



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** General Purposes Committee  
**From:** Serena Lusk  
 General Manager, Community Services  
**Re:** **Minoru Park Vision Plan**

**Date:** February 14, 2018  
**File:** 06-2345-20-MINO1/Vol  
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### Staff Recommendation

1. That the Minoru Park Vision Plan, as detailed in the staff report titled “Minoru Park Vision Plan,” dated February 14, 2018, from the General Manager, Community Services, be adopted.
2. That the Minoru Park Vision Plan, as detailed in the staff report titled “Minoru Park Vision Plan,” dated February 14, 2018, from the General Manager, Community Services, be used to guide the design of future phases of park development and costing for Council consideration.
3. That Council provide direction for the “Special Study Area” for further study and incorporation into the Minoru Park Vision Plan, based on the following options:
  - 1) Green space;
  - 2) Parking;
  - 3) A civic facility with integrated parking;
  - 4) A civic facility with air space used for housing with integrated parking; or
  - 5) Locating a civic facility outside of the “Special Study Area.”

Serena Lusk  
 General Manager, Community Services  
 (604-233-3344)  
 Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
<b>ROUTED TO:</b> Arts, Culture & Heritage Transportation Development Applications Engineering	<b>CONCURRENCE</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">   <hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> </div>
<b>REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT /            AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE</b>	<b>INITIALS:</b> <div style="margin-top: 10px;"> </div>	<b>APPROVED BY CAO</b> <div style="margin-top: 10px;">   <hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> </div>

## Staff Report

### Origin

At the May 8, 2017 Council meeting, the following resolutions were adopted:

1. *That the Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles as detailed in the staff report titled “Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles,” dated April 4, 2017, from the Senior Manager, Parks, be adopted; and*
2. *That the Vision and Guiding Principles as described in the staff report titled “Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles,” dated April 4, 2017, from the Senior Manager, Parks, be used to guide the development of the Minoru Park Vision Plan and that staff bring the Minoru Park Vision Plan to Council for approval at the end of 2017.*

The purpose of this report is to summarize the Minoru Park Vision Plan process to date, describe the resulting Minoru Park Vision Plan, and provide an overview of preliminary near, medium and long-term phasing for guidance in future decision making.

This report supports Council’s 2014-2018 Term Goal #2 A Vibrant, Active, and Connected City:

*Continue the development and implementation of an excellent and accessible system of programs, services, and public spaces that reflect Richmond’s demographics, rich heritage, diverse needs, and unique opportunities, and that facilitate active, caring, and connected communities.*

2.1. *Strong neighbourhoods.*

2.3. *Outstanding places, programs and services that support active living, wellness and a sense of belonging.*

2.4. *Vibrant arts, culture and heritage opportunities.*

This report supports Council’s 2014-2018 Term Goal #3 A Well-Planned Community:

*Adhere to effective planning and growth management practices to maintain and enhance the livability, sustainability and desirability of our City and its neighbourhoods, and to ensure the results match the intentions of our policies and bylaws.*

3.1. *Growth and development that reflects the OCP, and related policies and bylaws.*

3.2. *A strong emphasis on physical and urban design.*

3.3. *Effective transportation and mobility networks.*

This report supports Council's 2014-2018 Term Goal #4 Leadership in Sustainability:

*Continue advancement of the City's sustainability framework and initiatives to improve the short and long term livability of our City, and that maintain Richmond's position as a leader in sustainable programs, practices and innovations.*

4.2. *Innovative projects and initiatives to advance sustainability.*

This report supports Council's 2014-2018 Term Goal #6 Quality Infrastructure Networks:

*Continue diligence towards the development of infrastructure networks that are safe, sustainable, and address the challenges associated with aging systems, population growth, and environmental impact.*

6.1. *Safe and sustainable infrastructure.*

6.2. *Infrastructure is reflective of and keeping pace with community need.*

This report supports Council's 2014-2018 Term Goal #9 A Well-Informed Citizenry:

*Continue to develop and provide programs and services that ensure the Richmond community is well-informed and engaged on City business and decision making.*

9.1. *Understandable, timely, easily accessible public communication.*

9.2. *Effective engagement strategies and tools.*

## **Analysis**

### **Background**

Minoru Park is a highly popular 65 acre recreational and cultural precinct, located in the civic heart of Richmond's City Centre area, offering both local and City-wide services. It supports active sport use, informal community use, and contains a wide variety of facilities such as the:

- Richmond Cultural Centre;
- Richmond Public Library;
- Gateway Theatre;
- Minoru Chapel;
- Minoru Aquatic Centre;
- Minoru Place Activity Centre (Seniors Centre);
- Minoru Centre for Active Living (currently under construction);
- Richmond Lawn Bowling and Richmond Tennis Club facilities; and
- Minoru Arenas.

To date, there has not been a comprehensive masterplan for Minoru Park to guide change and redevelopment. It has evolved incrementally as park infrastructure and civic facilities have been added to the park, or when existing amenities have required upgrades or replacement. In the

absence of a park masterplan, piecemeal park development has resulted in parcelization and discontinuous circulation routes throughout Minoru Park. The Minoru Park Vision Plan process provides an opportunity to consider the park site as a whole and to better unify areas of the park.

### *Planning Context*

Due to its central and highly accessible location within the city centre, Minoru Park plays a key role in addressing objectives and policies of the Official Community Plan, which have been incorporated into the Minoru Park Vision Plan. The Minoru Park Vision Plan will continue to be co-ordinated with planning staff at future design phases to ensure that the Minoru Park Vision Plan responds to current planning directions and new development applications.

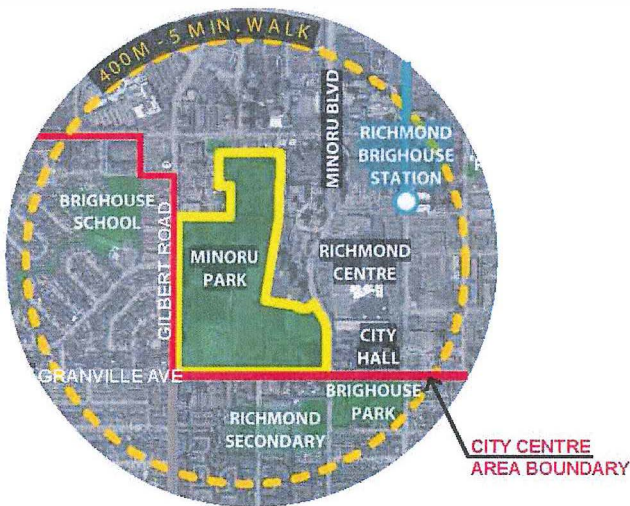
### *Parks and Open Space Strategy*

As per the Parks and Open Space Strategy, Richmond has three park typologies: Neighbourhood, Community and City-wide. Minoru Park is designated as a signature City-wide park and is defined by its special facilities (such as its premier sports fields), unique landscape features (such as the lakes) and cultural amenities (such as Gateway Theatre, Minoru Chapel and the Richmond Cultural Centre).

While it is classified as a City-wide park, Minoru Park also functions as a neighbourhood park for residents living within 400 meters of the park. Neighbourhood parks are locally-serving and equally distributed throughout Richmond (800 meters throughout the City except for the City Centre area where the distribution standard is 400 meters due to high density populations).

There are three other parks located within 400 meters of Minoru Park: Brighthouse Neighbourhood School Park, Richmond High Neighbourhood School Park, and Brighthouse Park, however, they do not provide neighbourhood park level services for residents living near Minoru Park. Brighthouse Neighbourhood School Park services the residents living in the quarter-section bounded by Westminster Highway and Granville Avenue, and No. 2 Road and Gilbert Road. Richmond High Neighbourhood School Park and Brighthouse Park both predominantly provide sport field use, not neighbourhood park level services.

Below is a diagram that illustrates which parks are located within a 400 meter radius of Minoru Park:



In addition to park distribution and service level standards, the following Parks and Open Space Strategy focus areas have informed the development of the Minoru Park Vision Plan:

- Health and Wellness;
- Great Spaces and Experiences;
- Connectivity;
- Green Network;
- Blue Network;
- Diversity and Multi-functionality; and
- Resource Management.

*City Centre Area Population Growth and Increased Density*

From 2011 to 2016, the population in the City Centre area has increased by 25 per cent and has seen the highest density development in Richmond. The current population within a 400 meter radius is approximately 20,000 and is expected to double by 2041. This means that the neighbourhood level park services that Minoru Park offers, need to be larger and more robust as they will continue to service a high number of residents. This has been examined and embedded in the Minoru Park Vision Plan.

*Brighouse Village Urban Development*

In the Brighouse Village neighbourhood, there are numerous recently constructed developments and rezoning applications along both No. 3 Road and Minoru Boulevard, which will change the urban context (transportation, cycling and pedestrian networks, and built form) surrounding Minoru Park. The completed Kiwanis/Carrera development, immediately adjacent to the park, has introduced a “front porch” interface with the park. Other developments in the area, including the potential redevelopment of Richmond Centre will improve connections between Brighouse Station and Minoru Park, and how people access the park. The Minoru Park Vision Plan

incorporates and responds to these and other planned developments as well as urban design moves surrounding the park. Refer to Attachment 1, Section 1.1, Figure 1, page 3, for a Minoru Park Context diagram illustrating planned changes around the park.

There have been preliminary discussions between City of Richmond and Richmond Hospital staff regarding the Hospital Redevelopment project and the potential to improve the interface to the mutual benefit of both the hospital and Minoru Park. There will be further co-ordination as the Richmond Hospital redevelopment project progresses.

#### *Additional Referenced Plans and Strategies*

The following documents have also been considered throughout the Minoru Park Vision Plan process and will continue to be referenced at future phases:

- The City Centre Area Plan;
- Age-Friendly Assessment and Action Plan (January 2015);
- Youth Service Plan;
- Community Wellness Strategy;
- 2015 Community Services Community Needs Assessment; and
- Ecological Network Management Strategy.

#### *Major Recent Changes in Minoru Park*

There have been a number of recent significant changes in Minoru Park which have had impacts on how park users arrive, use, and move through the park. In 2014, the Minoru 2 and Minoru 3 Latrace fields were replaced and relocated, and the cricket pitch was upgraded, shifting active sport uses further north into the park. The Minoru Centre for Active Living, scheduled to open late 2018, will shift this program use to the west from the east side of the park. The Minoru Park Vision Plan process provides an opportunity to respond to and integrate these recent major changes into the overall fabric of the park site.

#### *Issues and Opportunities*

As a result of the aforementioned major changes in and around Minoru Park, in combination with aging park infrastructure, there are a number of principal issues and opportunities that were identified during site analysis and community consultation, which include:

- Aging park infrastructure: such as the lakes, which are rapidly declining and in need of renewal. A capital request to fund the reconstruction of the lakes has been submitted for 2019;
- Connectivity and pathways: which are, in many cases, discontinuous, too narrow and becoming uneven;
- Inadequate park facilities and services: such as the playground, which is too small for the number of families and children that it serves; and
- Potential imbalance between formal and informal park uses.

As previously mentioned, Minoru Park is designated as a signature City-wide park; however, due to its location, and the high number of residents living within walking distance, it also functions as a neighbourhood park. While Minoru Park currently offers a range of park services, it currently lacks neighbourhood level, family-oriented park and recreation services, such as a destination playground, picnic areas, and basketball courts. It also lacks facilities and infrastructure for community-scale programming and events which should be present in a major park serving a high density urban neighbourhood.

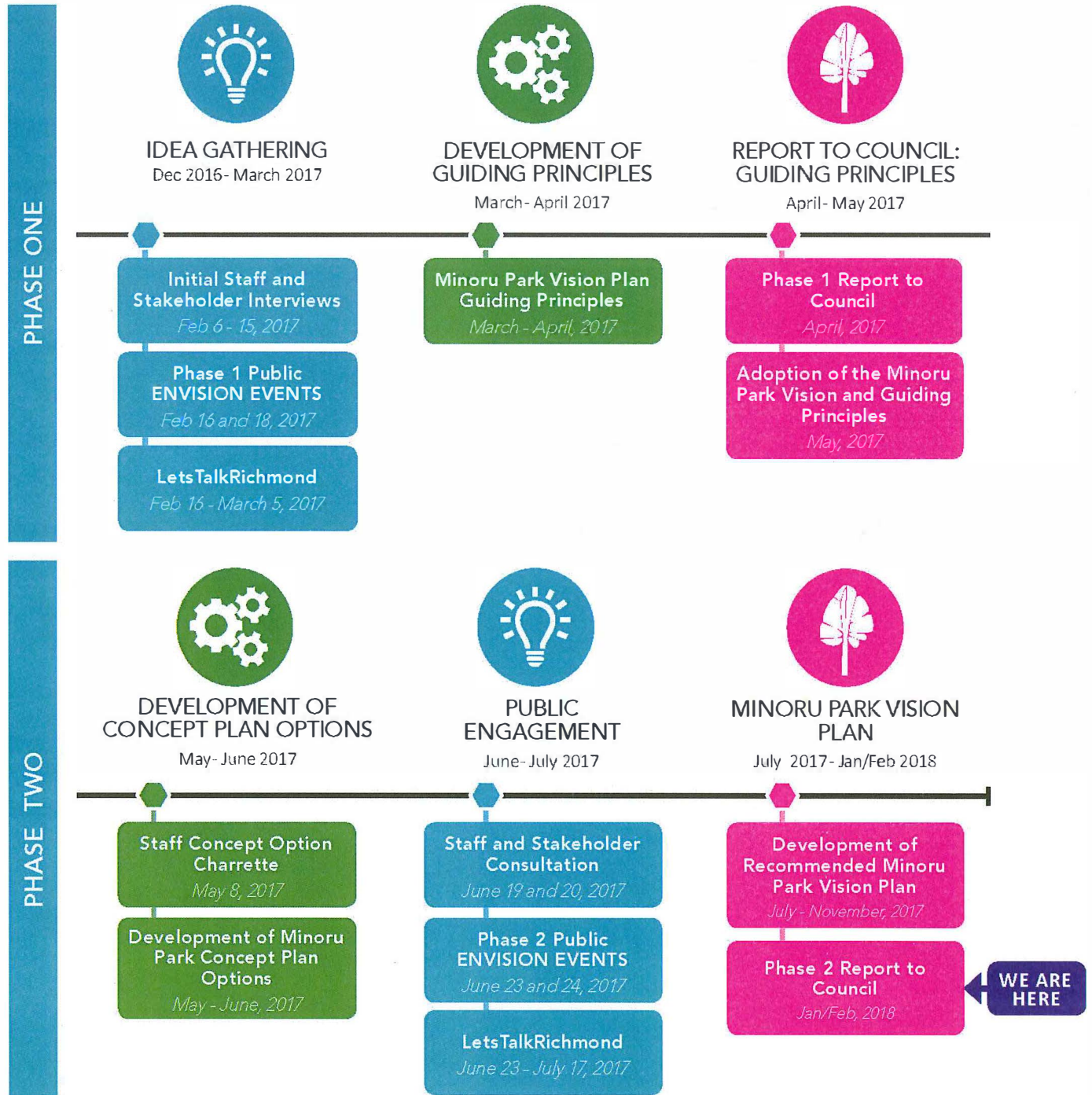
The Minoru Park Vision Plan and process provides an opportunity to take a comprehensive look at all of the aforementioned major shifts, issues, and opportunities in and around the park, and takes a holistic approach towards the future evolution of Minoru Park. More specifically, the Minoru Park Vision Plan provides direction to address the following:

- Expansion of park and recreation services to meet the needs of the rapidly growing nearby population and changing demographics;
- Integration of significant planned transportation, pedestrian and rolling (wheelchair, motorized mobility device, bike, rollerblade, and stroller) connections within the Brighthouse Village neighbourhood, around, and to the park;
- Creation of a cohesive and distinct sense of character and identity for Minoru Park by knitting together all areas of the park;
- Major site issues including aging park infrastructure and inadequate park services which need to be renewed or replaced in the near future; and
- Achievement of a balance between building footprints, active sports fields, parking and drive aisles, with informal park space in order to protect and expand flexible, accessible, neighbourhood level, community-oriented park services as demands continue to increase in the future.

### Minoru Park Vision Plan Process

To date, the Minoru Park Vision Plan process has been organized into two phases, with stakeholder and public engagement being conducted throughout, ensuring a transparent and inclusive process. In addition, City staff were consulted throughout both phases of the process, including staff who are responsible for the operations and maintenance of the park and civic buildings, to understand and address operational needs.

The image below illustrates the various stages in Phase One and Phase Two of the park planning process:





## Phase One:

### Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles

Phase One of the Minoru Park Vision Plan, which was completed in May 2017, focused on gathering staff, community, and stakeholder input on Minoru Park's existing conditions and opportunities for its future renewal. Input received informed the development of the Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles, which were adopted by Council in May 2017. A more detailed description of the Phase One engagement process and results were included in the staff report to Council, titled "Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles," dated April 4, 2017, from the Senior Manager, Parks.

## Phase Two:

### Development of Minoru Park Vision Plan Options

Phase Two of the Minoru Park Vision Plan process, which took place from May to July, 2017, was focused on receiving feedback on vision plan options for Minoru Park towards the development of the final Minoru Park Vision Plan. Two Minoru Park Vision Plan options, titled "Urban Oasis" and "Nature in the City" (Attachment 1, Section 2.2, pages 16-19), were developed based on:

- Site analysis results;
- Phase One staff, stakeholder and community engagement; and
- Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles.

In response to input received during Phase One, both vision plan options incorporate:

- Additional informal park uses;
- Retention of the lakes as a key park feature;
- Protection and enhancement of nature and green park space; and
- An emphasis on community health and wellness, connectivity, and trails.

### *Minoru Park Vision Plan Options: Big Moves and Major Differences*

Due to the limited amount of available unallocated space at Minoru Park, along with a need and desire from the community to increase informal park space and programming, each vision plan option proposes varying strategies for balancing park demands.

A summary of the options detailing the key differences is provided below. Refer to Attachment 1, Section 2.2, page 20, for a diagram illustrating these big moves and key differences.

Urban Oasis shows:

- The lakes reduced in size in order to accommodate additional informal park uses including: a new large playground, fitness loop, picnic area with shelter, and youth pick-up sports.
- The cricket pitch retained as a key park feature.

Nature in the City shows:

- The shape and sizes of the lakes, similar to today.
- The cricket pitch relocated to another park site in order to accommodate additional informal park use including: a new large playground, fitness loop, picnic area with shelter, and youth pick-up sports.

Both options show:

- Options for meeting parking demands without impacting the amount of available park space.
- Introduction of major east-west and north-south separated cycling and pedestrian pathways.

## Community Engagement

### *Stakeholder Workshops*

A series of City staff and stakeholder workshops were held from May to June, 2017, to receive feedback on the Minoru Park Vision Plan options and discuss programming priorities. Thirty seven community groups and organizations were invited to attend, ranging from the Richmond Lawn Bowling Club to the Richmond Centre for Disability. Refer to Attachment 1, Appendix A, for a complete list of invited attendees. The workshops were well attended and participants were keen to share their opinions and ideas.

The stakeholder workshops began with a presentation of the Council adopted Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles and an overview of the process and introduction to the Minoru Park Vision Plan options. Smaller group discussions about programming directions and organization of key elements of the vision plan options were then held. The stakeholder workshops resulted in meaningful input, which informed the development of Minoru Park Vision Plan. Those who were unable to attend were sent questionnaires with the meeting agenda (Attachment 1, Appendix B Agenda and C Survey) via email, and were informed about the upcoming drop-in style public open houses.

### *Public Open Houses*

Two drop-in style public open houses were held in Minoru Park in late June 2017. The first open house took place on Friday, June 23, 2017, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Richmond Cultural Centre Plaza. The second was held on Saturday, June 24, 2017, from 11:00 a.m., to 2:00 p.m. on the north side of the Clement Track. The public open houses were advertised in the Richmond News, Ming Pao newspaper, on social media, on signboards throughout Minoru Park, and posters posted in community centres. Residents living within 400 meters of Minoru Park were mailed invitations to the open houses. Approximately 80 to 100 people attended each open house, and those in attendance were eager to share their opinions on the Minoru Park Vision Plan options presented.

Key background information including the process to date, a summary of the Phase One public engagement results, and resulting Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles were presented on display boards. Attendees were invited to provide input on key aspects of the two Minoru Park

Vision Plan options via surveys (Attachment 1, Appendix C). Representatives from the consultant team and City park planners were available to answer questions.

### *LetsTalkRichmond*

The open houses were supplemented by a webpage on LetsTalkRichmond, the City's online platform. Online versions of the open house boards and survey were posted from Friday, June 23, 2017, until Sunday, July 16, 2017. The LetsTalkRichmond page was promoted on social media, including Facebook and Twitter.

A total of 149 surveys were completed, and valuable feedback was received, which informed the development of the Minoru Park Vision Plan.

### *Community Engagement Results*

The input received via the stakeholder workshops, open houses, and LetsTalkRichmond were compiled, summarized, and digested by the project team. In general, the majority of respondents supported option Nature in the City (66%) over option Urban Oasis (22%), preferring the more organic and natural character that it offered. Participants wanted to see additional informal uses added to Minoru Park in the future, preferring picnic areas (28%), walking loops (25%) and a new destination playground (18%). The majority of respondents (61%) supported the potential relocation of the cricket pitch to another park site in order to make park space available for increased community and family-oriented programming. In terms of circulation and parking, respondents were generally supportive of a future parking structure and the introduction of separated pedestrian and cycling routes to the park.

A broad range of insightful comments were received from the community, including:

*We have enough 'urban' in city centre, Minoru Park should be an escape from that.*

*Given the increasing number of older adults in Richmond who are actively using the park on a regular basis, please ensure paths are well lit, smoothly surfaced and easily accessible to wheelchairs and walking aids.*

For a more detailed summary of the Phase Two community engagement results refer to Attachment 1, Section 2.2, pages 21-22.

### Minoru Park Vision Plan

The Minoru Park Vision Plan, illustrated on the following two pages, is the culmination of a rigorous and iterative design process, informed by all of the input and ideas gathered throughout the process to date, and then applied to the park site. While it is certainly aspirational, the Minoru Park Vision Plan is also pragmatic, achievable, and more than anything, rooted in the needs of the expanding community which it serves. The Minoru Park Vision Plan endeavors to be inclusive and provide something for all ages and abilities, in recognition of the increasingly important role that Minoru Park will play in the health and well-being of local and Richmond-wide residents.

In alignment with the Official Community Plan, the Minoru Park Vision Plan horizon is 2041. Implementation will be phased and based on community priorities, as well as the need to renew aging infrastructure. For a more detailed discussion on phasing, refer to the *Implementation and Next Steps* section of the report on pages 23-27.



\*In the long-term (15-24 years) a proposed parkade (2+ storey, 250+ stalls) would be included. Final location, footprint and height to be determined.

## MINORU PARK VISION PLAN

### LAKES DISTRICT

- 1a **ALDERBRIDGE GATE**
  - attractive urban plaza with inviting lake lookout; and
  - regrading to provide views to the water, seating, high-quality paving, trees, lighting.
- 1b **BOWLING GREEN GATE**
  - updated parking area; and
  - enhanced pedestrian entry with existing trees, strong walkways, signage, and paving.
- 1a **WATER ENTRY POND & WATERFALL**
  - similar location and elevation to existing pond, but with enhanced seating overlook and stone features; and
  - walkway feature wrapping in front to provide views to waterfall.
- 2b **UPPER MINORU LAKE**
  - redeveloped with new lining and circulation system;
  - similar size and layout to existing, with varied seating areas and opportunities to be close to the water; and
  - small central island with bridge access and lookout.
- 2c **LOWER MINORU LAKE**
  - redeveloped with new lining and circulation system;
  - slightly smaller than existing with no island to allow space for an open lawn area at the south that catches the afternoon sun;
  - feature bridge and art elements at the connection between the upper and lower lakes; and
  - open channel overflow to the canal.
- 1b **MINORU LAKES STROLLING GARDENS**
  - interconnected looping pathways with viewpoints and seating areas throughout lakes district;
  - green open space for informal play and picnicking; and
  - improved drainage at wet areas.
- 3 **MINORU LAKE HOUSE & PLAZA**
  - new lake hub featuring restrooms, cafe/concession, and covered seating overlooking the water;
  - existing lawn bowling greens remain;
  - central entry plaza connected to Gollner Avenue; and
  - the location of the replacement lawn bowling clubhouse is the subject of a separate report to Council as part of Major facilities Phase 2 Program.
  - Note: the existing lawn bowling clubhouse is shown on the plan and will be co-ordinated with the final new clubhouse location.
- 1a **CHAPEL (PIERREFONDS) GARDENS**
  - existing gardens with enhanced connectivity to the lakes.
- 1a **GATEWAY ENTRANCE**
  - new connection featuring art elements that guides visitors between the central community hub and the Gateway Theatre; and
  - enhanced existing drop-off and limousine lane enhanced with feature paving, lighting, and existing large trees.
- 1a **GATEWAY PARKING**
  - north parking lot reduced to enhance adjacent park space; and
  - south parking lot expanded to provide a net gain of parking for the area.
- 1a **RENEWED CANAL**
  - enhanced canal banks with regrading/realignment to improve slope and new vegetation;
  - feature seating areas with stone seat steps overlooking canal;
  - more canal crossing points of varied scales, from feature bridges to smaller, unique crossings; and
  - interpretive components about canal function at inlet/outlet points.
- 1b **FUTURE EAST GATEWAY**
  - new plaza created during future neighbourhood redevelopment; and
  - integrated with canal.

### ACTIVE LIVING DISTRICT

- 6c **CENTRAL COMMUNITY HUB**
  - feature plaza with washrooms, varied seating, art features, casual gathering space, and wayfinding;
  - close proximity to the adventure playground, picnic zone, athletic fields, and fitness loop; and
  - potential small concession or coffee shop.
- 6c **YOUTH ZONE**
  - basketball, skateboard, and table activities, casual seating, and covered spaces integrated with central community hub.
- 6c **THE FAMILY/GROUP PICNIC ZONE**
  - large lawn areas with amenities for group or individual picnics;
  - multiple covered picnic spaces and unique seating areas that are adaptable to large gatherings and smaller casual use; and
  - open lawn space for informal recreation and play.
- 6d **FITNESS LOOP (WELLNESS WALK)**
  - workout stations placed along a looped pathway network with distance markers.
- 6c **ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND**
  - variety of exploratory features that encourage discovery, creativity, and fun; and
  - potential for large feature sculpture.
- 7 **SHADE GROVE**
  - existing mature trees with winding pathways and picnic tables; and
  - potential for heritage tree interpretation.
- 7 **ACTIVE LIVING HUB**
  - small building with restrooms, storage, caretaker's facility;
  - existing high jump re-oriented to improve circulation;
  - new tree areas with seating and art features; and
  - potential small covered area for stretching, seating.
- 1a **TENNIS COURTS**
  - existing public tennis courts and Richmond Tennis Club to remain.
- 6c **WEST PARKING**
  - existing parking to remain in the near-to medium-term with improved egress to Gilbert Road.
- 1a **CLEMENT TRACK AREA**
  - existing track and artificial turf field to remain;
  - enhanced perimeter including strengthened pathway connections, decorative fencing, and trees; and
  - grandstand enhancements through art elements or long-term replacement.

### ARTS & CULTURE DISTRICT

- 1a **EAST GATE**
  - inviting multi-use major park entry with tree allée, art elements, rolling/walking route; and
  - existing parking relocated, service access only, "back of house" arena activities improved/screened to enhance park entry experience.
- 1a **PEDESTRIAN & ART ALLEY**
  - lane closed to vehicle traffic and space transformed to walking/rolling lane with art features.
- 1a **ARTS & CULTURE HUB**
  - redeveloped plaza with enhanced paving, seating, lighting, and arts components; and
  - supports events at the covered activity space.
- 1a **ARTS & CULTURE COVERED ACTIVITY SPACE**
  - covered stage with sound and power, oriented for use on all sides; and
  - designed for hosting a range of event sizes from large community events and festivals to outdoor classes and activities.
- 1a **GRANVILLE GATE**
  - inviting and intriguing entry from Granville Avenue; and
  - plaza space with seating in and around existing trees.
- 1a **SPECIAL STUDY AREA**
  - redevelopment of the existing Minoru Aquatics Centre and Minoru Place Activity Centre sites to be determined.
  - Options being considered include:
    - flexible green park space;
    - a civic facility with integrated parking; or
    - a civic facility with air space above used for housing with integrated parking.
- 1a **FUTURE PARKING LOOP**
  - long-term conversion to drop-off/pick-up loop with short-term parking areas;
  - bus turn-around and parking; and
  - central median with circulation and potential stormwater functions.
- 1a **GRANVILLE ART WALK**
  - widened walkway adjacent to Granville Avenue;
  - welcoming park edge, trees, art display areas; and
  - connections with the larger civic precinct art walk.

### *Key Objectives*

The primary objectives of the Minoru Park Vision Plan, which are based on the Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles, are to:

- Safeguard, enhance, and expand green and informal park space in recognition of the critical role that access to nature and the outdoors plays in the health and well-being of Richmond residents, in particular residents who live near Minoru Park in high-density housing who have limited access to outdoor space;
- Increase the range of park services in response to:
  - Community feedback;
  - The growing and shifting surrounding community; and
  - Recognition that Minoru Park needs to fulfill neighbourhood and community-level park services, while at the same time operating as a signature City-wide park;
- Balance building footprints, active sports fields, parking, and drive aisles with flexible, accessible, community-oriented open green park space, as it relates to the previous two objectives;
- Renew, but retain the lakes as a central park feature, similar in size and character as they are today while providing increased opportunities to be close to the water's edge, improving function and environmental benefits, and reducing maintenance requirements;
- Provide amenities that support and strengthen the function of existing park facilities and uses;
- Unite the areas of the park together with a safe, well-connected, comfortable, and accessible pathway network designed for users of all ages and abilities; and
- Respond to and integrate significant planned transportation, pedestrian and rolling connections within the Brighthouse Village neighbourhood around and to the park.

### *Framework*

The Minoru Park Vision Plan is organized around the park's existing dominant uses and activities, formalizing them into three major districts: the Lakes District, the Active Living District and the Arts and Culture District (Attachment 1, Section 4.3, pages 32-36). This framework will guide future design decisions so that new facilities, programming, and park renewal will support the intended functions and goals of these districts.

**The Lakes District**, located on the northern portion of the site, is envisioned to be a place of tranquility and respite where residents can quietly stroll or rest and connect with nature. This area will provide environmental benefits and add significantly to Richmond's ecological network. This area also encompasses Gateway Theatre, which will be integrated into the garden-like landscapes and strolling pathways in this area, encouraging theatre visitors to explore the park and park users to visit the theatre.

Future district energy utility expansion is anticipated to occur within the Lakes District. Staff will work together to ensure that any future utilities added will be well integrated.

**The Active Living District**, located in the centre of the park, is envisioned to be a hub of sports and activity where residents are inspired to get outside and get moving. The existing sports

facilities will be supported by gathering and field outlook areas for “between-the-game” activities, as well as additional informal uses, which are detailed in the next section *Primary Features*.

**The Arts and Culture District**, in the southeast area of the park, is envisioned to become an exciting and colourful hub of community cultural events and art displays. It will be a place where community talent is showcased, and local residents are inspired to get creative and participate in artful expression. It will continue to host events such as the Children’s Art Festival while celebrating and amplifying the function of the Cultural Centre. The design of the surrounding spaces and infrastructure (e.g., a dedicated, covered performance/event space) will allow for expansion of the range and frequency of programs and events.

### *Primary Features*

Based on the aforementioned key objectives, the main elements of the Minoru Park Vision Plan are:

- Protection and celebration of the site’s significant and heritage trees, including the remnant Oaks from the historic Minoru Race Track, as well as additional tree planting along major pathways and around major park features providing shade and comfort for park users, and nesting opportunities and food sources for local songbird species.
- A family-oriented “Central Community Hub” (Attachment 1, Section 5.5, page 55) with additional informal park uses, including:
  - A destination playground;
  - Two full-sized basketball courts and youth hub for pick-up style sports;
  - Varied picnic spaces ranging from casual picnic lawn areas to a large covered paved space which can be booked for large family and group gatherings;
  - Flex lawn for pick-up sports and informal sport practice; and
  - A wellness walk with outdoor exercise stations located along it.
- The lakes, which will be retained as a central park feature and a place for quiet reflection, contemplation and connection with nature; but redeveloped to be more robust, sustainable and functional (Attachment 1, Section 5.4, page 48). A long-term goal is to develop the lakes to be a largely self-sustaining system requiring minimal municipal water supply. Opportunities for rainwater captured from areas within Minoru Park and adjacent sites will be explored at future project phases.
- Three community hub buildings, one located in each district, providing basic amenities including washrooms, food concessions, and covered outdoor space for informal gatherings, tai chi, dance or other activities.
- A safe, connected, accessible and comfortable pathway network with designated bike and motorized mobility device routes, pedestrian-only routes, as well as lighting along select pathways that respond to new planned major connections surrounding Minoru Park (Attachment 1, Section 5.7, pages 67-75). During future project phases, pathways will be designed with all ages and abilities in mind.



### *Meeting Growing Demands for Park Space and Services*

As previously mentioned, Minoru Park currently contains multiple existing civic, arts and culture, and active sport facilities that offer a broad range of services for the Richmond community and park stakeholder groups. In order to accommodate a greater number of people, expand the range of neighbourhood-level and City-wide park services, the Minoru Park Vision Plan proposes the following strategies:

#### *1. Relocation of the Cricket Pitch After 10 Years*

The cricket pitch occupies 3 acres, or 4.6%, of the Minoru Park site and is used by 22 players at a time, in addition to spectators, from April until September. The cricket pitch is typically used 5-7 hours per day on Saturdays and Sundays, which are prime days and seasons for park use.

The Minoru Park Vision Plan proposes that in the medium term (10-15 years), the cricket pitch be relocated to another park site in order to accommodate the aforementioned “Central Community Hub,” or place to spend the day, in its place. City staff have had preliminary discussions with the Richmond Cricket Club and have identified park sites that can accommodate a cricket pitch. Should relocation of the cricket pitch move forward to detailed design, City staff will continue to work with the Richmond Cricket Club to identify a suitable park site which meets the club’s functional requirements.

#### *2. Special Study Area - Existing Minoru Aquatics and Minoru Place Activity Centre Sites*

There are multiple options currently being considered for the future treatment of the existing Minoru Aquatics Centre and Minoru Place Activity Centre sites, which are referred to as the “Special Study Area” on the Vision Plan.

All of these options assume that in the short term (0-10 years) the Minoru Place Activity Centre building will be reused for community education and arts space. As per the staff report titled, “Minoru Place Activity Centre Reuse Options”, dated October 31, 2017, from the Interim Director of Parks and Recreation, the re-use would result in a requirement for 44 additional parking stalls presently not accounted for in the Minoru Park Vision Plan. The additional parking stalls could be provided within the Special Study Area or accommodated through parking management strategies. For example, the 49 stalls located around the City Hall Annex that are currently reserved for City staff could be made available during peak periods (weekends and weekdays between 5 pm to 7 am) to staff who work at the facilities located in Minoru Park, in order to free up stalls within the park for park and facility users.

One of the key principles for all of the following options is that there will be no net loss of parking stalls and that any additional parking requirements created by a future use would require inclusion of additional parking capacity. More specifically, all of the options assume that the existing parking located in the Special Study Area will be retained and should any of those stalls be impacted, the equivalent number of stalls shall be provided within the park site. Should a future use of the Special Study Area result in increased parking demands then the additional required parking stalls will be provided above and beyond the post Minoru Centre for Active Living construction completion parking stall numbers. Furthermore, the existing surface

parking stalls located within the Special Study Area will be retained until there is a decision made to change the use of this area.

The options currently being considered for the Special Study Area include:

*Option 1: Green Space*

This option would provide flexible green park space that supports community-oriented events associated with the Arts and Culture District as well as day-to-day informal park use and connections. It could also provide an opportunity to regain park space occupied by the footprint of the Minoru Centre for Active Living. Should any of the existing parking stalls be displaced by this option, then replacement parking will be provided within the park site.

Considerations:

- Lowest cost of the five options provided;
- Minimal planning and co-ordination required;
- Minimal operating budget impact as it would offset the park space occupied by the Minoru Centre for Active Living;
- Increase in area of flexible space to augment outdoor event use in the Arts and Culture District;
- Address the Vision Plan objective to safeguard and expand informal park space in recognition of the critical role that access to nature and the outdoors plays in the health and well-being of Richmond residents;
- Potential to retain all existing trees;
- Provide an increase in green, park frontage along Granville Avenue; and

*Option 2: Parking*

In addition to the existing parking stalls located in the Special Study Area, this option could provide 90-125 stalls of interim (0-15 years) surface parking and/or a long term (15-24 years) 2+ storey parkade that would provide in the range of 250+ stalls as discussed in the following section (3-b, page 21).

The existing parkade located between Minoru Arenas and the Richmond Cultural Centre is 16 years old and is not currently identified for replacement, however, its replacement could be considered in the future.

Considerations:

- Both surface parking and a parkade represent the second lowest cost of the five options provided;
- Some planning and co-ordination are required;
- Surface parking would result in minimal impact to the operating budget;
- A parkade would result in a larger impact to the operating budget, which would be determined by and co-ordinated with Facilities staff;

- Both parking options would likely result in the removal of up to 12 existing trees on the Minoru Aquatic Centre site, and potentially additional trees on the Minoru Place Activity Centre site; and
- A parkade in this location would impact sightlines into the park and take away from the natural environment within the Arts and Culture District.

*Option 3: A Civic Facility with Integrated Parking*

As per the staff report, titled “Minoru Place Activity Centre Reuse Options,” dated October 31, 2017, from the Interim Director, Parks and Recreation, a planning process is proposed to commence in 2019 to examine the possibilities for future civic facilities in Minoru Park. The Vision Plan assumes that if a civic facility is added at Minoru Park, parking would be integrated into the footprint of the building. Any existing parking stalls that may be displaced as a result of the civic facility being added would need to be replaced.

Considerations:

- Third highest cost of the five options provided;
- Significant amount of planning and co-ordination required;
- Result in a high number of tree removals;
- Added demands on/for infrastructure, such as power and water supply, as well as storm and sewer lines;
- Operation and staffing costs for the facility would be considerable;
- Impact sightlines into the park;
- Contribute to an urban environment within the Arts and Culture District; and
- Depending on the civic facility programming, enhance and activate the Arts and Culture District.

*Option 4: A Civic Facility with Air Space Used For Housing with Integrated Parking*

A variation of Option 3 is for the air parcel above the civic facility to be developed as either market or non-market housing.

Previous studies on the viability of housing located in Minoru Park revealed that:

- Seniors affordable or subsidized housing can only be achieved at a cost to the City or other supporting agency.
- Potential revenue from the lease or sale of air space for market housing would result in relatively low financial gain based on previous studies.

It is worth noting that the Minoru Park Vision Plan assumes that the required parking stalls associated with the civic and market /non-market housing developments would be incorporated into the footprint of the mixed-use building. Any existing parking stalls that may be displaced as a result of the civic and market /non-market housing developments being added would need to be replaced.

Considerations:

- Second highest cost of the five options provided;
- High amount of planning and co-ordination required;

- Would result in a high number of tree removals;
- Significant increased demands on/for infrastructure, such as power and water supply, as well as storm and sewer lines;
- Operation and staffing costs for the civic facility would be considerable;
- Would greatly impact sightlines into the park and contribute to a highly urban environment within the Arts and Culture District;
- Housing development would increase the number of residents and subsequently increase the demand for green, park space; and
- Could result in significant shadows which would affect the Richmond Cultural Centre and plaza.

*Option 5: Locate a Civic Facility Outside of the Special Study Area*

The potential to locate a civic facility with or without housing outside of the Special Study Area, but still within Minoru Park, could be combined with Option 1 or 2. As with Option 3 and 4, it is assumed that the required parking stalls associated with the civic, and potential housing, developments would be incorporated into the footprint of the building. While this option would require a considerable amount of further study and planning, the site of the existing parkade has great potential to accommodate such a facility while minimizing impacts to the amount of available park space. Any existing parking stalls that may be displaced as a result of the civic and market/non-market housing developments being added would need to be replaced.

Considerations:

- Highest cost of the five options provided;
- Highest amount of planning and co-ordination required;
- Significant increased demands on/for infrastructure, such as power and water supply, as well as storm and sewer lines;
- Housing development would increase the number of residents and subsequently increase the demand for green, park space; and
- Operation and staffing costs for the civic facility would be considerable.

Understanding Council's priority for this area will assist staff in further studying and planning how it fits into the context of the larger park site. Staff are requesting that Council identify a preferred option to be incorporated into the overall Minoru Park Vision Plan.

### *3. More Efficient Parking*

Surface parking and drive aisles currently occupy 10 acres, or 15%, of the Minoru Park site. The Minoru Park Vision Plan explores strategies for supplying an adequate amount of parking, without impacting the available space for increased informal park services in the future, while also enhancing pedestrian and roller connections and safety.

Conceptual parking and traffic plans were developed and incorporated into the Minoru Park Vision Plan, however, parking requirements will continue to be monitored and the Minoru Park Vision Plan will be updated accordingly. If the Minoru Park Vision Plan is adopted by Council,

further, more detailed design of the parking layouts would need to be developed and reviewed by City staff, stakeholders and Council.

*a. Parking Design Principles*

To develop good parking design that follows best management practices, the following principles were considered in the parking design for the Minoru Park Vision Plan:

- Provision of walkways and crossings to channel pedestrians safely away from circulating traffic and enhance their visibility and security;
- Drive aisles parallel to pedestrian desire lines;
- Provide raised parking islands when possible to facilitate sight distances and turning movements;
- Provide adequate road geometry, stall sizes and aisle dimensions;
- Separate circulating vehicles from parking vehicles; and
- Provide clear traffic control (e.g., stop signs) and way-finding signage.

*b. Potential Parkade*

A potential 2+ storey parkade that would provide in the range of 250+ stalls in the long-term future (15-24 years) located in Minoru Park is envisioned to:

- Accommodate parking in the long-term (15-24 years) that is displaced by significantly improving the safety of pedestrians and rollers, and overall environment on the north side of the arenas and existing parkade, transforming this area from the back-of-house, to a major park entry experience; and
- Potentially allow for the expansion of space for park purposes, and arts and culture programming.

*c. Parking Management*

Parking management strategies (e.g., to allocate parking and/or to charge for parking) could optimize the use of the space provided, while working to ensure spaces are available for park users. Parking management plans are beyond the scope of work of this phase of the project due to the high-level nature of the Minoru Park Vision Plan. Preliminary parking management strategies as listed below have been considered, and will be further discussed with City staff and stakeholders, and developed in future phases of the project.

Preliminary parking management strategies which will be further explored include:

- Increased drop-off areas;
- Site-wide time limits;
- Increased accessible parking stalls;
- HOV priority parking;
- Increased monitoring and penalties;
- Potential overflow parking sites during peak times and events; and
- Exploration of pay parking throughout the park.

*d. Parking Supply Numbers*

Prior to the parking and traffic plans developed as part of the Minoru Park Vision Plan process, a parking study was conducted as part of the Minoru Centre for Active Living project. The results of that study recommend that an additional 77-112 stalls be added to the park site in response to anticipated increase in demand created by the new facility. The Minoru Centre for Active Living parking design provides approximately 116 additional parking stalls to the existing parking supply and has been incorporated into the Vision Plan. When combined with the proposed 17 stalls to be added to the parking at Gateway Theatre, there will be a provision of approximately 133 additional stalls in the near to medium term. In the long-term (15-24 years), the Vision Plan provides approximately 200+ additional stalls.

The existing parking in the Special Study Area will be retained until there is a decision to change use of the area. Any future use would accommodate that existing parking supply to ensure no loss of overall parking capacity in Minoru Park. Any additional parking requirements created by a future use would require inclusion of additional parking capacity.

	<b>Additional Stalls</b> (from existing)	<b>Total</b> (overall site)
<b>Existing Parking Supply</b> Number of parking stalls at Minoru Park prior to commencement of MCAL construction	N/A	942
<b>Near to Medium-term Parking Supply</b> This includes the additional stalls to be constructed for MCAL and proposed expanded Gateway Theatre parking	133	1,075

\*MCAL refers to the Minoru Centre for Active Living

In the long-term (15-24 years), improved pedestrian and rolling connections, and expansion of park space in support of the Arts and Culture District (as illustrated in Attachment 1, Section 5.6, pages 62 and 63, and Section 5.7, pages 68-73) include:

- Transformation of the area on the north side of Minoru Arenas into a major park entry with a tree-lined multi-use pathway;
- Improved pedestrian safety and vehicular circulation on the south side Minoru Arenas and the existing parkade through creation of a one-way loop with parallel parking, bus and vehicle drop-off areas, and an east-west tree-lined pedestrian connection;
- Enhancement of the pedestrian connection located on the south side of Clement Track , including path widening, trees, planting and benches in order to provide an accessible and age-friendly connection between the Minoru Centre for Active Living and Richmond Cultural Centre; and
- Expansion of the plaza on the south side of the Richmond Cultural Centre in support of arts and culture programming and events.

The improvements listed on the previous page result in the displacement of approximately 175 existing parking stalls, which will be replaced by a potential future parkade. It is proposed that the parkade provide in the range of 250+ stalls, resulting in an overall net gain of approximately 75+ stalls or a site-wide total of 1,150+ stalls. If introduction of a new parkade to Minoru Park should move forward in to detailed design, a current traffic and parking study would be undertaken to ensure that the parking stall numbers reflect current demands.

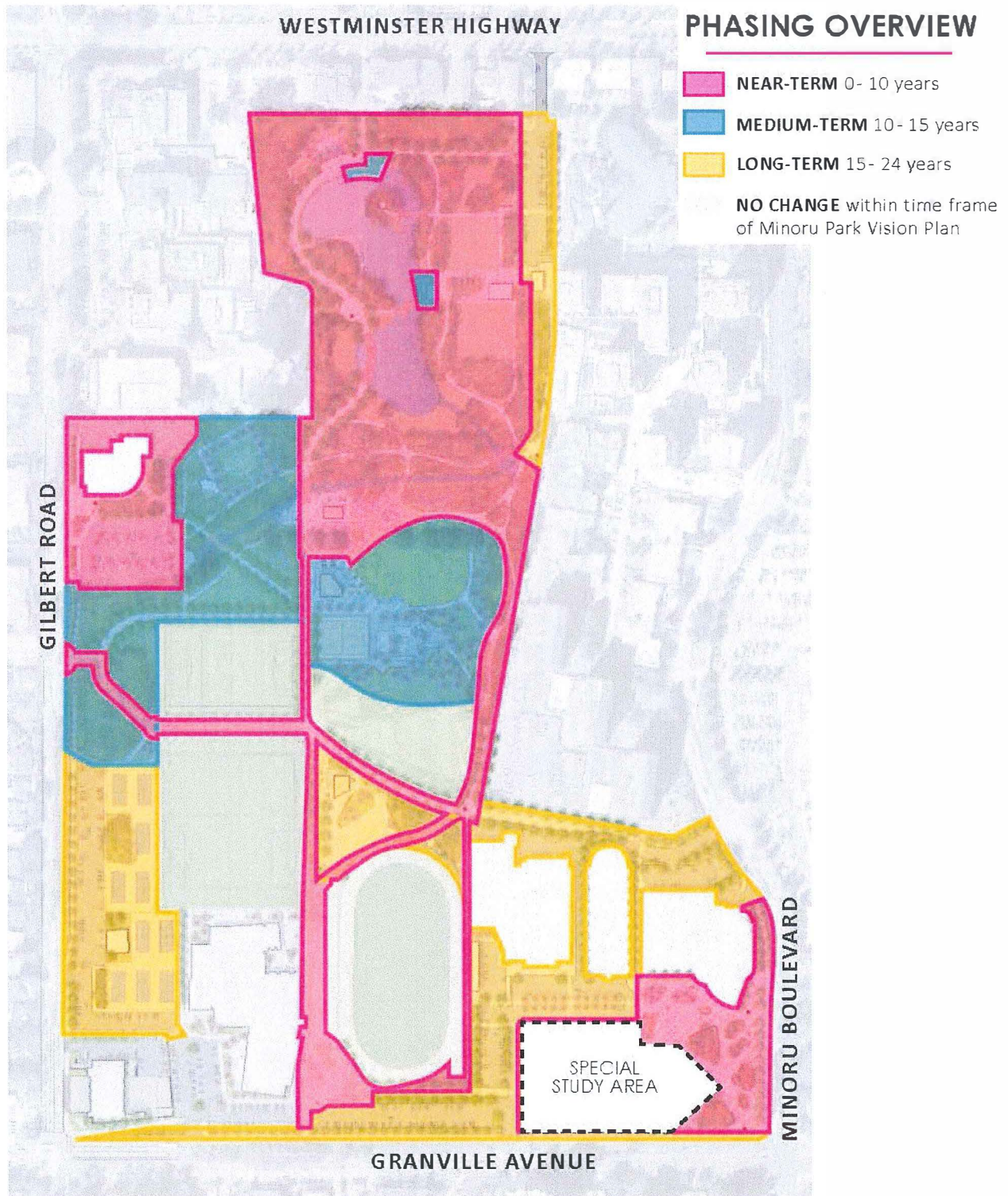
*e. Long-term Parking Supply Considerations*

The Official Community Plan envisions a significant shift in transportation mode share from car use to transit, walking and cycling (target 50% reduction in car reliance). This shift may allow for the reduction, or no net increase, in overall parking demand in Minoru Park in the future. City Staff will continue to monitor parking demands at Minoru Park and update the Vision Plan accordingly.

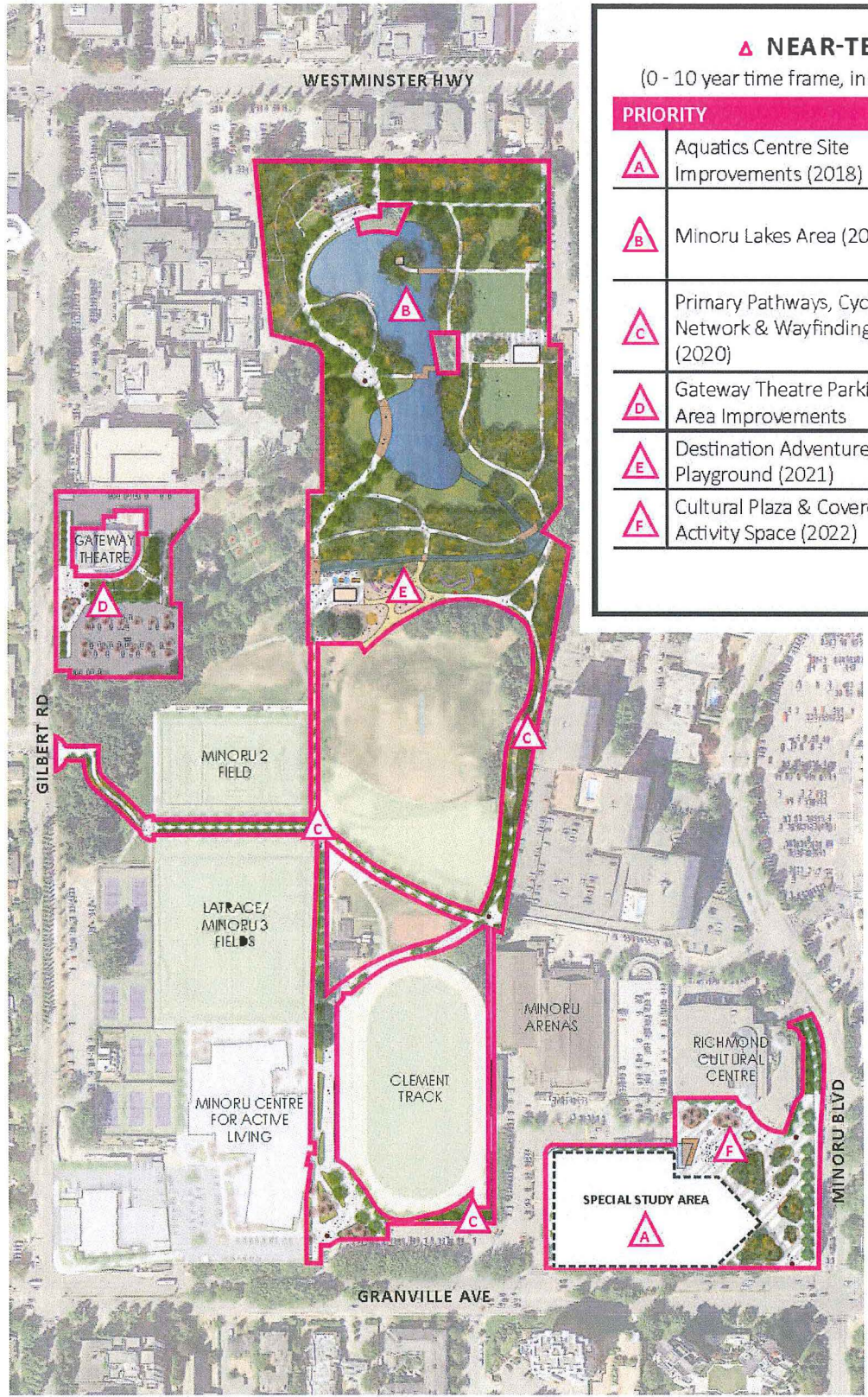
*Implementation and Next Steps*

As previously mentioned, the Minoru Park Vision Plan horizon is 2041 and implementation will be phased. Stakeholder and staff consultation will continue to be undertaken throughout the process to ensure that it continues to be transparent, inclusive, and responsive. If adopted by Council, the Minoru Park Vision Plan will guide future phases of design development and costing, which will be presented back to Council for consideration.

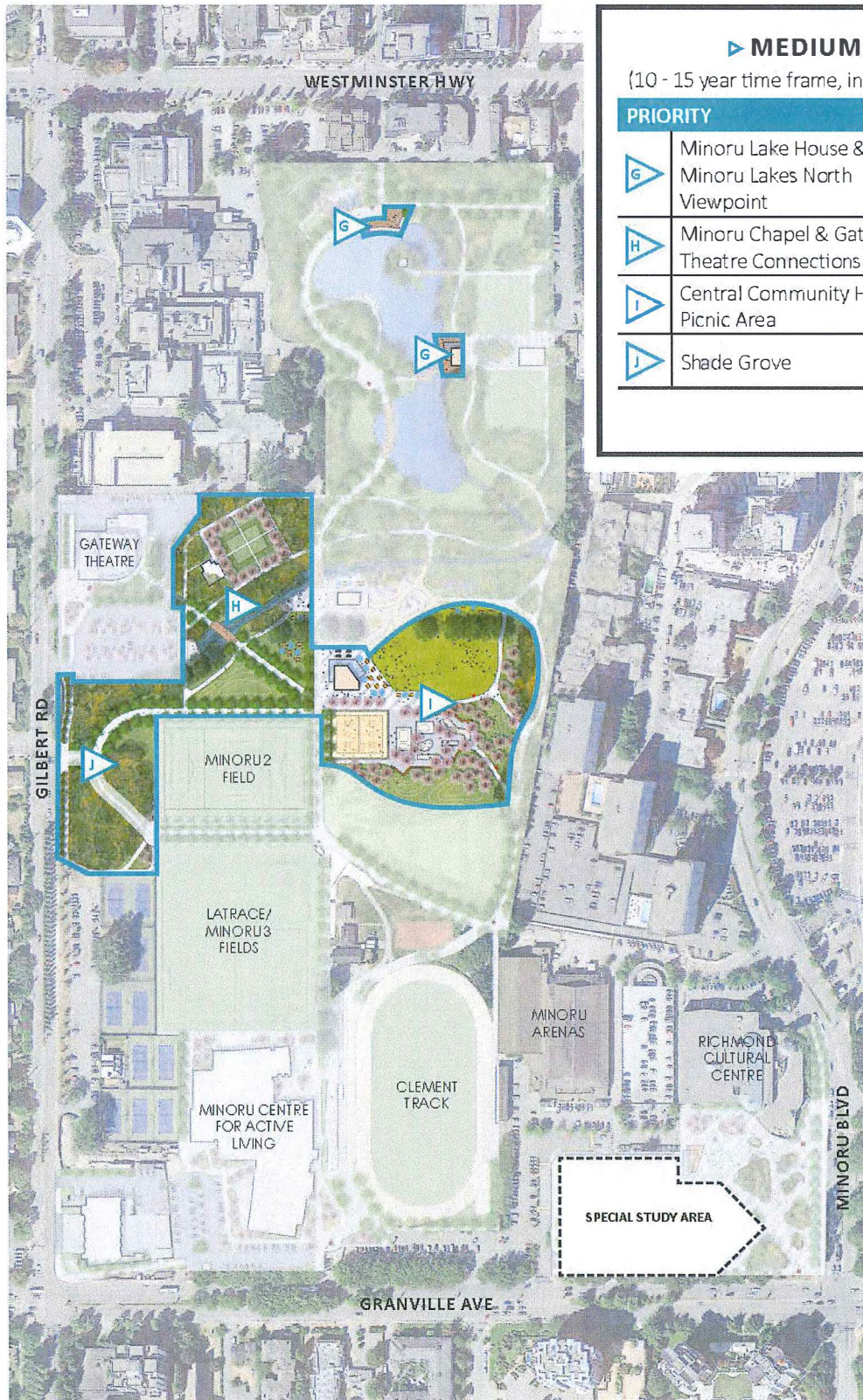
Preliminary phasing diagrams illustrating near term (0-10 years), medium term (10-15 years) and long term (15-24 years) Minoru Park Vision Plan priorities, are provided on the following pages. For a more detailed discussion on preliminary phasing, refer to Attachment 1, Section 6, pages 77-81.



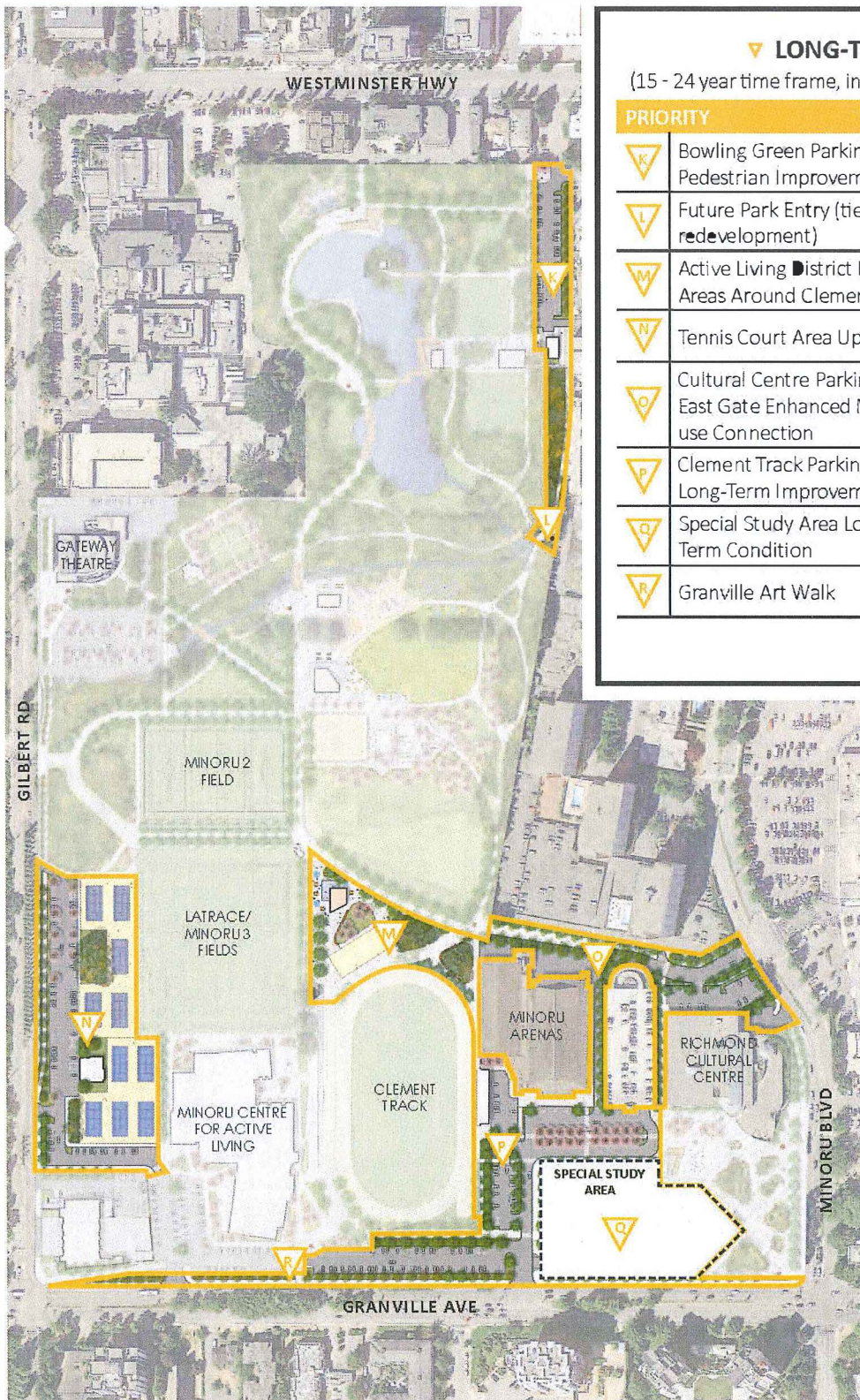




<b>▲ NEAR-TERM</b>	
(0 - 10 year time frame, in order of priority)	
PRIORITY	
<b>A</b>	Aquatics Centre Site Improvements (2018)
<b>B</b>	Minoru Lakes Area (2019)
<b>C</b>	Primary Pathways, Cycling Network & Wayfinding (2020)
<b>D</b>	Gateway Theatre Parking Area Improvements
<b>E</b>	Destination Adventure Playground (2021)
<b>F</b>	Cultural Plaza & Covered Activity Space (2022)



▶ MEDIUM-TERM	
(10 - 15 year time frame, in <u>no</u> order of priority)	
PRIORITY	
G	Minoru Lake House & Minoru Lakes North Viewpoint
H	Minoru Chapel & Gateway Theatre Connections
I	Central Community Hub & Picnic Area
J	Shade Grove



<b>▼ LONG-TERM</b>	
(15 - 24 year time frame, in <u>no</u> order of priority)	
PRIORITY	
▼ K	Bowling Green Parking & Pedestrian Improvements
▼ L	Future Park Entry (tied to redevelopment)
▼ M	Active Living District Hub & Areas Around Clement Track
▼ N	Tennis Court Area Updates
▼ O	Cultural Centre Parking & East Gate Enhanced Multi-use Connection
▼ P	Clement Track Parking Area Long-Term Improvements
▼ Q	Special Study Area Long-Term Condition
▼ R	Granville Art Walk

**Financial Impact**

None.

**Conclusion**

Minoru Park is a popular recreational and cultural precinct, located in the civic heart of Richmond's City Centre area that offers both local and City-wide services. It has undergone multiple recent major changes, and the neighbourhood areas surrounding it are experiencing significant change, population growth and densification. The Minoru Park Vision Plan process provides an opportunity to take a holistic approach to planning its future renewal and evolution.

Several options, ranging from green park space to a mixed-use building, have been raised for the future of the Special Study Area (existing Minoru Aquatics Centre and Minoru Place Activity Centre sites). Staff would like to better understand Council's priorities for this area and are requesting that Council identify a preferred option for this area for further study and incorporation into the Minoru Park Vision Plan.

If adopted, the Minoru Park Vision Plan will guide future design phases, with ongoing staff and stakeholder consultation, which will be presented back to Council for consideration.



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Att. 1: Minoru Park Vision Plan



# MINORU PARK VISION PLAN







# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This document was prepared by the City of Richmond Community Services Department.

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**Our sincere appreciation and thanks to the many stakeholders and members of the Richmond community who provided their time and ideas during the process.**

**Your input has been central to development of the Minoru Park Vision Plan.**







# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>01 INTRODUCTION..... 1</b>	<b>05 MINORU PARK VISION PLAN.....39</b>
1.1 BACKGROUND.....1	5.1 CREATING THE VISION PLAN.....39
1.1.1 Changes Around Minoru Park.....2	5.2 VISION PLAN OVERVIEW .....41
1.1.2 Changes Within Minoru Park .....5	5.3 SUMMARY OF KEY PLANNING
1.1.3 Minoru Park History .....6	DIRECTIONS.....44
1.2 OVERVIEW .....8	5.4 LAKES DISTRICT .....45
<b>02 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ..... 9</b>	5.5 ACTIVE LIVING DISTRICT .....53
2.1 PHASE ONE PUBLIC	5.6 ARTS AND CULTURE DISTRICT.....61
ENGAGEMENT.....9	5.7 PARK CIRCULATION.....67
2.2 PHASE TWO PUBLIC	<b>06 IMPLEMENTATION.....77</b>
ENGAGEMENT.....13	6.1 INTRODUCTION.....77
<b>03 SITE ANALYSIS ..... 23</b>	6.2 MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM
3.1 VALUES AND CONCERNS .....23	PLANNING.....81
3.2 PARK COMPOSITION.....25	<b>07 APPENDICES.....83</b>
<b>04 VISION AND</b>	APPENDIX A:
<b>GUIDING PRINCIPLES.....27</b>	LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS
4.1 VISION .....27	APPENDIX B:
4.2 GUIDING PRINCIPLES .....28	PHASE 2 STAKEHOLDER AGENDA
4.3 MINORU PARK VISION PLAN	APPENDIX C:
ORGANIZATION.....32	PHASE 2 SURVEY
4.3.1 Form and Character .....32	
4.3.2 Park Districts .....32	





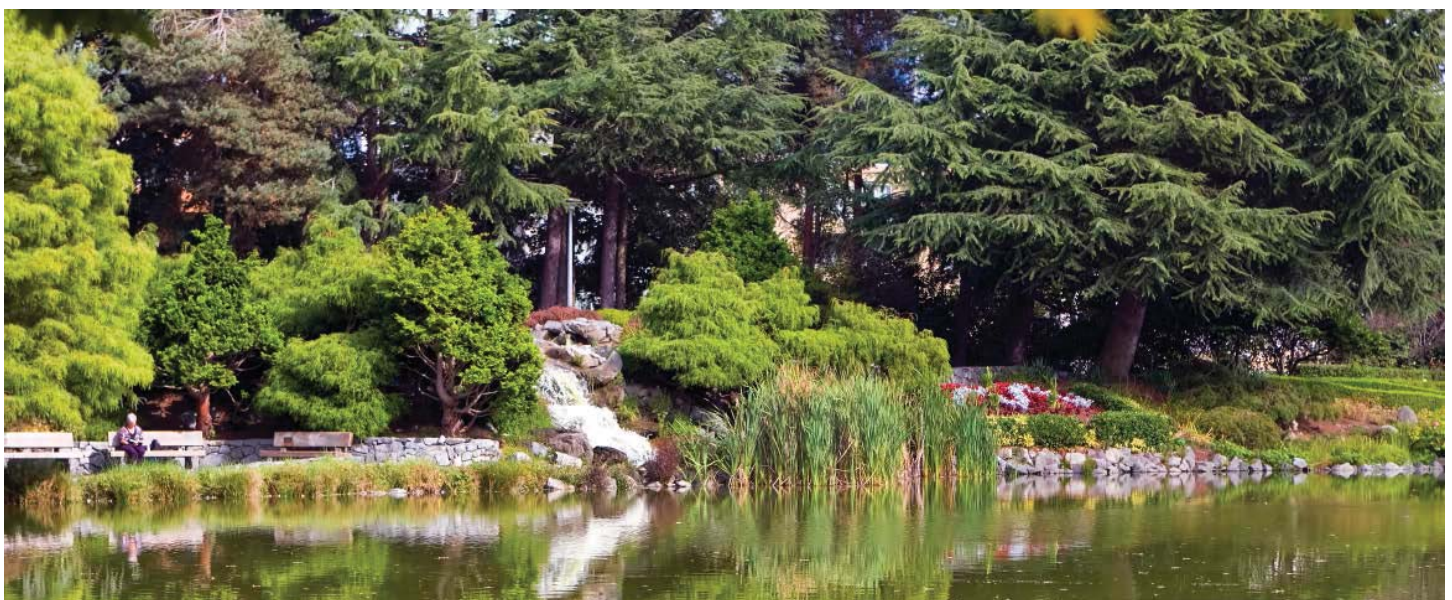
01

# INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 BACKGROUND

For decades, Minoru Park has served as the “green heart” of Richmond’s dynamic and evolving City Centre area. Known for its combination of premier sports facilities, thriving arts scene, peaceful lakes, and walking trails, Minoru Park has a central role in the well-being of Richmond residents. The **Minoru Park Vision Plan** is being undertaken to ensure that the park continues to be enjoyed by generations to come. A Vision Plan process provides an opportunity to analyze the park’s current character, components, and layout, consider community needs and desires, and plan a clear path forward.

To date, there has been no comprehensive masterplan for Minoru Park to guide change and redevelopment, so the park has evolved incrementally as infrastructure and civic facilities have been added or when existing amenities have required upgrades or replacement. In the absence of a park masterplan, piecemeal park development has resulted in parcelization and discontinuous circulation routes throughout Minoru Park. The Minoru Park Vision Plan process provides an opportunity to consider the park site as a whole and to better unify areas into a cohesive park.



*The lakes at Minoru Park today.*

### 1.1.1 CHANGES AROUND MINORU PARK

Bounded by Gilbert Road to the west, mid-rise buildings and Westminster Highway to the north, Minoru Boulevard to the east, and Granville Avenue to the south, Minoru Park is surrounded by busy urban streets and high density housing, all constructed at various times over the last 50 years. Figure 1 provides an overview of current and anticipated future development around Minoru Park.

With rapid growth in Richmond’s City Centre area, it is increasingly important to ensure Minoru Park can meet the demands of a growing population within an increasingly urban environment. The City Centre area has seen Richmond’s highest population growth in recent years, growing by 25% between 2006 and 2011. The current population within a 400-metre radius of Minoru Park (five-minute walking distance) is approximately 20,000 and this population is anticipated to double by 2041.

Many of these residents live in high-density, mid- and high-rise buildings within walking distance of Minoru Park. The park will continue to play a central role in providing these and future residents’ green space and recreation opportunities.

There are a number of recently constructed developments and rezoning applications along No. 3 Road and Minoru Boulevard that will change the transportation networks and built form in the area. The completed Kiwanis/Carerra development on the west side of Minoru Park introduced a positive “front porch” interface with the park, that was previously missing. The anticipated Richmond Centre mall redevelopment will result in more direct connection between the Canada Line’s Brighthouse Station and Minoru Park, shifting how people access and arrive at the park. Richmond Hospital, to the west, is also being planned to redevelop in the coming years, allowing consideration of an improved interface between the park and hospital.

As development around the park edges continues, opportunities will arise to strengthen the park’s relationship and connectivity to the surrounding neighbourhoods in a manner that stitches the park into the fabric of the larger community.

Minoru Park will continue to play a critical role in Richmond’s civic precinct, which contains important civic and institutional uses such as Richmond City Hall, Richmond Hospital, and the School District No. 38 Administration building.



City Centre area circa 1977



City Centre area today

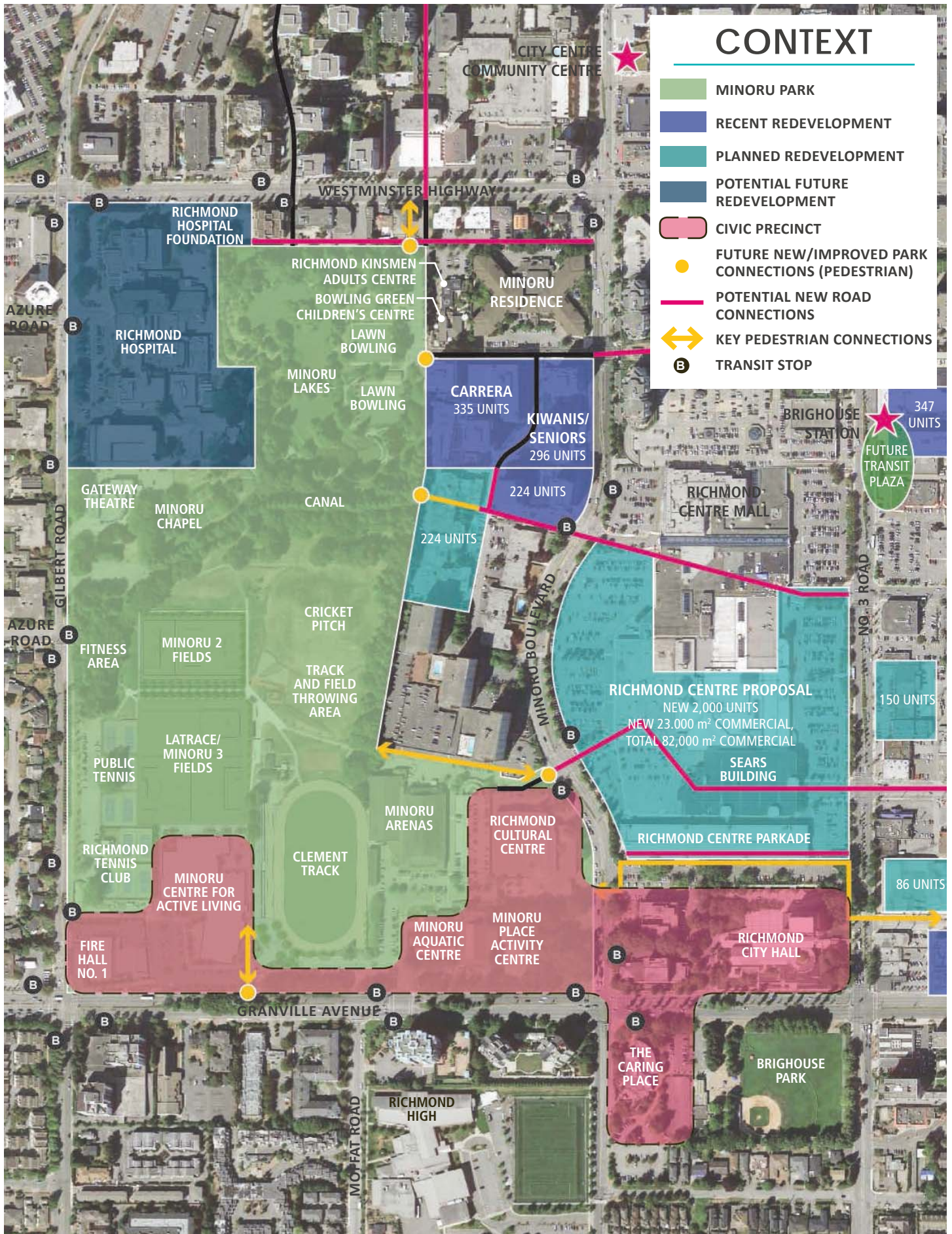
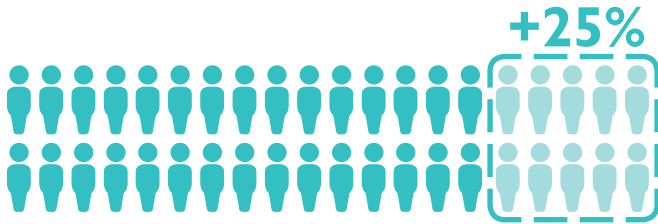


Figure 1: Minoru Park Context

## FAST FACTS ABOUT THE SURROUNDING NEIGHBOURHOOD



Population in the City Centre area grew by 25% from 2006-2011, making it Richmond's fastest growing area.

Most City Centre area residents live in apartments making access to green space crucial.



There are many new developments recently completed or underway adjacent to Minoru Park, particularly to the east. This redevelopment provides

opportunities to enhance connectivity between the park and surrounding areas.

City Centre is Richmond's most culturally-diverse neighbourhood, suggesting a need for a range of activities in Minoru Park.



10

The number of Signature Parks in Richmond, including Minoru Park. Signature parks offer spectacular and unique experiences.

13

The number of parks in Richmond City Centre. The recently updated Garden City Community Park is 4 km away.

20,000

The number of residents living within 400 m (a 5-minute walk) of Minoru Park. This number is expected to double by 2041.



Minoru Park is at the heart Richmond's civic precinct – Richmond

Hospital, Richmond

Secondary School, Richmond City Hall, Fire Hall No.1, and numerous recreational facilities are located in and around the park.



Richmond Hospital borders Minoru Park. Today, the hospital faces away from the park. During future hospital renewal, opportunities may exist to integrate the hospital and park, capitalizing on the healing nature of green space.



The park is within walking distance of the Canada Line Brighthouse station and transit stops are on all sides of the park. Future redevelopment of the Richmond Centre Mall will enhance the connection between the Canada Line and the park.

### 1.1.2 CHANGES WITHIN MINORU PARK

Like the area around it, Minoru Park has been subject to significant evolution and change.

In the southern part of the park, the former Minoru Sports Pavilion was removed, and Minoru 2 and Minoru 3/Latrace fields were relocated and redeveloped as artificial turf fields, and the cricket pitch was renewed, shifting active sport uses further north into the park. The Minoru Centre for Active Living will open in 2018 providing aquatics, fitness, seniors services, and facilities that support the park’s outdoors sports amenities. The new complex will shift the current functions of the Minoru Aquatic Centre and Minoru Place Activity Centre to the west from their current location in the southeast near the Richmond Cultural Centre.

The new Minoru Centre for Active Living will increase activity in the park, and consequently, demand for vehicle, cyclist, and pedestrian access. The Minoru Park Vision Plan provides an opportunity to integrate these needed improvements with the overall park.

The Vision Plan also guides renewal of key park infrastructure, including:

- » **Minoru Lakes:** Built in the 1980s, Minoru Park’s beloved lakes have seen accelerated decline in the past decade, leading to damaged infrastructure and water quality issues.
- » **Trail Connections:** The park’s aging trails network has evolved ad hoc, with trail additions locally, without an overall outlook to the larger transportation context.
- » **The Playground:** The existing playground space is undersized for the number of families that it serves.

The Minoru Park Vision Plan presents a cohesive, phased approach to addressing existing issues and capitalizing on opportunities to ensure the park fulfills the recreational and open space needs of City Centre residents into the future.

## FAST FACTS ABOUT MINORU PARK

# 65

The size of Minoru Park – at 65 acres it is one of Richmond’s largest parks.

# 53+%

The amount of combined park space occupied by building footprints, surface parking, and sports fields.

There are a number of mature trees in Minoru Park, including heritage oaks that used to line the former Minoru Track.

The water source for Minoru Lakes is potable City water that is recirculated – the lakes are not currently connected to a natural water source.



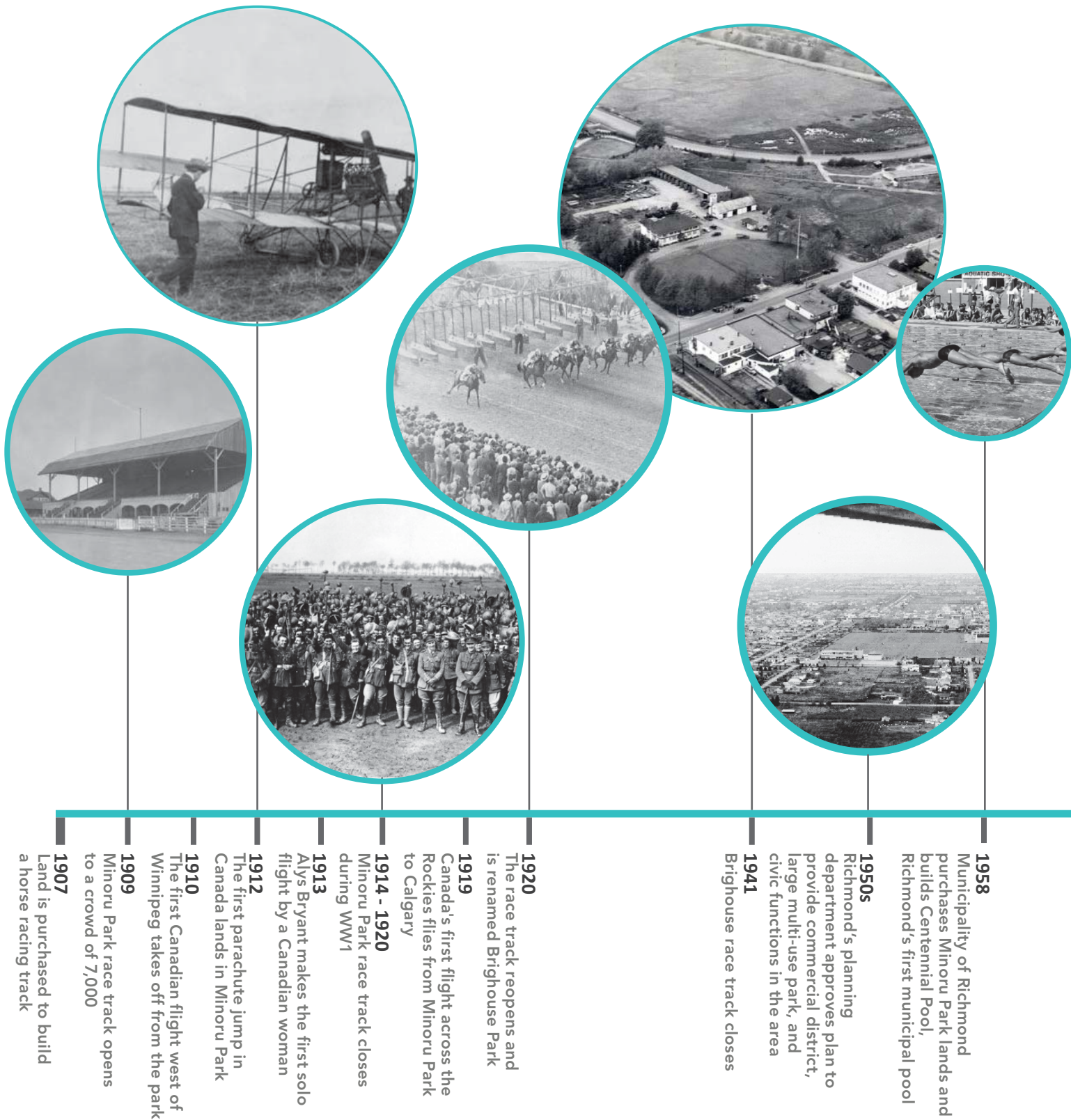
The Minoru Chapel and Gateway Theatre area is a popular filming site.



A number of outdoor festivals and events such as the Children’s Festival and Halloween Fireworks currently take place in Minoru Park and are anticipated to continue to be celebrated here in the future.

### 1.1.3 MINORU PARK HISTORY

The site known as Minoru Park has evolved significantly over the past century. The following time line provides highlights in the area's evolution during this time.





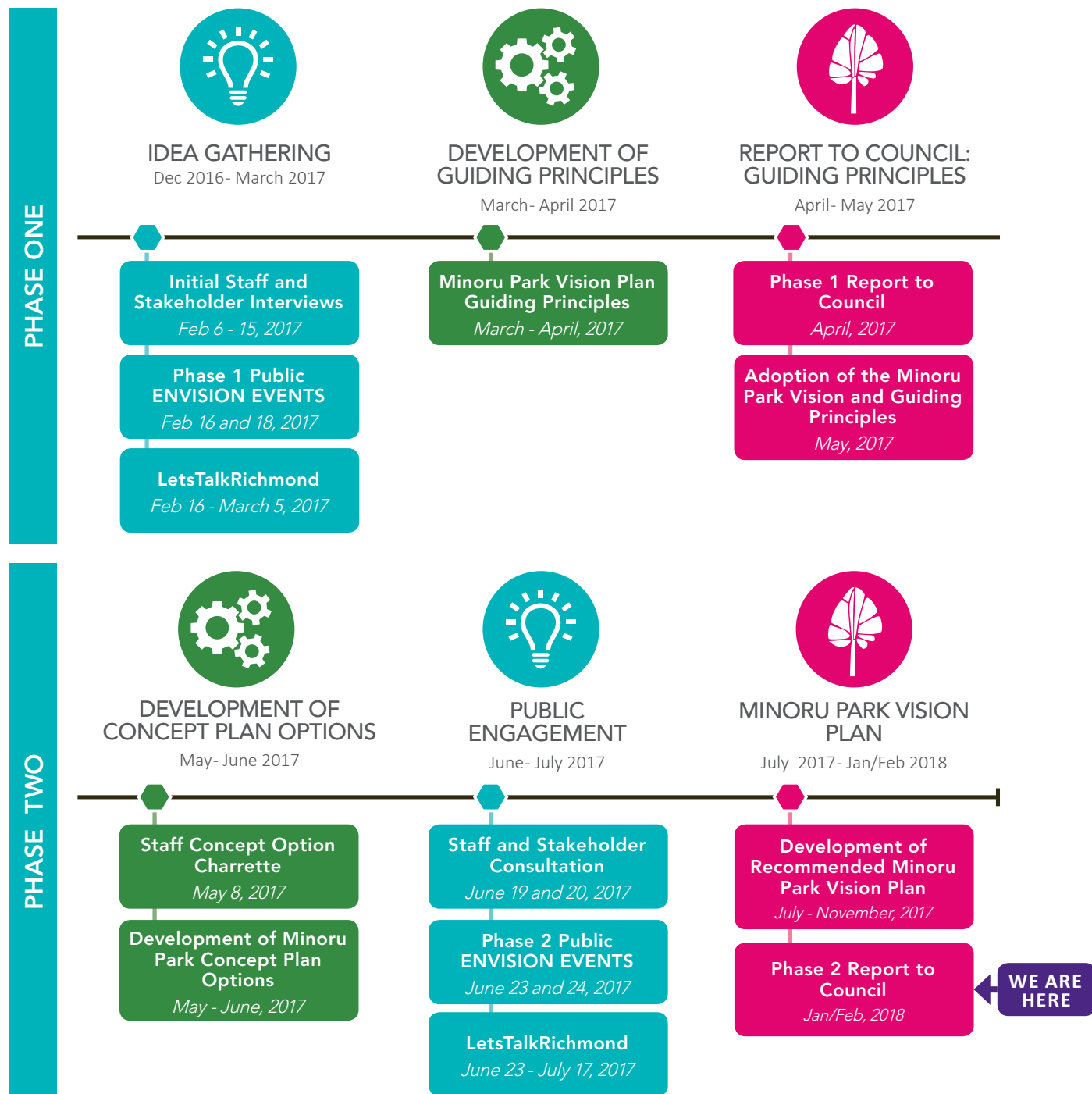


- TODAY**  
Minoru Park Vision Plan
- 2016 - 2018**  
Planning, design, and construction of the Minoru Centre for Active Living
- 2014**  
Field renewals including Minoru 2 and Minoru 3/  
Lattice artificial turf fields
- 1990s**  
Ongoing changes and facility additions, including Richmond Cultural Centre
- 1986**  
Minoru Place Activity Centre opens
- 1982**  
Richmond Gateway Theatre Society is established and Gateway Theatre is built
- 1979**  
The Minoru Aquatic Centre opens
- 1974**  
The 12-acre lakes area is designed and construction begins
- 1968**  
Pierrefonds Garden is constructed next to the chapel
- 1967**  
Minoru Chapel, originally built in 1891, is moved to Minoru Park
- 1964**  
Richmond Arena opens
- 1964**  
Minoru Sports Pavilion opens
- 1962**  
Richmond purchases Brighthouse Estate to the north to expand the park to 65 acres and the first running track is opened in Minoru
- 1960**  
Minoru Park name is reestablished to recognize the site's horse racing past

## 1.2 OVERVIEW

The Minoru Park Vision Plan was completed through a two-phase planning process:

- » Phase One focused on understanding the park today and aspirations for the future through the eyes of City staff, stakeholders, and the public, as well as through technical review and analysis of the existing park. This process generated a Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles that were adopted by Council in May 2017.
- » Phase Two involved the exploration of concept directions to bring the Vision and Guiding Principles to life. This process involved development and review of two concept options with City staff, stakeholders, and the public, and refinement of the preferred directions into the Minoru Park Vision Plan outlined in this document.





02

# PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

A comprehensive engagement process was undertaken to obtain input to the Minoru Park Vision Plan. Input from City staff, representing a range of departments, stakeholders, representing park user groups, and the public was central to the development and refinement of the Vision Plan directions. The following is a brief overview of the engagement process and outcomes.

## 2.1 PHASE ONE PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

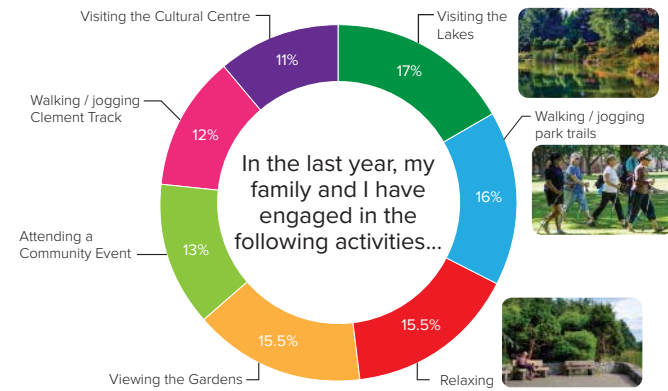
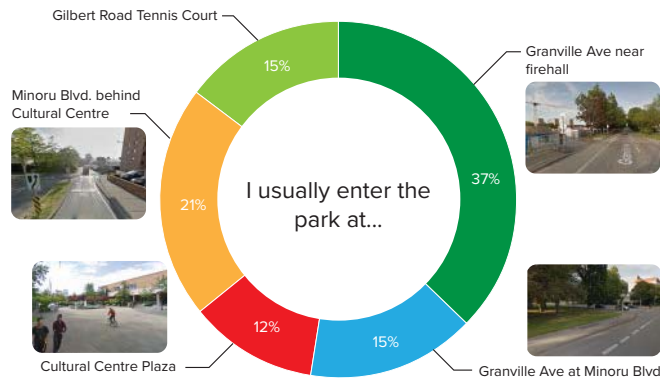
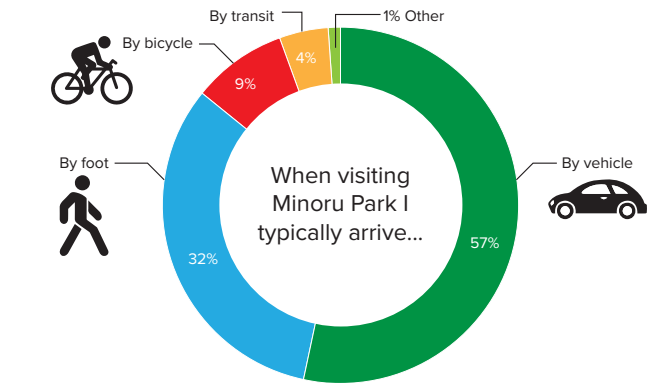
Minoru Park Vision Plan Phase One public engagement was focused on gathering opinions about Minoru Park’s existing conditions and identifying key issues and opportunities for the park’s future renewal.

### ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

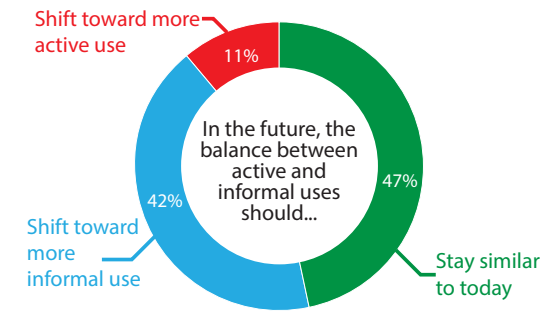
<p>6 City Staff Meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dates:</b> February 6 - 15, 2017</li> <li>• <b>Format:</b> Staff representatives were organized into a group based on their particular area of expertise. Groups included Minoru Park Facilities, Outdoor Sports and Events, Community Groups, Planning and Sustainability, Parks Operations, and Arts, Culture and Heritage. The meetings were round-table discussions based on a series of prepared questions.</li> </ul>
<p>2 Stakeholder Workshops</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dates:</b> February 6 and 7, 2017</li> <li>• <b>Format:</b> Workshop groups were focused on Sport Users and Mobility and Wellness. Arts and Culture stakeholders were e-mailed a questionnaire as their workshop was canceled due to low response. Questions were similar to those posed at the staff interviews and identified user group concerns and potential ideas.</li> </ul>
<p>2 Public Open Houses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dates:</b> Thursday, February 16, 2017 at the Minoru Place Activity Centre Saturday, February 18, 2017 at Richmond City Hall</li> <li>• <b>Format:</b> The open houses were drop in events; both were well attended with approximately 100 visitors at each. General input about the process was positive, and there were many discussions on ideas for the future.</li> </ul>
<p>186 Completed Surveys</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dates:</b> February 16 - March 5, 2017</li> <li>• <b>Format:</b> Via <i>LetsTalkRichmond</i>, the City of Richmond’s online public engagement platform, which hosted a Minoru Park Vision Plan Phase One web page.</li> </ul>

# PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE AND LETSTALKRICHMOND SURVEY RESULTS

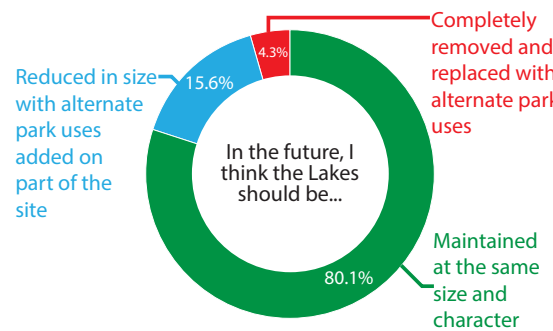
## HOW AND WHERE I ARRIVE AT MINORU PARK AND WHAT AREAS I VISIT



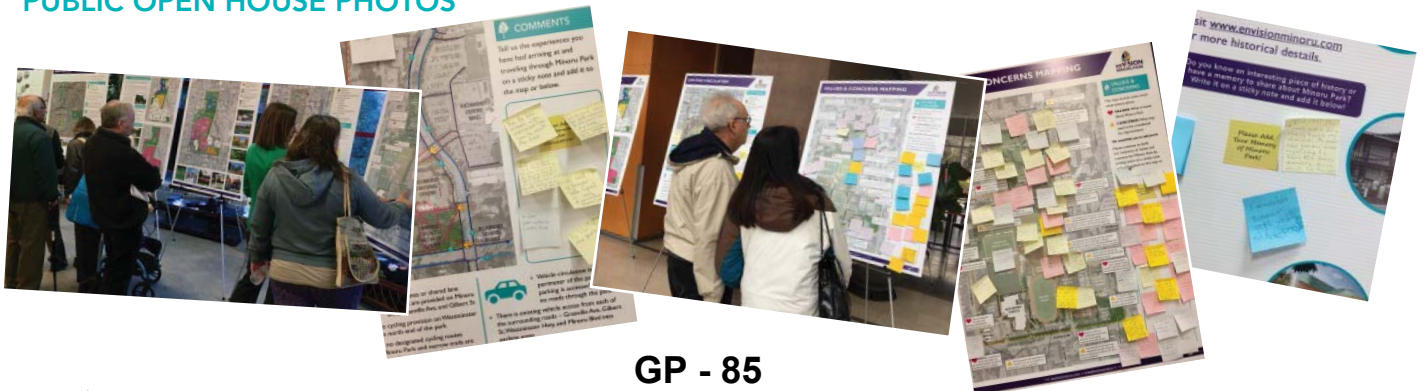
## I THINK THE BALANCE BETWEEN ACTIVE AND INFORMAL USES SHOULD...



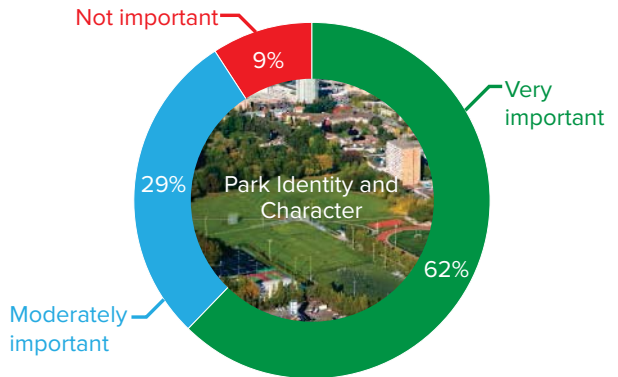
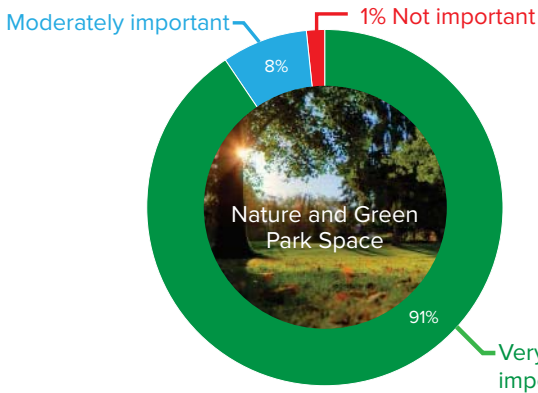
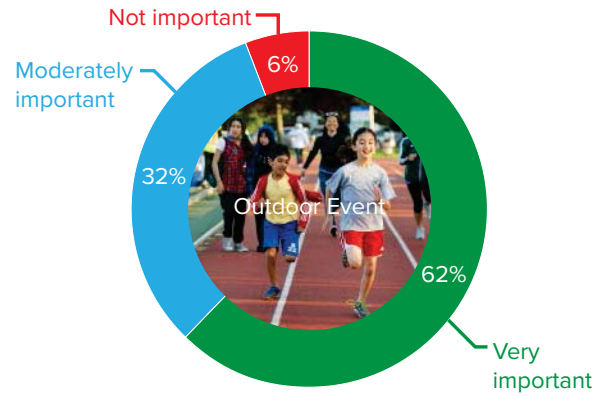
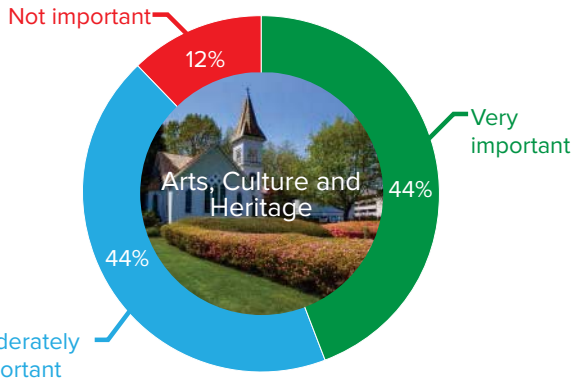
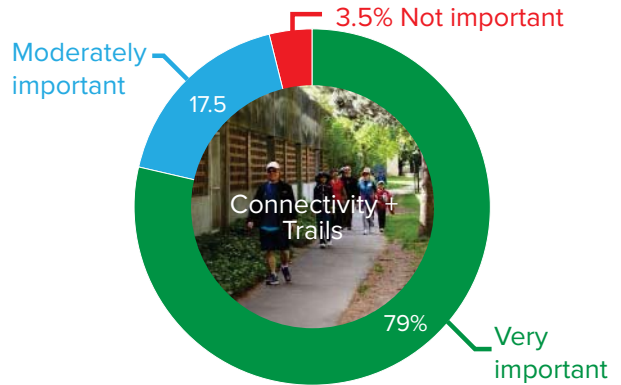
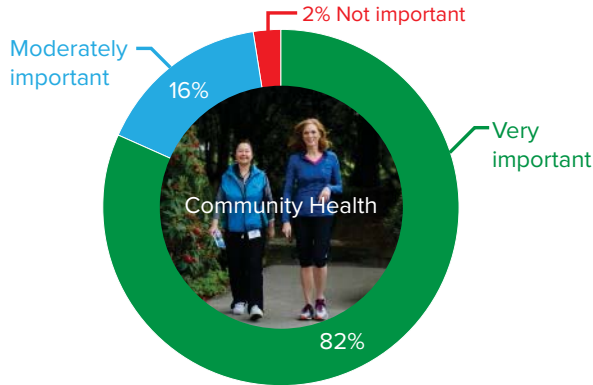
## IF THE LAKES ARE RENEWED, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THEM...



## PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE PHOTOS



I PLACE THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANCE ON THESE ASPECTS OF MINORU PARK...

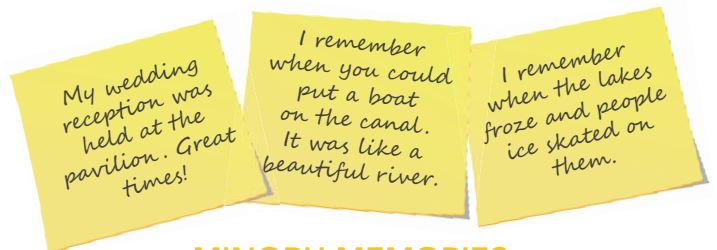


SAMPLE COMMENTS ABOUT MINORU PARK

“Minoru Park is a beautiful park in the middle of the city. It has lakes, nature, places for activities and for families to get together. Let us preserve it and improve on it.”

“I’m a young college student who plans to get married and raise a family in Richmond. I hope to bring my own children to this place in the near future.”

“Great opportunities to create an urban city centre park that embraces heritage, nature, and draws on the urban / built parts of the city.”



MINORU MEMORIES

## STAFF AND STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP KEY FINDINGS

### I VALUE THE FOLLOWING AT MINORU PARK...

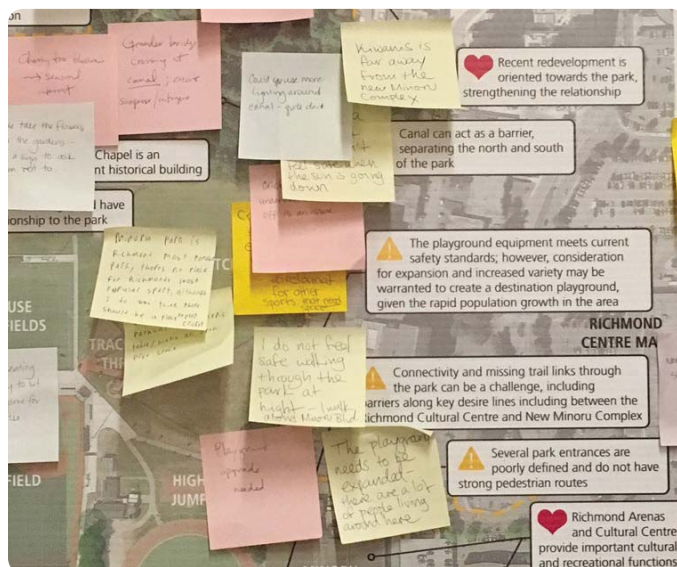
- » It is a great place for walking
- » It provides a wide range of activities for all ages
- » It is an important sanctuary and place for respite within the City Centre area
- » It has high quality, well-used sports facilities
- » The lakes are a key park feature and provide an important connection to water and nature
- » People have strong memories and connections to the park

### I AM CONCERNED ABOUT THE FOLLOWING AT MINORU PARK...

- » The park is fragmented, incoherent, and lacks a distinctive character
- » It lacks a sense of arrival
- » The pedestrian circulation is disjointed
- » The site is challenging to navigate
- » Pedestrian safety and access through parking areas is challenging
- » Adjacent uses within the park are not always complimentary
- » The playground is small and difficult to access
- » Many people are unclear which areas are included in the park, and/or are unaware of the lakes
- » There is a need to find a balance between desire for increased safety in the north portion of the park and a desire to maintain its tranquil nature

### MY VISION OF AN IDEAL MINORU PARK WOULD INCLUDE...

- » A distinctive “Minoru Park” identity
- » Identifiable, exciting park entry points that provide a greater sense of arrival
- » Well connected walking circuits / loops within the park and improved connections around / to the park
- » Improved wayfinding and interpretive signage
- » More informal and multi-use areas that can accommodate a wide range of activities year round
- » Better integration with adjacent site uses



## 2.2 PHASE TWO PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Minoru Park Vision Plan Phase Two public engagement focused on developing, presenting, and gathering feedback on two preliminary concept options for Minoru Park: **Nature in the City** and **Urban Oasis**. Through this preliminary concept option development and review process, potential big moves and defining features for the future Minoru Park were explored. Public feedback on the concept options was gathered to understand the preferred features in each concept, with the intent of consolidating these preferred directions into the Minoru Park Vision Plan.

### ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

<p>1 City Staff Charrette</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Date:</b> May 8, 2017</li> <li>• <b>Format:</b> The charrette brought together staff representing various areas of expertise including Minoru Park Facilities, Outdoor Sports and Events, Planning and Sustainability, Parks Operations, and Arts, Culture and Heritage. The project team presented the outcomes of the Phase One engagement and the Vision and Guiding Principles, then led a series of design sessions where participants were divided into smaller groups and asked to explore three key topics: 1- Circulation, Edges, and Identity; 2- Nature, Open Space, and the Lakes Area; and 3- Amenities, Arts and Culture, and Events. The outcomes were sketch ideas and key points collaboratively produced by each group for each topic. This input was used to help develop and refine the preliminary concept options.</li> </ul>
<p>3 Stakeholder Workshops</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Date:</b> June 19 and 20, 2017</li> <li>• <b>Format:</b> The stakeholder workshop groups included Mobility and Wellness, Arts and Culture, and Sport Users. Each workshop included a presentation of the process, Phase One results, Vision and Guiding Principles, and a planning activity where participants reviewed and discussed two preliminary concept options, identifying preferences and discussing suggested improvements. Valuable feedback from frequent Minoru Park users about their needs and interests was gained at these workshops.</li> </ul>
<p>2 Public Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Date:</b> Friday, June 23, 2017 in the Richmond Cultural Centre plaza Saturday, June 24, 2017 at the north end of Clement Track</li> <li>• <b>Format:</b> The project team set-up outdoor displays in Minoru Park and invited visitors to share their feedback on the two preliminary concept options. Both events were well attended with approximately 75- 125 visitors at each, and substantial interest in the potential options being considered. Discussions revealed personal preferences and additional ideas warranting consideration.</li> </ul>
<p>149 Completed Surveys</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Date:</b> June 23- July 17, 2017</li> <li>• <b>Format:</b> Via <i>LetsTalkRichmond</i>, the City of Richmond’s online public engagement platform, which hosted a Minoru Park Vision Plan Phase Two web page.</li> </ul>

## CITY STAFF CHARRETTE KEY FINDINGS

### TOPIC 1: CIRCULATION, EDGES, AND IDENTITY

#### CIRCULATION:

- » Create strong “north-south” and “east-west” multi-use spines
- » Primary pathways should include: Lighting and safety considerations, consistent/accessible surfacing, weather protection, rest/gathering/seating nodes, distance markers
- » Add bicycle routes with physical separation where possible and signage indicating appropriate use
- » Add a “track-style” walking route with distance markers that encourages people to use the entire park for exercise and activity (taking some pressure off Clement Track)
- » Reconfigure parking to improve flow for pedestrians and rollers, into and through the park

#### EDGES:

- » Establish entry points that provide a consistent message of arrival and including wayfinding, art, and excitement
- » Improve visibility and connections from surrounding streets
- » Encourage porous park edges and many points of entry into the park
- » Enhance connection to Richmond Hospital

#### IDENTITY:

- » Create a hub or anchor in the centre of the park
- » Use bridges and visual indicators to break down the canal “barrier” and invite people into the Lakes District

### TOPIC 2: NATURE, OPEN SPACE AND LAKES AREA

#### NATURE:

- » Daylight (make visible) the lakes overflow connection to the canal
- » Develop a framework for protecting/adding trees
- » Improve the canal with wider pathways, improved crossings, “friendly” edges, improved aesthetics, more gently sloped sides, and interpretive opportunities

#### OPEN SPACE:

- » Create a park “heart” from which you can access all other parts of the park
- » Weave nature play opportunities throughout the park
- » Redevelop/enhance the picnic area to manage wet areas and geese issues to make it more inviting
- » Add small covered spaces throughout the park to relax or eat lunch, points to stop and enjoy

#### LAKES AREA:

- » Provide varied experiences (e.g., a more natural upper pond and a more formal lower pond, viewpoints, and “functional edges” that extend out and over the water)
- » Add healing gardens to complement the adjacent hospital
- » Consider potential for active uses of the lakes (e.g., Central Park miniature sailboats)
- » Make the island(s) accessible with bridge connections
- » Integrate stormwater management including incorporation of hospital roof water, lake design that supports fluctuating water levels, and sculptural and light elements in the water
- » Improve services including washrooms and food
- » Incorporate Minoru Chapel and Gateway Theatre as part of the Lakes area



### TOPIC 3: AMENITIES, ARTS AND CULTURE AND EVENTS

#### AMENITIES:

- » Promote the concept of three hubs as an organizing framework for the park:
  - **Body (Sports Hub)**  
*Location:* southwest  
*Components:* Minoru Centre for Active Living, tennis courts, fields, track  
*Ideas:* performance and discipline, activity day and night, sports wall of fame
  - **Mind (Arts and Culture Hub)**  
*Location:* southeast  
*Components:* Cultural Centre, former aquatic building site, plaza, track  
*Ideas:* events, arty, iconic public art, adaptable and flexible, education, colourful, urban, exciting, welcoming
  - **Spirit (Lakes Hub)**  
*Location:* north  
*Components:* Lakes, canal, Minoru Chapel, Gateway Theatre  
*Ideas:* pavilions, interpretation, storytelling, magical, invitation to wander, nature
- » Provide essential elements within each hub including food, washrooms, drinking water fountains, place markers, seating areas, covered space, a distinct core, children’s play, public art
- » Develop a central destination playground that is bigger, innovative, and features natural play elements

#### EVENTS:

- » Create a more multi-functional space at the cricket pitch area
- » Develop outdoor spaces that draw people out of buildings by providing amenity and comfort (e.g., covered seating)
- » Add storytelling – possible stories could include sports achievements, pioneers, Richmond’s park system, trees, former track, nature

#### ARTS AND CULTURE:

- » Add more amenities including food concessions/carts, band stand, rentable pavilion, event stage (with light and sound)
- » Develop an art walk along Granville Avenue
- » Consider a culture route from Richmond Cultural Centre to Gateway Theatre
- » Consider novelty features (e.g., a Minoru “train” that travels to key parts of the park to key parts of the park, musical carousel, etc.)

## PRELIMINARY CONCEPT OPTIONS

During the Phase Two engagement, two preliminary concept options for Minoru Park were developed and brought forward for review by staff, stakeholders, and members of the public. The two concepts presented: **Nature in the City** and **Urban Oasis** are shown on the following pages.

The intent of the preliminary options were to combine and explore potential directions for Minoru Park in different ways. Phase Two engagement participants were asked to provide feedback on their preferred components of each option, with the goal of determining which elements to incorporate into a Minoru Park Vision Plan.

# PRELIMINARY CONCEPT OPTION 1: NATURE IN THE CITY

## LAKES DISTRICT

- 1 PARK ENTRY FROM WESTMINSTER
  - views to lakes, seating, wayfinding, strong connection to street
- 2 IMPROVED PARK ENTRY
  - new street, walkways, street trees, parking lot
- 3 WATER ENTRY POND
  - elevated, waterfall, viewing deck, boardwalk in front
- 4 LOOKOUT BERM
  - naturalized grass landscape, views to lake
- 5 ISLAND AND LOOKOUT TOWER
  - access to island, tower with park views, trails
- 6 HEALING GARDENS
  - wellness walkways, intimate outdoor spaces
- 7 UPPER POND SEATING AREA
  - plaza, deck over pond
- 8 MINORU LAKE HOUSE
  - restrooms, covered plaza, cascade between upper and lower pond
- 9 LAWN BOWLING CLUBHOUSE
  - new building, matching style to Minoru Lake House
- 10 LAKES HUB
  - amphitheater seating, water plaza, seating
- 11 LAKES LAWN
  - open grass area in afternoon sun
- 12 GATEWAY PLAZA
  - outdoor art and performance space
- 13 GATEWAY DESTINATION
  - overhead feature, lighting, intriguing, art, draws people to the theatre
- 14 CANAL VIEWPOINT
  - stone block seat steps, feature bridge with lighting and art
- 15 HERITAGE WALK
  - pathway following heritage race track trees, tree lighting, interpretive information, tree renewal
- 16 PICNIC FOREST
  - improved canal, picnic platforms
- 17 GREENWAY PARK ENTRY
  - connection established during new development

## PERSPECTIVE SKETCH VIEWPOINTS



## ACTIVE LIVING DISTRICT

- 18 CENTRAL WAYFINDING POINT
  - visible throughout park
- 19 FITNESS LOOP START
  - workout stations, multi-distance route
- 20 A PLACE TO SPEND THE DAY
  - adventure playground, youth activities, picnic options (lawn, shelters, tables), replaces cricket pitch
- 21 SPORTS HUB
  - restrooms, storage, caretaker's facility, lookout seating
- 22 TRACK AND FIELD THROWING AREA
  - reorganized to improve circulation
- 23 FOREST AREA
  - existing trees maintained, seating, quiet areas
- 24 PARKADE AND ROOFTOP TENNIS FACILITIES
  - replaces surface parking, new tennis clubhouse incorporated
- 25 EXISTING GRANDSTAND
  - improved pedestrian circulation around, incorporated art features



1 Minoru Lake Lawn - looking northwest towards the lower pond



2 Picnic Forest - looking west along the canal



3 A Place to Spend the Day - looking northwest towards picnic areas and adventure play

## ARTS AND CULTURE DISTRICT

- 26 ART GARDENS
  - welcoming park edge, undulating berms, tree groves, art display areas, pathways
- 27 SPECIAL STUDY AREA\*
  - possible recreation building with underground parking
- 28 MINORU GATE PARK ENTRY
  - improved pedestrian/bike route, art elements, tree lined, green and inviting
- 29 COVERED EVENT SPACE
  - oriented to southeast with sound and power
- 30 ARTS AND CULTURE HUB
  - paved areas around existing trees, unique seating
- 31 MINORU PARK ENTRY FEATURE
  - visual feature from granville, inviting and intriguing

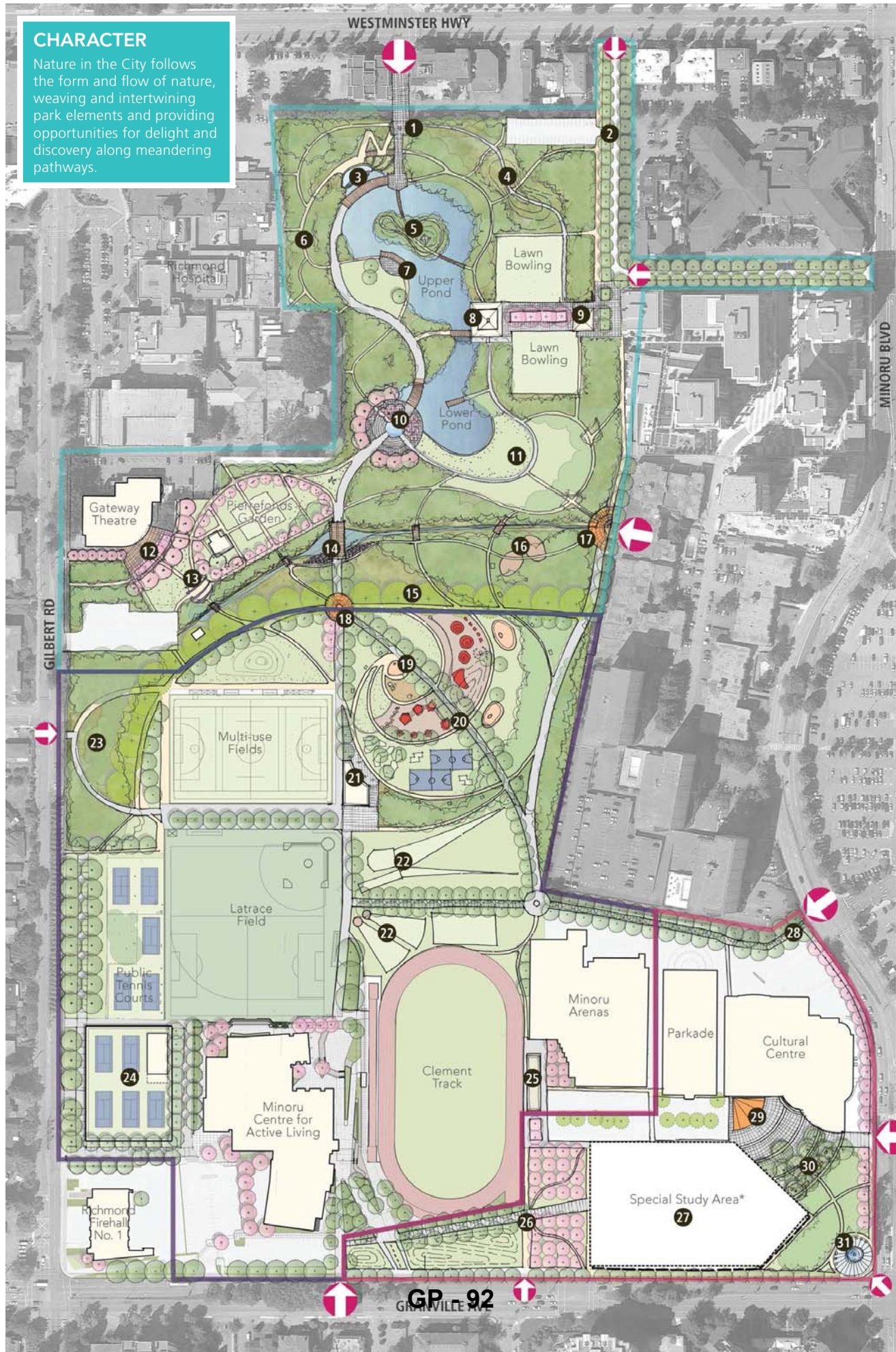
### \*Special Study Area:

The future uses for the existing Minoru Aquatic Centre and Minoru Place Activity Centre sites are being studied through a separate, concurrent process. The outcomes of that study will be incorporated into the Minoru Park Vision Plan as available. These options include high-level preliminary program alternatives for the Special Study Area being considered.

# NATURE IN THE CITY

## CHARACTER

Nature in the City follows the form and flow of nature, weaving and intertwining park elements and providing opportunities for delight and discovery along meandering pathways.



# PRELIMINARY CONCEPT OPTION 2: URBAN OASIS

## LAKES DISTRICT

- 1 PARK ENTRY PEDESTRIAN PLAZA
  - views to water, trees, wayfinding, seating
- 2 MINORU LAKE HOUSE AND LAKES HUB
  - restrooms, restaurant, covered plaza, integrated lawn bowling clubhouse
- 3 IMPROVED PARK ENTRY
  - new street, walkways, street trees, parking lot
- 4 RELOCATED LAWN BOWLING
  - south green moved to be next to clubhouse
- 5 TERRACED "HEAD WATERS" FEATURE
  - cascade, art feature
- 6 POND WALKWAY
  - through pond, feature lighting
- 7 THERAPEUTIC GARDENS
  - raised planting beds, pathways, intimate outdoor spaces
- 8 POND SEATING AREAS
  - decks over pond
- 9 THE ISLAND
  - grass lawn area, surrounding canal, central feature
- 10 PLAY FOREST
  - winding pathways, play features, discovery spaces, outdoor classroom, art elements, berm and overhead bridge
- 11 WATER CHANNEL
  - following main pathway, lighting
- 12 GATEWAY PLAZA
  - strong connections to lakes pathways
- 13 CANAL BRIDGE
  - feature bridge overlooking canal and channel
- 14 FITNESS CIRCUIT START
  - workout stations, 400 m loop
- 15 PEDESTRIAN MALL
  - key connection from future greenway and park entry to pond

## ACTIVE LIVING DISTRICT

- 16 A PLACE TO SPEND THE DAY
  - food kiosk, restrooms, seating plaza, playground, table tennis, basketball, cricket spectator area
- 17 PICNIC AREAS
  - group picnic shelter, picnic tables
- 18 EXISTING HERITAGE TREES
  - heritage race track trees maintained, interpretive information
- 19 CRICKET PITCH AND GREAT LAWN
  - cricket, picnics, frisbee, movies
- 20 FOREST AREA
  - existing trees maintained, seating, quiet areas
- 21 SPORTS HUB
  - restrooms, storage, caretaker's facility, lookout seating
- 22 CONVERTED COURTS
  - existing tennis courts lined for pickleball, basketball
- 23 PARKADE AND ROOFTOP TENNIS
  - replaces surface parking, new tennis clubhouse incorporated
- 24 EXISTING GRANDSTAND
  - improved pedestrian circulation, new covered stretching area

## ARTS AND CULTURE DISTRICT

- 25 SHARED ACCESS ROUTE
  - combined pedestrian and vehicle mall, slow speeds, traffic calming, special paving, tree lined, lighting
- 26 SPECIAL STUDY AREA\*
  - potential adventure playground
- 27 MINORU GATE PARK ENTRY
  - improved pedestrian/bike route, art elements, tree lined
- 28 COVERED EVENT SPACE
  - oriented to northwest, sound and power
- 29 ARTS AND CULTURE HUB
  - open plaza space around existing trees, seating

**\*Special Study Area:**  
 The future uses for the existing Minoru Aquatic Centre and Minoru Place Activity Centre sites are being studied through a separate, concurrent process. The outcomes of that study will be incorporated into the Minoru Park Vision Plan as available. These options include high-level preliminary program alternatives for the Special Study Area being considered.



1 Minoru Lake Island - looking northwest towards Minoru Lake House



2 A Place to Spend the Day - looking northeast from the cricket lawn to the central plaza



3 Arts and Culture Hub - looking northwest from Granville Avenue/Minoru park entry

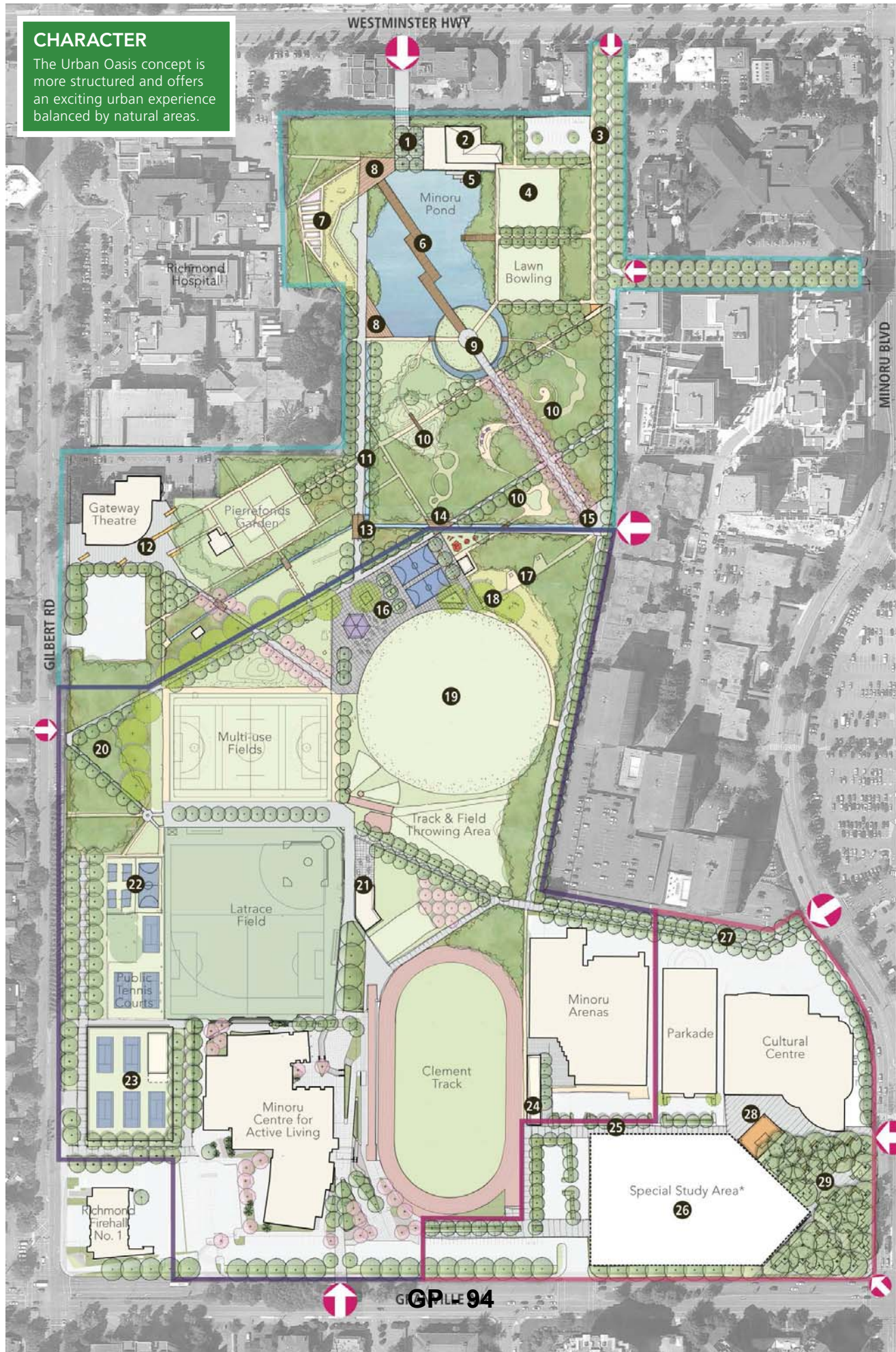
## PERSPECTIVE SKETCH LOCATIONS



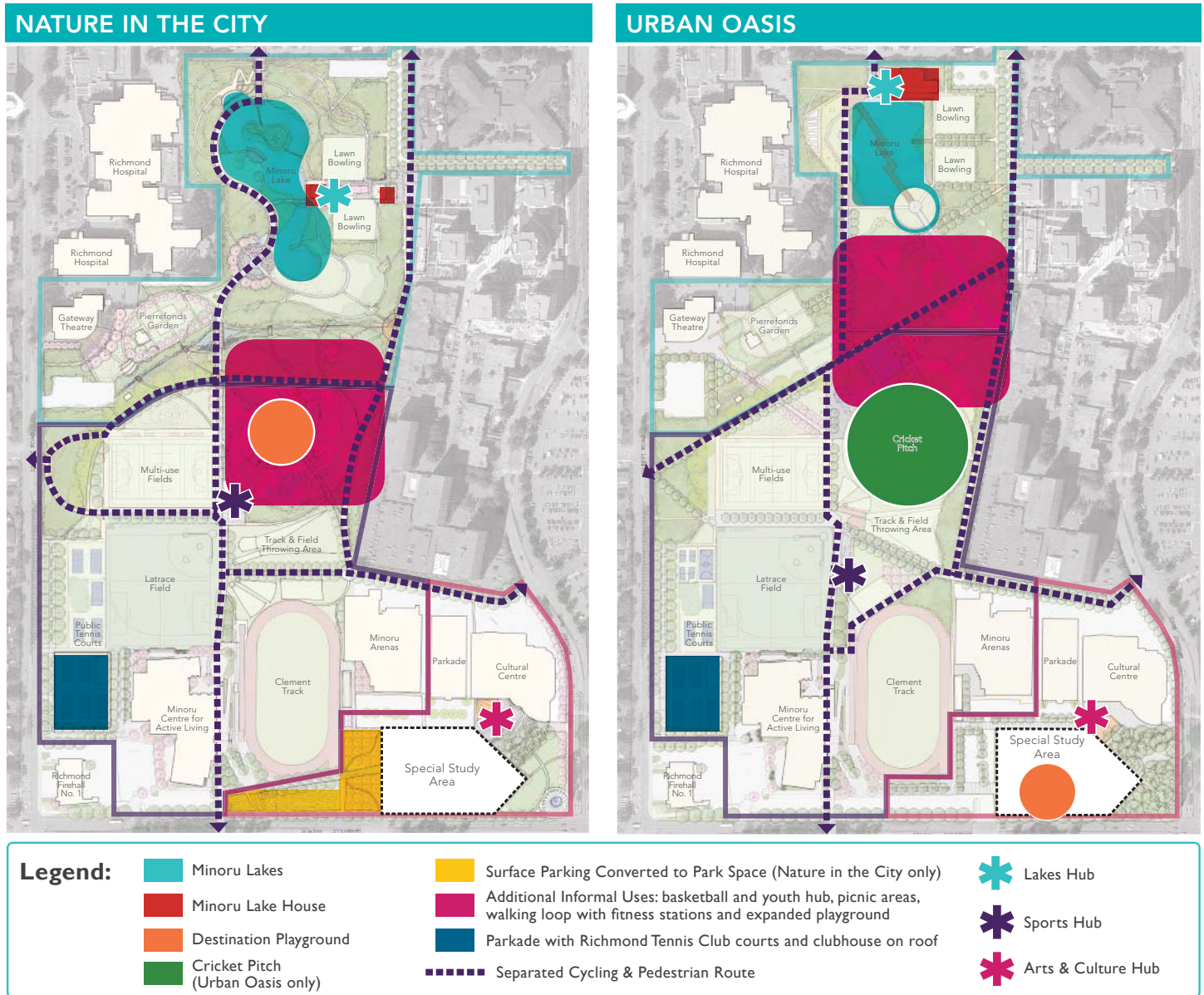
# URBAN OASIS

## CHARACTER

The Urban Oasis concept is more structured and offers an exciting urban experience balanced by natural areas.



# BIG MOVES AND KEY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE OPTIONS



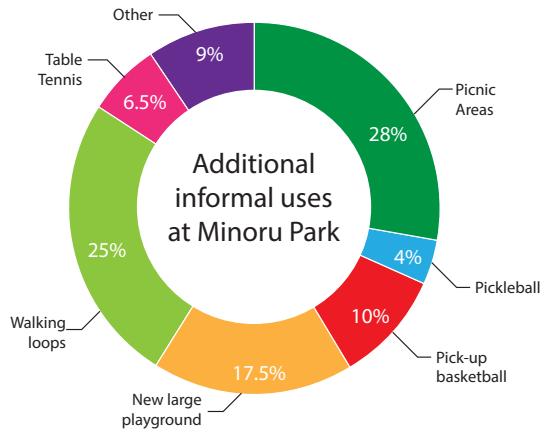
- ### Nature in the City Defining Features
- » Larger lakes and shape to remain more similar to existing
  - » Minoru Lake House and Richmond Lawn Bowling Clubhouse kept separated on east side of lake, lawn bowling greens remain as existing
  - » Cricket Pitch relocated to another site outside Minoru Park
  - » Informal uses (play, picnic, youth activities, fitness loop) in the Active Living District
  - » Destination playground in the Active Living District (former cricket pitch)
  - » Sports Hub adjacent to the destination playground
  - » Surface parking on the south and east sides of Clement Track removed
  - » Special Study Area suggested use: building (use TBD) with under-building parking

- ### Urban Oasis Defining Features
- » Smaller lake to create more space for woodlands, activity areas, and pathways
  - » Minoru Lake House and Richmond Lawn Bowling Clubhouse combined at north end of lake, south lawn bowling green relocated to north to be adjacent to clubhouse
  - » Cricket Pitch retained
  - » Informal uses (play, picnic, youth activities, fitness loop) in the Lakes area
  - » Destination playground in the Arts and Culture District (Special Study Area)
  - » Sports Hub adjacent to the Track and Field area
  - » Surface parking on the south and east sides of Clement Track retained
  - » Special Study Area suggested use: park space with a destination playground

- ### Big Moves (common to both concepts)
- » Development of a parkade on the west side of the Minoru Centre for Active Living and placement of the tennis courts and related facilities on the parkade roof (long-term)
  - » Introduction of major east-west and north-south separated cycling and pedestrian paths (short/medium-term)

# PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE AND LETSTALKRICHMOND SURVEY RESULTS

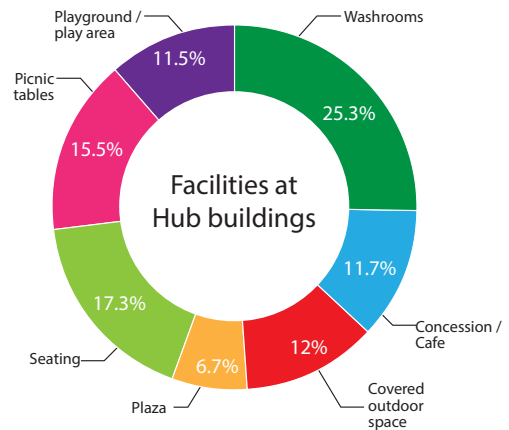
## I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE FOLLOWING INFORMAL USES ADDED AT MINORU PARK:



### COMMONLY SUGGESTED "OTHER" IDEAS:

- » Drinking fountains
- » Water park/spray park
- » Green spaces (e.g., lawn)

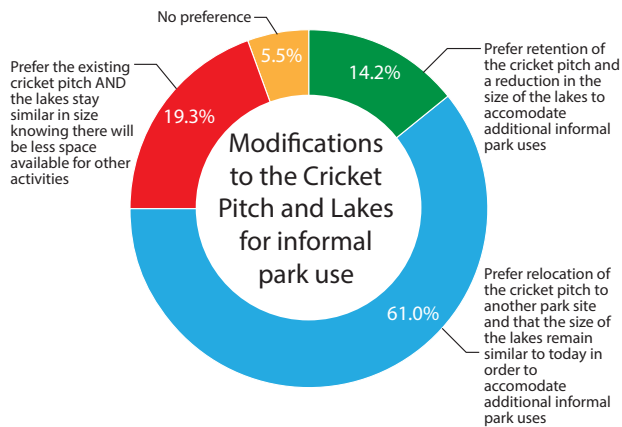
## I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES INCLUDED IN AND AROUND THE HUBS IN MINORU PARK:



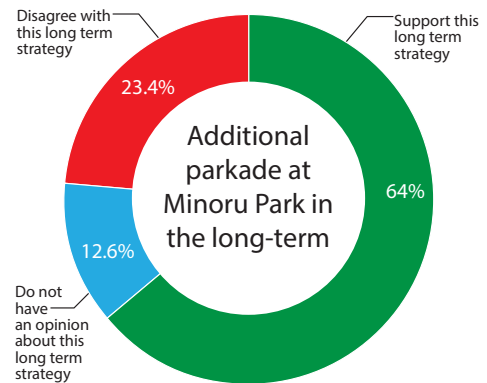
### COMMENTS:

- » Concerns about litter / clean-up around food service areas

## MY PREFERRED APPROACH FOR ACCOMMODATING MORE INFORMAL ACTIVITIES IN MINORU PARK IS:



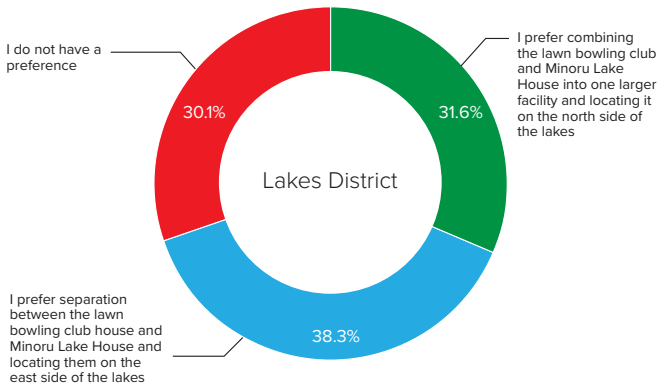
## MY PREFERENCE FOR ADDING PARKING VIA ADDITION OF A PARKADE ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE MINORU CENTRE FOR ACTIVE LIVING AND PLACEMENT OF TENNIS ON THE ROOF IS:



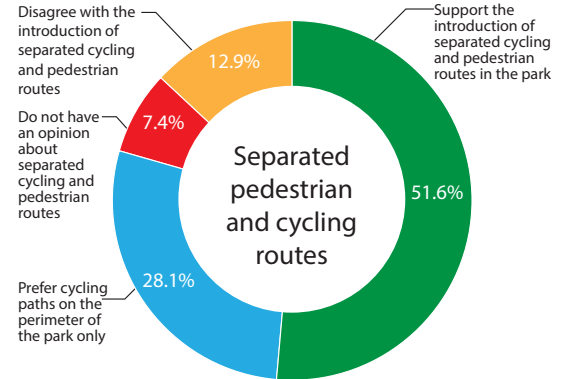
## PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE PHOTOS



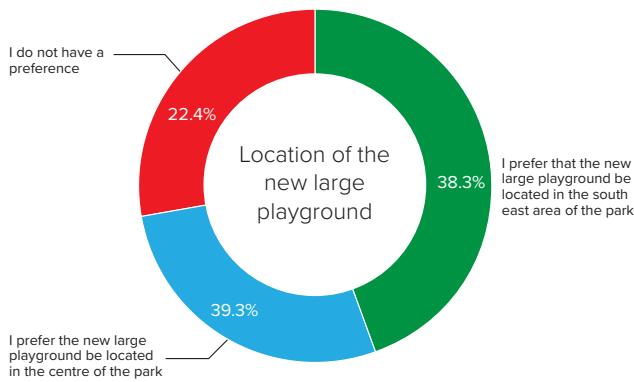
**MY PREFERENCE FOR THE LOCATION AND CONFIGURATION OF MINORU LAKE HOUSE (AKA LAKES DISTRICT HUB) IS:**



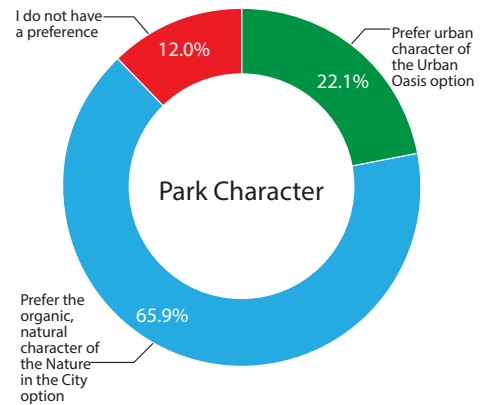
**MY PREFERENCE FOR SEPARATED CYCLING AND PEDESTRIAN ROUTES IN MINORU PARK IS:**



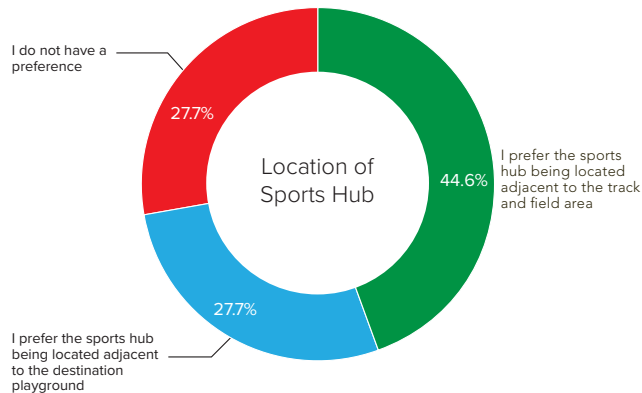
**MY PREFERENCE FOR THE LOCATION OF A NEW LARGE PLAYGROUND IN MINORU PARK IS:**



**THE CHARACTER I PREFER FOR THE FUTURE MINORU PARK IS:**



**MY PREFERENCE FOR THE LOCATION OF A SPORTS HUB IN MINORU PARK IS:**



**SAMPLE COMMENTS**

*"Maintain tranquility and place nature as the most important factor in the future design plan."*

*"I love the park the way it is. Quiet walks through beautiful plants by a lake. I would like to keep as many of the plants as possible. I love the lakes."*

*"My only thought is this park is beautiful. Please keep it that way."*

*"Given the increasing number of older adults in Richmond who are actively using the park on a regular basis, please ensure paths are well lit, smoothly surfaced and easily accessible to wheelchairs and walking aids."*

*"We have enough 'urban' in city centre. Minoru Park should be an escape from that."*





Minoru Park is a highly popular recreational and cultural precinct located in the civic heart of Richmond’s City Centre area and offers both local and city-wide services. It supports active sport use, encourages informal community activity, and contains a wide variety of facilities such as Richmond Cultural Centre, Richmond Public Library, Richmond Gateway Theatre, Minoru Place Activity Centre (Seniors Centre), and Minoru Arenas. Understanding what is currently working well in the park and valued by the community, as well as what needs improvement, was a starting point for the Minoru Park Vision Plan.

### 3.1 VALUES AND CONCERNS

Values and concerns were uncovered through analysis of existing site features, input from Richmond staff, stakeholders, and community members, and review of relevant background information.

The planning process was informed by the policies and directions outlined following guiding documents:

- » Richmond 2041 Official Community Plan
- » City Centre Area Plan
- » City of Richmond 2022 Parks and Open Space Strategy
- » Age-Friendly Assessment and Action Plan
- » Youth Service Plan
- » Community Wellness Strategy
- » 2015 Community Services Community Needs Assessment
- » Richmond’s Ecological Network Management Strategy
- » City Centre Public Art Plan

The City Centre Area Plan includes particular policies that were incorporated into planning for Minoru Park:

- » Contribution to neighbourhood character through appropriate and innovative design, use of appropriate materials, and designs that encourage social gathering and a sense of place.
- » Provision of ecological amenities (e.g., natural areas, stormwater management, urban forest).
- » Enhanced connectivity to major greenways and neighbourhood green links.
- » Accommodation of a diversity of cultural and recreational activities, including formal and informal recreational activities.

The **Values and Concerns Map** on the following page outlines key considerations identified in the early stages of the Minoru Park Vision Plan and provides a summary overview of the site analysis.

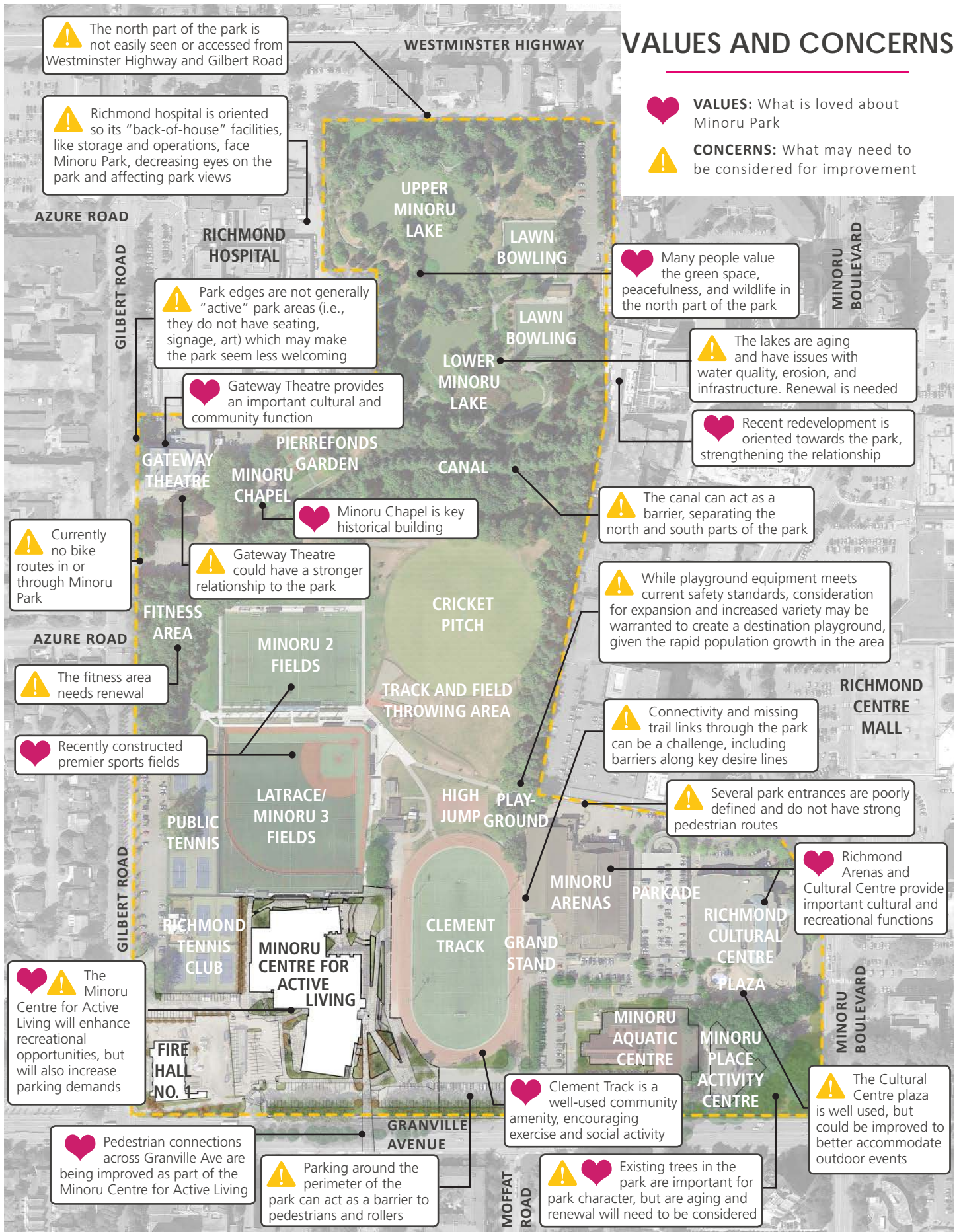


Figure 2: Values and Concerns Map

## 3.2 PARK COMPOSITION

One of the defining features of Minoru Park is its diversity of elements and experiences. While this diversity creates a richness that attracts park users of all ages and interests; it also presents a challenge of accommodating informal activities and places to just “be” in the park. An important concern identified through the process was that Minoru Park would become too “full,” leaving few opportunities for enjoyment of nature and informal recreation.

As previously mentioned, Minoru Park is designated as a city-wide park; however, due to the high number of residents that live in walking distance of it, and the community-oriented facilities that it contains, it also functions as a Neighbourhood Park. Neighbourhood parks typically include community and family-oriented informal park and recreation services such as walking routes, playgrounds, picnic areas, basketball courts, as well as facilities and infrastructure for community-scale programming and events. These community and family-oriented park and recreation services should be present in Minoru Park, as it is a major park serving a high density, urban neighbourhood.

Figure 3 shows the current general arrangement of informal uses and active uses in Minoru Park. Maintaining and expanding informal recreation spaces was identified as an objective for planning for the park’s future.

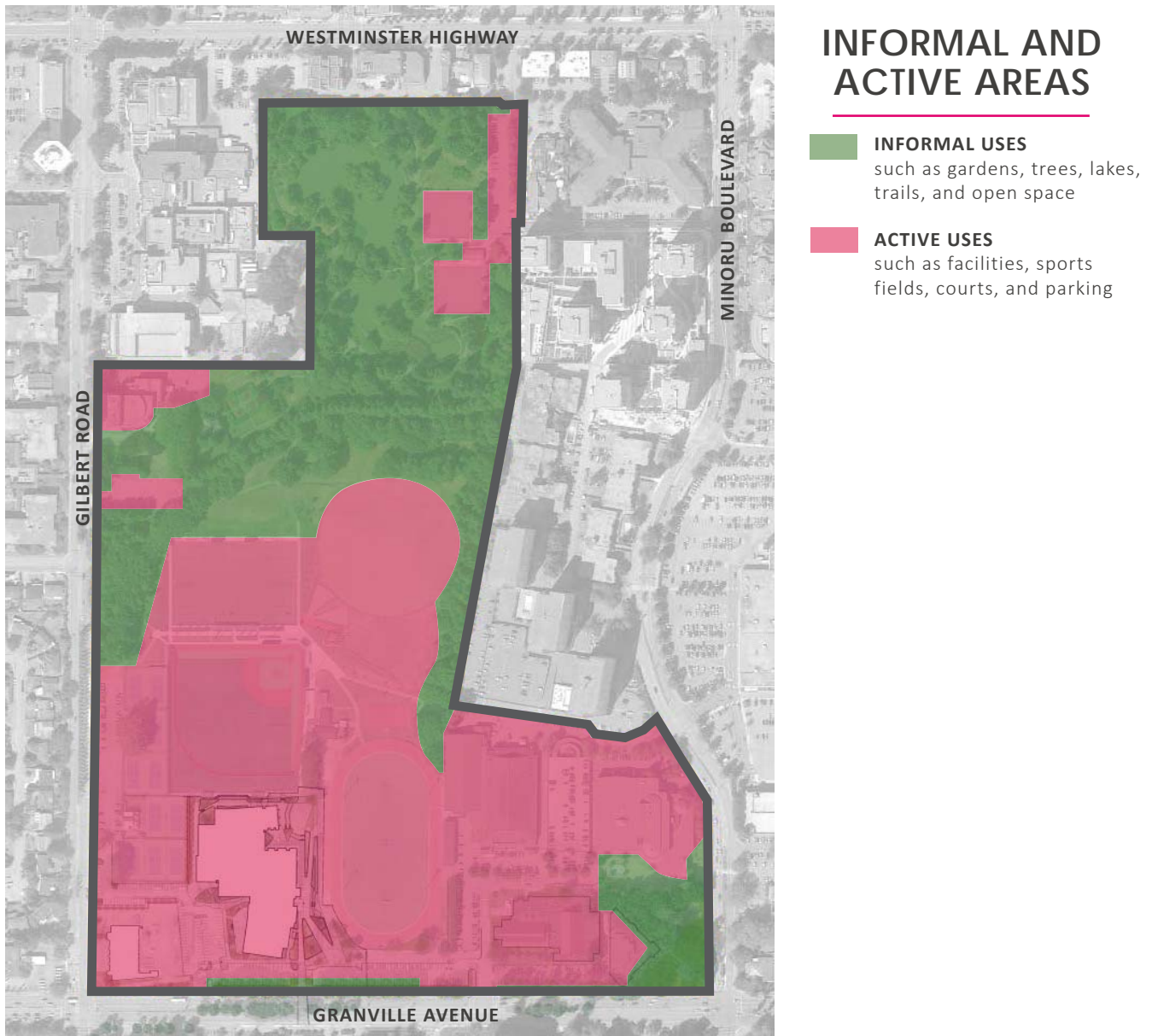


Figure 3: Minoru Park Informal and Active Spaces





04

## VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles were generated based on the results of the site analysis and staff, stakeholder, and community engagement. They build on Minoru Park's existing strengths and valued aspects, while simultaneously looking forward to envision what the park might become in response to Richmond's rapidly growing and diversifying population and community needs. The Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles are aspirational and future-oriented and will function as touchstones when decisions are being considered about renewal and redevelopment in and around the park. The Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles were adopted by Council in May 2017.

### 4.1 VISION

The Vision describes a long-term future for Minoru Park. It provides a reminder about the spirit and intent for the park, encouraging progress towards this community outlook.

**Minoru Park is a dynamic city-wide park** located in the core of the City Centre.

**Minoru Park reflects the rich diversity of Richmond's community** through its wide variety of premier recreational, arts, culture, and heritage facilities and programming.

**Minoru Park will play an increasingly central role in the lives of Richmond residents,** and in particular, residents of the City Centre.

**Minoru Park will be a signature civic green space** and a vibrant social and cultural gathering place that is the heart and soul of the City Centre.



GP 02



## 4.2 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Guiding Principles support realization of the Vision by providing specific guidance for future projects. These principles act as a “checklist” for improvements; if a proposed project meets these principles, it will support the spirit and intent of the Minoru Park Vision Plan.

### AN URBAN GATEWAY TO NATURE



#### A PLACE WHERE...

- » People have the opportunity to connect with nature and seek physical, social, spiritual, and emotional well-being.
- » Richmond’s ecological heritage and natural processes are made visible and celebrated.
- » The site’s existing natural features such as the lakes and canals are showcased.
- » Richmond’s Ecological Network Strategy is applied and brought to life.

#### DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

- » Protect the site’s heritage and significant trees.
- » Develop a tree renewal plan and ensure that the park continues to have a mature tree canopy.
- » Celebrate native plants and environmental best practices.
- » Maximize the park’s green edges.
- » Reconstruct the lakes and canal and seek opportunities for them to provide ecological functions.
- » Maximize the park’s positive contribution to Richmond’s overall ecological health, adaptability, and resilience through carbon sequestering, habitat creation, and stormwater capture.
- » Develop resource management strategies for maintenance and operations.

### WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE



#### A PLACE WHERE...

- » People can gather, play, pursue active living, and feel connected to their community.
- » People feel comfortable and relaxed regardless of activity.
- » Exciting and diverse year-round programming is promoted.
- » People of all ages and abilities are welcomed and feel comfortable.
- » A general sense of “please walk on the grass” is invoked and people feel invited to use all areas.
- » Multi-cultural and multi-generational interaction is facilitated and encouraged.

#### DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

- » Establish more informal, no-matter-the-weather gathering and seating areas for socialization.
- » Employ age-friendly design practices such as rest stops at regular intervals along pathways and benches with backs and arm rests.
- » Create a destination playground that offers a range of play opportunities.
- » Support programs and opportunities for “pick-up” recreation.
- » As redevelopment occurs at the park’s edges, seek opportunities to improve interfaces and linkages particularly to Minoru Boulevard and Westminster Highway.
- » Dedicate space for outdoor programming with appropriate infrastructure (e.g., flexible areas for special events).
- » Diversify the cricket pitch space and make it more multi-functional to enable alternative uses outside of cricket season.

## ENRICHED WITH ARTS, CULTURE, AND HERITAGE



### A PLACE WHERE...

- » History and culture are celebrated in a memorable, unique place in the city.
- » Lively arts and cultural programming is supported and promoted in the park, engaging and inspiring people.
- » Memories are shared and stories are told.
- » Creativity and expression are encouraged.

### DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

- » Celebrate the history of the site and features such as its former use as a race horse track and the remnant heritage Oak trees, and develop an interpretation strategy.
- » Develop a public art program that celebrates and strengthens the park's identity and character.
- » Support Richmond Cultural Centre events and programs through creation of highly functional, flexible outdoor spaces (e.g., a covered plaza that can accommodate outdoor dance classes and performances and / or the Children's Festival).
- » Link together arts, culture, and heritage facilities and explore the potential to create themed walking routes (e.g., Minoru Park Art Walk, Minoru Memories, Heritage Stroll).
- » Enliven the park with seasonal / annual artistic display garden installations (e.g., Jardins de Metis).
- » Make Minoru Park the storytelling place in the city.

## ALIVE WITH EVENTS AND SPORTS



### A PLACE WHERE...

- » Major sports and community-based events add to the vibrancy of the park and City Centre.
- » People of all abilities are supported and motivated to get outside and move.
- » Activities and events make people want to participate and linger.
- » Athletes are inspired to achieve their personal best.

### DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

- » Retain and protect the existing premier sports facilities towards further establishing the southwest area as a destination sports complex.
- » Add appropriately scaled event infrastructure in key locations (e.g., electrical kiosks, water hook-ups, and multi-purpose, all-season surfaces).

## INTEGRATED AND CONNECTED



### A PLACE THAT...

- » Is connected to the surrounding City Centre path network.
- » Is integrated and complimentary to other parks in the City Centre green network / parks system.
- » Is easy to access by all modes of transportation.
- » People can navigate safely, comfortably, and intuitively.

### DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

- » Strengthen pedestrian connections to the park from the City Centre and adjacent neighbourhoods.
- » Promote programming that compliments other nearby parks.
- » Physically link parks within the City Centre towards an integrated and green recreation network.
- » Develop a clear hierarchy of pathways that prioritize pedestrian safety particularly through parking areas around the park perimeter.
- » Create walking loops with distance markers.
- » Provide interesting and functional linkages between park facilities and features.
- » Establish protocols for cyclists including designated bike paths while also prescribing pedestrian-only routes.
- » Improve the interface and connections with Richmond Hospital.
- » Develop a comprehensive wayfinding system that clearly identifies entry points and circulation routes (e.g., arrival features, orientation maps, and directional signage).
- » Employ consistent site furnishings and paving materials that are reflective of the park's context, character, features, and high usage.
- » Improve the profile of the park around its perimeter especially along Westminster Highway.
- » Encourage stakeholders and community groups to connect with each other and collaborate to activate the park.
- » Emphasize permeability and accessibility through strong view corridors into the site.





GP - 106

## 4.3 MINORU PARK VISION PLAN ORGANIZATION

### 4.3.1 FORM AND CHARACTER

A defining feature of Minoru Park is the diversity of spaces it encompasses. The park's character is organized along a north-south axis. The south edge services civic and urban functions, including a wide range of recreational, arts, and cultural facilities and amenities. Moving north, the park transitions into a quieter space, with more natural and organic forms that provide environmental benefits and peace and tranquility (see Figure 4).

### 4.3.2 PARK DISTRICTS

The organizing framework for the Minoru Park Vision Plan begins with the well established uses and the facilities and infrastructure that support them. The major features – the lakes in the north, the cluster of recreation and sport facilities in the south centre, and the cultural centre in the southeast – provide the centres for three distinct districts (see Figure 5):

- » Lakes District
- » Active Living District
- » Arts and Culture District

An updated park circulation network overlays the districts, uniting them as an integrated park space.

The districts will each have a unique form, character, and function that supports and reinforces their respective facilities and programming. Each district will include a central hub that offers amenities such as covered seating, washrooms, park information, and potential for food services. Clear and consistent wayfinding and signage will encourage visitors to explore each district as part of their Minoru Park experience.

The theme and character of each district are described on subsequent pages.



Figure 4: Minoru Park Form and Character Spectrum

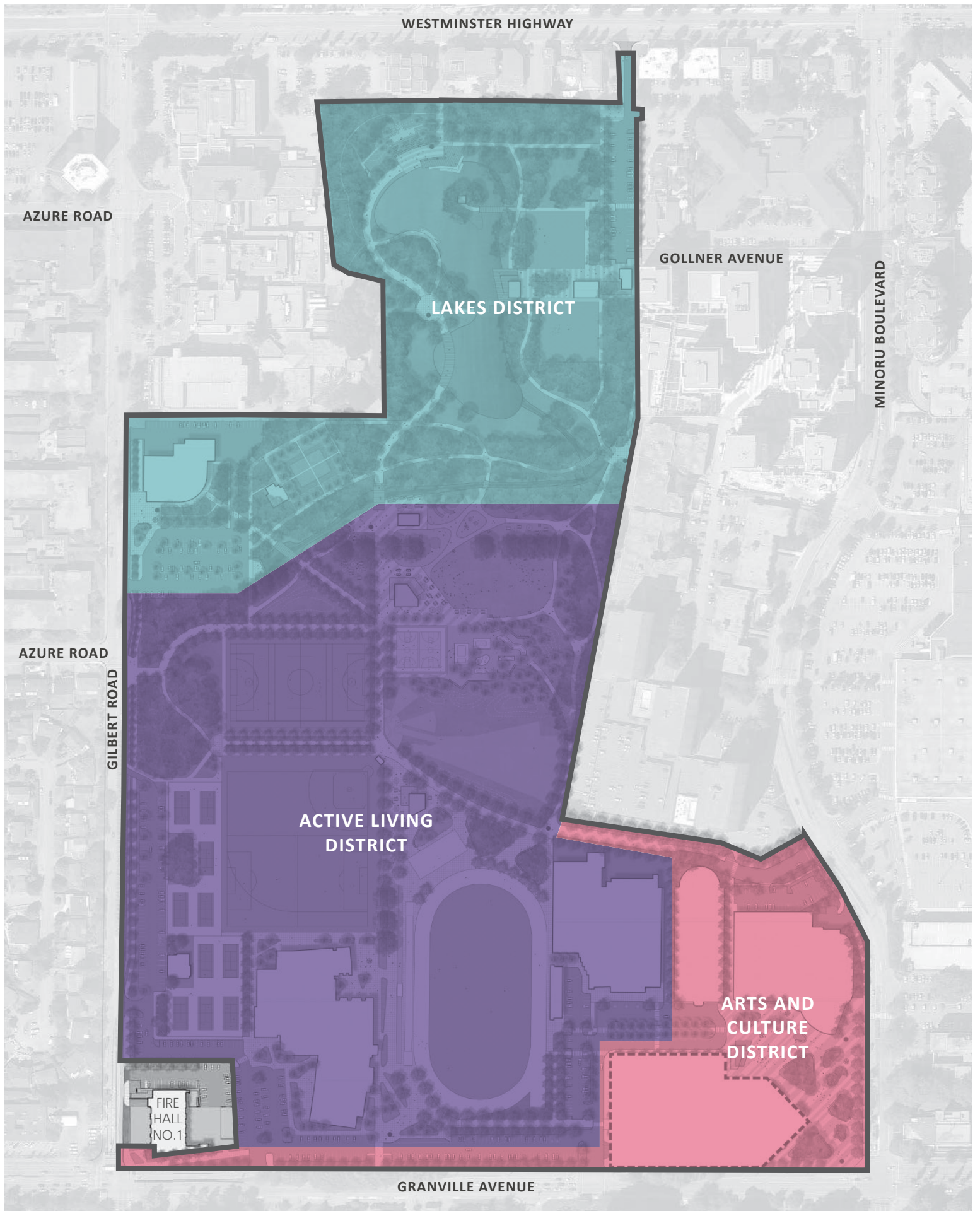


Figure 5: Minoru Park Districts

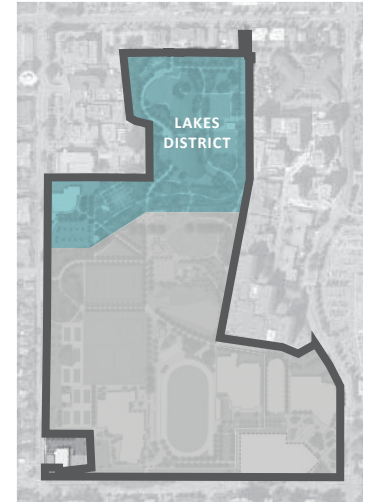
## LAKES DISTRICT

The Lakes District is located in the northern part of Minoru Park and encompasses Minoru Lakes, the canal, Lawn Bowling Club facilities, Minoru Chapel, and the Gateway Theatre.

The character of the Lakes District will be more natural than the other park districts and will invite exploration, relaxation, and reflection. It is envisioned as a place of discovery and storytelling, where people can wander, connect with nature, and seek respite from the bustle of the densifying City Centre area.

The Minoru Park Vision Plan proposes retention and renewal of the lakes and canal, improved pathways, addition of seating and picnic areas, and development of a new hub – the Minoru Lake House – and an adjacent outdoor plaza that incorporates covered outdoor seating, views over the lakes, public restrooms, and potentially a café or refreshment kiosk, as well as a new lawn bowling clubhouse. Retention of existing mature trees will be particularly important, along with establishment of a sustainable, low maintenance plant palette beneath the tree canopy.

The Lakes District will be a place where people can stroll along shaded, tree-lined pathways, discover Richmond’s ecological and cultural history, and sit, do yoga, tai chi, or meditate, while enjoying peaceful lake views.



See Section 5.4 for detailed planning directions for the Lakes District.



Figure 6: Inspiration for the future Lakes District

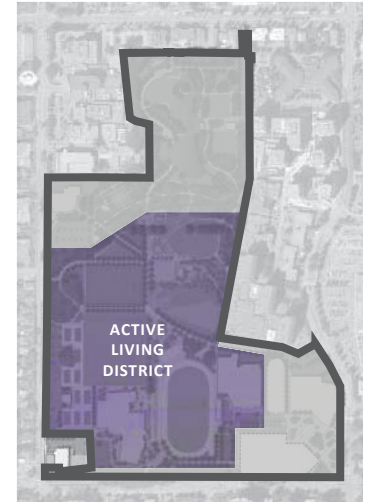
## ACTIVE LIVING DISTRICT

The Active Living District is located in the centre of Minoru Park, from Granville Avenue up to the canal, and encompasses the Minoru Arenas, Clement Track and Field, the grandstand, Minoru Centre for Active Living, Richmond Tennis Club facility, public tennis courts, Minoru 2 Field, Minoru 3/Latrace Fields, and the Cricket Pitch area.

The character of the Active Living District will be playful, lively, and energetic. Building on the existing facilities, this district is envisioned as becoming a place for play, wellness, and physical performance.

In addition to the multitude of existing active sport use facilities, the Minoru Park Vision Plan proposes adding more open-ended and pick-up active uses such as basketball, walking/running/rolling circuits, fitness stations, play features, pickleball, and picnic and seating areas.

This district will be a place where all Richmond residents and visitors alike can be inspired by athletes practicing and competing and where residents can get outside and get moving. It will continue to facilitate regular sport team practices and games, as well as large tournaments and track meets, all while encouraging residents of all ages and abilities to participate in active living. In addition to new informal active uses, the Minoru Park Vision Plan proposes upgraded trail connections and central hubs that are imagined as dynamic places where, depending on the season, day, or time, sports teams can rest between games, youth can gather and hang out, residents can practice dance and tai chi, or people of all ages can play table games.



See Section 5.5 for detailed planning directions for the Active Living District.



Figure 7: Inspiration for the future Active Living District

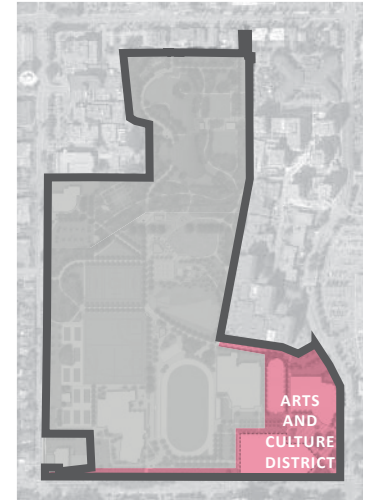
## ARTS AND CULTURE DISTRICT

The Arts and Culture District is located in the southeast area of Minoru Park and encompasses the existing Minoru Place Activity Centre and Minoru Aquatics Centre sites, the Richmond Cultural Centre and surrounding outdoor spaces, and the Granville Avenue street edge.

The character of the Arts and Culture District will be urban compared to the other districts – creative, contemporary, and bold. This district is envisioned as becoming an exciting and colourful hub of community cultural events and artful displays.

The Minoru Park Vision Plan proposes an enhanced plaza and event space at the heart of this district, reinforcing Richmond’s civic spine along Granville Avenue, which starts at Richmond City Hall and continues to Fire Hall No. 1, and providing activity space that complements the Richmond Cultural Centre. The relationship between the park and the street will be strengthened, creating a dynamic park edge that invites people to explore.

This district will be a place where community talent is showcased and residents are inspired to get creative and participate in artful expression. It will continue to host events, with adaptable festival and performance spaces that welcome all types and sizes of celebration.



See Section 5.6 for detailed planning directions for the Arts and Culture District.

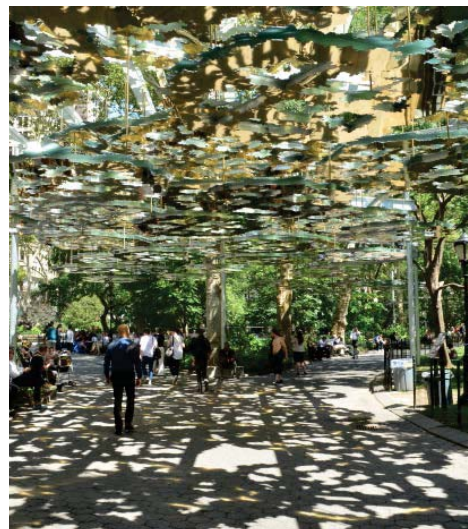


Figure 8: Inspiration for the future Arts and Culture District

## PARK CIRCULATION

A cohesive pathway system will connect the entire park, physically and visually linking the three park districts and strengthening routes between destinations.

The circulation system is envisioned as becoming a complete network that allows walkers, rollers, and vehicles to move seamlessly throughout the park.

The Minoru Park Vision Plan proposes a system of trails that provides an easy-to-navigate and comfortable network, defining strong primary routes that guide people to their destinations. Lighting and trees will line these routes, increasing the feeling of safety and comfort as people move through the park during both daytime and evening hours. The pathways will be accessible and inviting to users of all ages and abilities, providing separation between walkers and rollers on key routes. Minoru Park's circulation system will connect beyond the park's boundary, helping to create key linkages in the neighbourhood network. The park entries will be legible, exciting, and inviting.

As significant population growth continues in the City Centre area, balancing access to the park by vehicles, rollers, and pedestrians, as well as maintaining sufficient open park space, will be a priority. The Minoru Park Vision Plan encourages strategies, such as structured parking, to maximize park space, while still accommodating the demands of park facilities.



See Section 5.7 for detailed planning directions for Park Circulation.



Figure 9: Inspiration for future Park Circulation



GP - 113





05

# MINORU PARK VISION PLAN

## 5.1 CREATING THE VISION PLAN

The Minoru Park Vision Plan is the outcome of a comprehensive planning process that analyzed and integrated information from multiple sources. It is the result of careful study of the park today, consideration of community desires and needs for tomorrow, and response to a strong Vision and Guiding Principles for the future.





## 5.2 VISION PLAN OVERVIEW

The illustrated Vision Plan summarizes the proposed Vision for Minoru Park. This plan is an illustration of how the Vision and Guiding Principles could be incorporated in the future and will be used to set planning directions and priorities. While many of Minoru Park's existing facilities will remain for the foreseeable future, the Vision Plan provides directions for the spaces and connections that are in need of update to form a cohesive and exciting future for Minoru Park. The Minoru Park Vision Plan will be a guide to future phases of design and park development that is focused on maintaining Minoru Park as a valued park space.

The Minoru Park Vision Plan was developed based on:

- » Major recent changes in Minoru Park;
- » The growing residential population surrounding the park and resulting need for additional park services in the future;
- » The City Centre Area Plan and Minoru Park's shifting urban context;
- » Key site issues and opportunities, including the need to address aging park infrastructure;
- » The Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles;
- » The favoured key aspects of the preliminary concept options presented during the Phase Two engagement process; and
- » Staff, stakeholders, and community input received throughout the entire process.

### IMPLEMENTING THE MINORU PARK VISION PLAN OVER TIME

As the City advances towards implementation of the Minoru Park Vision Plan, the following guidelines are provided:

- » **It is a long-term plan** – Parks, and especially those serving the entire city, are living organisms. They require ongoing planning for renewal and regeneration to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the community that is growing and evolving around them. Change in Minoru Park will happen in phases over time.
- » **Adaptation will be required** – The long-term nature of the Minoru Park Vision Plan requires flexibility and adaptation to unforeseen changes and continued input. Ideas, circumstances, or needs not known today, may become important components in Minoru Park's future. Continuing to reflect on the Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles, while encouraging creative future planning, will allow positive opportunities to emerge while managing potential changes that could negatively affect the park.
- » **Ongoing relationships with stakeholders are needed** – The opportunity for varied experiences in Minoru Park is one of its primary assets; this diversity of use brings an extensive list of users and stakeholders who care about Minoru Park. Change and evolution can be challenging for those who use and love a space. Continuing to work closely with stakeholders to find a good balance of amenities and programs, while being realistic and considering solutions that benefit many, will require ongoing discussion and efforts from all those involved.
- » **It will be important to plan, implement, and re-assess** – A park is an integrated system. Changes to one component may ripple throughout the park. In addition, neighbourhood changes happening all around the park will require careful consideration. The Vision Plan provides a framework for the park's evolution, but reviewing current needs and circumstances at each step toward implementation will help ensure ongoing positive gains.

# MINORU PARK VISION PLAN

## LAKES DISTRICT

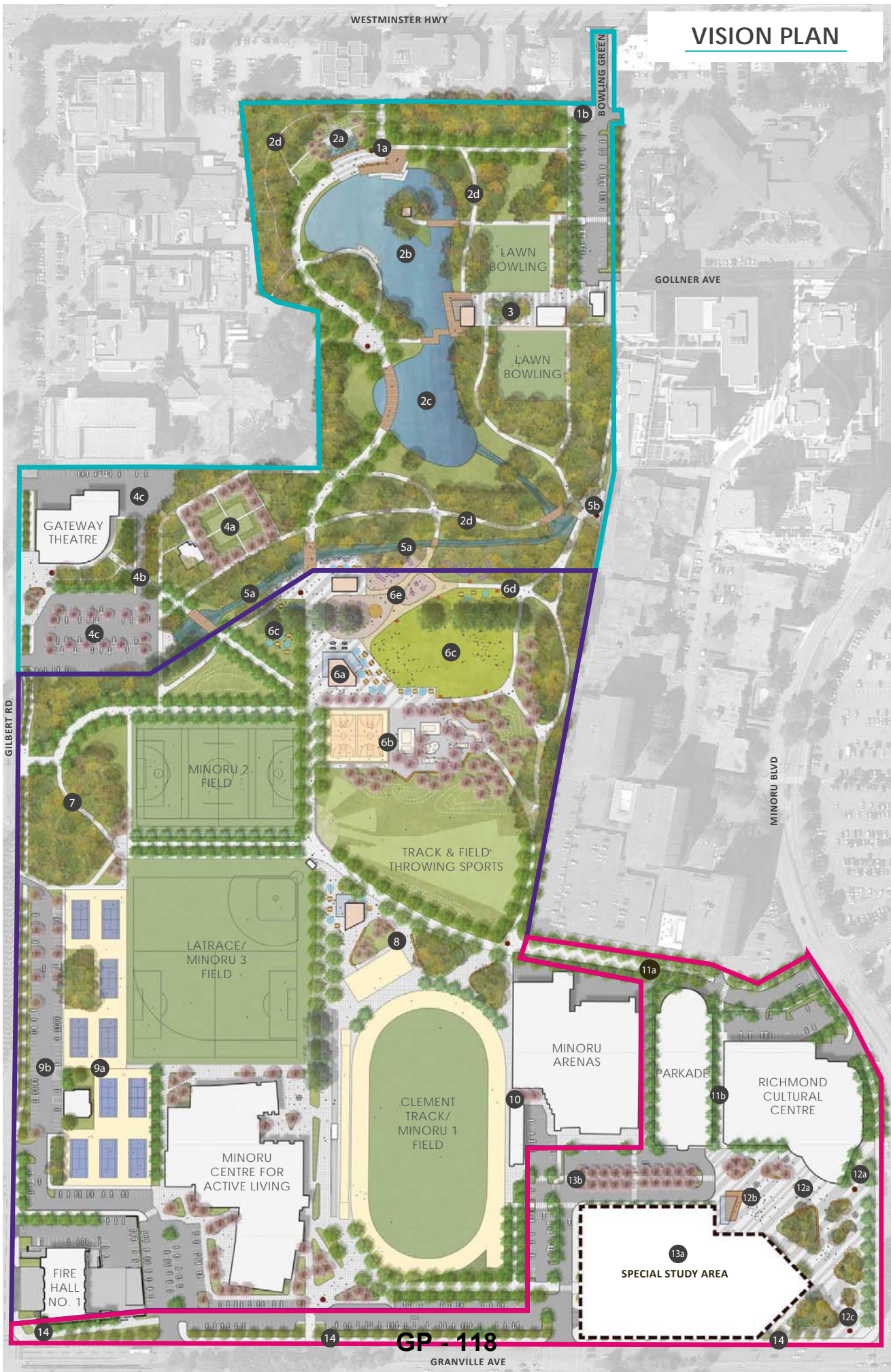
- 1a** ALDERBRIDGE GATE
  - attractive urban plaza with inviting lake lookout; and
  - regrading to provide views to the water, seating, high-quality paving, trees, lighting.
- 1b** BOWLING GREEN GATE
  - updated parking area; and
  - enhanced pedestrian entry with existing trees, strong walkways, signage, and paving.
- 2a** WATER ENTRY POND & WATERFALL
  - similar location and elevation to existing pond, but with enhanced seating overlook and stone features; and
  - walkway feature wrapping in front to provide views to waterfall.
- 2b** UPPER MINORU LAKE
  - redeveloped with new lining and circulation system;
  - similar size and layout to existing, with varied seating areas and opportunities to be close to the water; and
  - small central island with bridge access and lookout.
- 2c** LOWER MINORU LAKE
  - redeveloped with new lining and circulation system;
  - slightly smaller than existing with no island to allow space for an open lawn area at the south that catches the afternoon sun;
  - feature bridge and art elements at the connection between the upper and lower lakes; and
  - open channel overflow to the canal.
- 2d** MINORU LAKES STROLLING GARDENS
  - interconnected looping pathways with viewpoints and seating areas throughout lakes district;
  - green open space for informal play and picnicking; and
  - improved drainage at wet areas.
- 3** MINORU LAKE HOUSE & PLAZA
  - new lake hub featuring restrooms, cafe/concession, and covered seating overlooking the water;
  - existing lawn bowling greens remain;
  - central entry plaza connected to Gollner Avenue; and
  - the location of the replacement lawn bowling clubhouse is the subject of a separate report to Council as part of Major Facilities Phase 2 Program.
  - Note: the existing lawn bowling clubhouse is shown on the plan and will be co-ordinated with the final new clubhouse location.
- 4a** CHAPEL (PIERREFONDS) GARDENS
  - existing gardens with enhanced connectivity to the lakes.
- 4b** GATEWAY ENTRANCE
  - new connection featuring art elements that guides visitors between the central community hub and the Gateway Theatre; and
  - enhanced existing drop-off and limousine lane enhanced with feature paving, lighting, and existing large trees.
- 4c** GATEWAY PARKING
  - north parking lot reduced to enhance adjacent park space; and
  - south parking lot expanded to provide a net gain of parking for the area.
- 5a** RENEWED CANAL
  - enhanced canal banks with regrading/realignment to improve slope and new vegetation;
  - feature seating areas with stone seat steps overlooking canal;
  - more canal crossing points of varied scales, from feature bridges to smaller, unique crossings; and
  - interpretive components about canal function at inlet/outlet points.
- 5b** FUTURE EAST GATEWAY
  - new plaza created during future neighbourhood redevelopment; and
  - integrated with canal.

## ACTIVE LIVING DISTRICT

- 6a** CENTRAL COMMUNITY HUB
  - feature plaza with washrooms, varied seating, art features, casual gathering space, and wayfinding;
  - close proximity to the adventure playground, picnic zone, athletic fields, and fitness loop; and
  - potential small concession or coffee shop.
- 6b** YOUTH ZONE
  - basketball, skateboard, and table activities, casual seating, and covered spaces integrated within central community hub.
- 6c** THE FAMILY/GROUP PICNIC ZONE
  - large lawn areas with amenities for group or individual picnics;
  - multiple covered picnic spaces and unique seating areas that are adaptable to large gatherings and smaller casual use; and
  - open lawn space for informal recreation and play.
- 6d** FITNESS LOOP (WELLNESS WALK)
  - workout stations placed along a looped pathway network with distance markers.
- 6e** ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND
  - variety of exploratory features that encourage discovery, creativity, and fun; and
  - potential for large feature sculpture.
- 7** SHADE GROVE
  - existing mature trees with winding pathways and picnic tables; and
  - potential for heritage tree interpretation.
- 8** ACTIVE LIVING HUB
  - small building with restrooms, storage, caretaker's facility;
  - existing high jump re-oriented to improve circulation;
  - new tree area with seating and art features; and
  - potential small covered area for stretching, seating.
- 9a** TENNIS COURTS
  - existing public tennis courts and Richmond Tennis Club to remain.
- 9b** WEST PARKING
  - existing parking to remain in the near-to medium-term with improved egress to Gilbert Road.
- 10** CLEMENT TRACK AREA
  - existing track and artificial turf field to remain;
  - enhanced perimeter including strengthened pathway connections, decorative fencing, and trees; and
  - grandstand enhancements through art elements or long-term replacement.

## ARTS & CULTURE DISTRICT

- 11a** EAST GATE
  - inviting multi-use major park entry with tree allée, art elements, rolling/walking route; and
  - existing parking relocated, service access only, "back of house" arena activities improved/screened to enhance entry experience.
- 11b** PEDESTRIAN & ART ALLEY
  - lane closed to vehicle traffic and space transformed to walking/rolling lane with art features.
- 12a** ARTS & CULTURE HUB
  - redeveloped plaza with enhanced paving, seating, lighting, and arts components; and
  - supports events at the covered activity space.
- 12b** ARTS & CULTURE COVERED ACTIVITY SPACE
  - covered stage with sound and power, oriented for use on all sides; and
  - designed for hosting a range of event sizes from large community events and festivals to outdoor classes and activities.
- 12c** GRANVILLE GATE
  - inviting and intriguing entry from Granville Avenue; and
  - plaza space with seating in and around existing trees.
- 13a** SPECIAL STUDY AREA
  - long-term redevelopment of the existing Minoru Aquatics Centre and Minoru Place Activity Centre sites with final configuration to be determined.
  - Options being considered include:
    - flexible green park space;
    - parking including interim surface parking (0-5 years) and/or a long-term (15-24 years) parkade;
    - a civic facility with integrated parking; and
    - a civic facility with air space used for housing with integrated parking.
- 13b** FUTURE PARKING LOOP
  - long-term conversion to drop-off/pick-up loop with short-term parking areas;
  - bus turn-around and parking; and
  - central median with circulation and potential stormwater functions.
- 14** GRANVILLE ART WALK
  - widened walkway adjacent to Granville Avenue;
  - welcoming park edge, trees, art display areas; and
  - connections with the larger civic precinct art walk.



GP - 118

\*In the long-term (15-24 years) a proposed parkade (2+ storey, 250+ stalls) would be included. Final location, footprint and height to be determined.

## 5.3 SUMMARY OF KEY PLANNING DIRECTIONS

The Minoru Park Vision Plan applies the Guiding Principles and design and programming priorities to the park site. The following four sections provide a closer look at the proposed objectives and program elements for the different areas of Minoru Park, organized into the following Park Districts framework:

- » Lakes District
- » Active Living District
- » Arts and Culture District
- » Park Circulation

### TIMING

Throughout this plan, opportunities are identified as near-term, medium-term, or long-term priorities, with time horizons aligning with the City of Richmond's 2041 Official Community Plan, or ongoing projects.

- ▲ NEAR-TERM** 0 to 10 year time frame  
Opportunities that have a high degree of importance for the community, have few constraints that would limit implementation, and would have immediate benefit
- ▶ MEDIUM-TERM** 10 to 15 year time frame  
Opportunities that will benefit the overall park experience, but will require further design and planning and integration with future anticipated changes in the park and surrounding neighbourhood
- ▽ LONG-TERM** 15 to 24 year time frame  
Opportunities that will develop over a number of years, benefiting from integration with neighbourhood changes over time
- ONGOING** Over time  
Some of the directions in the Minoru Park Vision Plan, such as development of improved secondary pathways and addition of art elements, will occur on an ongoing basis as a component of related projects

These time frames are summarized in phasing diagrams shown in Section 6.1.

## 5.4 LAKES DISTRICT

The vision for the future lakes district maintains the peaceful, green oasis that the lakes are known for, while creating increasing environmental function and sustainability and providing a greater diversity of experiences.

### ISSUES

- » The existing lakes, while providing a valued community space, have deteriorated to a point where replacement is required.
- » There is a perceived barrier around the lakes, formed by surrounding buildings and the canal.
- » Limited lighting, dead end pathways, and heavy vegetation contribute to concerns about safety, especially during evening hours.
- » There are few amenities that encourage people to stay and enjoy the area.

### OBJECTIVES

- » Redevelop the lakes to become a more resilient feature, while retaining their natural character.
- » Incorporate natural stormwater elements from the park and surrounding areas into the lakes ecosystem.
- » Develop a circuit of meandering trails that encourage strolling and reflection.
- » Provide a diversity of spaces for relaxation and enjoyment and opportunities to be close to the water.
- » Maintain as many mature trees as possible and continue to build a healthy tree canopy.
- » Increase amenities including seating, washrooms, and access to food and drink.



**ILLUSTRATIVE RENDERING:** View looking northwest towards the lower lake. The future lakes will maintain a green, natural character while incorporating new features such as lawn areas, boardwalk sections, overlooks and viewpoints, and a new lakes district hub.

ELEMENTS OF THE LAKES DISTRICT

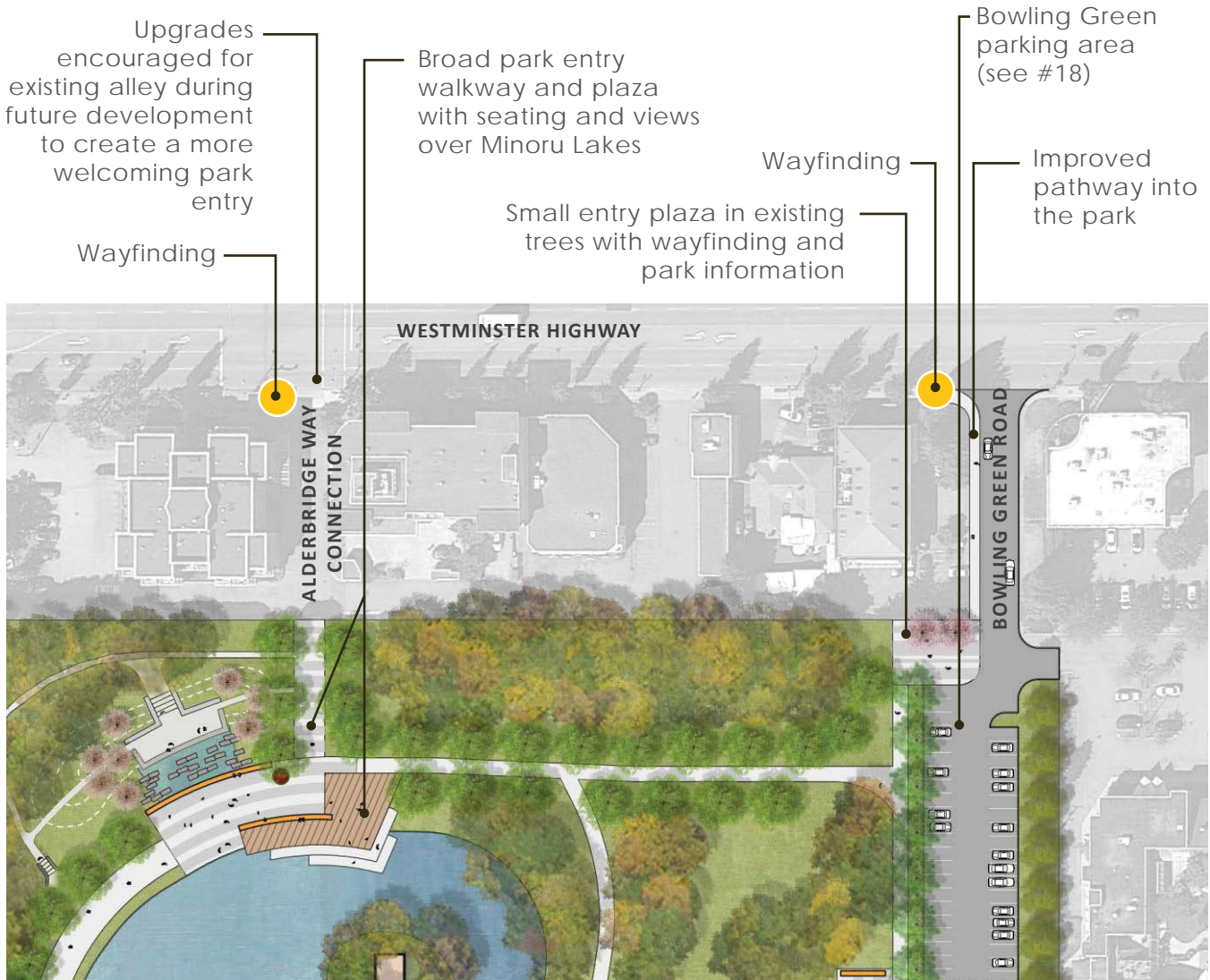




1 ALDERBRIDGE WAY AND BOWLING GREEN GATES

▲ NEAR-TERM

Alderbridge Way and Bowling Green Gate are envisioned as a highly visible and welcoming portals to the Lakes District from Westminster Highway.



**TODAY:** The existing Alderbridge Gate entry from Westminster Highway provides little invitation into Minoru Park.



**INSPIRATION:** The future park entries on the north side of the park will provide welcoming views and features.



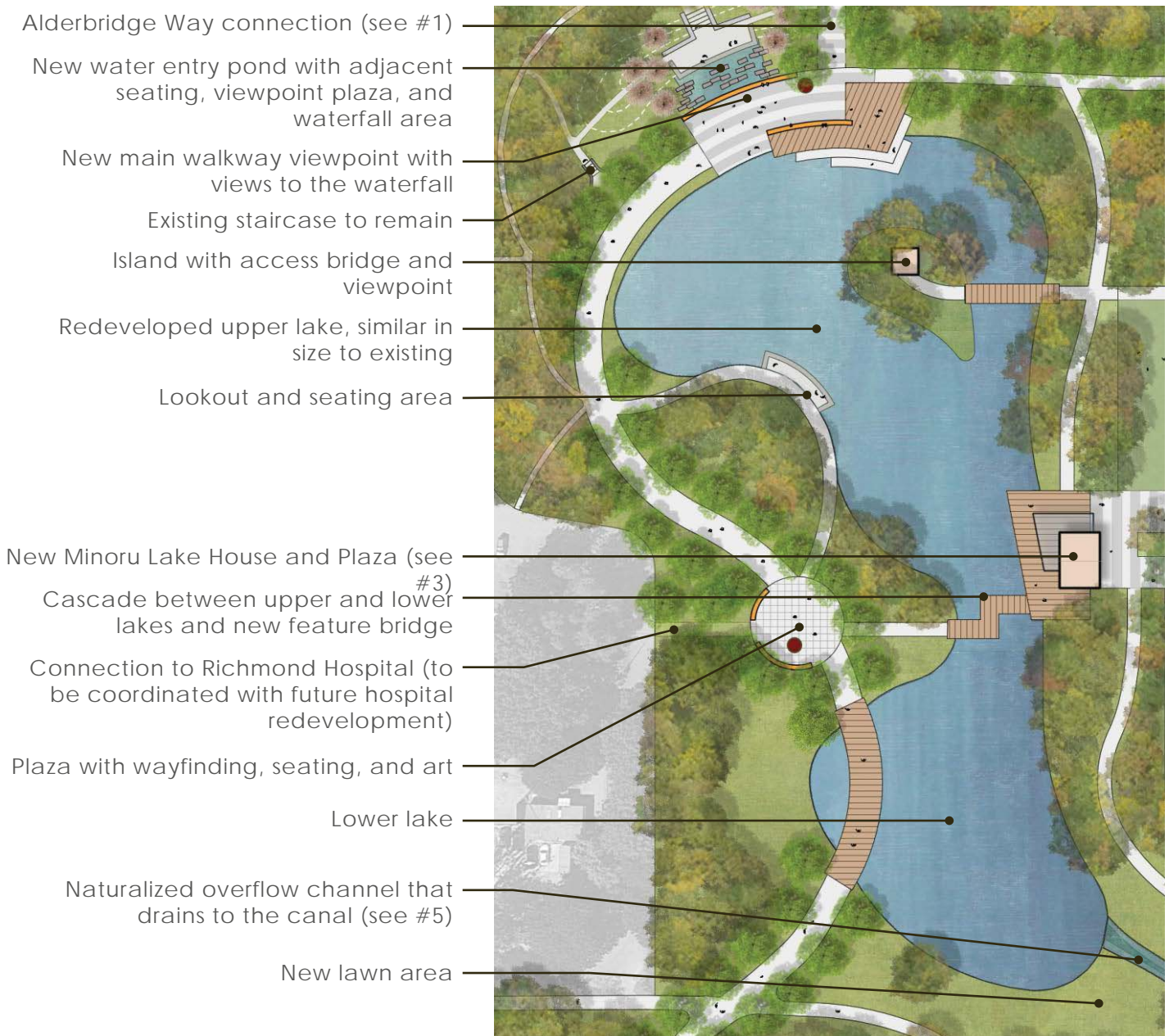
**INSPIRATION:** Views can be opened to guide visitors to the Minoru Lakes.

**2 MINORU LAKES**

**▲ NEAR-TERM**

The future Minoru Lakes will maintain a similar form and character to the existing, but with functional improvements to address deterioration, provide a more integrated environmental design, implement aesthetic enhancements, and provide opportunities for viewing and getting close to the water. The future Minoru Lakes will play many roles, including providing a sense of tranquility, ecological function, and stormwater services. The ultimate goal is a self-sustaining lakes system that is mainly supplied by rainwater, rather than potable water as it is today. Minoru Lakes includes four key elements:

- » A waterfall where water enters the lakes system;
- » A large upper lake and central island;
- » A smaller lower lake at the south end where water exits the lakes system; and
- » An open overflow channel that drains to the canal.



**GP - 123**



**TODAY:** The waterfall from the water entry pond is only visible at a distance from across the pond.



**INSPIRATION:** Strategic lighting could be used to highlight the new waterfall feature.



**TODAY:** Over the years, infrastructure deterioration has contributed to erosion, invasive species growth, and water quality issues in the lakes.



**INSPIRATION:** A mix of soft/natural and harder edge features that allow visitors to get close to the water should be incorporated along lake edges.



**INSPIRATION:** The lake lawn areas in Vondelpark in Amsterdam, Netherlands are popular destinations for sitting and relaxing in the sun.



**INSPIRATION:** The Conservatory Lake in Central Park is well known for its model sailboat races, which provide a fun opportunity to interact with water.

**INSPIRATION:** The lakes should continue to provide opportunities to view, explore, and be close to nature.

**3 MINORU LAKE HOUSE, PLAZA AND LAWN BOWLING CLUBHOUSE**

▲ NEAR-TERM / ► MEDIUM-TERM

A new Minoru Lake House and surrounding plaza is envisioned as the Lakes District Hub. The Lake House is intended to be a central destination with conveniences such as restrooms and seating, a large covered deck overlooking Minoru Lakes, as well as potential for a small commercial space (e.g., cafe or concession). Its design will make it an architectural feature. The existing bowling greens will remain, with a new plaza space between and a new clubhouse.



**INSPIRATION:** A large building overhang should be considered to shelter the lake lookout area for use during all seasons.

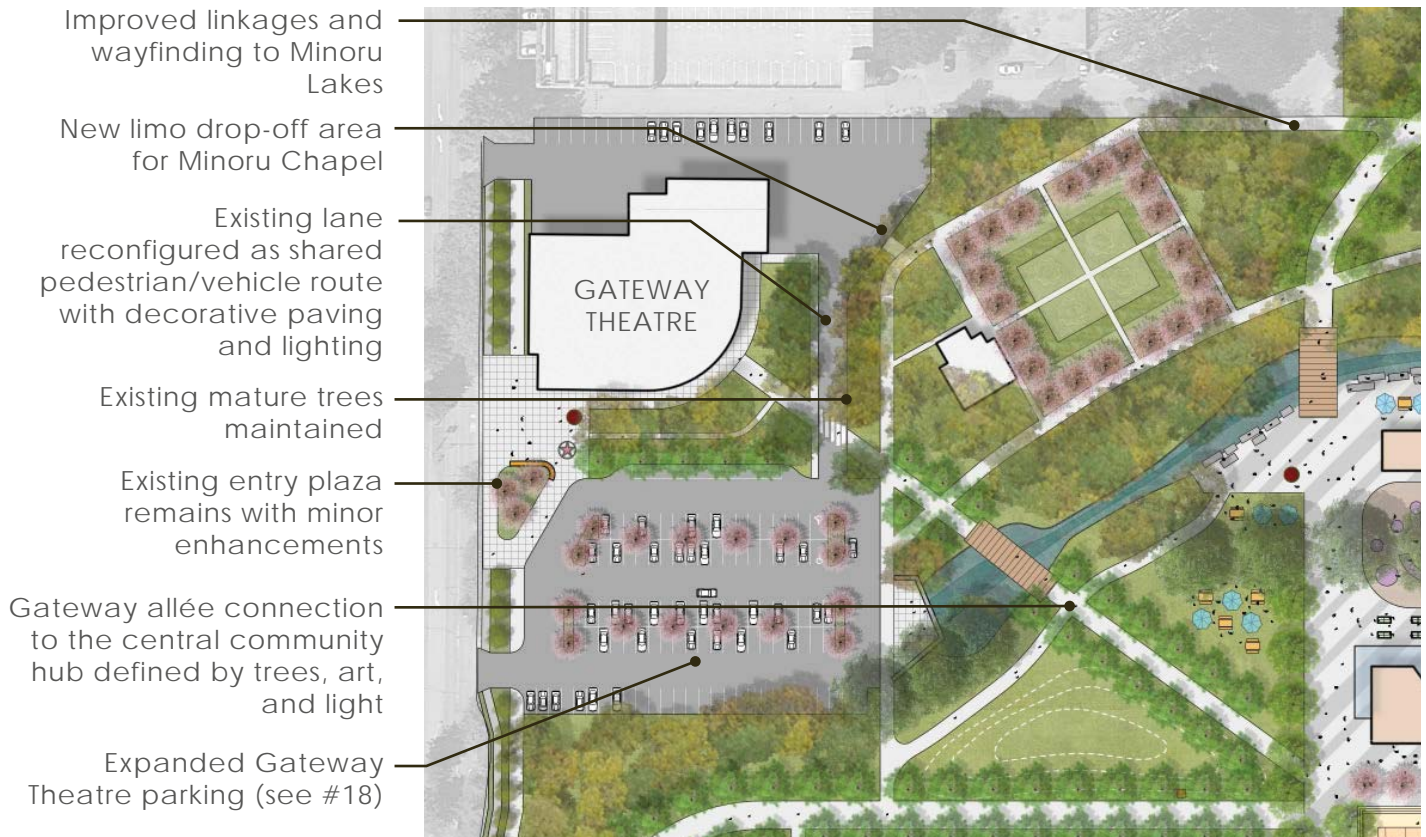


**INSPIRATION:** The hub should be integrated within the park, providing an overlook of Minoru Lakes.

**4 MINORU CHAPEL AND GATEWAY THEATRE AREA**

► MEDIUM-TERM

The Minoru Chapel and Gateway Theatre facilities will remain in the future and, through improvements to the pathway network and addition of visual features, will become better integrated with the Lakes District.



**TODAY:** Gateway Theatre is surrounded by parking and roads on all sides, creating an “island-effect” that separates the theatre from the rest of the park.

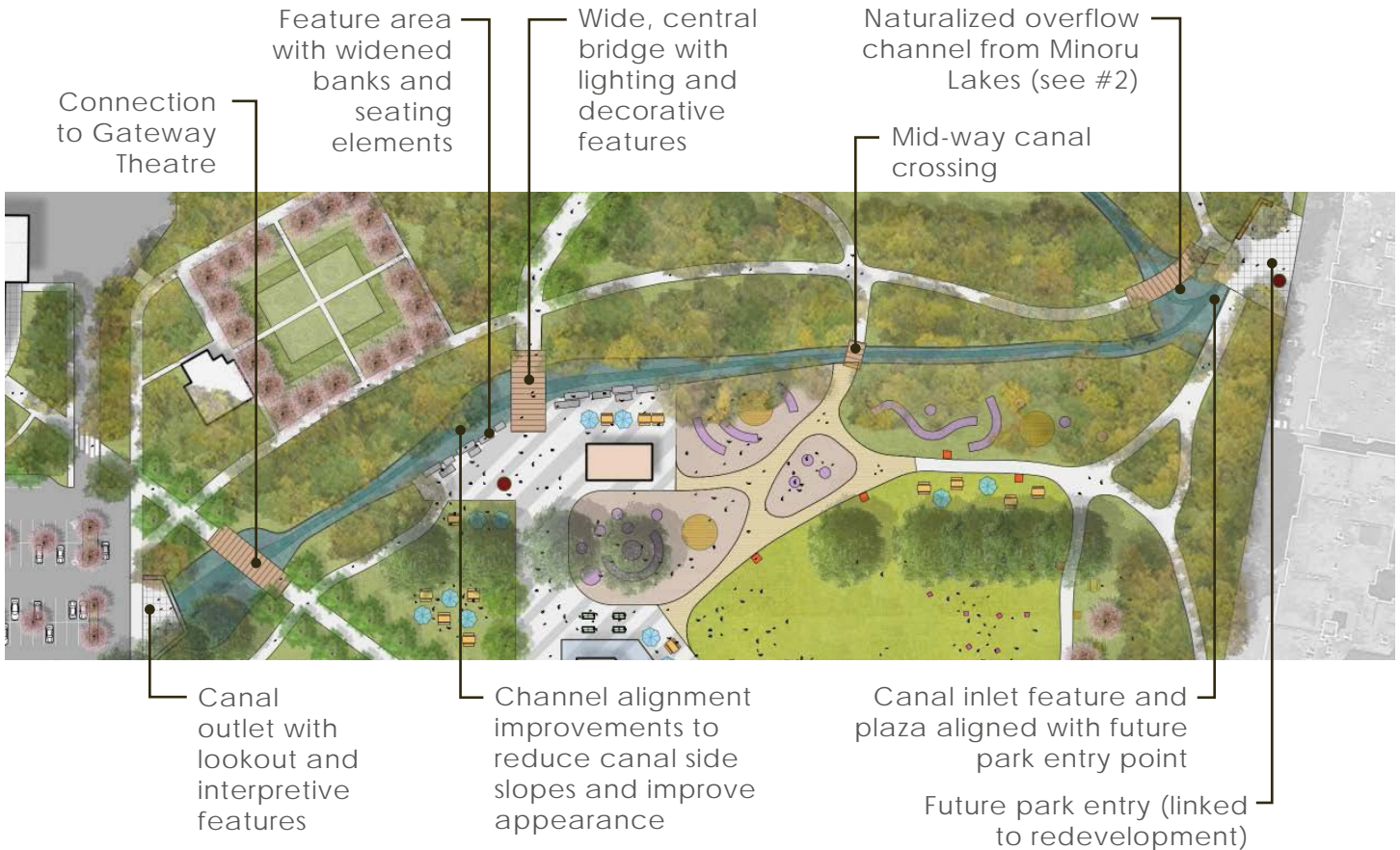


**INSPIRATION:** A garden-like gateway that invites curiosity and exploration is envisioned to welcome people to the area.

5 THE CANAL

▲ NEAR-TERM

The Minoru Park Vision Plan maintains the function of the canal, but recommends improvements to transform it from a solely functional component to an inviting park feature. During the canal’s transformation, the perceived barrier created by the canal will be diminished by adding enhanced, visible crossing points that celebrate entrances to the Lakes District.



**ILLUSTRATIVE RENDERING:** The canal will be transformed with enhanced banks and more elements that encourage people to stay and experience the area.



**INSPIRATION:** The major canal crossings should incorporate decorative railings, high quality materials, and lighting.



**INSPIRATION:** Smaller crossing points can provide fun and innovative experiences along the canal.

## 5.5 ACTIVE LIVING DISTRICT

The future Active Living District is envisioned as a space that continues to support Richmond's aspiring athletes, while at the same time, being a place for all to play, get outdoors and be active, and engage in healthy living.

### ISSUES

- » The Active Living District encompasses a wide range of high-quality sports facilities, yet lacks a cohesiveness that unites these facilities into a distinct district.
- » While there are a number of fields and courts that support programmed activities, there are few spaces that allow informal and pick-up activities to occur and limited spaces to relax between activities.
- » Clement Track is well used by both competitive athletes and recreational users, and at times these uses can compete.
- » The existing playground is aging and undersized for the number of families in the City Centre area.
- » Parts of the area are underutilized, while other areas are over-utilized.
- » The new Minoru Centre for Active Living shifts major recreational uses to the west, affecting connections between formerly adjacent uses.

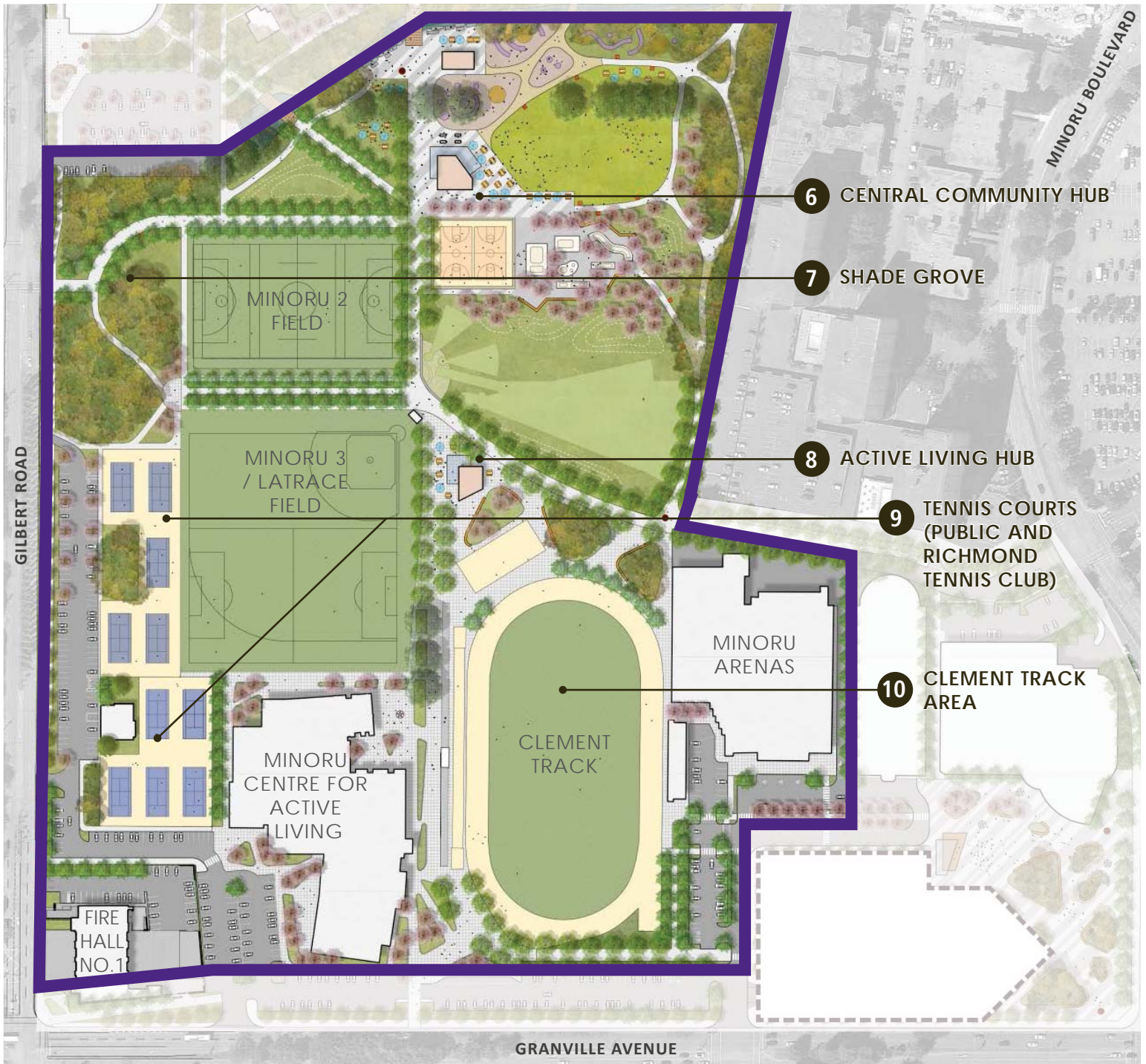
### OBJECTIVES

- » Develop spaces that encourage unprogrammed activity and enjoyment by participants of all ages, abilities, and interests.
- » Create spaces for spectators that make it fun and easy to view activities and sporting events.
- » Facilitate both large sporting events and day-to-day activity and enjoyment.
- » Establish a dynamic central plaza that draws people to the heart of the park and encourages social interaction.
- » Expand the tree canopy, creating more green spaces that provide shade and comfort.
- » Provide covered seating spaces that encourage people to enjoy the area through all seasons.
- » Provide clear, strong pathway routes that provide direct access to recreational destinations.
- » Commemorate the heritage oak trees that lined the former Minoru race track.



**ILLUSTRATIVE RENDERING:** View near the central community hub. The hub will become the heart of Minoru Park, drawing people in to picnic, play, and relax surrounded by both nature and activity.

ELEMENTS OF THE ACTIVE LIVING DISTRICT





**6 CENTRAL COMMUNITY HUB**

▶ MEDIUM-TERM

The Central Community Hub is envisioned as the heart of Minoru Park. Easily accessed from any direction, it will become the site where people come to spend the day – relaxing, picnicking, and playing – enjoying the company of friends and neighbours in an inviting setting.





**INSPIRATION:** Central basketball courts with integrated seating will offer new informal activities in the Central Community Hub.



**INSPIRATION:** Areas for youth activities, like a skateboard plaza, could be considered.



**INSPIRATION:** A new wellness walk with distance markers and workout stations will provide opportunities for outdoor fitness.



**INSPIRATION:** The picnic lawn could host community events like movies in the park.



**INSPIRATION:** The adventure play area should include unique and distinct features.



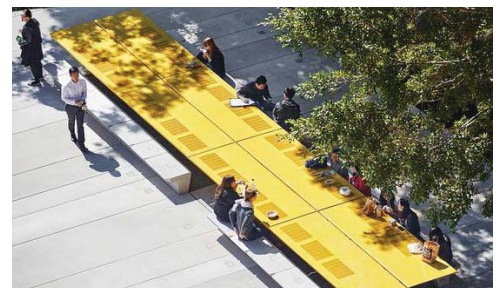
**INSPIRATION:** Activities for all ages should be included.



**INSPIRATION:** The canal could incorporate a central seating area with stone block areas for informal relaxation and gathering.



**INSPIRATION:** Informal seating areas throughout the area should provide opportunities to relax.



**INSPIRATION:** The picnic area should incorporate a range of unique tables and seating areas that are adaptable to both large groups, as well as smaller groups and individuals.

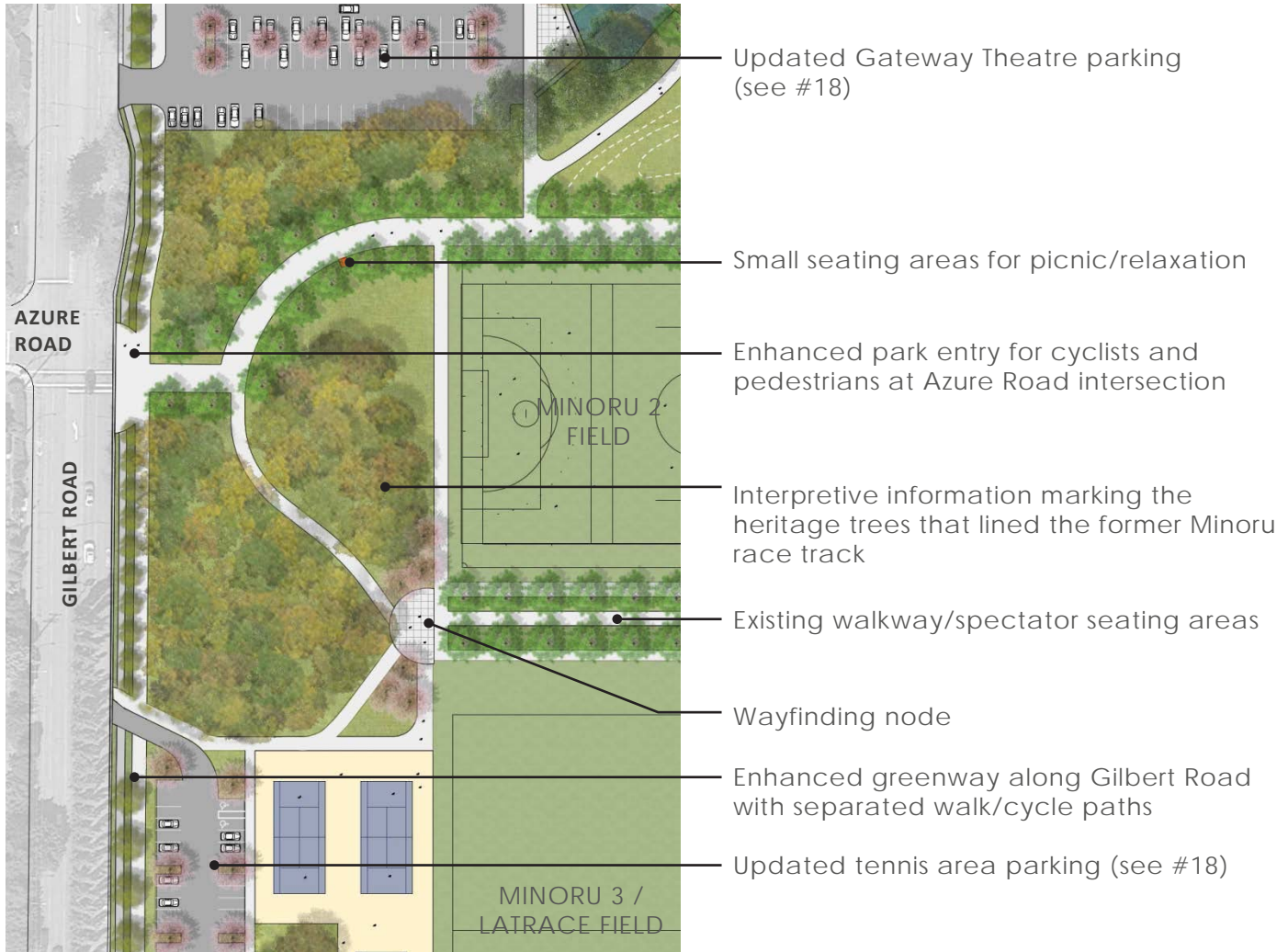


**ILLUSTRATIVE RENDERING:** View near the adventure play area. The spaces will incorporate play into treed and open areas, with the goal of creating a varied play experience.

7 SHADE GROVE

► MEDIUM-TERM

The Shade Grove retains existing mature trees and encourages enjoyment through incorporation of small seating areas and heritage interpretation. The existing fitness circuit has been relocated from the Shade Grove to the wellness walk in the Central Community Hub (see #6).



**INSPIRATION:** Small scale art elements like unique nesting boxes could be incorporated into the forest to encourage curiosity and exploration.



**INSPIRATION:** Some forest pathways be elevated, with integrated seating, working in and around the existing vegetation.



**INSPIRATION:** Wayfinding could be introduced at key locations.

GP - 132

8 ACTIVE LIVING HUB

▽ LONG-TERM

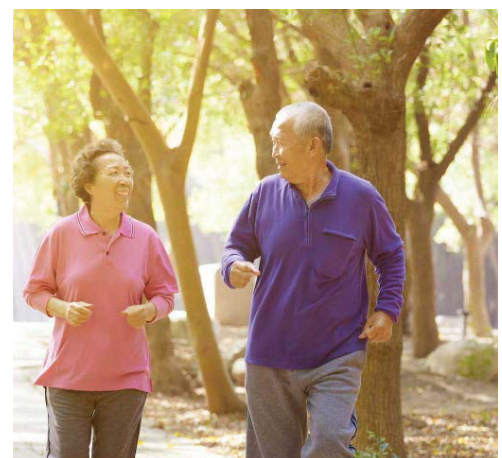
In the space between the existing fields, Clement Track and the track and field throwing area, a new hub is envisioned as a gathering and resting area for surrounding active spaces.



**INSPIRATION:** The areas will welcome spectators and visitors to join in the fun at sporting events.



**INSPIRATION:** Spaces throughout the area could provide areas for stretching or relaxing between games.



**INSPIRATION:** Activity areas and trails should be developed to encourage people of all ages, abilities, and interests to be active.

9 TENNIS COURTS

▽ LONG-TERM

Enhancements to the tennis area may include multi-use pickleball and tennis courts will be incorporated when the tennis facilities are upgraded.



**INSPIRATION:** Minor redevelopment and relining of existing public tennis courts could create a flexible space that includes outdoor pickleball.



**INSPIRATION:** People of all ages will continue to have opportunity to play tennis in Minoru Park.

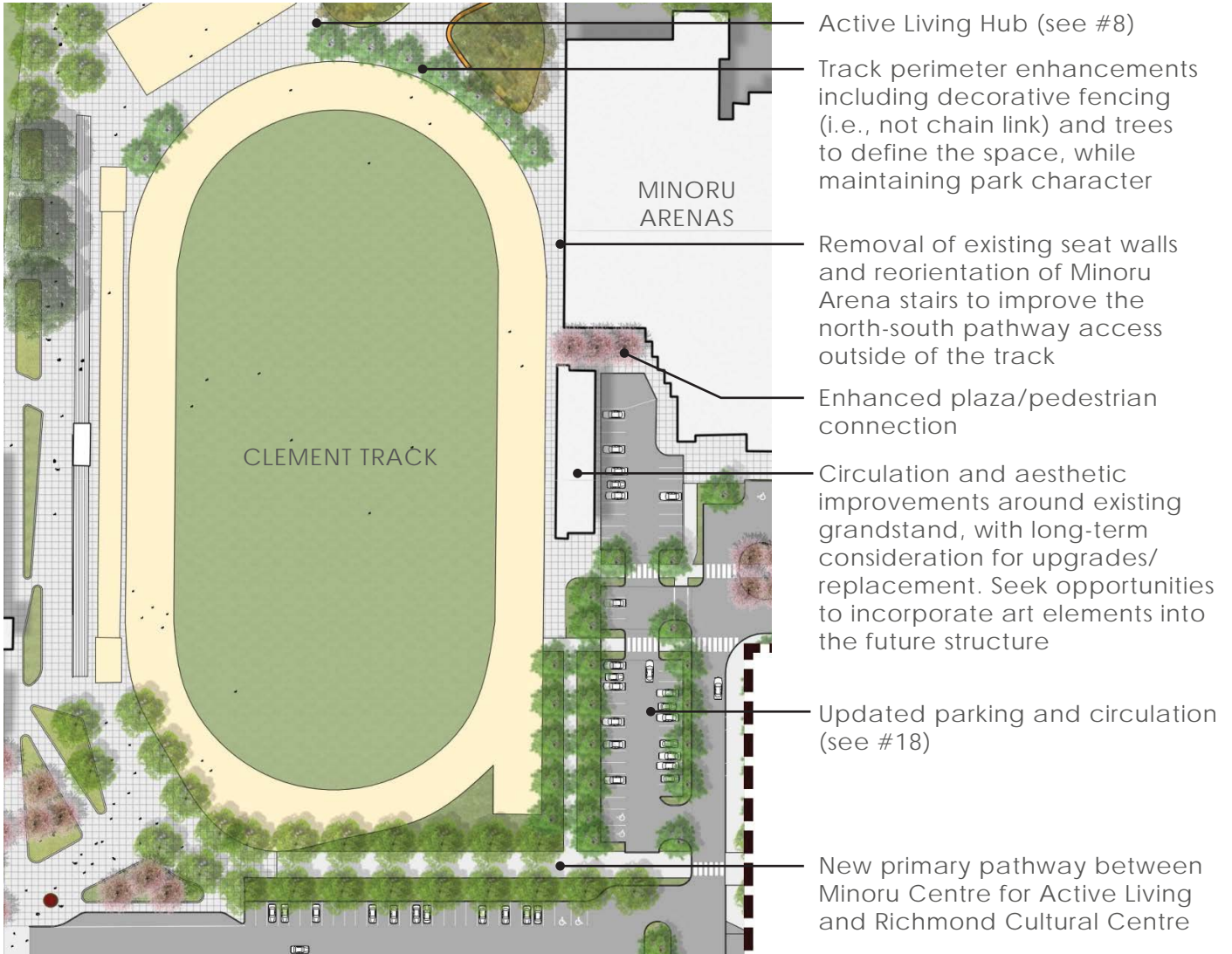


**INSPIRATION:** An urban greenway along Gilbert Road is recommended to provide walk and cycle routes.

10 CLEMENT TRACK AREA

▽ LONG-TERM

Clement Track will remain an integral part of Minoru Park, with improvements to circulation and park spaces around it to provide direct, continuous pathways helping to manage issues with people cutting across the track, while improving overall circulation. The existing grandstand will remain, with consideration for improvements/replacement in the long-term to enhance the character of the area.



**TODAY:** The space between Minoru Arenas and Clement Track is a pinch-point, that results in people crossing onto the track to move through the space.



**INSPIRATION:** In the long-term, the grandstand should be upgraded and better integrated within the park. The structure could become an art or green canvas, interfacing with the Arts Culture District.



**INSPIRATION:** While fencing may be required around track and field facilities, opportunities should be considered to use materials and design that complement the park experience.

## 5.6 ARTS AND CULTURE DISTRICT

The future Arts and Culture District is envisioned as a creative and contemporary space that displays Richmond's artistic side, showcasing community talent and inspiring residents and visitors.

### ISSUES

- » The extensive surface parking in this area is a barrier to pedestrians and rollers moving between key park destinations (e.g., Richmond Cultural Centre and the Minoru Centre for Active Living).
- » The Richmond Cultural Centre plaza could be enhanced to increase function for hosting outdoor events.
- » The Granville Avenue park edge is generally surface parking, which offers limited visual appeal.
- » Park entrances from Minoru Boulevard are underdeveloped.
- » The transition of the former Aquatic Centre site to future use will be staged, so plans need to consider both the near-term use and potential long-term uses.
- » The lay-by / book drop-off impacts pedestrian and cyclist safety as well as the appeal of the Minoru Boulevard entrance to the Richmond Cultural Centre.

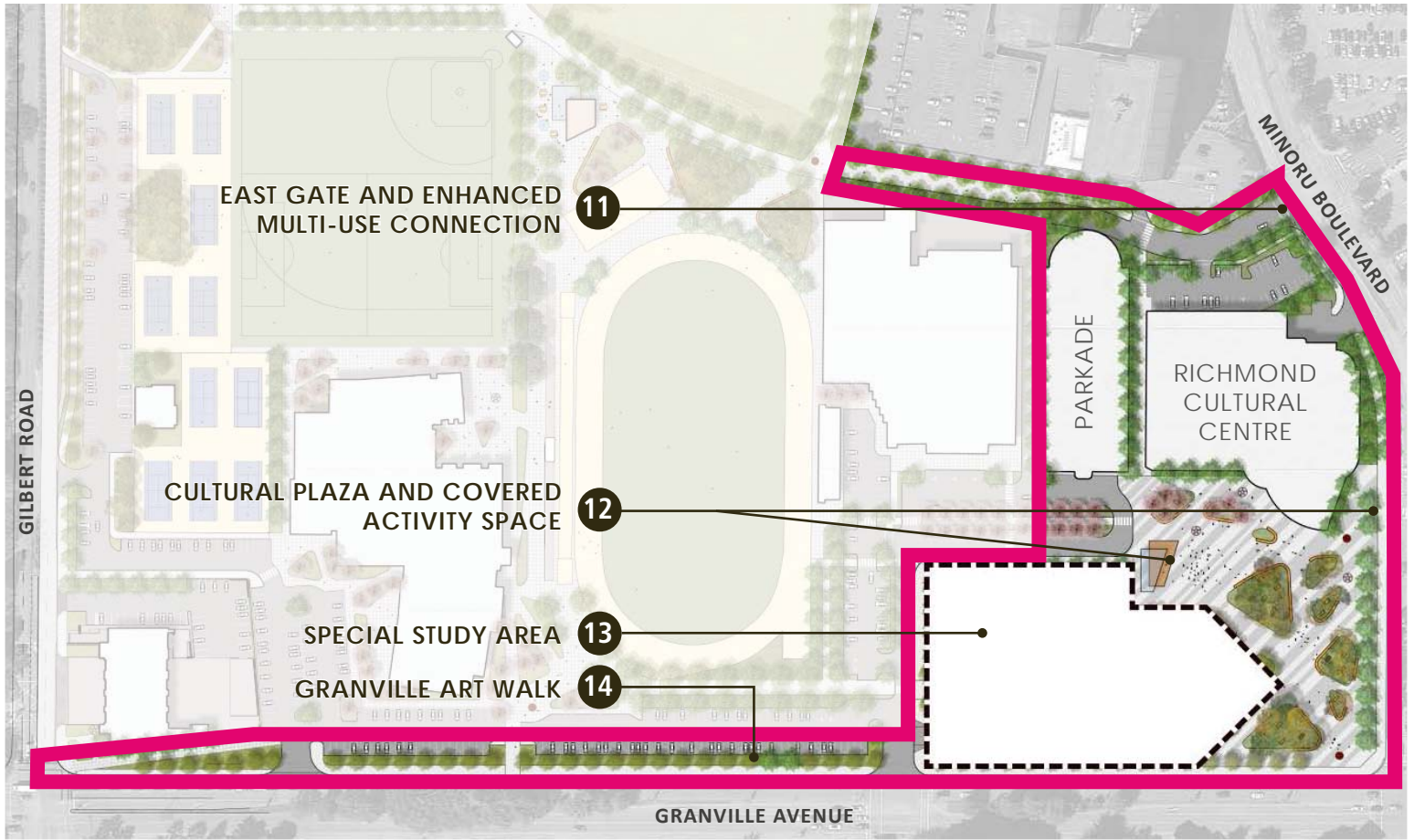
### OBJECTIVES

- » Develop exciting and colourful spaces that encourage art and celebration.
- » Strengthen the park edge along Granville Avenue to provide a strong visual connection to the park.
- » Incorporate both permanent and temporary art displays throughout the area.
- » Provide spaces to host a wide range of community events, festivals, celebrations, activities, and programs, big or small.
- » Rethink park circulation to increase compatibility between pedestrians, rollers, and vehicle users.
- » Provide amenities like seating, power, and trees that encourage people to be outside.
- » Support cultural programming.
- » Shift the lay-by / book drop-off functions to support a stronger Minoru Boulevard entrance to the Richmond Cultural Centre.



**ILLUSTRATIVE RENDERING:** Near the cultural plaza. The future Arts and Culture District will become a bright and exciting area that inspires people to be creative and enjoy unique and interesting experiences.

KEY ELEMENTS OF THE ARTS AND CULTURE DISTRICT

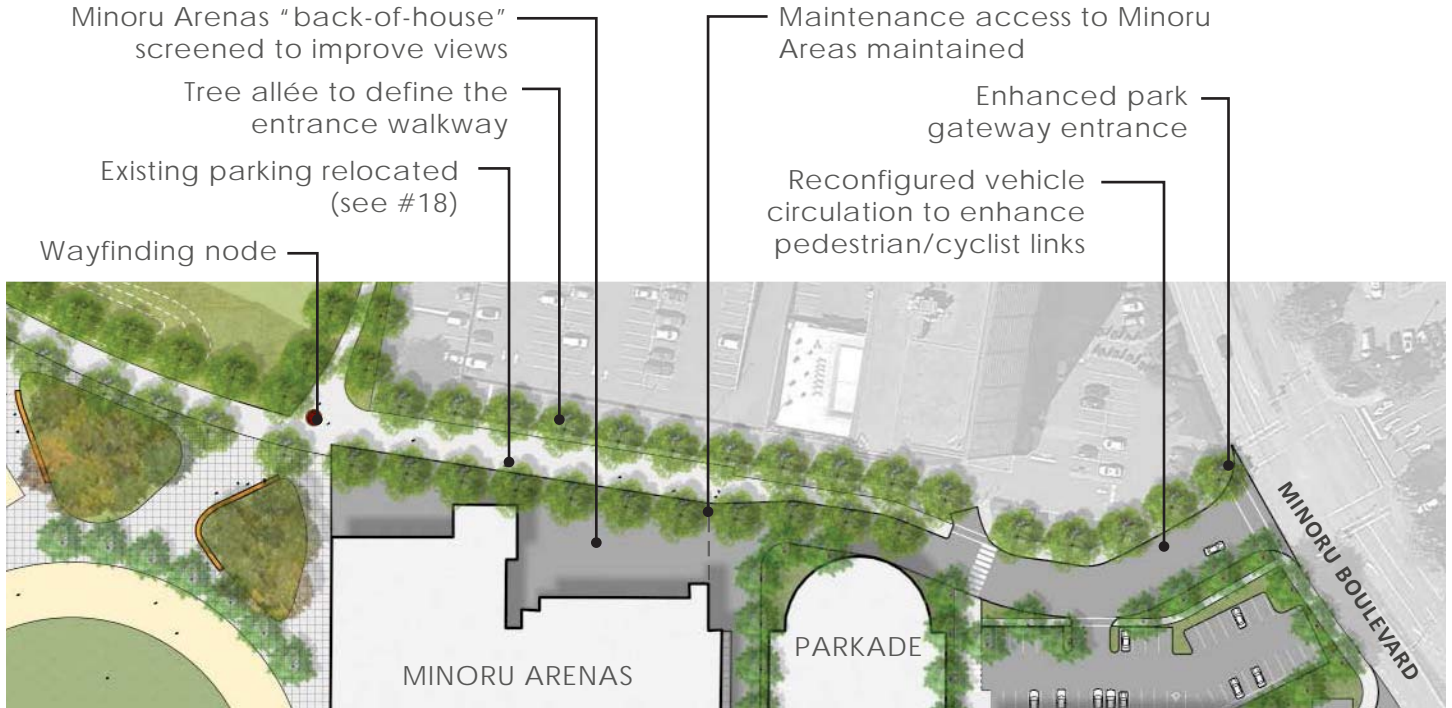




11 EAST GATE AND ENHANCED MULTI-USE CONNECTION

▽ LONG-TERM

In the future, Minoru Park’s east entry will become a primary park entry point, connecting the redeveloped Richmond Centre mall site with the park. Reconfigured transportation modes, removal of parking, gateway features, screening, and a strong pedestrian-focused spine will make this a welcoming park entry.



**INSPIRATION:** The “street” components of the entry could be reconfigured as a “woonerf” or urban alley, to enhance the park character and help slow vehicle traffic.



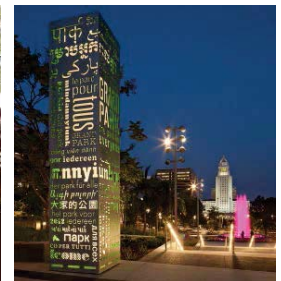
**INSPIRATION:** The park entry sequence should feature trees and interesting features such as unique lighting that guide people into the park.



**TODAY:** The current east gate entry does not provide a positive entry experience, requiring pedestrians to walk through parking areas and adjacent to high walls.



**INSPIRATION:** Decorative screening could help separate pedestrian areas from the arena back-of-house.



**INSPIRATION:** A major wayfinding feature could welcome visitors.

GP - 138

12 RICHMOND CULTURAL PLAZA AND COVERED ACTIVITY SPACE

▲ NEAR-TERM

The future Richmond Cultural Plaza is envisioned as a highly flexible space that accommodates community events and festivals, group classes and activities, and casual relaxation. It will be an exciting space, with inviting views from Granville Avenue and Minoru Boulevard and potential to incorporate a wide range of permanent and temporary art displays that inspire visitors.



**INSPIRATION:** The future covered activity space should provide a multi-functional arrangement that accommodates everything from large community events to weekly Cultural Centre classes.

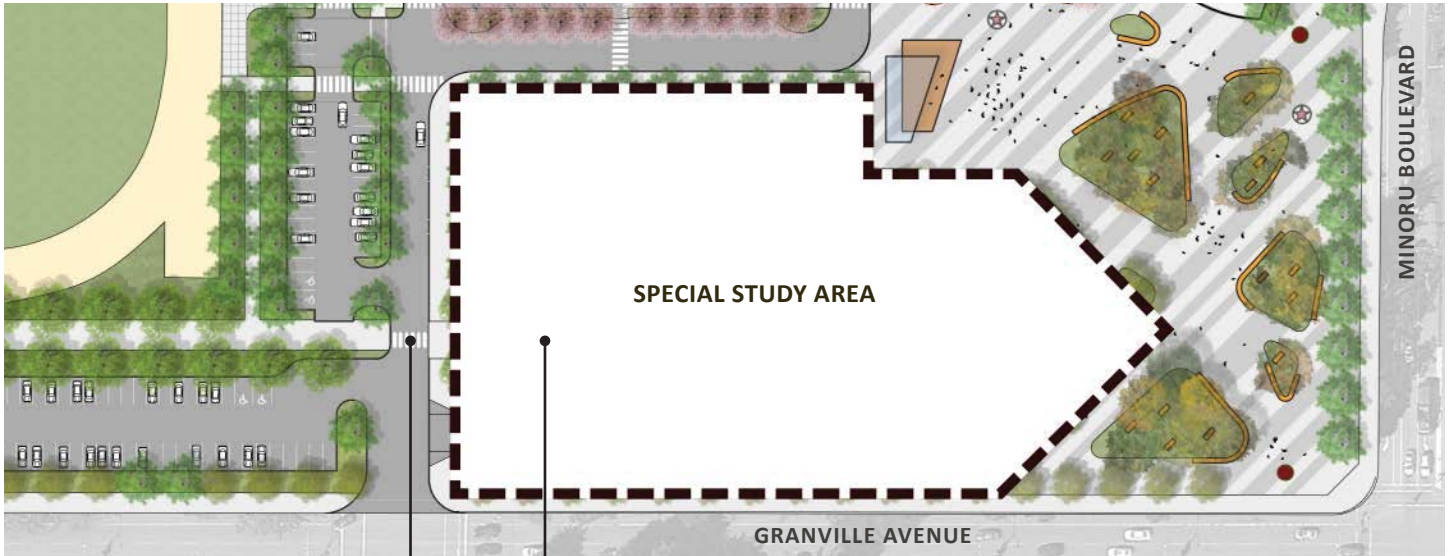


**INSPIRATION:** The future cultural centre plaza and park entry plaza should incorporate both temporary and permanent art, flexible seating spaces, and features that are inviting and welcoming at all times of year.

**13 SPECIAL STUDY AREA**

▲ NEAR-TERM / ▼ LONG-TERM

The future use of the Special Study Area, which is the site currently home to the Minoru Aquatic Centre and the Minoru Place Activity Centre, is under consideration. The options being considered range from flexible green park space to a combined civic and housing development. With any of these options, a strong pedestrian and cyclist linkage will be established and maintained between the Richmond Cultural Centre and the Minoru Centre for Active Living.



Raised or defined crosswalks over the entry road to enhance connectivity

The future use of the existing Minoru Aquatics Centre and Minoru Place Activity Centre site is under consideration.

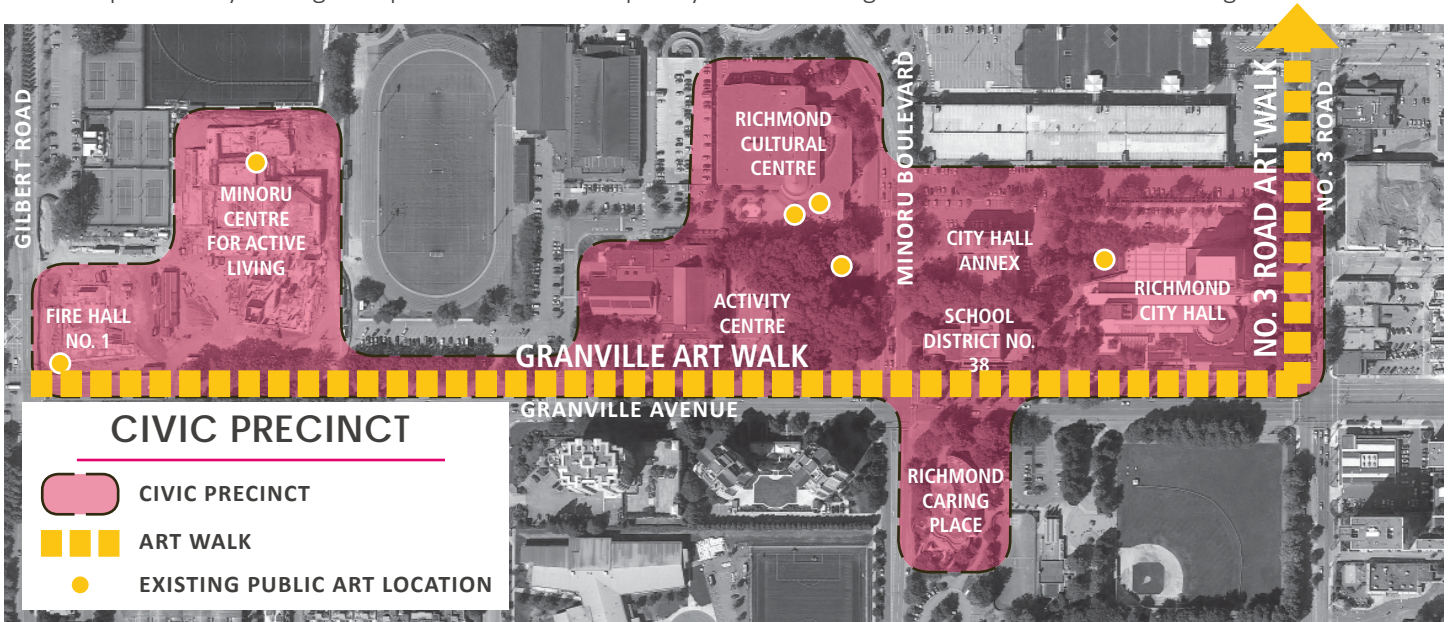
Options being considered include:

- flexible green park space;
- parking including interim surface parking (0-5 years) and/or a long-term (15-24 years) parkade;
- a civic facility with integrated parking; or
- a civic facility with air space used for housing with integrated parking.

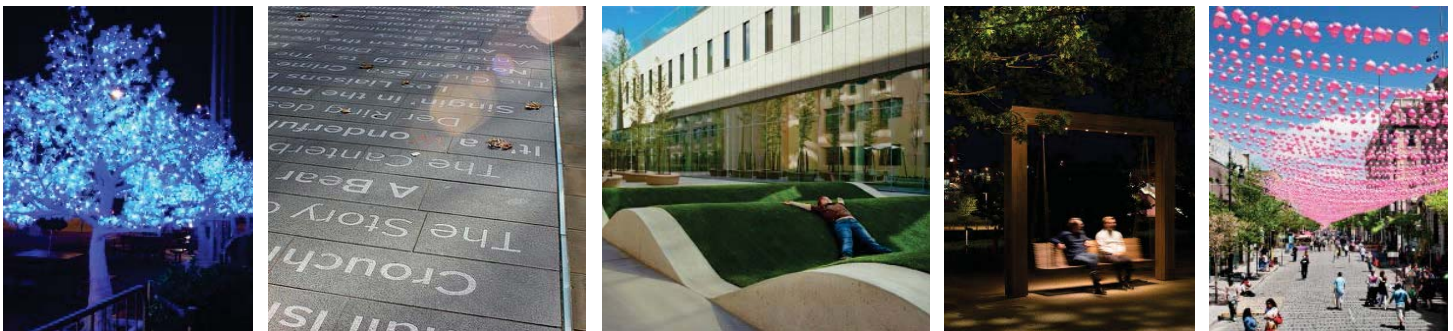
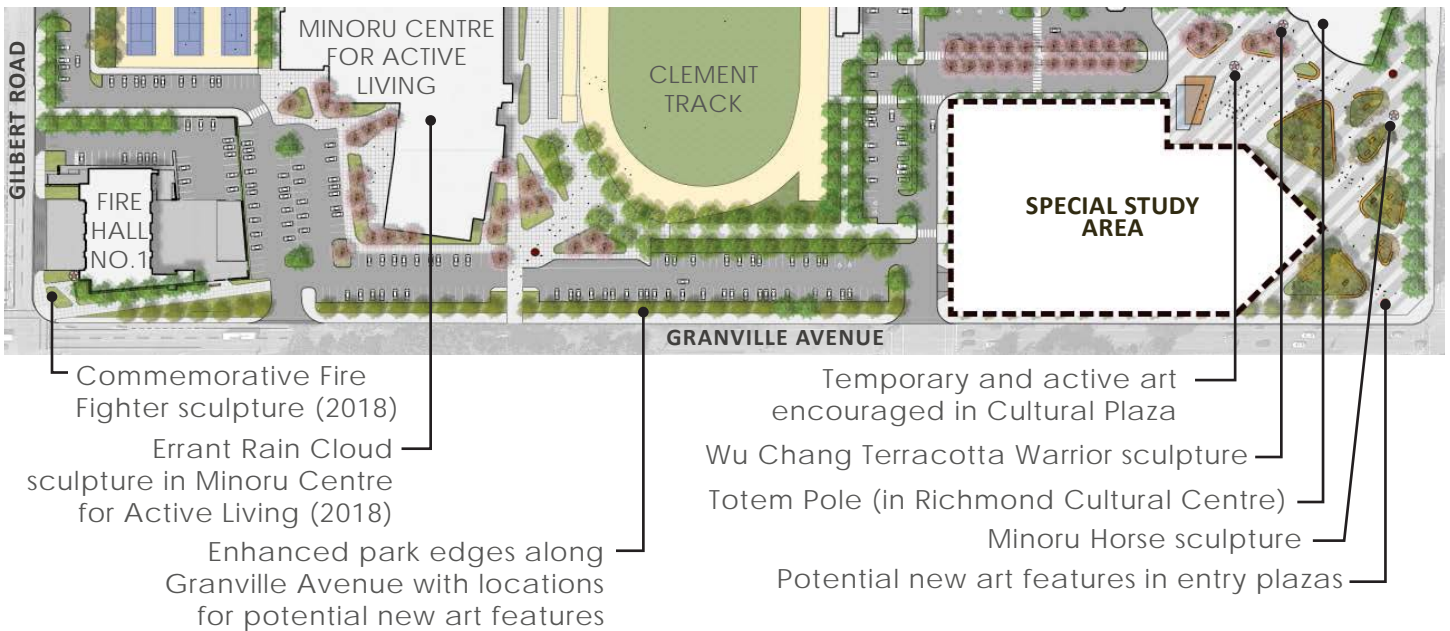
14 GRANVILLE ART WALK

ONGOING

The Granville Art Walk is embedded in the City Centre Public Art Plan and supports the arts character of Richmond’s civic precinct by adding new permanent and temporary features along an enhanced Minoru Park edge.



**CONTEXT:** Granville Avenue between Gilbert Road and No. 3 Road forms a civic spine. The Granville Art Walk is intended to complement this route.



**INSPIRATION:** The Granville Art Walk and Cultural Plaza should encourage interactive and innovative displays that bring life and character to the area.

## 5.7 PARK CIRCULATION

Minoru Park’s future circulation network is envisioned as being organized and refined into a hierarchy of routes that are easy to navigate, well-connected, and beautiful to experience. The enhanced network should improve the relationship between pedestrians, rollers, and vehicles and better define park entrances and edges as inviting and intriguing.

### ISSUES

- » The existing network can be confusing, with multiple pathways that have limited hierarchy.
- » Wayfinding in the park is limited.
- » There are missing linkages between key park destinations.
- » Limited lighting in some parts of the park raises concerns about safety.
- » Several important park entrances are poorly defined and lack visual cues that welcome people into the park.
- » Park edges are not generally “active” park areas, which may make the park seem less welcoming.
- » There are currently no defined cycle routes in or through Minoru Park.
- » There are community concerns that parking will be insufficient to accommodate the demand created by new park facilities (e.g., Minoru Centre for Active Living).
- » There are community concerns that parking is displacing green areas.
- » Existing surface parking does not have well-defined routes for pedestrians and rollers.

### OBJECTIVES

- » Provide clearly defined major routes for north-south and east-west movement through the park for pedestrians and rollers.
- » Develop strong linkages between key park destinations.
- » Refine the pathway network to reduce redundancy.
- » Develop designated walking loops that encourage the entire park to be used for fitness.
- » Endeavour to improve perceptions about safety at all times with enhanced lighting on key routes.
- » Integrate continued vehicle access, reorganizing parking to better fit with park character and other modes of circulation.
- » Develop long-term planning for structured parking that reduces green space lost to surface parking.
- » Clearly indicate park entry points and create green, inviting edges all around the park boundary.
- » Strengthen the park’s relationship to adjacent land uses, especially as these areas redevelop.
- » Define a strong wayfinding character that is woven all through Minoru Park.



# CIRCULATION

## PRIMARY PARK ENTRY POINTS

-  PEDESTRIAN
-  CYCLIST/MOTORIZED MOBILITY DEVICE
-  VEHICLE

## PRIMARY CIRCULATION

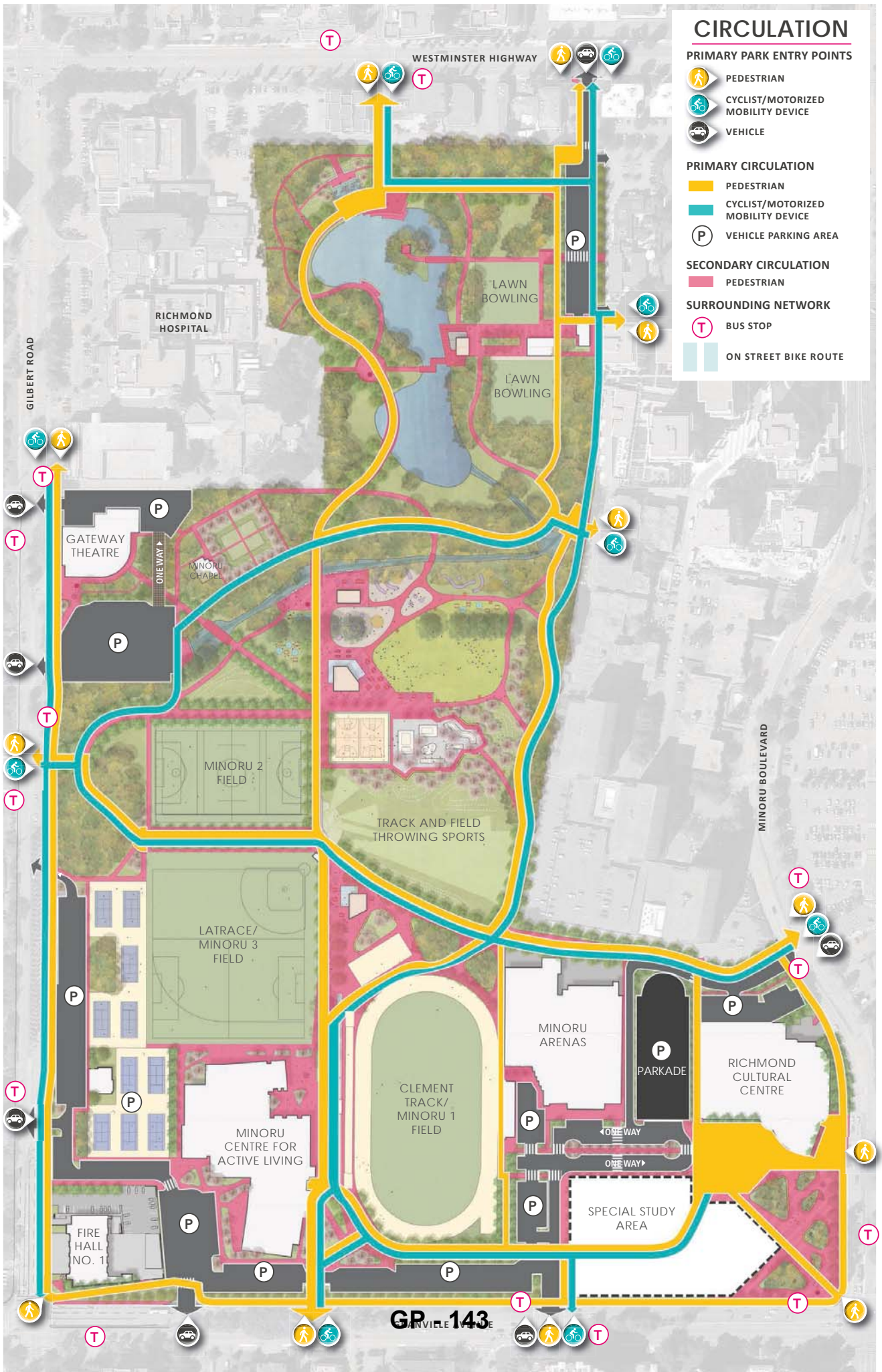
-  PEDESTRIAN
-  CYCLIST/MOTORIZED MOBILITY DEVICE
-  VEHICLE PARKING AREA

## SECONDARY CIRCULATION

-  PEDESTRIAN

## SURROUNDING NETWORK

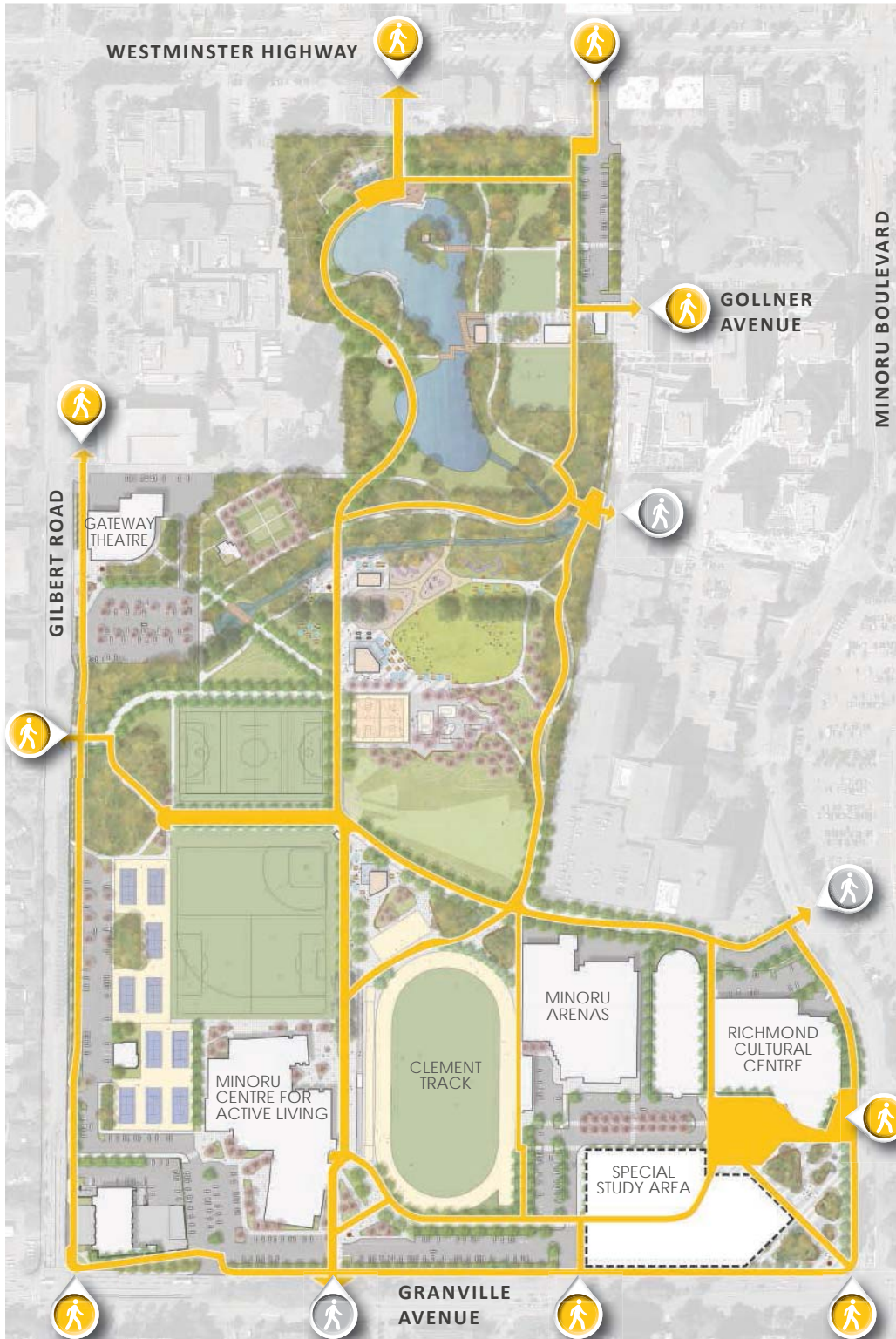
-  BUS STOP
-  ON STREET BIKE ROUTE



**15 PRIMARY PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION ROUTES**

**▲ NEAR-TERM**

The Minoru Park Vision Plan envisions well-defined, continuous routes that provide access both north-south and east-west through the park. These routes would be wide and accessible, incorporating wayfinding, lighting, rest spots, tree allées, and framed views to key park destinations.



**PRIMARY PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION ROUTE**

**PRIMARY PARK ENTRY POINT (EXISTING)**

**PRIMARY PARK ENTRY POINT (FUTURE)**



**INSPIRATION:** Primary trails should be smooth and accessible for all ages and abilities.



Photo Credit: Rusty Clark

**INSPIRATION:** Primary pathways should be designed to allow maintenance vehicle access, including at constrained locations (e.g., bridges).



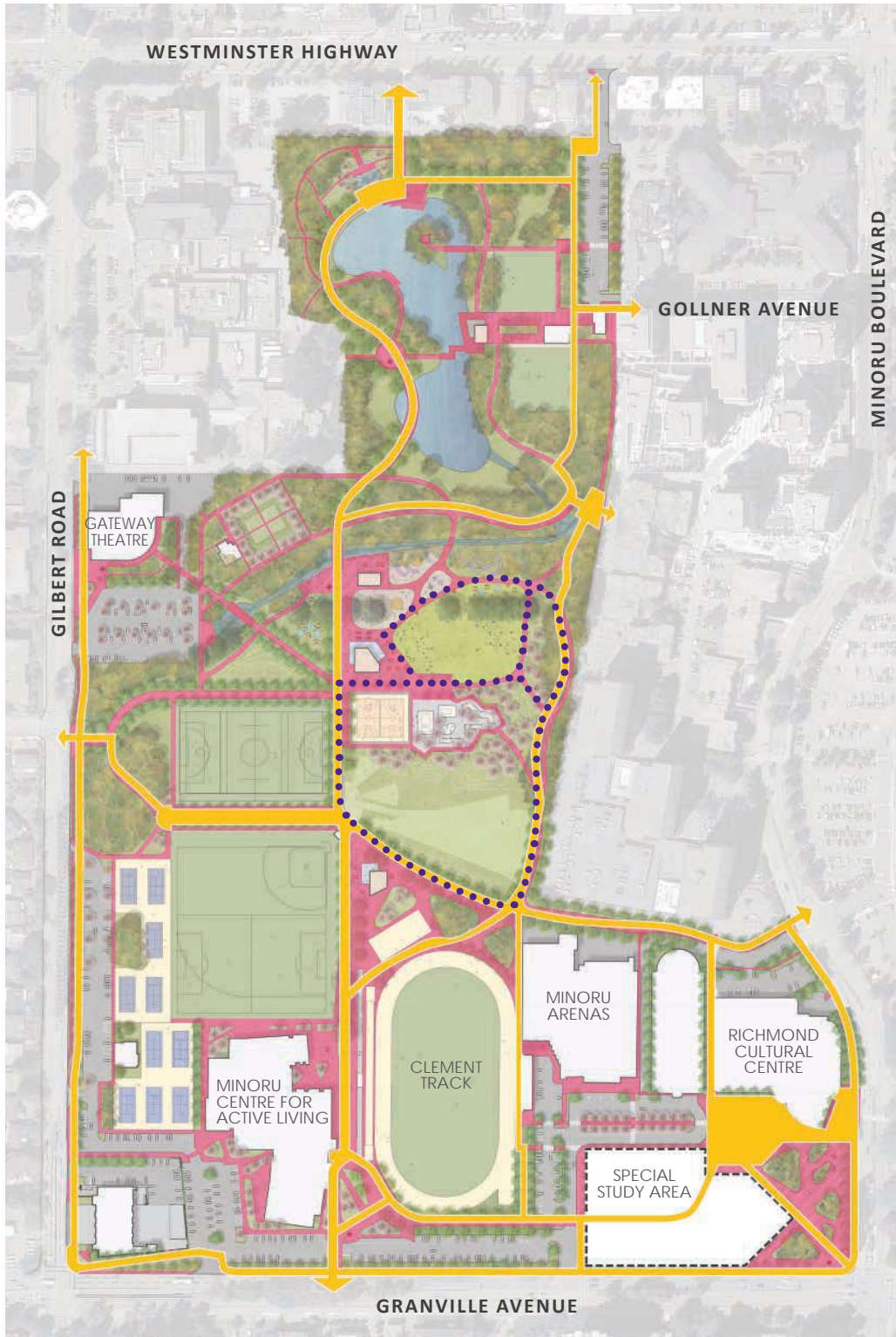
**INSPIRATION:** Primary routes could be a focus for art display and celebration.

**GP - 144**

16 SECONDARY PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION

ONGOING

In addition to primary connections, Minoru Park will continue to have a finer network of trails that invite wandering and strolling, especially within the Lakes District and Central Community Hub areas. These smaller trails will form looping, continuous routes that connect to the primary network at key nodes.



PRIMARY PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION ROUTE

SECONDARY PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION ROUTE

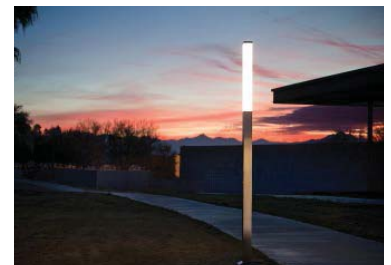
WELLNESS WALK



INSPIRATION: Secondary trails should provide spaces to wander and relax.



INSPIRATION: Wellness walk with workout stations and distance markers should be incorporated into the Central Community Hub.



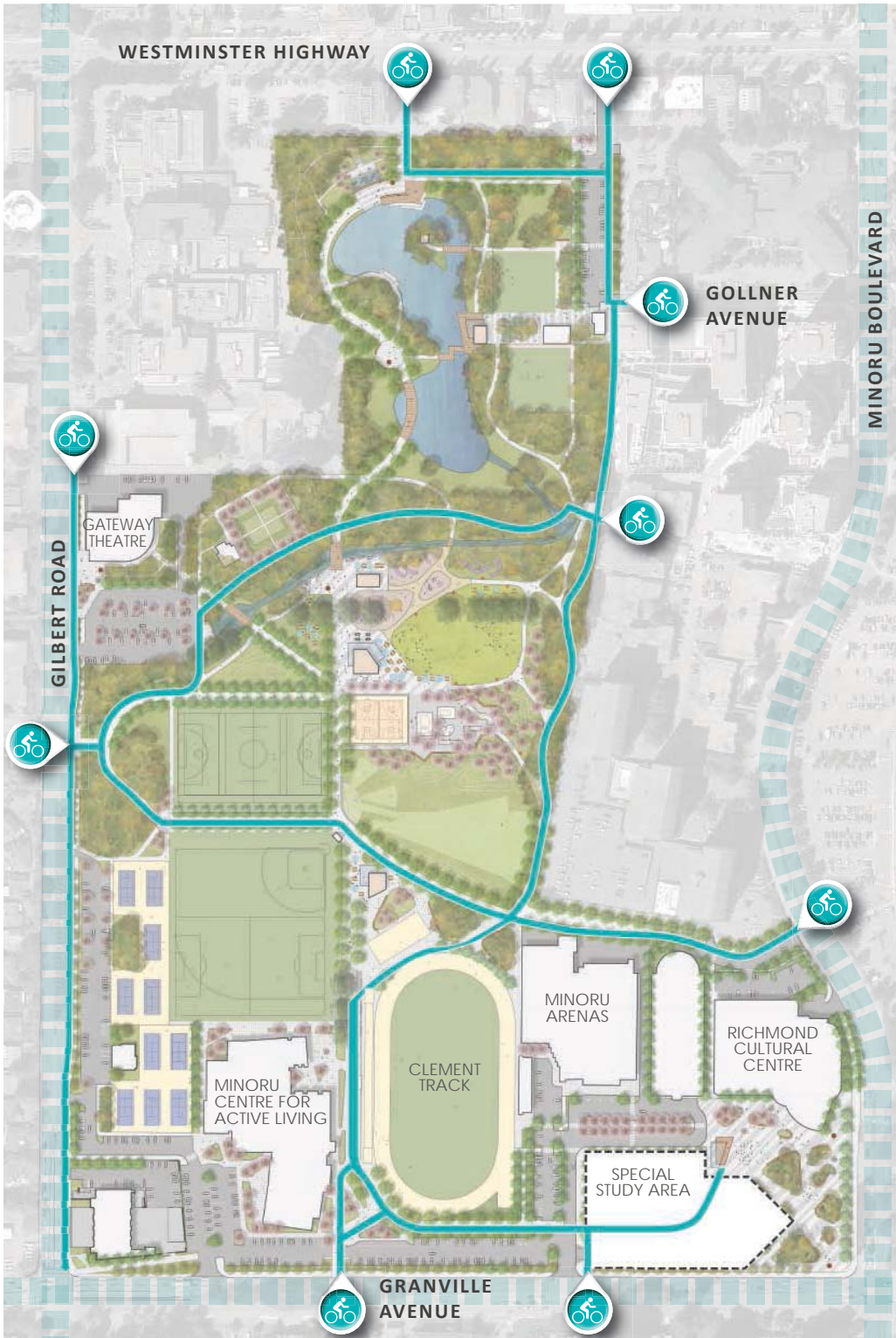
INSPIRATION: Lighting on key pathways will link popular evening destinations, helping increase the feeling of safety for park users.



17 CYCLING ROUTES

ONGOING

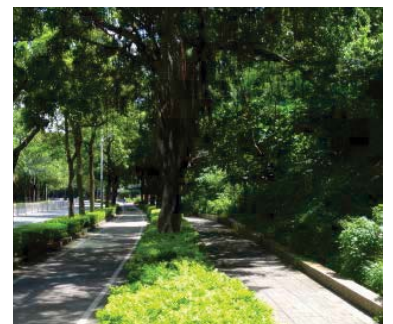
The Minoru Park Vision Plan proposes the introduction of low-speed cycling on key links through the park to help cyclists reach park destinations, recognizing that primary high-speed cycling routes will remain on the adjacent street network. The cycling network will be separated from the primary pathway network wherever possible, understanding some points exist where the networks may cross or join.



**CYCLIST / MOTORIZED MOBILITY DEVICE ROUTE**

**PRIMARY PARK ENTRY POINT**

**ON STREET BIKE ROUTE**



**INSPIRATION:** Physical separation between cycle and pedestrian routes should be incorporated where possible.



**INSPIRATION:** Clear signage defining routes and uses should accompany development of cycling routes.



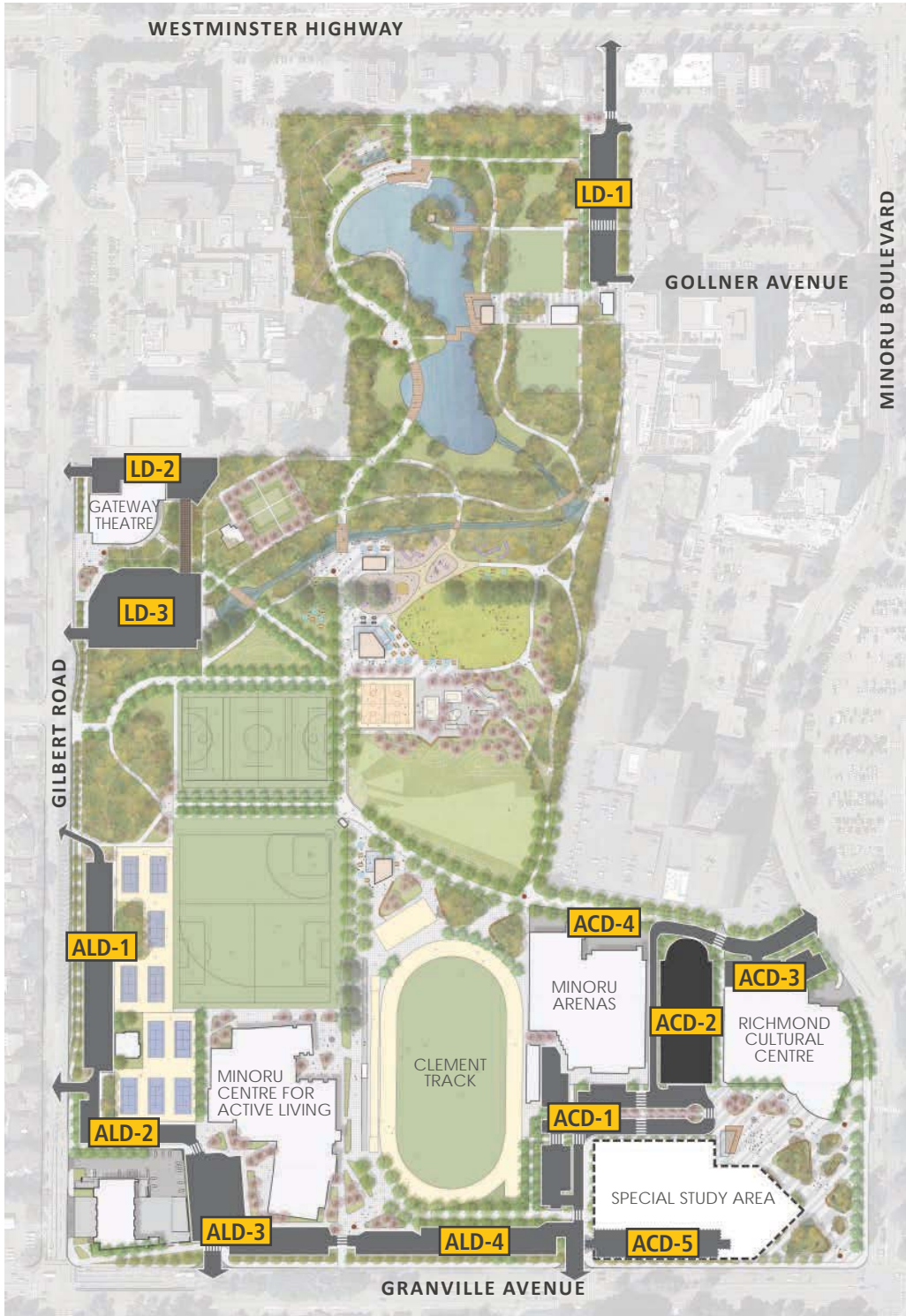
Photo Credit: Vladimir Zlokazov

**INSPIRATION:** Facilities and park destinations should incorporate end-of-trip cycling facilities including secure and/or covered bike parking.

18 PARKING AND VEHICLE CIRCULATION

▲ NEAR-TERM / ▼ LONG-TERM

The Minoru Park Vision Plan follows a near-term and long-term parking strategy to accommodate estimated parking demands for new facilities. In the long-term, some surface parking is envisioned as being amalgamated into a parkade, helping ensure Minoru Park remains able to provide valuable green space for the growing community. Parking and traffic circulation has been analyzed and proposed future changes will increase efficiency, flow, and safety, while sustaining parking supply.



- LD-1** PARKING LOT LOCATION
- ALD-1** SURFACE PARKING
- ACD-1** PARKADE



**INSPIRATION:** Surface parking areas should incorporate trees, paving enhancements, and decorative lighting to complement the overall park character.



**INSPIRATION:** Primary pedestrian routes should be continuous through vehicle circulation areas, considering marked and raised crosswalks where these uses intersect.



**INSPIRATION:** If new structured parking is developed in the park, the exterior design should complement the park setting.

## LAKES DISTRICT

- LD-1 Lakes District Lot 1 (Bowling Green)**
- **Near-term:** as existing
  - **Long-term:** (shown on plan) minor improvements to improve pedestrian and cycling connections. Potential future connection to Gollner Avenue (shown)

- LD-2 Lakes District Lot 2 (Gateway Theatre)**
- **Near-term:** (shown on plan) reorganization to improve park space and strengthen pedestrian connections; provision of limo parking and lane enhancements between LD-2 and LD-3 to calm traffic and enhance character
  - **Long-term:** per near-term

- LD-3 Lakes District Lot 3 (Gateway Theatre/ Minoru Chapel)**
- **Near-term:** (shown on plan) expansion to relocate spots from LD-2 and increase parking; provision of drop-off area on the north side
  - **Long-term:** per near-term

## ACTIVE LIVING DISTRICT

- ALD-1 Active Living District Lot 1 (West of Tennis Courts)**
- **Near-term:** (shown on plan) addition of a right-out egress and turnaround at north end
  - **Long-term:** minor improvements to increase stalls if needed

- ALD-2 Active Living District Lot 2 (South of Tennis Courts)**
- **Near-term:** (shown on plan) removal of south bank of surface parking stalls to provide pedestrian/cyclist access to Minoru Centre for Active Living
  - **Long-term:** per near-term

- ALD-3 Active Living District Lot 3 (Minoru Centre for Active Living)**
- **Near-term:** (shown on plan) as existing
  - **Long-term:** per near-term

- ALD-4 Active Living District Lot 4 (Clement Track)**
- **Near-term:** as existing
  - **Long-term:** (shown on plan) removal of north bank of angle stalls to facilitate pedestrian/cyclist connection and addition of bus drop-off

## ARTS AND CULTURE DISTRICT

- ACD-1 Arts and Culture District Lot 1 (Grandstand Area)**
- **Near-term:** minor improvements to improve pedestrian connections
  - **Long-term:** (shown on plan) removal of existing parking to develop one-way loop with parallel parking, bus drop-off/parking, and pick-up/drop-off stalls

- ACD-2 Arts and Culture District Lot 2 (Parkade)**
- **Near-term/Long-term:** (shown on plan) parkade as existing

- ACD-3 Arts and Culture District Lot 3 (Richmond Cultural Centre)**
- **Near-term:** parking entry relocated to be direct from road (not through parkade)
  - **Long-term:** (shown on plan) entry road improvements to incorporate multi-modal park entry

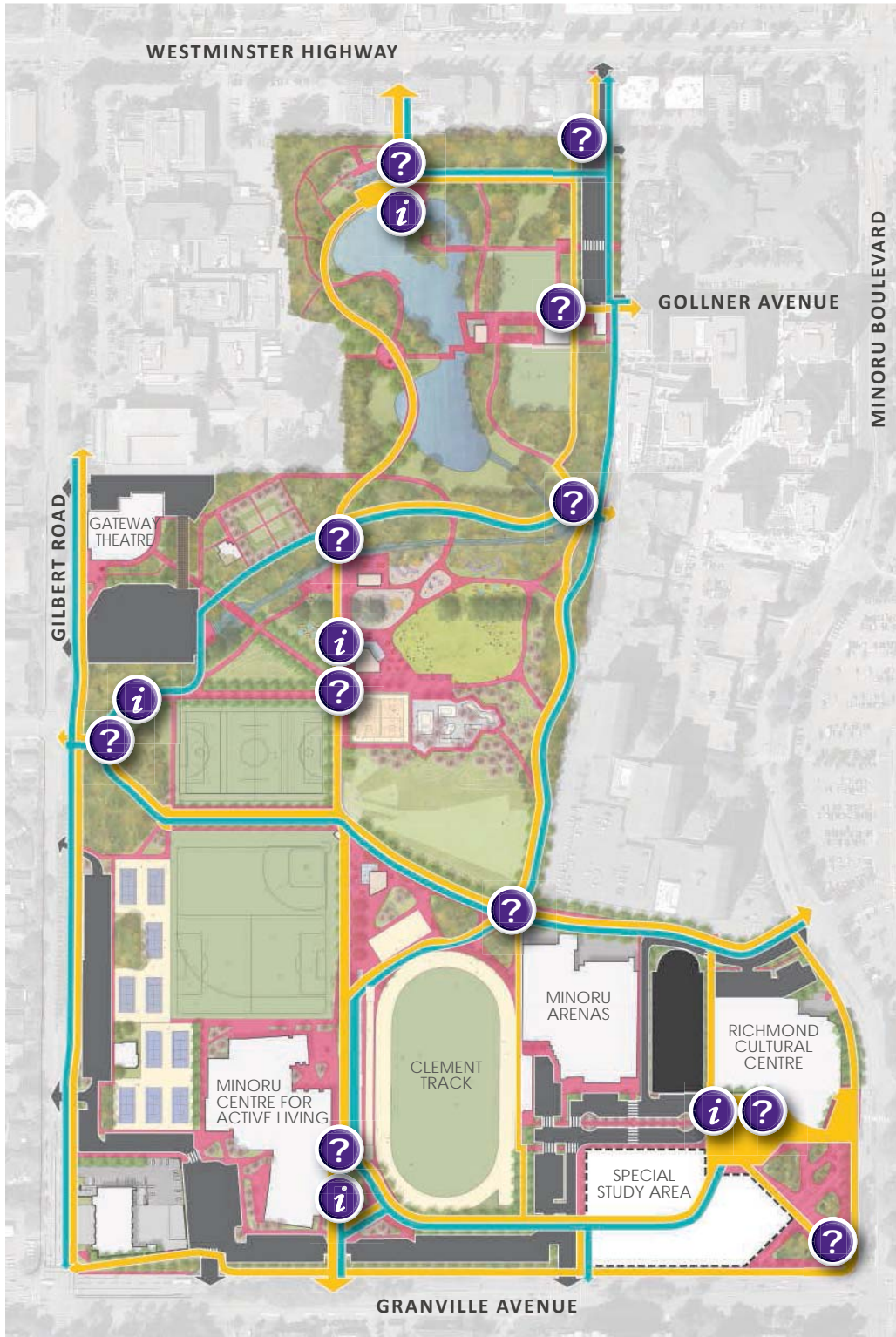
- ACD-4 Arts and Culture District Lot 4 (Minoru Arenas)**
- **Near-term:** as existing
  - **Long-term:** (shown on plan) parking behind arenas and parkade removed to incorporate major multi-modal park entry; maintenance access to arenas retained and screened

- ACD-5 Arts and Culture District Lot 5 (former Minoru Aquatic Centre site)**
- **Near-term:** (shown on plan) new interim parking lot to provide sufficient spaces to meet projected demands
  - **Long-term:** to be determined based on future long-term plans for the site

19 SIGNAGE AND WAYFINDING

▲ NEAR-TERM

A comprehensive signage and wayfinding strategy is envisioned for the future that makes Minoru Park easier to navigate. Future signage should be consistent, attractive, and complementary to the character of the different Minoru Park districts.





-  POTENTIAL MAJOR WAYFINDING POINT
-  POTENTIAL INFORMATION OR INTERPRETIVE KIOSK



Photo Credit: Napkn Tatapctaha

**INSPIRATION:** Consistent park maps and directions should be developed through a comprehensive wayfinding strategy for Minoru Park.



Photo Credit: Ceridwen

**INSPIRATION:** Information kiosks can incorporate shelter and lighting to be inviting.



**INSPIRATION:** Small wayfinding signals can be incorporated throughout the park in unique ways.

20 LIGHTING

□ ONGOING

The Minoru Park Vision Plan identifies potential routes for future lighting of the park in a way that provides night-time visibility on key routes, especially those linking destinations that could be popular during evening hours. A lighting strategy can also bring warmth and interest to key park features. Future lighting in Minoru Park should complement the overall character and design of the park.



GP - 150



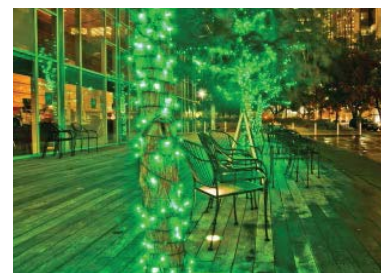
**INSPIRATION:** Lighting should be integrated into park elements to help guide visitors.



**INSPIRATION:** Lighting key park pathways could help increase opportunities for people to cross Minoru Park during the evening.



**INSPIRATION:** Innovative lighting could highlight key park elements, such as heritage trees.



**INSPIRATION:** Small-scale decorative lighting can help create a warm and welcoming atmosphere.





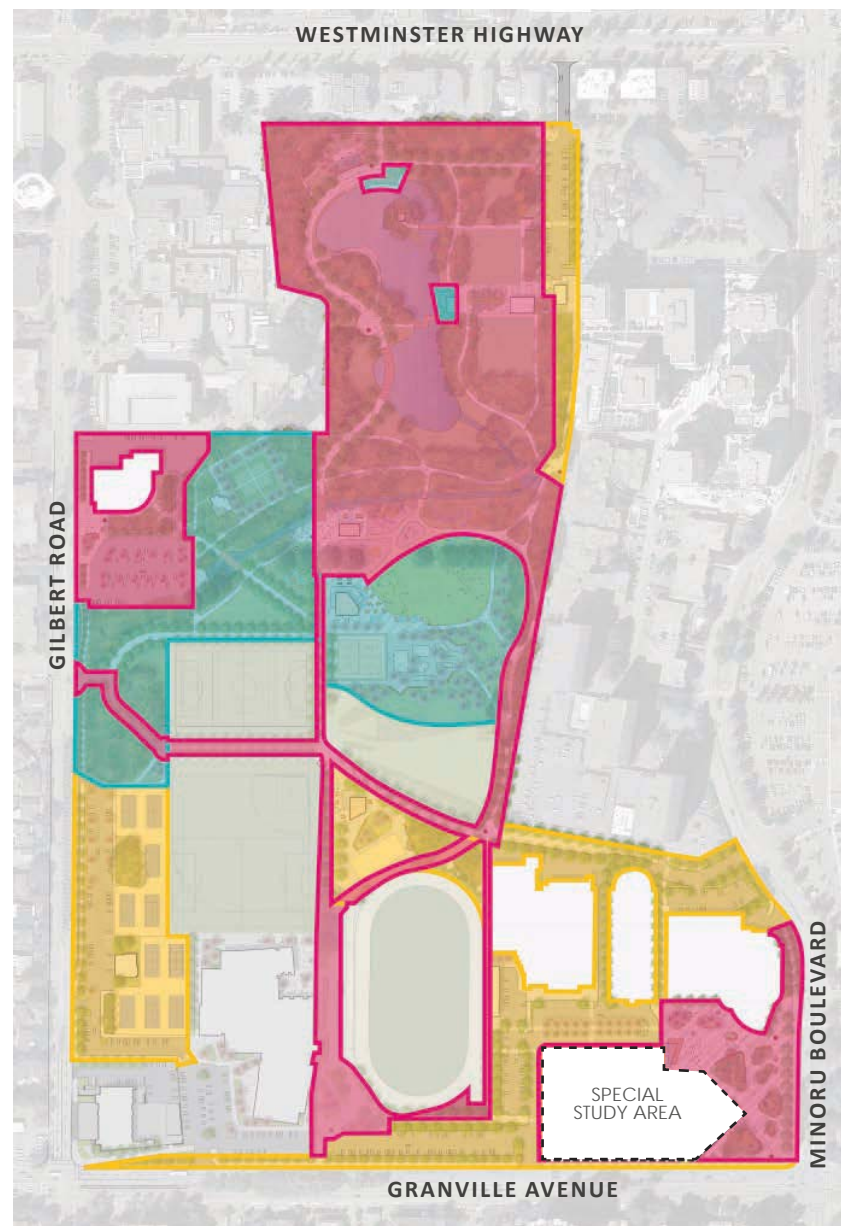
## 6.1 INTRODUCTION

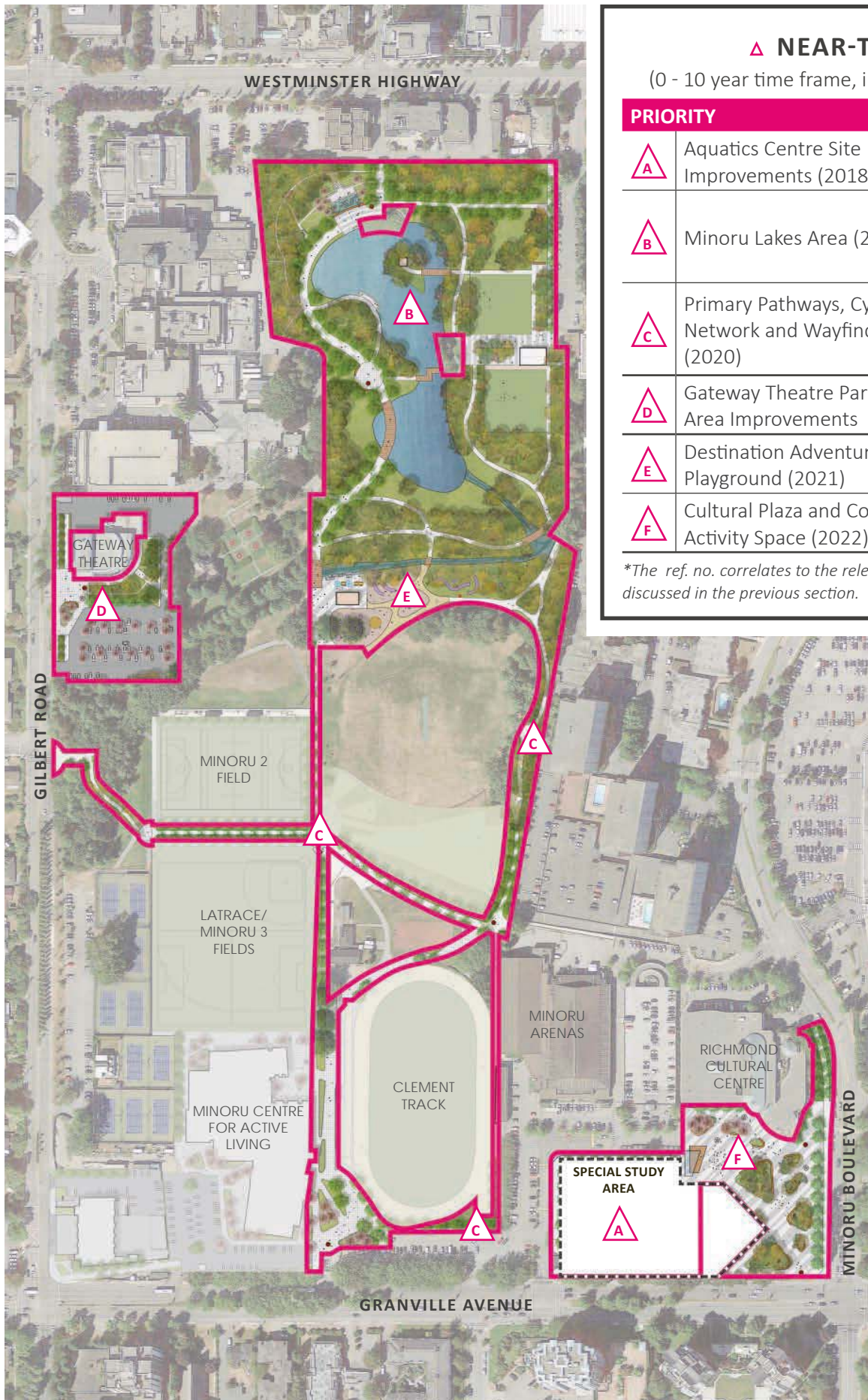
The Minoru Park Vision Plan establishes a framework for improving Minoru Park over the next 25 years. The Vision Plan is a long-term outlook and the park and surrounding area will continue to evolve, so it will be necessary to adapt to new opportunities and challenges that arise. As each park improvement is further designed, it will be important to reflect on the Vision and Guiding Principles to ensure changes support the long-term Vision for Minoru Park.

Each of the planning directions described in the previous section has been designated with a time frame for consideration. The following diagrams and tables summarize projects to be phased over the near-term, medium-term, and long-term.

### PHASING OVERVIEW

- NEAR-TERM** 0- 10 years
- MEDIUM-TERM** 10- 15 years
- LONG-TERM** 15- 24 years
- NO CHANGE** within time frame of Minoru Park Vision Plan





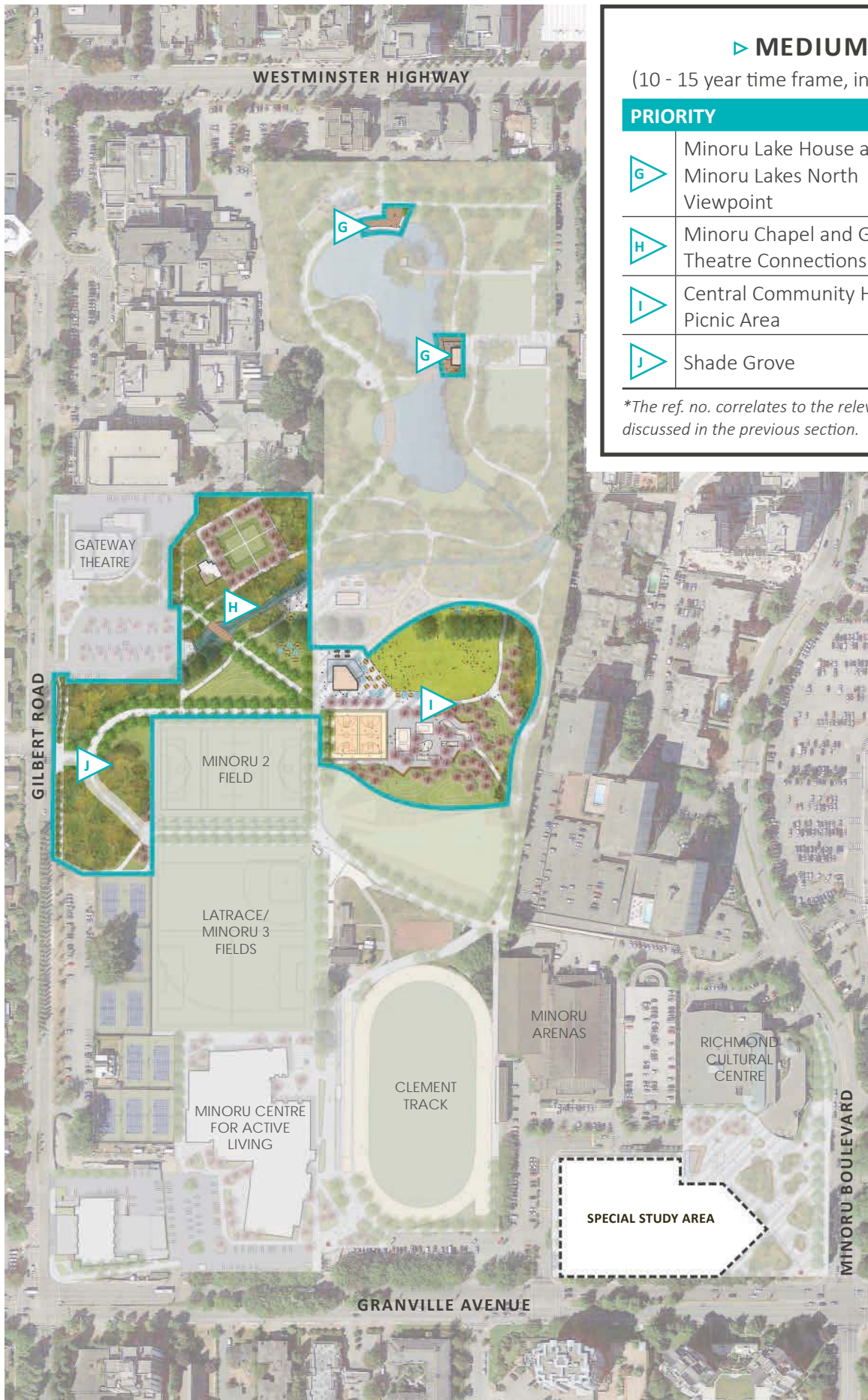
### ▲ NEAR-TERM

(0 - 10 year time frame, in order of priority)

PRIORITY		REF. NO.*
▲ A	Aquatics Centre Site Improvements (2018)	13
▲ B	Minoru Lakes Area (2019)	1 2 3 5
▲ C	Primary Pathways, Cycling Network and Wayfinding (2020)	15 17 19 20
▲ D	Gateway Theatre Parking Area Improvements	18
▲ E	Destination Adventure Playground (2021)	6
▲ F	Cultural Plaza and Covered Activity Space (2022)	12

\*The ref. no. correlates to the relevant planning directions discussed in the previous section.



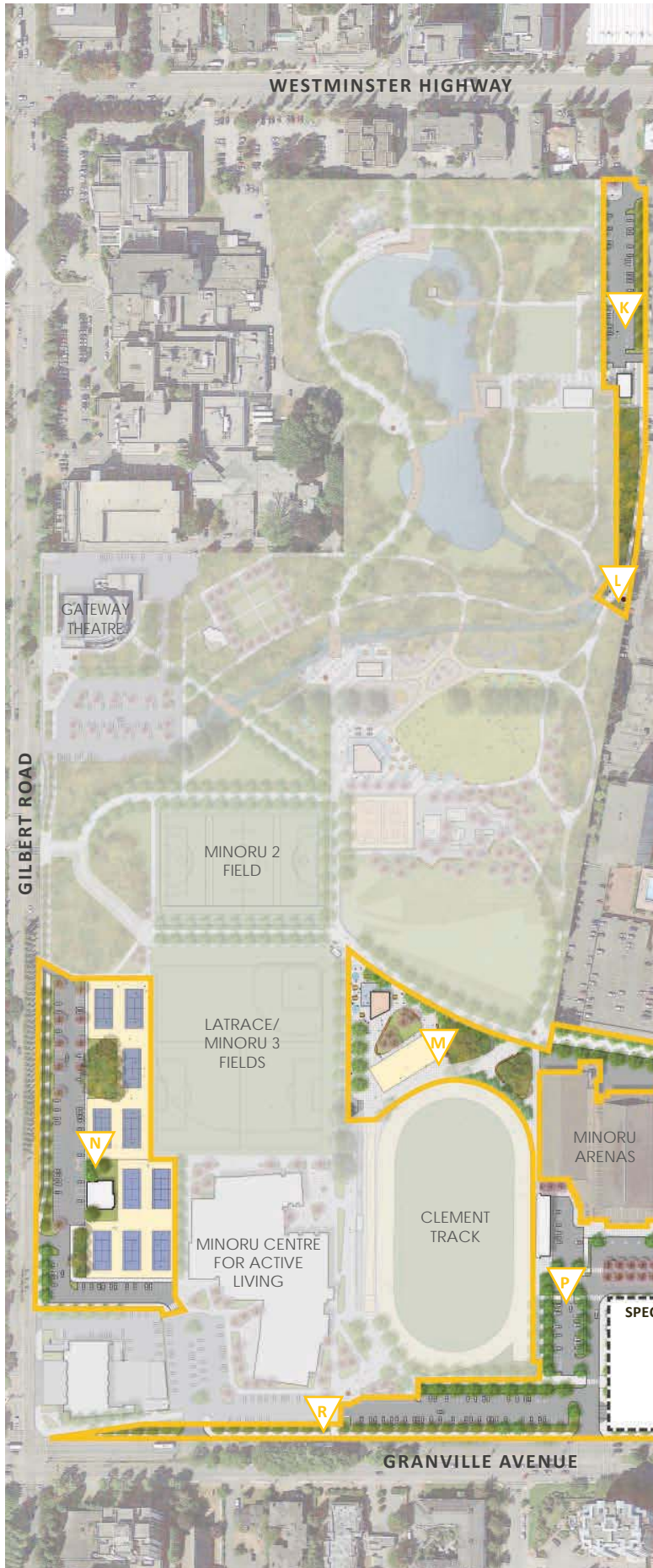


▷ **MEDIUM-TERM**

(10 - 15 year time frame, in no order of priority)

PRIORITY		REF. NO.*
G	Minoru Lake House and Minoru Lakes North Viewpoint	<b>3</b>
H	Minoru Chapel and Gateway Theatre Connections	<b>4 18</b>
I	Central Community Hub and Picnic Area	<b>6</b>
J	Shade Grove	<b>7</b>

*\*The ref. no. correlates to the relevant planning directions discussed in the previous section.*



▽ **LONG-TERM**




(15 - 24 year time frame, in no order of priority)

PRIORITY	REF. NO.*
▽ <b>K</b> Bowling Green Parking and Pedestrian Improvements	<b>18</b>
▽ <b>L</b> Future Park Entry (tied to redevelopment)	<b>5</b>
▽ <b>M</b> Active Living District Hub and Areas Around Clement Track	<b>8 10</b>
▽ <b>N</b> Tennis Court Area Updates	<b>9 18</b>
▽ <b>O</b> Cultural Centre Parking and East Gate Enhanced Multi-use Connection	<b>11 18</b>
▽ <b>P</b> Clement Track Parking Area Long-Term Improvements	<b>18</b>
▽ <b>Q</b> Special Study Area Long-Term Condition	<b>13 18</b>
▽ <b>R</b> Granville Art Walk	<b>14</b>




*\*The ref. no. correlates to the relevant planning directions discussed in the previous section.*

## 6.2 MEDIUM- AND LONG-TERM PLANNING

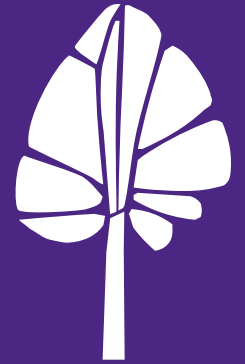
Some of the changes proposed in the Vision Plan represent significant shifts in use and function and may also require significant capital investment.

PRIORITY	KEY CONSIDERATIONS
 Central Community Hub and Picnic Area	Development of the Central Community Hub (including the destination playground, youth zone and group picnic zone) is dependent on relocation of the existing cricket pitch to another location. Further consultation with the relevant stakeholders (e.g., cricket players, the neighbourhood surrounding the proposed new location) will be required to assure the success of this shift before the hub development can move forward.
 Cultural Centre Parking and East Gate Enhanced Multi-use Connection	The parking, drop-off, and circulation routes in the Arts and Culture District are connected to other initiatives proposed in the plan. Improving drop-off and bus circulation on the west side of the Richmond Culture Centre along with relocation of the lay-by and book drop-off functions that are on Minoru Boulevard can be achieved independently. The timing of the proposed East Gate entrance from Minoru Boulevard north of the Culture Centre could be coordinated with the of Richmond Centre Mall redevelopment that includes the extension of Park Road. It may also need to be coordinated with the construction of a proposed future parkade or alternate parking strategy (location TBD) to compensate for displaced parking stalls.
 Special Study Area Long-Term Condition	The Special Study Area in the Arts and Culture District has a broad range of potential options from the expansion of programmable outdoor space and the creation of a greener, more park-like environment to locating a new, major civic facility there. As future civic facility planning advances, priorities for this area will become more clear and long-term planning can occur with certainty.

Some of the proposed enhancements can occur at any time and will be prioritized along with the rest of the City's capital projects or according to community need and Council direction.

PRIORITY	KEY CONSIDERATIONS
 Minoru Chapel and Gateway Theatre Connections	The priority of the Minoru Chapel and Gateway Theatre area improvements has not yet been defined but can be achieved independently from other initiatives.
 Active Living District Hub and Areas Around Clement Track	Improvements and additions to the Active Living District Hub will address some of the needed upgrades (e.g., pedestrian circulation, washroom) and can be implemented as budgets and other priorities allow.
 Granville Art Walk	The Granville Art Walk will be implemented incrementally and according to a forthcoming plan.



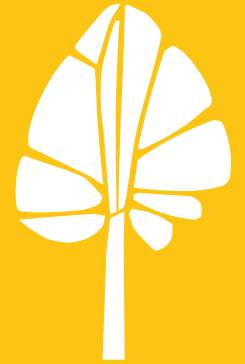


## APPENDICES

APPENDIX A:  
**LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS**

APPENDIX B:  
**PHASE 2 STAKEHOLDER AGENDA**

APPENDIX C:  
**PHASE 2 SURVEY**



# APPENDIX A

## LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS



\*Note: the contact information for the stakeholders was removed from the list to respect their privacy

Title	Name
<b>Outdoor Sports</b>	
<b>Staff Liaison: Gregg Wheeler</b>	
Richmond Lawn Bowling President	Kion Wong
Richmond Cricket Club President	Channa Karunaratne
Richmond Tennis Club	Tanya Donaldson
Richmond Kajaks Track and Field Club	Karen Fisher-Hagel
Richmond Sports Council Chair	Jim Lamond
Richmond Field Lacrosse	Glen Jensen
Richmond Field Hockey	Kathleen Wong
Youth Soccer - Girls	Mandhir Punia
Youth Soccer - Boys	Rein Weber
Adult Soccer	Steve Valenzuela (RASA)
Chinese Soccer / 'Soccer Link'	Frankie Lam
Richmond City Baseball	John Braaten
Richmond Senior Soccer	Steve Alenzuela
School District No. 38	Jonathan Acob
Richmond Minor Football League	Ravi Parmar
Men's Baseball	Cory Carpenter
<b>Indoor Sports</b>	
<b>Staff Liaison: John Woolgar</b>	
Aquatic Services Board Chair	Ian McLeod
Richmond Arenas Community Association Chair (public member)	Frank Claassen

<b>Mobility and Wellness</b>	
<b>Staff Liaison: Heather Muter / Melanie Burner</b>	
Richmond Kinsmen Adult Day Centre Executive Director	Joan Garrity
Richmond Kiwanis President	Teri Buxton
Minoru Seniors Society President	Kathleen Holmes
Richmond Centre for Disability Executive Director	Ella Huang
Richmond Centre for Disability Board Member	Tom Parker
Richmond Centre for Disability Board Member	George Pope
Richmond Fitness and Wellness Association Co-Chairs	Anne Dauphine and Ilario Galano
Rick Hansen Foundation Inclusive Design Specialist	Stan Leyenhorst
Richmond Museum Society Promotion Committee	John Roston
Walk Richmond	Sharon Meredith
Garden City Coalition	Sharon McGregan
<b>Arts and Culture</b>	
<b>Staff Liaison: Liesl Jauk / Donna Lee</b>	
Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee	Joan Page
Richmond Chinese Community Society	Henry Beh
SUCCESS	Francis Li
Richmond Arts Coalition	Linda Barnes
Richmond Multicultural Community Services	Parm Grewal, Executive Director
Immigrant Services Society	Katie Graham + Francis Li
Richmond Family Place	Maria Robinson, Chair
Richmond Public Library Board	Susan Koch, Chair
Richmond Gateway Theatre Society	Camilla Tibbs
Cinevolution Media Arts Society	Contacted via general e-mail
Richmond Museum Society	Greg Walker





**APPENDIX B**  
**PHASE 2 STAKEHOLDER**  
**AGENDA**

# MINORU PARK VISION PLAN

## VISION PLAN OPTIONS // MOBILITY AND WELLNESS WORKSHOP



### MEETING DETAILS

<b>MEETING:</b>	Minoru Park Vision Plan Options
<b>DATE / TIME:</b>	Monday, June 19, 2017 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm
<b>LOCATION:</b>	City Hall, Room M1002
<b>ATTENDEES:</b>	Richmond Centre for Disability, Richmond Fitness and Wellness Association, Richmond Museum Promotion Society, Minoru Seniors Society, Richmond Kiwanis Senior Citizens Housing Society, Richmond Kinsmen Adult Day Centre

### PURPOSE

We are in the next steps of the future planning for Minoru Park. The first phase concluded in May, 2017 with the Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles being adopted by Council. We are now in phase two and seeking feedback on Minoru Park vision plan options. Input received will inform the development of a long term Minoru Park Vision Plan that will help guide future renewal in the park. The Minoru Park Vision Plan will be presented to Council Fall, 2017.

### MEETING OBJECTIVES

- » Provide an update on the process
- » Provide an overview of the Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles
- » Introduce the Minoru Park vision plan options
- » Explore options for key features of the Minoru Park vision plan options and receive feedback
- » Get inspired and have fun!

### AGENDA

#	Agenda Item	Approx. Time
1	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	5 min
2	<b>Summary of Phase One Outreach Process and Results</b>	10 min
3	<b>Overview of Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles</b>	10 min
4	<b>Introduction to the Minoru Park vision plan options</b>	15 min
5	<b>Break out session - Minoru Park Vision Plan Collage Activity</b>	35 min
6	<b>Regroup to Present Break Out Session Results</b>	10 min
7	<b>Wrap Up and Next Steps</b>	5 min

THANK YOU FOR MEETING WITH US!

## MINORU PARK VISION

Minoru Park will be a great place for people, **alive** with programming. It will be a place that **people love** to be in; where they can **play, meet** friends and neighbours and **enjoy** participating in community life. It will be a place with a **diverse** mix of activity; where a wide **variety** of **places** and **destinations** are **interconnected**. It will be distinct because of the exciting diversity of **social, recreational, and cultural** programming while simultaneously being known as a place to find **beauty, peace, and tranquility**. The transformation of Minoru Park will include **renewal** of the parks aspects that people love and value; it will be a **collaborative** process to reimagine the role that the park plays in the city centre and within the whole parks and open space system.

## MINORU PARK GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The intent is that the guiding principles be used to build on the park's existing strengths, direct future development in Minoru Park and ensure that it continues to meet the growing and diversifying needs of Richmond residents.

### MINORU PARK WILL BE: AN URBAN GATEWAY TO NATURE



#### A PLACE WHERE:

- » People have the opportunity to connect with nature.
- » Richmond's ecological heritage and natural processes are made visible and celebrated.
- » The site's existing natural features such as the lakes and canals are enhanced and showcased.
- » Richmond's Ecological Network Strategy is applied and brought to life.

#### DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

- » Include a range of green spaces that support physical, social and spiritual renewal.
- » Protect the site's heritage and significant trees.
- » Develop a tree renewal plan and ensure that the park continues to have a mature tree canopy.
- » Celebrate native plants and environmental best practices.
- » Maximize the park's green edges.
- » Reconstruct the lakes and canal and seek opportunities for them to provide ecological functions.
- » Maximize the park's positive contribution to Richmond's overall ecological health, adaptability and resilience through carbon sequestering, habitat creation and stormwater capture.
- » Develop resource management strategies for maintenance and operations.

### WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE



#### A PLACE WHERE:

- » People can gather, play, pursue active living and feel connected to their community.
- » People can just be.
- » Exciting and diverse year-round programming is promoted.
- » People of all ages and abilities are welcomed and feel comfortable.
- » A general sense of "please walk on the grass" is invoked and people feel invited to use all areas.
- » Multi-cultural and multi-generational interaction is facilitated and encouraged.

## DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

- » Establish more informal, “no-matter-the-weather” gathering and seating areas for socialization.
- » Employ age-friendly design practices such as rest stops at regular intervals along pathways and benches with backs and arm rests.
- » Create a destination playground that offers a range of play opportunities.
- » Support programs and opportunities for “pick-up” recreation.
- » As redevelopment occurs at the park’s edges, seek opportunities to improve interfaces and linkages particularly to Minoru Boulevard and Westminster Highway.
- » Dedicate space for outdoor programming with appropriate infrastructure.
- » Make the cricket pitch more multi-functional and allow alternative uses outside of cricket season.
- » Explore the potential for locating affordable housing in Minoru Park.

## ENRICHED WITH ARTS, CULTURE, AND HERITAGE



### A PLACE WHERE:

- » A memorable, unique place in the city where history and culture are celebrated.
- » A place where lively arts and cultural programming is supported and promoted in the park, engaging and inspiring people.
- » A place where memories are shared and stories are told.

## DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

- » Celebrate the history of the site and features such as its former use as a race horse track and develop an interpretation strategy.
- » Develop a public art program that celebrates and strengthens the park’s identity and character.
- » Support Richmond Cultural Centre events and programs through creation of highly functional, flexible outdoor spaces (e.g. a covered plaza that can accommodate outdoor classes and performances)
- » Link together arts, culture and heritage facilities and explore the potential to create themed walking routes (e.g. Minoru Park Art Walk, Minoru Memories, Heritage Stroll).
- » Enliven the park with seasonal/annual artistic display garden installations.
- » Make Minoru Park **the** storytelling place in the city.

## ALIVE WITH EVENTS AND SPORTS



### A PLACE WHERE:

- » Major sports and community-based events add to the vibrancy of the park and city centre.
- » People of all abilities are supported and motivated to get outside and move.
- » Activities and events make people want to participate and linger.
- » Athletes are inspired to achieve their personal best.

## DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

- » Retain and protect the existing premier sports facilities as a destination sports complex.
- » Add appropriately scaled event infrastructure in key locations (e.g. electrical kiosks, water hook-ups and multi-purpose, all-season surfaces)
- » Retain and improve the track to serve daily, casual use as well as major track and field events.

## INTEGRATED AND CONNECTED

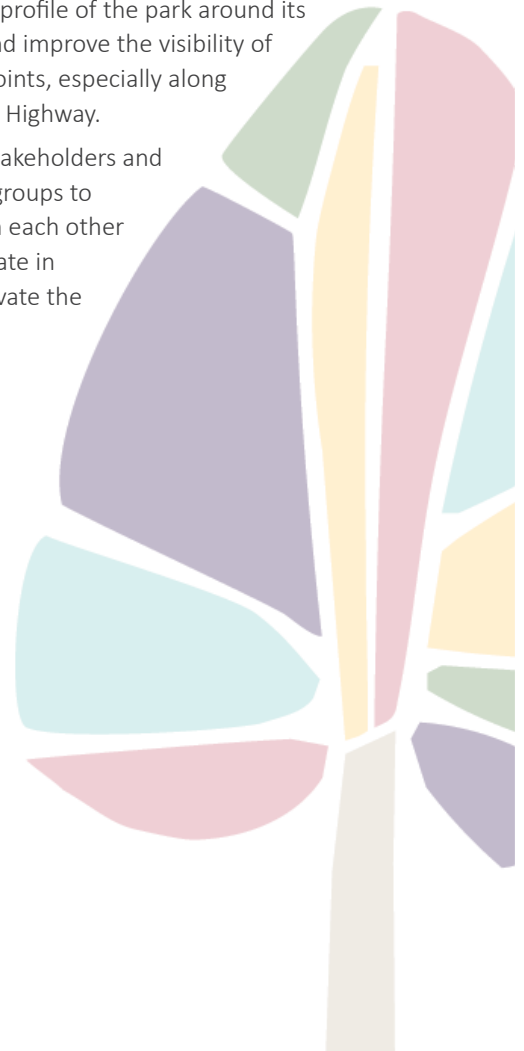


### A PLACE THAT:

- » Will be a signature park in Richmond's City Centre that is distinctive from, yet complementary to, other parks within the system.
- » Is easy to access by all modes of transportation.
- » People can navigate safely, comfortably and intuitively.

## DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

- » Strengthen pedestrian connections to the park from the city centre and adjacent neighbourhoods.
- » Promote programming that compliments other nearby parks.
- » Physically link parks within the city centre towards an integrated green and recreation network.
- » Develop a clear hierarchy of pathways that prioritize pedestrian safety particularly through parking areas around the park perimeter.
- » Create walking loops with distance markers.
- » Provide interesting and functional linkages between park facilities and features.
- » Establish protocols for cyclists including designated bike paths while also prescribing pedestrian-only routes.
- » Improve the interface and connections with Richmond Hospital.
- » Develop a comprehensive wayfinding system that clearly identifies entry points and circulation routes (e.g. arrival features, orientation maps and directional signage).
- » Employ consistent site furnishings and paving materials that are reflective of the park's context, character, features and high usage.
- » Improve the profile of the park around its perimeter and improve the visibility of park entry points, especially along Westminster Highway.
- » Encourage stakeholders and community groups to connect with each other and collaborate in order to activate the park.



## THREE DISTRICTS IN ONE PARK

From **Minoru Lakes** to **Minoru 3 Latrace Fields** to the **Richmond Cultural Centre**, Minoru Park contains a broad range of features, facilities and programming. For the most part, there is a concentration of **Arts and Culture** facilities in the southeast area of the park; a concentration of **Active Living** and sports facilities in the centre of the park; and more informal uses around **the Lakes** area to the north. Both of the Minoru Park vision plan options formalize these areas into distinct districts, each with its own central hub which could contain washrooms, a concession/food service, and/or covered outdoor space.

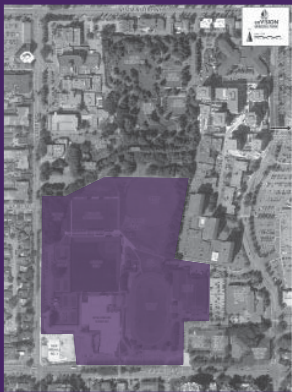
### » THE LAKES DISTRICT: SPIRIT

Key ideas: respite, nature, magical, invitation to wander, storytelling



### » THE ACTIVE LIVING DISTRICT: BODY

Key ideas: play, wellness, performance, accomplishment



### » THE ARTS AND CULTURE DISTRICT: MIND

Key ideas: eventful, arty, engaged, intergenerational, adaptable, urban, colourful, exciting



## MINORU PARK VISION PLAN OPTIONS: BIG MOVES AND DEFINING FEATURES

The two Minoru Park vision plan options: “Urban Oasis” and “Nature in the City” build off of the vision and guiding principles. They include forward-thinking, long-term and bold strategies to balance all of the diverse elements and programming in the park as the surrounding Brighthouse neighbourhood continues to grow and Minoru Park receives increased usage. Remember that this is a long term vision that will be implemented over time. Please review the big moves and defining features as illustrated in the following diagrams then take a few minutes to answer the survey questions.

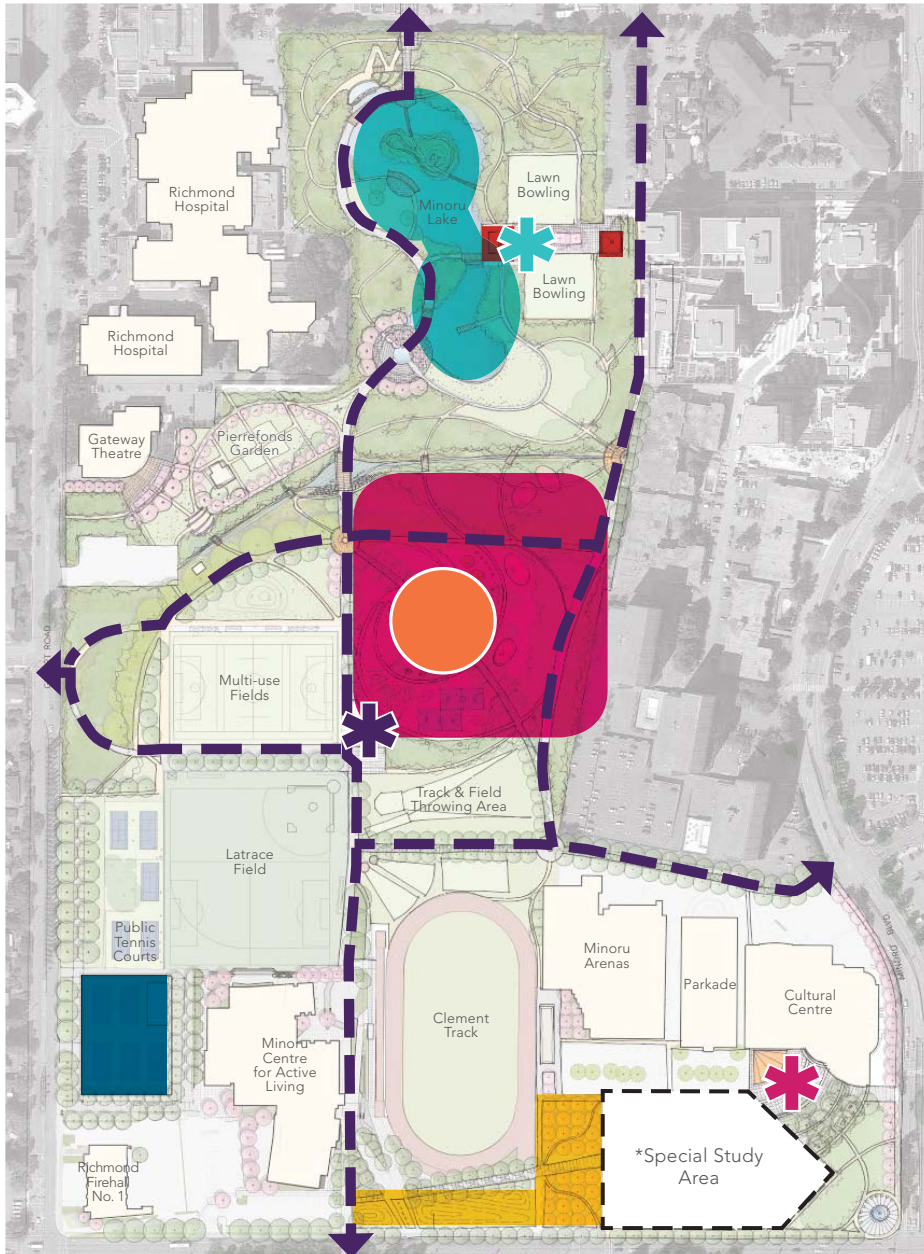
### NATURE IN THE CITY

#### Big Moves (common to both concepts)

- » Development of a parkade on the west side of the Minoru Centre for Active Living and placement of the tennis courts and related facilities on the parkade roof (long-term)
- » Introduction of major east-west and north-south cycling and pedestrian paths (short/medium-term)

#### Nature in the City Defining Features

- » Larger lakes to remain more similar to existing
- » Minoru Lake House and Richmond Lawn Bowling Clubhouse kept separated on west side of lake
- » Cricket Pitch relocated to another site outside Minoru Park
- » Informal uses (play, picnic, youth activities, fitness loop) in the Active Living District
- » Destination playground in the Active Living District (former cricket pitch site)
- » Active Living Hub adjacent to the destination playground
- » Surface parking on the south and east side of Clement Track retained
- » Special study area suggested use: park space with a destination playground

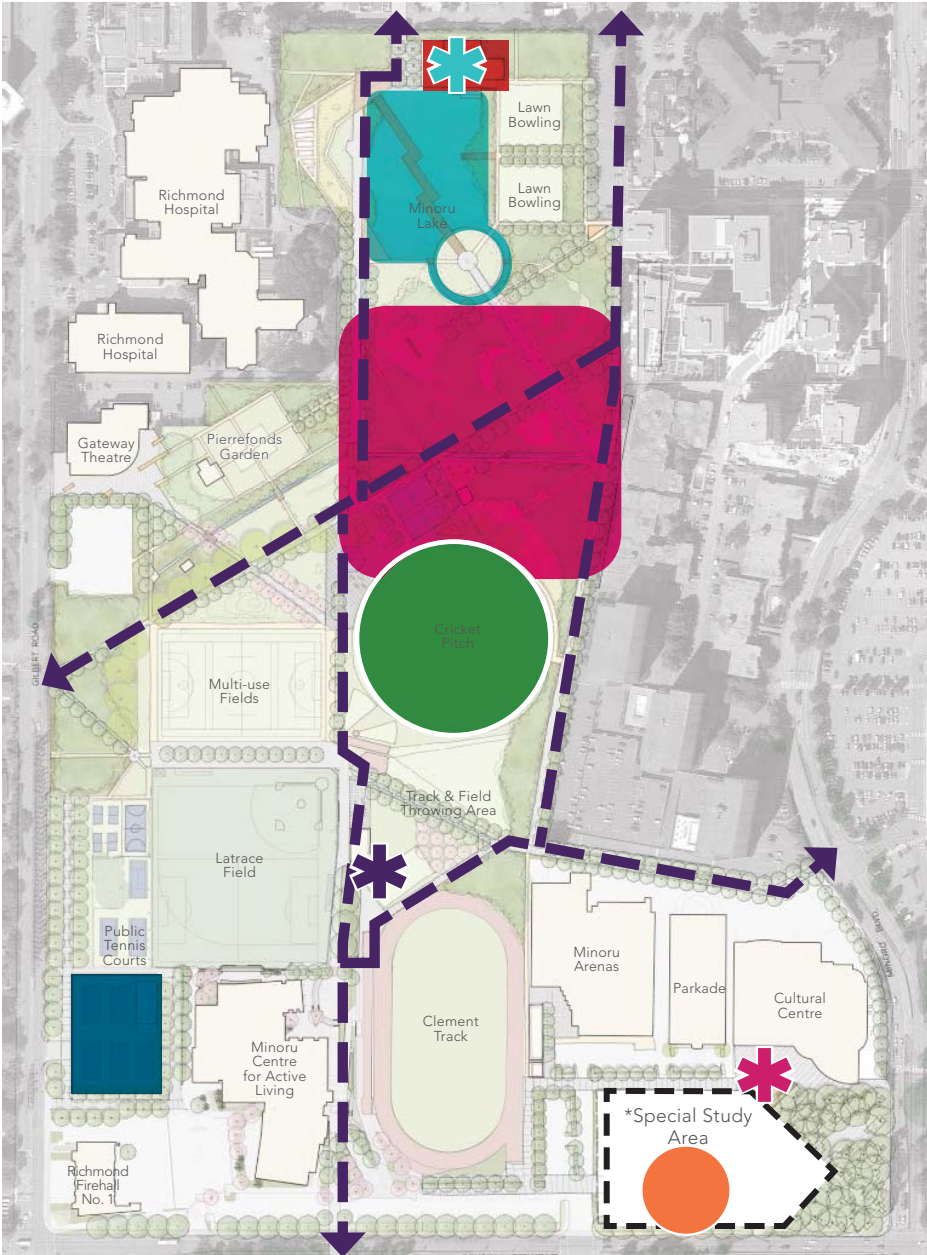


**\*Special Study Area:** The future uses for the existing Minoru Aquatics Centre and Minoru Place Activity Centre sites are currently going through a separate but concurrent process. The outcomes of that study will be incorporated into the final Minoru Park Vision Plan.

#### Legend:

	Minoru Lakes		Surface Parking Converted to Park Space (Nature in the City only)		Lakes Hub
	Minoru Lake House		Additional Informal Uses: basketball and youth hub, picnic areas, walking loop with fitness stations and expanded playground		Active Living Hub
	Destination Playground		Parkade with tennis courts and associated facilities on the roof		Arts & Culture Hub
	Cricket Pitch (Urban Oasis only)		Separated Cycling & Pedestrian Route		

**URBAN OASIS**



**Big Moves (common to both concepts)**

- » Development of a parkade on the west side of the Minoru Centre for Active Living and placement of the tennis courts and related facilities on the parkade roof (long-term)
- » Introduction of major east-west and north-south cycling and pedestrian paths (short/medium-term)

**Urban Oasis Defining Features**

- » Smaller lakes to create more space for woodlands, activity areas, and pathways
- » Minoru Lake House and Richmond Lawn Bowling Clubhouse combined at north end of lake
- » Cricket Pitch retained
- » Informal uses (play, picnic, youth activities, fitness loop) in the Lakes District
- » Destination playground in the Arts & Culture District (Special Study Area)
- » Active Living Hub adjacent to the Track and Field area
- » Surface parking retained on the south and east sides of Clement Track
- » Special study area suggested use: building (use TBD) with underground parking

**\*Special Study Area:** The future uses for the existing Minoru Aquatics Centre and Minoru Place Activity Centre sites are currently going through a separate but concurrent process. The outcomes of that study will be incorporated into the final Minoru Park Vision Plan.

**Legend:**

Minoru Lakes	Surface Parking Converted to Park Space (Nature in the City only)	Lakes Hub
Minoru Lake House	Additional Informal Uses: basketball and youth hub, picnic areas, walking loop with fitness stations and expanded playground	Active Living Hub
Destination Playground	Parkade with tennis courts and associated facilities on the roof	Arts & Culture Hub
Cricket Pitch (Urban Oasis only)	Separated Cycling & Pedestrian Route	



## SURVEY QUESTIONS

The following survey questions are centered around the big moves and defining features of the Minoru Park vision plan options: “Urban Oasis” and “Nature in the City”. Please review the background information and preceding diagrams then take a few moments to complete the survey.

### ADDITIONAL AND NEW INFORMAL PARK USES

During the Minoru Park phase one public consultation process, we heard that the community would like to see more informal uses such as pick-up basketball, an expanded playground, walking loops with fitness stations and picnic areas at Minoru Park. We would like to hear what additional and new informal uses you would like to see in Minoru Park in the future.

**I would like to see the following informal uses added at Minoru Park (check all that apply):**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic areas       | <input type="checkbox"/> A new large playground                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pickle ball        | <input type="checkbox"/> A walking loop(s) with fitness stations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pick-up basketball | <input type="checkbox"/> Table tennis                            |

**DID WE MISS ANYTHING? WHAT OTHER INFORMAL USES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE ADDED AT MINORU PARK?**

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### ADDITIONAL AND NEW INFORMAL PARK USES: VIA RELOCATION OF CRICKET PITCH OR REDUCTION IN THE SIZE OF MINORU LAKES

As mentioned above, we heard that the community would like to see more informal uses at Minoru Park. Given the limited available unprogrammed space at Minoru Park, there are two options being explored to accommodate additional informal park uses:

**Option Urban Oasis:** shows the existing cricket pitch being retained, but the lakes being reduced in size in order to accommodate additional informal park uses.

**Option Nature in the City:** shows the cricket pitch being relocated to another park site and the lakes staying similar in size to how they are today in order to accommodate additional informal park uses.

- I prefer retention of the cricket pitch and reduction in the size of the lakes in order to accommodate additional informal park uses. (Option Urban Oasis)
- I prefer relocation of the cricket pitch to another park site and that the size of the lakes remain similar to how they are today in order to accommodate additional informal park uses. (Option Nature in the City)

**COMMENTS**

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## INTRODUCTION OF MAJOR EAST-WEST AND NORTH-SOUTH SEPARATED CYCLING AND PEDESTRIAN PATHS

During the Minoru Park phase one public consultation process, we heard concerns from the community about potential conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians in the park. Given the large size of Minoru Park and high number of destinations/facilities within it, cycling is an efficient way for park visitors to connect to different areas of the park. In order to address concerns about potential conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists in the park while still allowing visitors to bike between facilities/areas in the park, both vision plan options show major east-west and north south separated cycling and pedestrian routes:

- I strongly support the introduction of separated cycling and pedestrian routes in Minoru Park
- I do not have an opinion about the introduction of separated cycling and pedestrian routes in Minoru Park
- I strongly disagree with the introduction of separated cycling and pedestrian routes in Minoru Park

### COMMENTS

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## ADDITIONAL PARKING: VIA ADDITION OF A PARKADE ON THE WEST SIDE OF MINORU PLACE FOR ACTIVE LIVING AND PLACEMENT OF TENNIS CLUB COURTS AND RELATED FACILITIES ON THE ROOF

During the Minoru Park phase one public consultation process, we heard that the majority of park users arrive by vehicle and that there are concerns about the amount of available parking, especially in light of potential future increased park usage and resulting parking demands. Given the limited available unprogrammed space at Minoru Park, both vision plan options, as a long term strategy, show a parkade on the west side of the Minoru Place for Active Living and the placement of tennis courts and related facilities on the roof :

- I strongly support this long term strategy for adding parking to Minoru Park
- I do not have an opinion about this long term strategy for adding parking to Minoru Park
- I strongly disagree about this long term strategy for adding parking to Minoru Park

### COMMENTS

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## HUB FACILITIES

A hub is the combination of a small building with public amenities such as washrooms and/or food services that supports a cluster of basic park services such as a playground and/or covered outdoor space. During the Minoru Park phase one public consultation process, we heard that the community would like to see additional facilities provided throughout the park such as washrooms and concessions especially in light of the large size of the park. Both Minoru Park vision plan options show the park organized into three districts, each with its own central hub. We want to hear what facilities you would like to see in those hubs.

### I would like to see the following facilities included in and around the hubs at Minoru Park (check all that apply):

- Washrooms
- A concession or cafe
- Covered outdoor space
- A plaza space
- Seating
- Picnic tables
- A playground/play area

### COMMENTS

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## LAKES DISTRICT: LOCATION AND CONFIGURATION OF MINORU LAKE HOUSE (AKA LAKES DISTRICT HUB)

During the Minoru Park phase one public consultation process, we heard that the community would like to see washrooms and other amenities in the lakes area. The lawn bowling clubhouse, which is located near Minoru Lakes requires renewal. There is potential to combine or co-locate public amenities with the new clubhouse. There are two options being explored for the Minoru Lake House (aka Lakes District Hub):

**Option Urban Oasis:** shows the lawn bowling clubhouse and Minoru lake house being combined into a larger facility located on the north side of the lakes.

**Option Nature in the City:** shows the lawn bowling club house and Minoru lake house as two separate buildings located on the east side of the lakes.

- I prefer combining the lawn bowling club house and Minoru lake house into one larger facility and locating it on the north side of the lakes. (Option Urban Oasis)
- I prefer separation between the lawn bowling club house and Minoru lake house and locating them on the east side of the lakes. (Option Nature in the City)

### COMMENTS

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## ACTIVE LIVING DISTRICT: LOCATION OF SPORTS HUB

During the Minoru Park phase one public consultation process, we heard that the community would like to see a sports hub which could include an updated caretaker’s suite, public washrooms, field outlook and storage for sports equipment. There are currently two locations being explored for the location of the sports hub:

**Option Urban Oasis:** shows the sports hub located adjacent to the track and field.

**Option Nature in the City:** shows the sports hub located adjacent to the destination playground.

- I prefer the sports hub being located adjacent to the track and field (Option Urban Oasis)
- I prefer the sports hub being located adjacent to the destination playground. (Option Nature in the City)

### COMMENTS

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## LOCATION OF A NEW LARGE PLAYGROUND

During the Minoru Park phase one public consultation process, we heard that the community would like to see a new large (aka destination) playground, especially in light of the large number of nearby families living in high density buildings. There are two options being explored for the location of the new large playground:

**Option Urban Oasis:** shows the new large playground located in the southeast area of the park in close proximity to the Richmond Cultural Centre.

**Option Nature in the City:** shows the new large playground located in the centre of the park in and around where the cricket pitch is currently located.

- I prefer that the new large playground be located in the southeast area of the park. (Option Urban Oasis)
- I prefer that the new large playground be located in the centre of the park. (Option Nature in the City)

### COMMENTS

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## MINORU PARK CHARACTER

In addition to the major differences between “Urban Oasis” and “Nature in the City” previously outlined, each Minoru Park Vision Plan option has a different character.

**Option Urban Oasis:** is more urban in character with straight, direct pathways and more geometric shapes.

**Option Nature in the City:** is more organic or natural in character with winding pathways.

- Overall, I prefer the urban character of Option Urban Oasis.
- Overall, I prefer the organic, natural character of Option Nature in the City.

### COMMENTS

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## GENERAL COMMENTS

OTHER IDEAS OR THOUGHTS I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE ABOUT THE MINORU PARK VISION PLAN OPTIONS ARE:

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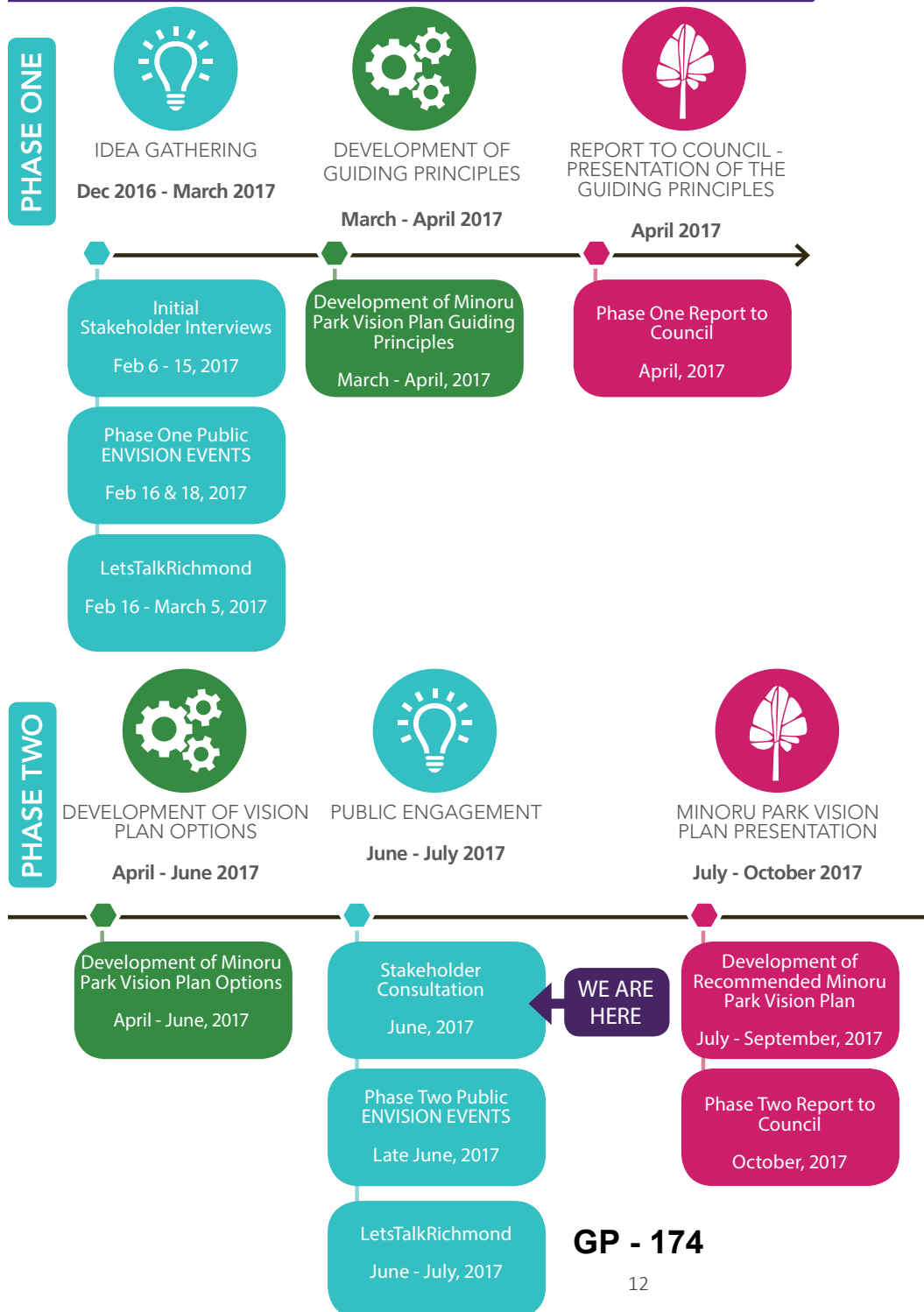
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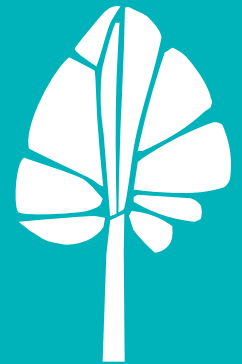
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Thank you for your time and feedback.

## PROJECT SCHEDULE



GP - 174



# APPENDIX C

## PHASE 2 SURVEY

# MINORU PARK VISION PLAN: PHASE TWO

## PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE SURVEY



**We are in the next steps of the future planning for Minoru Park and we want to hear from you.**

City of Richmond is creating an updated overall vision for Minoru Park and is seeking community feedback. Due to recent significant changes in and around Minoru Park, an overall vision is required to reorganize and unite the park. Public input received on the vision plan options will be used to develop a long term Minoru Park Vision Plan for Council approval. Once approved, the vision plan will guide future development in Minoru Park as priorities are identified and funding becomes available.

Please review the display boards, including the two Minoru Park Vision plan options, then take a few minutes to complete this survey. All responses **must be received by Sunday, July 16, 2017 at 11:59 p.m.** The open house display boards and this survey are also available online at:

**[www.LetsTalkRichmond.ca](http://www.LetsTalkRichmond.ca)**

**THANK YOU FOR PROVIDING YOUR INPUT ON MINORU PARK**

The following survey questions are centered around the big moves and defining features of the Minoru Park vision plan options: **Urban Oasis** and **Nature in the City**. Please review the background information, vision plan options and diagrams then take a few moments to complete the survey.

### 1. ADDITIONAL AND NEW INFORMAL PARK USES

During the Minoru Park phase one public consultation process, we heard that the community would like to see more informal uses such as pick-up basketball, an expanded playground, walking loops with fitness stations and picnic areas at Minoru Park. We would like to hear what additional and new informal uses you would like to see in Minoru Park in the future.

**I would like to see the following informal uses added at Minoru Park (check all that apply):**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic areas       | <input type="checkbox"/> New large playground                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pickleball         | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking loop(s) with fitness stations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pick-up basketball | <input type="checkbox"/> Table tennis                          |

**DID WE MISS ANYTHING? WHAT OTHER INFORMAL USES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE ADDED AT MINORU PARK?**

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## 2. ADDITIONAL AND NEW INFORMAL PARK USES: VIA RELOCATION OF CRICKET PITCH OR REDUCTION IN THE SIZE OF MINORU LAKES

As mentioned above, we heard that the community would like to see more informal uses at Minoru Park. Given the limited available unprogrammed space at Minoru Park, there are two options being explored to accommodate additional informal park uses:

**Option Urban Oasis:** shows the existing cricket pitch being retained, but the lakes being reduced in size in order to accommodate additional informal park uses.

**Option Nature in the City:** shows the cricket pitch being relocated to another park site and the lakes staying similar in size to how they are today in order to accommodate additional informal park uses.

- I prefer retention of the cricket pitch and reduction in the size of the lakes in order to accommodate additional informal park uses. (Option Urban Oasis)
- I prefer relocation of the cricket pitch to another park site and that the size of the lakes remain similar to how they are today in order to accommodate additional informal park uses. (Option Nature in the City)
- I prefer that the existing cricket pitch be retained AND the lakes stay similar in size to how they are today understanding there will be less space available for other information activities.
- I do not have a preference.

### COMMENTS

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## 3. INTRODUCTION OF MAJOR EAST-WEST AND NORTH-SOUTH SEPARATED CYCLING AND PEDESTRIAN PATHS

During the Minoru Park phase one public consultation process, we heard concerns from the community about potential conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians in the park. Given the large size of Minoru Park and high number of destinations/facilities within it, cycling is an efficient way for park visitors to connect to different areas of the park. In order to address concerns about potential conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists in the park while still allowing visitors to bike between facilities/areas in the park, both vision plan options show major east-west and north south separated cycling and pedestrian routes:

- I support the introduction of separated cycling and pedestrian routes in Minoru Park
- I prefer cycling paths on the perimeter of Minoru Park only.
- I do not have an opinion about the introduction of separated cycling and pedestrian routes in Minoru Park
- I disagree with the introduction of separated cycling and pedestrian routes in Minoru Park

### COMMENTS

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#### 4. ADDITIONAL PARKING: VIA ADDITION OF A PARKADE ON THE WEST SIDE OF MINORU PLACE FOR ACTIVE LIVING AND PLACEMENT OF TENNIS AND RELATED FACILITIES ON THE ROOF

During the Minoru Park phase one public consultation process, we heard that many park users arrive by vehicle and that there are concerns about the amount of available parking, especially in light of potential future increased park usage and resulting parking demands. Given the limited available unprogrammed space at Minoru Park, both vision plan options, as a long term strategy, show a parkade on the west side of the Minoru Place for Active Living and the placement of tennis courts and related facilities on the roof :

- I support this long term strategy for adding parking to Minoru Park
- I do not have an opinion about this long term strategy for adding parking to Minoru Park
- I disagree with this long term strategy for adding parking to Minoru Park

#### COMMENTS

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#### 5. THREE MINORU PARK PRECINCTS EACH WITH A CENTRAL HUB

Both Minoru Park vision plan options show the park organized into three precincts, each with a central hub that contains indoor and outdoor public amenities such as washrooms, food services, covered outdoor space and/or seating. We want to hear what facilities you would like to see in each of the hubs.

**I would like to see the following facilities included in and around the hubs at Minoru Park  
(check all that apply):**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Washrooms             | <input type="checkbox"/> Plaza space   | <input type="checkbox"/> Playground/play area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concession or cafe    | <input type="checkbox"/> Seating       |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Covered outdoor space | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic tables |   |

#### COMMENTS

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## 6. LAKES DISTRICT: LOCATION AND CONFIGURATION OF MINORU LAKE HOUSE (AKA LAKES DISTRICT HUB)

During the Minoru Park phase one public consultation process, we heard that the community would like to see washrooms and other amenities in the lakes area. The lawn bowling clubhouse, which is located near Minoru Lakes requires renewal. There is potential to combine or co-locate public amenities with the new clubhouse. There are two options being explored for the Minoru Lake House (aka Lakes District Hub):

**Option Urban Oasis:** shows the lawn bowling clubhouse and Minoru lake house being combined into a larger facility located on the north side of the lakes.

**Option Nature in the City:** shows the lawn bowling club house and Minoru lake house as two separate buildings located on the east side of the lakes.

- I prefer combining the lawn bowling club house and Minoru lake house into one larger facility and locating it on the north side of the lakes. (Option Urban Oasis)
- I prefer separation between the lawn bowling club house and Minoru lake house and locating them on the east side of the lakes. (Option Nature in the City)
- I do not have a preference.

### COMMENTS

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## 7. ACTIVE LIVING DISTRICT: LOCATION OF SPORTS HUB

During the Minoru Park phase one public consultation process, we heard that the community would like to see a sports hub which could include an updated caretaker's suite, public washrooms, field outlook and storage for sports equipment. There are currently two locations being explored for the location of the sports hub:

**Option Urban Oasis:** shows the sports hub located adjacent to the track and field.

**Option Nature in the City:** shows the sports hub located adjacent to the destination playground.

- I prefer the sports hub being located adjacent to the track and field (Option Urban Oasis)
- I prefer the sports hub being located adjacent to the destination playground. (Option Nature in the City)
- I do not have a preference.

### COMMENTS

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## 8. LOCATION OF A NEW LARGE PLAYGROUND

During the Minoru Park phase one public consultation process, we heard that the community would like to see a new large (aka destination) playground, especially in light of the large number of nearby families living in high density buildings. There are two options being explored for the location of the new large playground:

**Option Urban Oasis:** shows the new large playground located in the southeast area of the park in close proximity to the Richmond Cultural Centre.

**Option Nature in the City:** shows the new large playground located in the centre of the park in and around where the cricket pitch is currently located.

- I prefer that the new large playground be located in the southeast area of the park. (Option Urban Oasis)
- I prefer that the new large playground be located in the centre of the park. (Option Nature in the City)
- I do not have a preference.

### COMMENTS

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## 9. FAVOURITE ELEMENTS FROM EACH VISION PLAN OPTION

The feedback received on the current vision plan options, as part of this public engagement process, will inform the development of a final Minoru Park Vision Plan that will guide future development in the park. Let us know which elements or features from each vision plan option you would like to see incorporated into the final Minoru Park Vision Plan.

The top 2 elements or features that I like most about Option **Nature in the City** are:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

The top 2 elements or features that I like most about Option **Urban Oasis** are:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. MINORU PARK CHARACTER

In addition to the major differences between “Urban Oasis” and “Nature in the City” previously outlined, each Minoru Park Vision Plan option has a different character.

**Option Urban Oasis:** is more urban in character with straight, direct pathways and more geometric shapes.

**Option Nature in the City:** is more organic or natural in character with winding pathways.

- Overall, I prefer the urban character of Option Urban Oasis.
- Overall, I prefer the organic, natural character of Option Nature in the City.
- I do not have a preference.

### COMMENTS

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## 11. GENERAL COMMENTS

OTHER IDEAS OR THOUGHTS I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE ABOUT THE MINORU PARK VISION PLAN OPTIONS ARE:

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## PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

My postal code is (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

My name is (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

My email address is (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

I heard about this public consultation process via (check all that apply):

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper story                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Email from LetsTalkRichmond.ca |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper advertisement: Richmond News | <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper advertisement: Ming Pao      | <input type="checkbox"/> Twitter                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City of Richmond website: richmond.ca  | <input type="checkbox"/> Word of mouth                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LetsTalkRichmond.ca website            | <input type="checkbox"/> Saw poster in City facility    |

Thank you for your time and feedback.

Please return completed survey by Sunday, July 16 at 11:59 p.m.:

Deliver to: City of Richmond Parks Department  
enVision Minoru Park Phase 2 Survey  
5599 Lynas Lane,  
Richmond BC Canada  
V7C 5B2

Email to: parks@richmond.ca