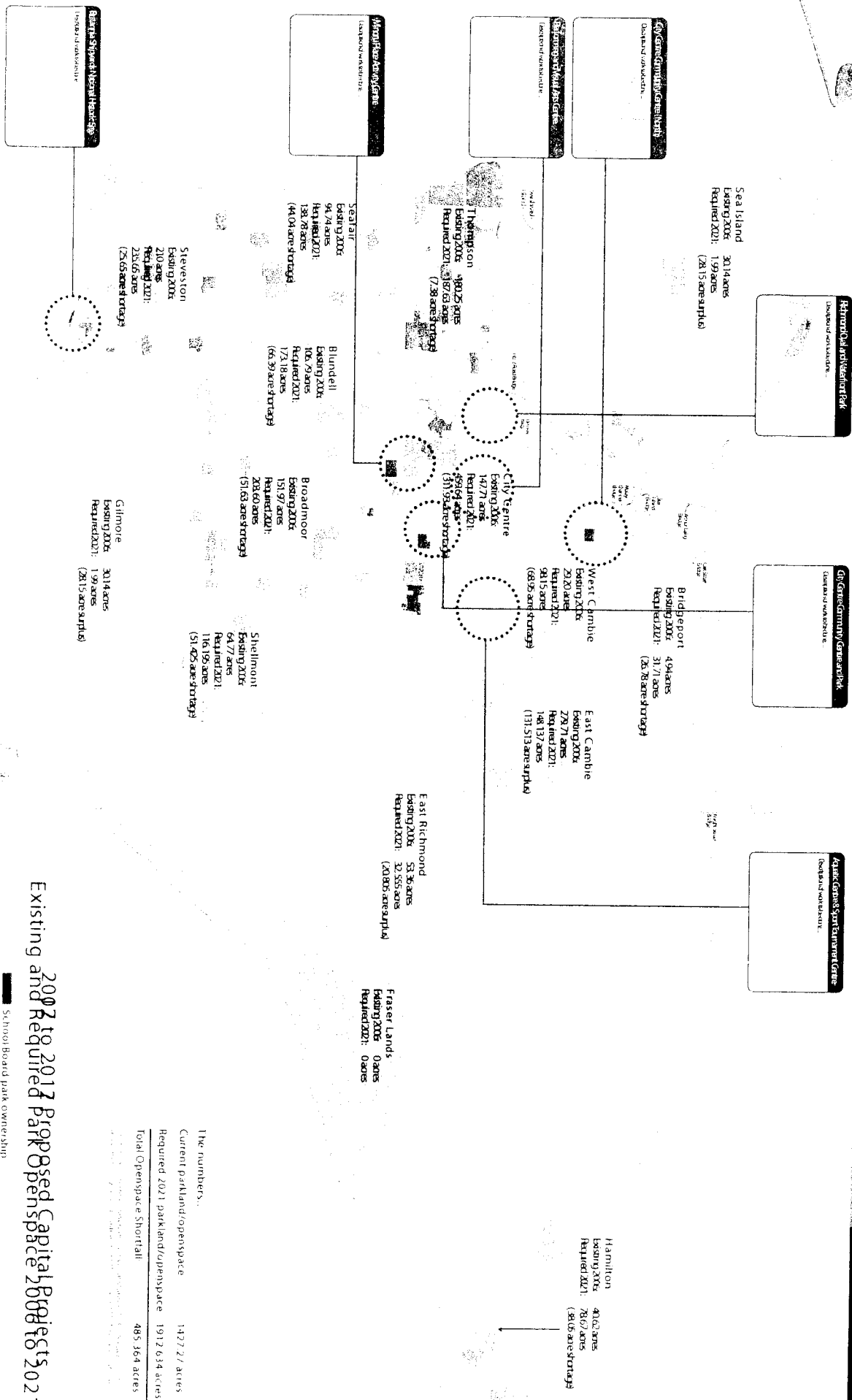
Parks, Recreation and Culture Services Capital Projects 2007 - 2017



2007: Existing PRCS Places & Spaces
 2007 to 2012 Proposed Capital Projects
 2012 to 2017 Proposed Capital Projects

- Community Centres and City Facilities
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Parks, Recreation and Culture Services Capital Projects 2007 - 2017



The numbers...

Current parkland/openspace	1477.77 acres
Required 2021 parkland/openspace	1912.634 acres
Total Openspace Shortfall	485.364 acres

Existing and Required Park Proposed Capital Projects to 2021

█ School Board park ownership
█ City of Richmond park ownership

Guiding Principles

To support this vision and guide future development in the park, the following series Guiding Principles and Development and Design Directives have been created.

1. Respect and build upon the history of the park and site

- Protect the heritage and significant trees;
- Develop an interpretation program;
- Create a 'Festival Lawn';
- Retain high quality sports uses on the south side of the park;
- Work with sports and athletic groups to determine the best long term location for facilities within the park system.

2. Expand the 'green' role and value of the park in the City Centre

- Ensure that Minoru Lakes continues to provide an area of tranquillity and seasonal beauty;
- Develop a Tree and Landscape Management Plan;
- Maximize the openness of the of the park to the street.

3. Establish a unique identity and civic role for Minoru Park

- Create a Civic Cultural /Community Use Precinct within the park;
- Expand arts and culture into the park with festivals, art shows, literary events;
- Develop a comprehensive strategy for placement of recreational facilities in the City Centre to determine their long-term 'fit' in the park.

4. Create strong visual and physical links to the surrounding streets and neighbourhoods.

- Develop a comprehensive pathway system;
- Construct lit high quality north-south and east- west promenades;
- Provide gateways and entry features.

5. Minimize building footprints in the Park

- Focus all new building facilities in the south east corner;
- Connect Minoru Park to City Hall and No. 3 Road;

6. Recognize the role of the park as a local residential neighbourhood park

- Provide open unprogrammed green space;
- Expand the playground to appeal to a wider age range
- Provide more seating and picnic areas;
- Create gathering places.



Develop Tree and Landscape Management Plan



Work with user and athletic groups



Neighbourhood Gathering Areas



Richmond's signature civic culture

Minoru Park Vision



The Vision...

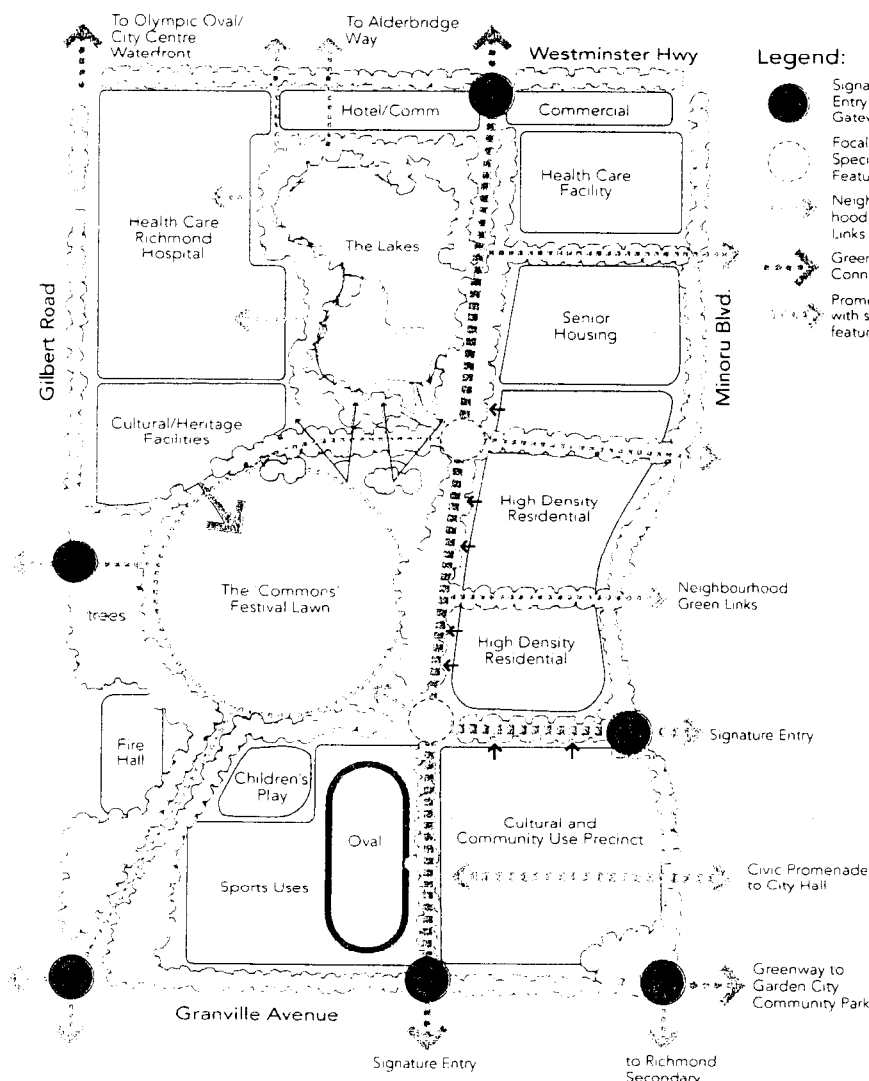
As part of this process a vision statement has been developed that takes into consideration Minoru's history as a social gathering place for the community, the formal and mature landscape, and the many memories that people have for this park as well as the future needs of the City.

The Vision is:

“Minoru Park is a vibrant social and cultural gathering place - a signature civic green space that is the heart and soul of City.”

This is a long-term vision. Its implementation will be phased in over time as opportunities to relocate facilities in other City parks.

Minoru Park Development Framework



Legend:

- Signature Entry / Gateway
- Focal Points / Special Features
- ⋯ Neighbourhood Green Links
- ⋯ Greenway Connections
- ⋯ Promenades with special features



The 'green' spaces



Arts in the Park



Neighbourhood Greenlinks



Festival Lawn - gathering area