



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To PRCS - May 28 2013.

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
Committee

Date: May 13, 2013

From: Mike Redpath,
Senior Manager, Parks

File: 06-2345-20-
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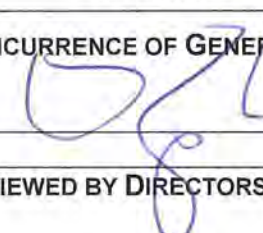


Re: Garden City Community Park - Bike Terrain Park Consultation Process

Staff Recommendation

That Garden City Community Park be approved as the site of the bike terrain park as detailed in the report titled "Garden City Community Park – Bike Terrain Park Consultation Process" dated May 13, 2013 from the Senior Manager, Parks.

Mike Redpath
Senior Manager, Parks
(604-247-4942)

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 	
REVIEWED BY DIRECTORS	INITIALS: 
REVIEWED BY CAO	INITIALS: 

Staff Report

Origin

At the November 13, 2012, City Council meeting, the following recommendation was approved:

That staff begin the public consultation process regarding the selection of Garden City Community Park and Railway Avenue Corridor Greenway/Granville Avenue as potential dirt bike terrain park sites, as detailed in the staff report titled Dirt Bike Terrain Park Consultation Process dated October 1, 2012 from the Senior Manager, Parks.

Within that report, staff identified the need to replace the existing bike terrain park facility at the south end of No. 2 Road, and that Garden City Community Park, based upon certain criteria, was the most suitable location to meet this immediate objective. Terrain park biking is gaining popularity as a recreational pursuit within Richmond, and providing a new facility would contribute directly towards the realization of two Council term goals for 2011-2014. They are:

#10.3 – Create urban environments that support wellness and encourage physical activity; and

#10.4 – Continued emphasis on the development of the City's parks and trails system.

An Open House was held on Saturday, April 6, 2013 to gain public response to the terrain bike park in Garden City Community Park proposal. The purpose of this report is to present the bike terrain park concept and summarize the findings of this public consultation event.

Analysis

The Plan

In early November 2012, Hoots Inc. (Hoots Bicycle Accessories Ltd.) was retained to provide design consulting services for the Garden City Park project. Two meetings with a group of local bike riders then took place in November 2012 and again in March 2013, to prepare a program and conceptual layout of bike features for the site.

The concept plan (**Attachment 1**) includes a comprehensive set of tracks, jumps, and skill features that are scaled to provide for a range of riding skill levels. The park has been designed to maximize safety, flow, skill progression, creativity, quality, and maintenance. Riders can follow a number of circuits depending upon their interest and level of experience. The development will be natural in character, designed to blend in within the existing context of the community park, as well as integrate with the nearby houses and multi-family residences.

Key features of the plan include:

- The start hill, up to 15 feet in height, located in the northwest corner of the site.
- BMX jumps that are placed along the northeast perimeter of the park.
- Jumps, five foot high for intermediate riders, located roughly in the middle of the property.

- “Super booters”, 10 foot high dirt mounds placed in line with wooden ramps up to six feet in height, for advanced riders.
- Progression jumps of increasing heights, placed centrally within the site.
- Beginner’s pump track that is closer to the Granville Avenue frontage, for riders just introduced to the sport. On these features they practice pumping and cornering.
- A skills area that includes features such as log rides and ladder bridges, set up at varying distances from the ground, to provide an opportunity to learn balance on and off bikes.
- Support features such as viewing areas for spectators, seating and picnic tables; “codes of conduct” signage, and a water supply line.
- Trees planted along the east and south edges of the site to provide buffering between the bike park and the adjacent residences and Granville Avenue traffic.

Public Consultation Process

The Open House was held in the cafeteria space of Richmond City Hall from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 6, 2013. This event represents the first step towards creating a network of bike features within Richmond and was publicized to the Richmond public by placing advertisements and an article in the local newspaper, and information and a news release on the City’s website. Approximately one hundred and forty letters of invitation were also mailed to those owners/occupants of residences located across the street from the proposed site, as these people would be directly affected by the construction of such a facility. The public was given the opportunity to meet and discuss the project scope and concept drawings with City staff, the consultant, and the bike riders, and a feedback form was available for those interested in providing written comments.

Twenty seven residents of Richmond attended the Open House. Response to the project proposal was very favourable. Nineteen feedback forms were completed and returned, and the majority of the respondents strongly supported the proposal to develop the bike terrain park at Garden City Park. The conceptual layout for the site was supported by respondents; no one expressed opposition to the site plan. In addition to these feedback forms, comments were received from local residents via email. For a summary of general comments, see **Attachment 2**.

A meeting of the City Centre Community Association Board of Directors was held concurrently at Richmond City Hall on April 6, 2013. Eight members of the Board dropped by the Bike Park Open House to view the plans and individually made supportive comments for the project.

Next Steps

If Garden City Community Park is approved by Council to be the site of the bike terrain park, staff and the consultant team will begin preparation of the detailed design plan and construction documents. This design phase will take approximately 8 weeks, with construction anticipated to begin in early July 2013. Opening of the bike terrain park is scheduled for September 2013.

Financial Impact

The preliminary budget for the Garden City Community Park Bike Terrain Park concept plan is estimated to be \$350,000, which includes a 30% contingency. Construction costs will be refined

as the detailed design plans are prepared. The funding source is the existing 2013 Parks Capital account for Garden City Community Park.

Conclusion

There is considerable interest in developing a new bike terrain park in Richmond, and strong support was received from the public at an Open House event, for developing this facility within the southwest corner of Garden City Community Park. This site is centrally located within the city, and the concept plan proposes a series of bike features that provides fun and challenge in a safe environment, for riders of all skill levels.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CSihoe', is positioned above the printed name.

Clarence Sihoe
Park Planner
(604-233-3311)

CONTEXT 1

It is proposed that the new dirt bike terrain park be integrated within the southwest corner of the Garden City Community Park

Design consultant:
Hoots Bicycle Accessories Ltd. "Hoots Inc."



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CITY OF RICHMOND

6 April 2013

Proposed Bike Terrain Park at
Garden City Community Park



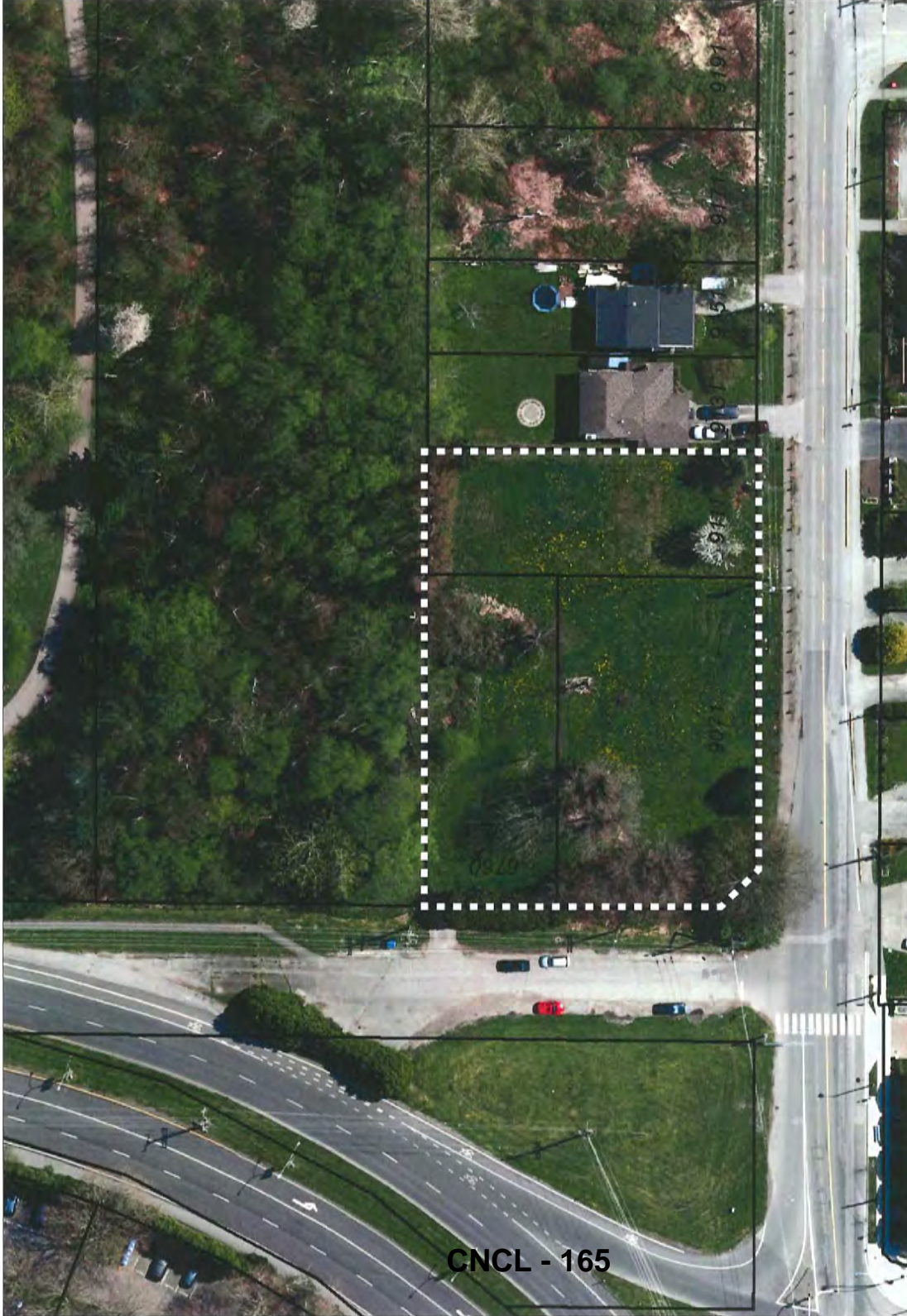
PROPOSED 2 SITE

2011 AERIAL IMAGE

The proposed site is approximately 0.86 acres in size.

The site fronts onto Granville Avenue to the south and the closed portion of Garden City Road to the west. The wooded lot, pond and Arboretum of Garden City Community Park are north of the proposed site.

Design consultant:
Hoots Bicycle Accessories Ltd. "Hoots Inc."

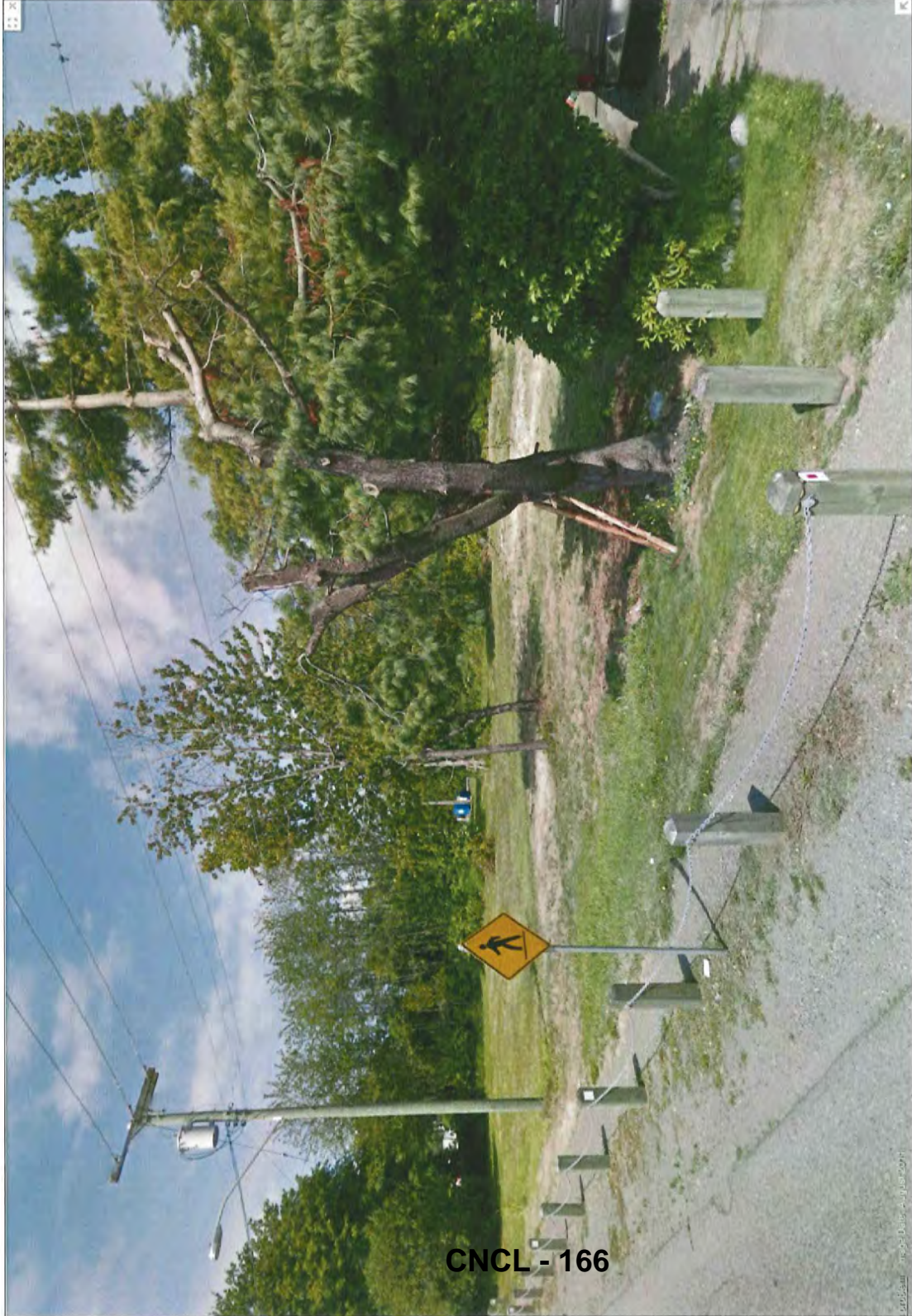


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Proposed Bike Terrain Park at
Garden City Community Park

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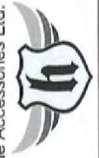
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PROPOSED 3 SITE

VIEW INTO SITE FROM GRANVILLE AVENUE

Existing single family residence is to the right of the proposed site.

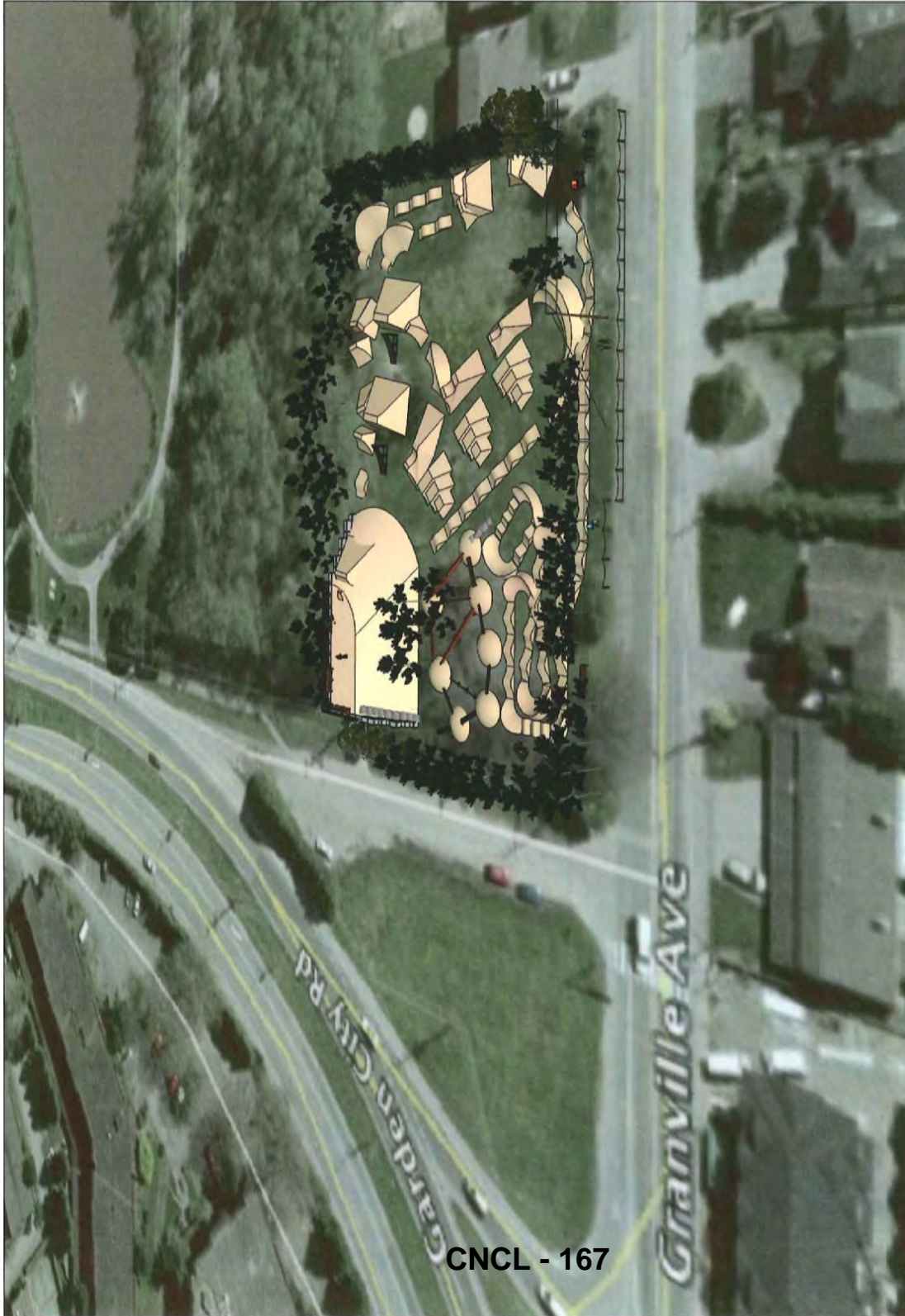
Design consultant:
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Proposed Bike Terrain Park at Garden City Community Park

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PROPOSED 4 SITE

NEIGHBOURHOOD CONTEXT

The proposed bike terrain park shown within its neighbourhood context.

Design consultant:
Hoots Bicycle Accessories Ltd. "Hoots Inc."



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6 April 2013

Proposed Bike Terrain Park at
Garden City Community Park



CONCEPT 5

The proposed bike terrain park contains the following features:

- A - Start Hill
- B - Skills Zone
- C - Pump Track, Beginner
- D - Pump Track, Advanced
- E - Progression Jumps
- F - Jumps, Intermediate
- G - Super Booters
- H - Bmx Jumps, Advanced

Please refer to legend for colour and symbol coding.

- Beginner
- Intermediate
- ◆ Advanced

Design consultant:
Hoots Bicycle Accessories Ltd. "Hoots Inc."




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Proposed Bike Terrain Park at
Garden City Community Park

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6 April 2013



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CONCEPT PLAN

Bike Terrain Park features

Features within the proposed bike terrain park are scaled to provide for a range of riding skill levels.

Design consultant:
Hoots Bicycle Accessories Ltd. "Hoots Inc."



Proposed Bike Terrain Park at Garden City Community Park

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VIEW FROM
SOUTHEAST

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Design consultant:
Hoots Bicycle Accessories Ltd. "Hoots Inc."



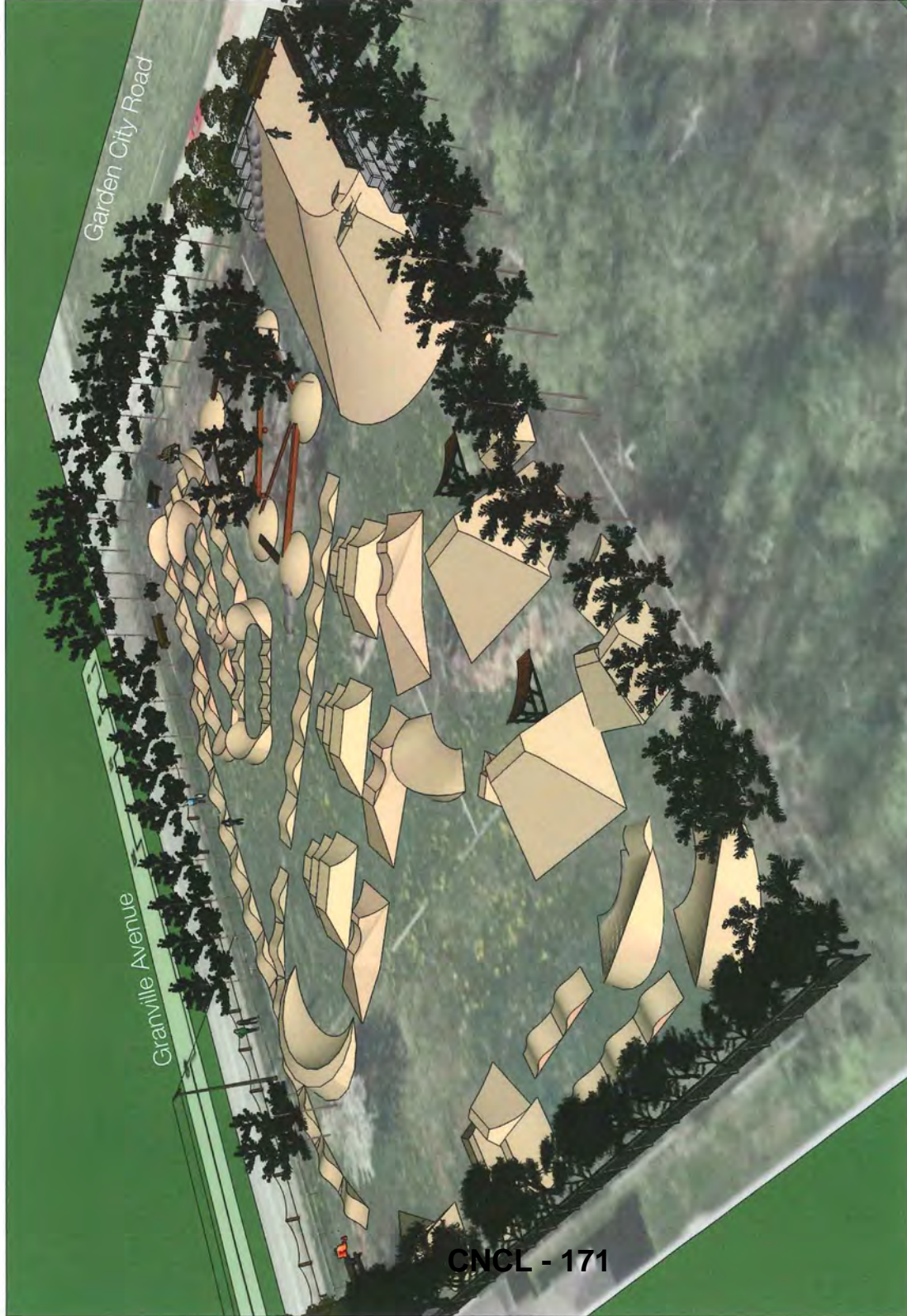
Proposed Bike Terrain Park at
Garden City Community Park

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6 April 2013



VIEW FROM
NORTHEAST

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Design consultant:
Hoots Bicycle Accessories Ltd. "Hoots Inc."



Proposed Bike Terrain Park at
Garden City Community Park

CITY OF RICHMOND
6 April 2013



Garden City Community Park – Bike Terrain Park

April 6, 2013

Public Feedback Forms - Comments

My thoughts on the proposed location of the Garden City Bike Terrain Park:

- Good location away from regular users of park. Traffic barriers should be installed for safety protection of bike users and vehicles.
- Would love to have something closer to home as well, or just more dirt jump parks in Richmond.
- I like it because it is close to my house.
- I can ride my bike to the park.
- Like that it is in Richmond. Right now we travel to North Van, Burnaby, and Surrey. It's near a busy intersection so any additional noise shouldn't be an issue.
- Long time coming.
- It's perfect.
- The location is great. Parking should be reduced being in a more central location, and lane parking (existing) should suffice.
- Parking is a concern I think around the neighbourhood.
- Most bike riders in Richmond are living in the Steveston area. So there may be a problem with car parking at the new location.
- Has a very good pump track for starters. A big set is a great line for bmx and DJ but it's too far from my house.
- The locations if a bit further from our house, but nice and central for Richmond in general.
- I very much like the fact that it is so centrally located and near the washroom facilities at Garden City Park.
- I strongly support this idea mostly because this neighbourhood is growing rapidly. More younger families with young children are moving in. Having such a park for children is good for them physically and for their overall health.
- Possible washroom/outhouse close by.
- Good location; central.
- This is a very congested area and I would like to see a large bike park, such as this to be developed in an area with less traffic and less high rises. Aesthetically it isn't an appealing site and there isn't room for growth.

My thoughts on the proposed layout of the Garden City Bike Terrain Park:

- Would prefer an enclosed entity and clear separation from park.
- Everything looked great, would love a mulch/trick jump.
- It is a good idea.

- I like skinneies because they are fun.
- Nicely designed for all levels.
- I love the mix in the proposal. I love the flow and the multiple lines and transfers. I just worry if there is too much crammed in tight.
- Some more hills.
- Create space for younger kids. Create a bumpy trail for bikes, space for adults to watch their kids safety.
- First priority: Create an access dirt trail point from the south lake trail through the forest to the bike park so there is direct access from the park as opposed to using the narrow sidewalk (west/south side) and competing with pedestrians.
- There is something for everyone, which is great. More emphasis on a variety of skills than just dirt jumps as before. It would be great to modify the start hill to include a place to session drops of different sizes and heights.
- The layout designs seem to be cramped considering if there are lots of kids riding.
- There seems to be way too many pump rollers along the edge of the bike park.
- The layout seems to nicely cover beginner to advanced skills.
- The layout looks very good and seems to support a variety of skill levels.
- We hit many bike parks around B. C. with our 5 and 6 year old children. I love the variety for skill levels.
- Are the retaining walls for the big hill going to be made of those large concrete blocks? Looks unappealing.

I have the following additional comments on the overall proposed Garden City Bike Terrain Park:

- I am very glad to see Richmond supporting the bike park which supports the beauty of Richmond as a great place to raise a family, the more we can encourage active kids the better Richmond is.
- Do not want this bike park to interfere with peace and tranquility or the wildlife. This is definitely a family park used by toddlers to seniors and would not like this to change.
- I would love to be able to help build.
- Thank you for building it.
- Include community volunteers in construction when possible. Mitigate with installing native plants. Thanks for initiating this project.
- Nice to have: Create a basic single track trail in the forest on north side suitable for young kids.
- It would be great if it could be lit at night as well, and adequately drained for wet days.
- Please make it happen! Please email me when community help is need for construction help.
- Can't wait to try it out.
- This is an excellent idea benefiting not only this particular neighbourhood but also Richmond as a whole because of the location and the promoting-health idea behind it.
- There's no covered area of the park? Would be nice for younger kids to have the "easy park" of the park under cover (i.e. Chuck Bailey Rec. Centre in Surrey City Centre).