



To: General Purposes Committee **Date:** April 4, 2017
From: Mike Redpath **File:** 06-2345-20-MINO1/Vol
Senior Manager, Parks 01
Re: **Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles**

Staff Recommendation

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.
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.

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

Att. 6

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Arts, Culture & Heritage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Recreation Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Community Social Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

The need to review and reimagine Minoru Park has arisen from recent major changes in and around the park including rapid urban development in the Richmond city centre area and the construction of the Minoru Complex. Minoru Park has evolved incrementally over time as community needs have expanded and as facilities have required upgrades, which has resulted in park fragmentation and a general lack of cohesion and connectivity. The Minoru Park Vision Plan process provides an opportunity to take a holistic approach to planning Minoru Park's future evolution and renewal.

The purpose of this report is to describe the Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles, outline the planning and public engagement process to date and recommend next steps for preparing the Minoru Park Vision Plan.

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.*

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.

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

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.

4.1. *Continued implementation of the sustainability framework.*

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 well-used and highly valued 65 acre recreational and cultural precinct located in the civic heart of Richmond's City Centre area. It supports multiple functions including active sport use, informal community use, and hosts a wide variety of facilities such as the Richmond Cultural Centre, Richmond Public Library, Richmond Gateway Theatre, Minoru Place Activity Centre (Seniors Centre) and Minoru Arenas. All of the site's varied components provide both local and city-wide services.

There have been a number of significant changes in and around Minoru Park in recent years which have had a significant impact on it. 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 Complex which will open within the next year will shift this programming to the west from the east side of the park. The new Kiwanis/Carrera development immediately adjacent to the park also brings a large number of new residents and introduces a "front porch" interface with the park.

These recent major changes have signalled the need for the Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles to ensure that future redevelopments in and around the park are cohesive, well-integrated and reflective of Richmond's growing and diversifying community needs.

Planning Context

Minoru Park is designated as a City-wide park and plays a key role in the planning directions of the Official Community Plan and the Parks and Open Space Strategy. The Minoru Park Vision Plan will incorporate the Official Community Plan objectives and policies as well as the Parks and Open Space Strategy focus areas and outcome statements. The seven focus areas and

outcome statements of the Parks and Open Space Strategy are embedded in the Minoru Park Guiding Principles included in this report.

Urban Development Context

Just as Minoru Park has evolved over time, so has the Richmond city centre area and Brighthouse Village neighbourhood around it. From 2011 to 2016, the population in the city centre increased by 25 per cent and has seen the highest density development in Richmond. In the Brighthouse Village neighbourhood there are numerous recently constructed developments and rezoning applications along No. 3 Road, which are within a five minute walking distance of Minoru Park. The completed Kiwanis/Carrera development have added approximately 1,000 residents and other development applications currently underway will add a significant number of high-density residential towers immediately adjacent to Minoru Park. All of these developments illustrate a trend toward a concentration of high-density residential use in close proximity to Minoru Park. Along with increasing density comes a need for park space and services, which will be a key focus of the Minoru Park Vision Plan process.

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 key issues which were identified during site analysis, which include the poor condition of the lakes, a potential imbalance between active sport use, informal community use and disjointed pedestrian circulation. These key issues, as well as others identified during the community engagement process, will be analyzed and addressed as part of the Minoru Park Vision Plan process. The following key themes emerged during the analysis of issues and opportunities and will be examined through this process:

- Nature and green park space;
- Community health and wellness;
- Connectivity and trails;
- Outdoor events;
- Park identity and character; and
- Arts, culture and heritage.

Community Engagement

The Minoru Park Vision Plan process is being led by City of Richmond Parks staff with the assistance of a consultant team, and is organized into two phases with public and stakeholder engagement being conducted throughout. Phase one started in December 2016, with site analysis and background information gathering. The phase one public and stakeholder engagement, which is now complete, was focused on gathering community input on Minoru Park's existing conditions and opportunities for its future renewal.

Stakeholder Workshops

Beginning in February 2017, a series of staff and stakeholder workshops were held in order to gain insight about Minoru Park from the unique perspective of each group, and to identify which

park features and experiences they most value. A large number of community groups and organizations were invited to attend, ranging from Richmond Lawn Bowling to Richmond Centre for Disability (Attachment 1). The workshops were well attended and those participants were generally excited about the process and keen to share their opinions and ideas. Those who were unable to attend were sent questionnaires (Attachment 2) attached to the meeting agenda via e-mail and were informed about the upcoming drop-in style public open houses.

The stakeholder workshops began with an introduction to the Minoru Park Vision Plan process, including its stage in the process, and a slide show “walk through” of Minoru Park, which illustrated the aforementioned key issues and park aspects. Smaller group discussions which were focused on values, concerns and ideas were led by members of the project team. The stakeholder workshops resulted in meaningful discussions and valuable input.

Public Open Houses

Two drop-in style public open houses were held in mid-February 2017. The first open house took place on Thursday, February 16, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the Minoru Place Activity Centre and the second was held on Saturday, February 18, from 11:00 a.m., to 2:00 p.m., at Richmond City Hall. The public open houses were advertised in the Richmond News and Ming Pao Newspaper, and on social media, signs posted throughout Minoru Park and posters placed in City Centre Community Centre. Approximately 50 to 80 people attended each open house, and those in attendance were generally pleased with the process and chance to participate in shaping the future of this keystone park.

There were several ways for people to learn about the Minoru Park Vision Plan process, Minoru Park’s background and existing conditions and to share their ideas for its future evolution. Several information boards covering topics ranging from Minoru Park’s history through to existing circulation (Attachment 3) were on display and City park planners were available to answer questions. People were invited to provide input by writing comments on sticky notes and placing them on the information boards, writing postcards to the future about what they see in Minoru Park in the year 2040, drawing ideas about Minoru Park at a crafting station, participating in a “can you find it” treasure hunt of Minoru Park for kids testing their knowledge of the park and completing a survey (Attachment 4).

LetsTalkRichmond

The open houses were supplemented by a webpage on LetsTalkRichmond, the City’s online platform. Digital versions of the open house boards and an online survey were posted from Thursday, February 16, 2017, until Sunday, March 5, 2017. The LetsTalkRichmond page was promoted on social media including Facebook and Twitter.

A total of 186 surveys were completed, and meaningful insight into the community’s opinions about Minoru Park’s existing conditions and potential for its future renewal was gained (Attachment 5).

Community Engagement Results

The input received via the stakeholder workshops, open houses and LetsTalkRichmond were compiled and synthesized into key findings (Attachment 5). Below are responses that were received to a sampling of questions that were asked throughout the engagement process, as well as the importance that the community placed on key aspects of Minoru Park.

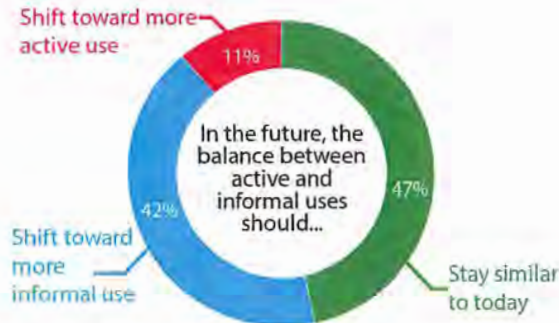
A broad range of generally positive comments were received when people were asked what they thought about Minoru Park today, including:

“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.”

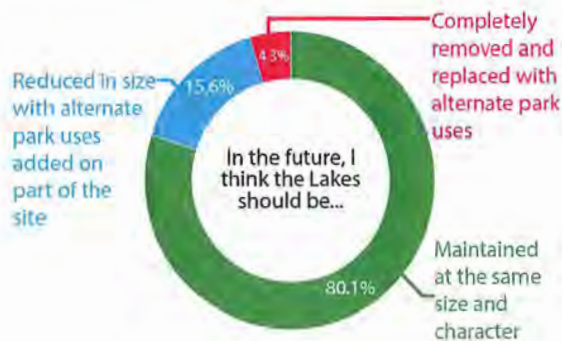
“I’m a young college student who plans to get married and raise a family in Richmond. I hope to bring my own children to this place in the near future.”

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

When asked what the balance should be between active and informal uses at Minoru Park in the future, 47 per cent preferred to see the balance stay similar to what it is today, closely followed by 42 per cent who preferred to see more of a shift towards informal use.



When asked how the Minoru Park lakes should be renewed in the future, the vast majority favored keeping the lakes similar to how they are today.



When asked to rank the importance of key aspects of Minoru Park, 91 per cent placed the highest value on nature and park green space, 82 per cent placed the highest value on community health and wellness, and 79 per cent placed the highest value on connectivity and trails.



Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles

The Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles (Attachment 6) were generated based on the results of site analysis and the community engagement process. They build on Minoru Park’s existing strengths and valued aspects while they simultaneously look 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 need to be made about renewal and redevelopment in and around the park.

Minoru Park Vision

Minoru Park is a dynamic City-wide park located in the civic core of Richmond’s city centre area. It 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 Brighthouse Village neighbourhood as high density residential developments continue to grow and be concentrated in this area.

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

<p>Minoru Park will be: An Urban Gateway to Nature</p>
<p>Guiding Principles</p>
<p>Minoru Park will be a place where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
<p>Design and Programming Priorities</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 storm water capture. • Develop resource management strategies for maintenance and operations.

**Minoru Park will be:
Welcoming and Inclusive**

Guiding Principles

Minoru Park will be 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.

**Minoru Park will be:
Enriched with Arts, Culture and Heritage**

Guiding Principles

Minoru Park will be:

- 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).

<p>Design and Programming Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link together arts, culture and heritage facilities and explore the potential to create themed walking routes (e.g. Minoru Park Art Walk, Minoru Memories and Heritage Stroll). • Enliven the park with seasonal/annual artistic display garden installations. • Make Minoru Park <i>the</i> storytelling place in the city.
<p>Minoru Park will be: Alive with Sports and Events</p>
<p>Guiding Principles</p> <p>Minoru Park will be a place where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
<p>Design and Programming Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
<p>Minoru Park will be: Integrated and Connected</p>
<p>Guiding Principles</p> <p>Minoru Park will be a place that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
<p>Design and Programming Priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.

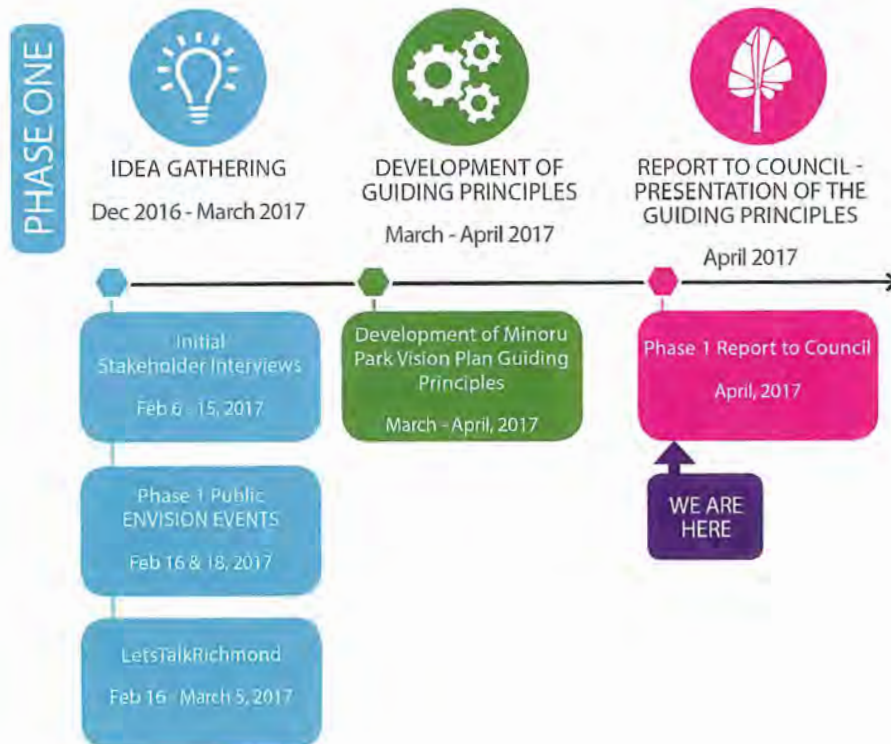
Design and Programming Priorities

- 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.

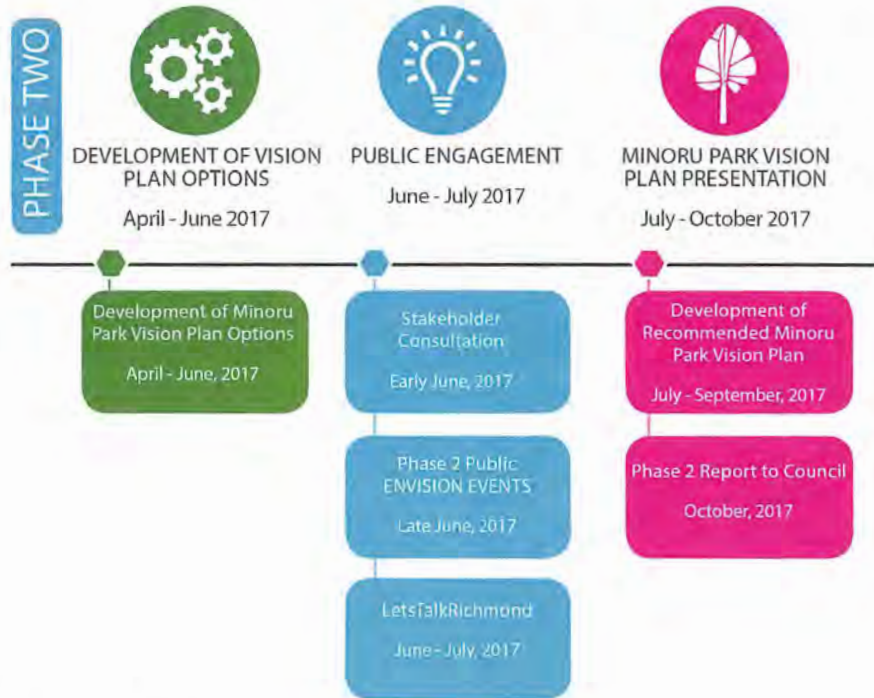
Next Steps

Once the Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles are adopted by Council, the Minoru Park Vision Plan options will be developed by the consultant team under the guidance of City of Richmond Parks staff. The Minoru Park Vision Plan options will then be presented to stakeholder groups and the general public via workshops and drop-in style open houses for feedback. A preferred Minoru Park Vision Plan will then be generated and presented to Council for adoption at the end of 2017.

Below is a brief overview of the first phase of the Minoru Park Vision Plan process and staff’s current stage in the timeline:



Below is a brief overview of the second phase of the Minoru Park Vision Plan process, which will begin once the Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles are adopted by Council:



Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

The Minoru Vision Plan process provides an opportunity to take a holistic approach to planning Minoru Park’s future evolution and renewal. Once the Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles are adopted by Council, they will be used to guide the development of the Minoru Park Vision Plan which will be presented to Council for approval at the end of 2017.

Miriam Plishka, BCSLA, CSLA
 Park Planner
 (604-233-3310)

- Att. 1: Minoru Park Vision Plan Stakeholders
- 2: Stakeholder Workshop Agenda and Questionnaire
- 3: Public Open House Boards
- 4: Open House Survey
- 5: Summary of Community Engagement Results
- 6: Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles



**City of
Richmond**

Minoru Park Vision Plan 2017
List of Stakeholders
Parks Planning, Design and Construction

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

Title	Name
Outdoor Sports	
Staff Liaison: Gregg Wheeler	
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
Indoor Sports	
Staff Liaison: John Woolgar	
Aquatic Services Board Chair	Ian McLeod
Richmond Arenas Community Association Chair (public member)	Frank Claassen

MINORU PARK VISION PLAN

STAKEHOLDER INPUT MEETING



MEETING DETAILS

MEETING:	Mobility + Wellness
DATE / TIME:	Tuesday, February 7, 2017 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
LOCATION:	City Hall, Room M1003
INVITED GROUPS:	Richmond Kinsmen Adult Day Centre, Richmond Kiwanis, Minoru Seniors Society, Richmond Centre for Disability, Richmond Fitness and Wellness Association, Rick Hansen Foundation, Richmond Museum Society, Walk Richmond, Garden City Coalition

PURPOSE

We are currently in Phase 1 of the Minoru Park Vision Plan process which focuses on gathering information about issues, opportunities, and ideas for the park. Initial stakeholder interviews are being completed at this stage to gather detailed knowledge and first-hand experiences of the park. This information will be used to inform Guiding Principles which will be presented to Council for approval. Once approved, the Guiding Principles will form the basis for concept plan options which will be presented for feedback in the summer of 2017.

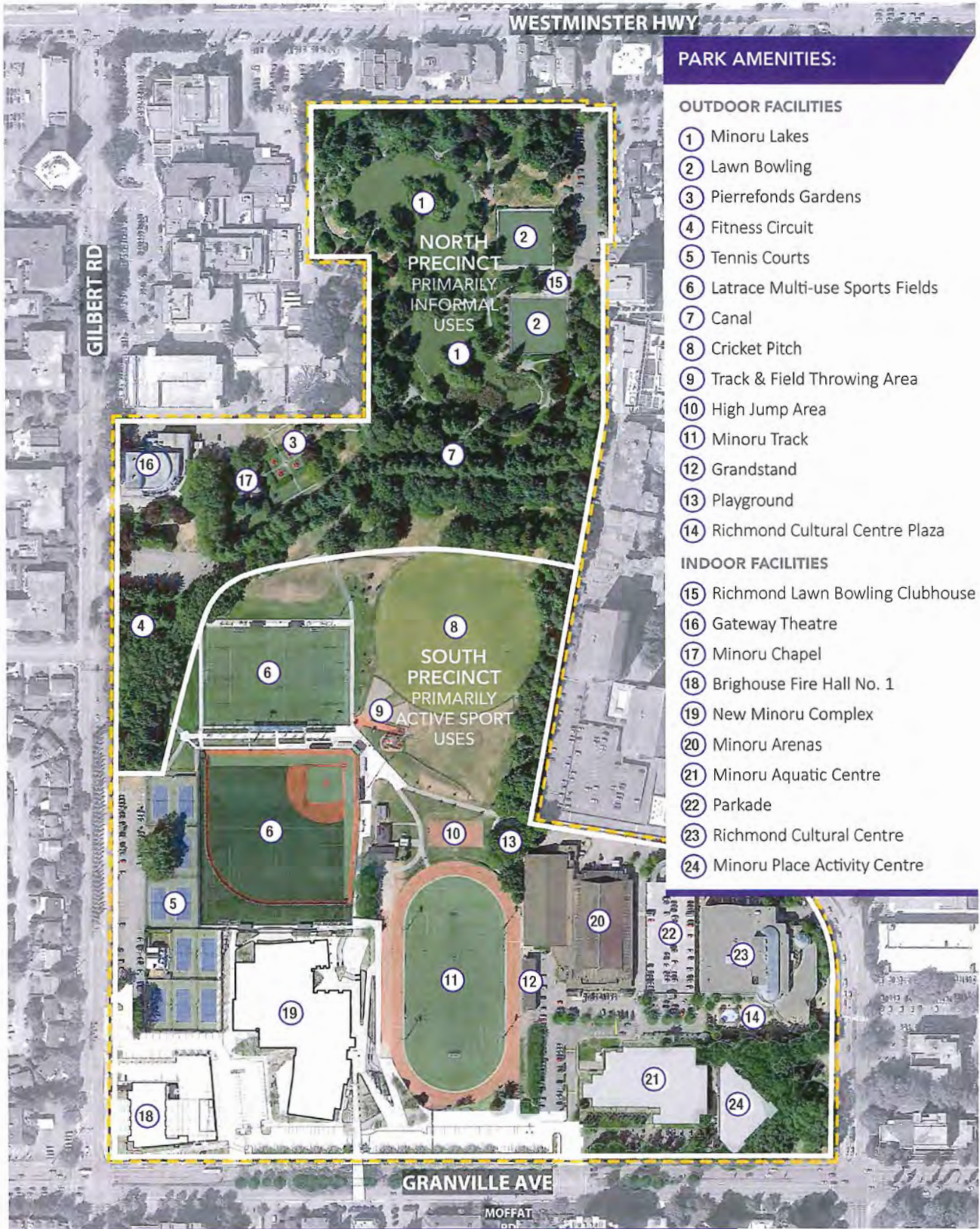
MEETING OBJECTIVES

- » Introduce the Minoru Park Vision Plan process
- » Provide background about the park
- » Discuss the future role of Minoru Park in the Richmond community
- » Facilitate an interactive discussion to identify values, concerns, and ideas for the park's future
- » Discuss key aspects being explored in the Vision Plan process

AGENDA

#	Agenda Item	Approx. Time
1	Welcome & Introductions	5 min.
2	Project Introduction & Background	20 min.
3	Group Discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Section 1: Values, Concerns & Ideas » Section 2: Arrival, Circulation & Experience » Section 3: Park Aspects 	90 min.
4	Wrap-up & Next Steps	5 min.

THANK YOU FOR MEETING WITH US!



PARK AMENITIES:

OUTDOOR FACILITIES

- ① Minoru Lakes
- ② Lawn Bowling
- ③ Pierrefonds Gardens
- ④ Fitness Circuit
- ⑤ Tennis Courts
- ⑥ Latrace Multi-use Sports Fields
- ⑦ Canal
- ⑧ Cricket Pitch
- ⑨ Track & Field Throwing Area
- ⑩ High Jump Area
- ⑪ Minoru Track
- ⑫ Grandstand
- ⑬ Playground
- ⑭ Richmond Cultural Centre Plaza

INDOOR FACILITIES

- ⑮ Richmond Lawn Bowling Clubhouse
- ⑯ Gateway Theatre
- ⑰ Minoru Chapel
- ⑱ Brighthouse Fire Hall No. 1
- ⑲ New Minoru Complex
- ⑳ Minoru Arenas
- ㉑ Minoru Aquatic Centre
- ㉒ Parkade
- ㉓ Richmond Cultural Centre
- ㉔ Minoru Place Activity Centre

Map: Existing Minoru Park Amenities



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



The following discussion questions are provided for review and consideration prior to the meeting. Please come prepared to share your opinions and ideas. Before or during the meeting, please record your responses in the spaces provided. We will collect the discussion question pages at the end of the meeting. If you need more space for your comments, please use a blank sheet and include it with your response.

SECTION 1: VALUES, CONCERNS, & IDEAS

1. What aspects of Minoru Park do you value and think should be maintained?

2. What areas or aspects of Minoru Park do you think should be improved and how?

3. How do you use Minoru Park today?

4. Help envision the future of Minoru Park by completing the following sentence:

When I enVISION Minoru Park in 2040, I see...

5. Identify a park or place that you love and that inspires you.

What do you love about that place and how does it inspire you? Are there aspects of it that could be incorporated into Minoru Park?

6. Built in the 1970s, the lakes area was designed as a beautiful oasis for the community. Over time, erosion, mechanical failures, wildlife, and age have contributed to deterioration of the lake infrastructure and water quality. The lakes are now nearing a point where renewal is required. This Vision Plan process provides an opportunity to re-envision the future for this space. Do you think the lakes should be:

- Replaced/upgraded to continue to provide a similar function to the existing lakes?
- Modified/replaced to enhance environmental functions (e.g., stormwater retention)?
- Reduced in size with alternate park uses on part of the site?
- Completely removed and replaced with alternate park uses?

7. If the area dedicated to the lakes is reduced or eliminated, what other uses should be considered for this area of Minoru Park?

continued on next page...

SECTION 2: ARRIVAL, CIRCULATION, & EXPERIENCE

8. When you visit Minoru Park, how and where do you arrive?

What do you see or experience as you're arriving?

9. If you were visiting Minoru Park for your first time, what would be your impression of the park from the perimeter?

10. What is your experience of circulation moving through Minoru Park?

11. What do you think the primary issues are for pedestrian and cyclist circulation and wayfinding in or around the park?

What could be done to improve circulation and wayfinding?

OTHER COMMENTS ABOUT MINORU PARK?

SECTION 3: PARK ASPECTS

12. Please think about each of the following aspects of Minoru Park. Identify how important you think each aspect is for the future and how well Minoru Park is currently providing it. Please identify suggestions you have for improving each aspect.

Community Health and Wellness

Both open-ended informal uses and active sports uses support community health and wellness. The Vision Plan will consider how to improve opportunities for community health and wellness in Minoru Park.

How important is this aspect of Minoru Park?

Very Important
 Moderately Important
 Not Important

Do you have ideas for enhancing Community Health and Wellness opportunities in Minoru Park?

Connectivity

The northern and southern precincts of Minoru Park are physically divided by the canal and can feel like two separate parks. The Vision Plan will consider ways to better unify the park and improve connectivity throughout.

How important is this aspect of Minoru Park?

Very Important
 Moderately Important
 Not Important

Do you have ideas for enhancing Connectivity in Minoru Park?

Nature and Green Park Space

Minoru Park includes mature tree stands, gardens, lakes, and informal green spaces. Opportunities may exist to improve these spaces to provide enhanced environmental, social, and recreational benefits for residents.

How important is this aspect of Minoru Park?

Very Important
 Moderately Important
 Not Important

Do you have ideas for enhancing Nature and Green Park Space in Minoru Park?

Outdoor Programming

Minoru Park is home to a wide range of events and activities – from large community events to small informal gatherings. The Vision Plan will consider how the park can continue to support and enhance outdoor programming.

How important is this aspect of Minoru Park?

Very Important
 Moderately Important
 Not Important

Do you have ideas for enhancing Outdoor Programming in Minoru Park?

Identity and Wayfinding

Minoru Park has evolved over the years and is source of community pride. The Vision Plan will consider how to enhance and unify the park's identity and wayfinding.

How important is this aspect of Minoru Park?

Very Important
 Moderately Important
 Not Important

Do you have ideas for enhancing Identity and Wayfinding in Minoru Park?

UPCOMING PUBLIC EVENTS



The first two public **enVISION EVENTS** will be held this February to gather ideas and input from members of the community. Please join us and encourage your friends, neighbours, and colleagues to participate.

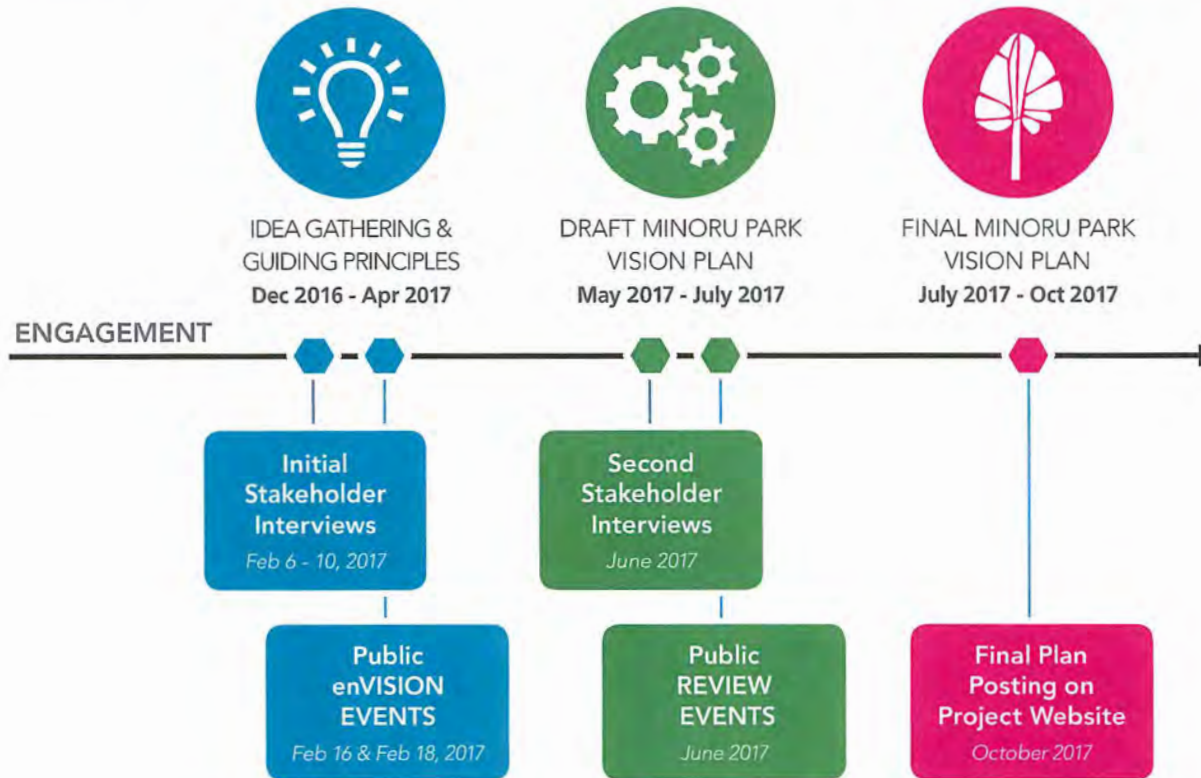
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16
Drop-in 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Minoru Place Activity Centre
7600 Minoru Gate

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18
Drop-in 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
City Hall Atrium
6911 No. 3 Road

A public questionnaire will be posted on letstalkrichmond.ca starting Thursday, February 16.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

We encourage your continued involvement as the Vision Plan is developed. The following schedule outlines key activities.



QUESTIONS?

Starting Feb. 16, 2017 visit www.envisionminoru.com and www.letstalkrichmond.ca for details
Project Manager: Miriam Plishka, Parks Planner | Community Services
Email: MPlishka@richmond.ca **Tel:** 604.233.3310

WELCOME!



The planning process for the future renewal of Minoru Park has started and we want to hear from you!

WHY ARE WE HERE TODAY?

The City of Richmond Parks Department is continually working to improve the quality of parks and user experiences throughout the city. Due to significant recent changes in Minoru Park, such as the new multi-use sports fields and Minoru Complex facility, along with the rapidly increasing residential population in the near vicinity, City Parks staff are working towards the development of a Vision Plan and Guiding Principles for the future renewal of Minoru Park. These open houses mark the first step in a phased stakeholder and public consultation process and are intended to gather community input that will be used to develop Guiding Principles for Council approval.

GOALS OF THE PROJECT

- » Receive community and stakeholder input on Minoru Park's existing conditions and ideas about its potential future
- » Develop a Minoru Park Vision Plan and Guiding Principles, which reflect the needs of current and potential future park users
- » Establish short, medium, and long-term objectives and identify priorities
- » Ensure Minoru Park remains a healthy and loved City Centre Area park for current and future generations

HOW TO SHARE YOUR IDEAS

Please help us enVISION a future for Minoru Park by participating in Phase I of the process. Your input will be used to help develop Guiding Principles and draft concept plan options for the future renewal of Minoru Park.



Add Your Ideas to the Posters

Review the information here today and add your thoughts to one of the interactive display posters.



Complete an Input Survey

Fill in a paper survey today or online at **Let's Talk Richmond** (www.letstalkrichmond.ca) by Sunday, March 5th at 11:59 pm.



Talk with Us!

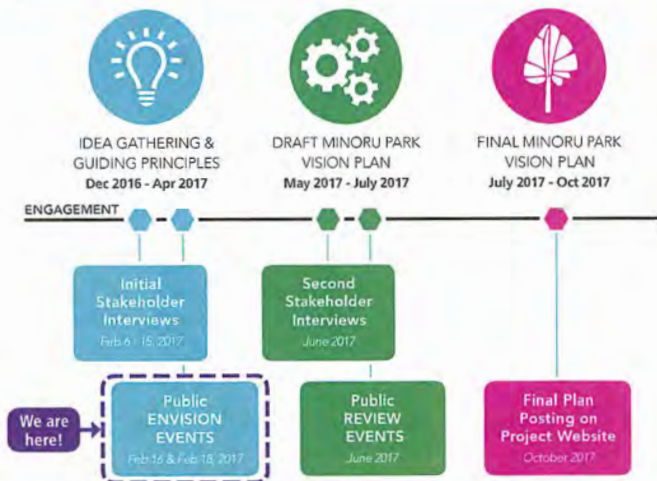
City of Richmond staff and project team members are here today to answer questions and listen to your ideas. Come and say hello!



Questions or comments?

Continue to visit www.LetsTalkRichmond.ca and www.envisionminoru.com for up-to-date information. If you have any further questions, contact the Parks Department at 604-244-1208

PROCESS



Visit envisionminoru.com or letstalkrichmond.ca for more details



MINORU PARK HISTORY

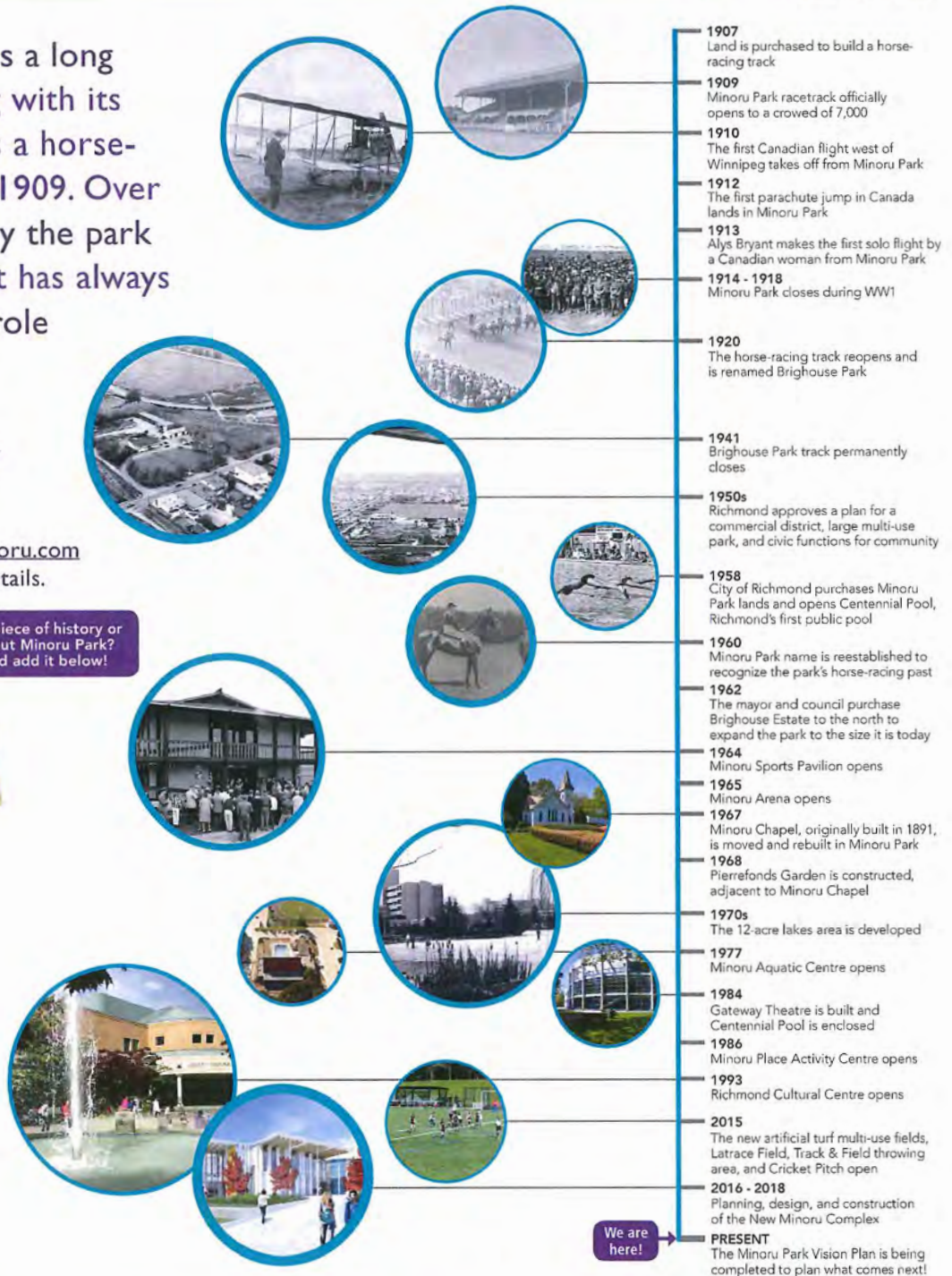


Minoru Park has a long history, starting with its development as a horse-racing track in 1909. Over the past century the park has evolved, but has always maintained its role as a place for social activity and community enjoyment.

Visit www.envisionminoru.com for more historical details.

Do you know an interesting piece of history or have a memory to share about Minoru Park? Write it on a sticky note and add it below!

Please Add Your Memory of Minoru Park!



We are here!



Minoru Lakes, c. 1980s

PARK CONTEXT



Minoru Park is part of the City Centre Area's open space network. Planning for Minoru will consider how the park complements this overall network.



MAP LEGEND

- MINORU PARK
- OTHER RICHMOND PARKS
- CITY CENTRE AREA BOUNDARY
- CANADA LINE SKYTRAIN
- CANADA LINE SKYTRAIN STATION

Minoru Park is located in Richmond's City Centre Area, an important mixed residential and commercial neighbourhood

10 The number of Signature Parks in Richmond, including Minoru Park. Signature parks are those that offer spectacular and unique park experiences

13 The number of City Parks in the Richmond City Centre area. The recently updated Garden City Community Park is 4 km away and it will be important for the Minoru Park Vision Plan to complement other area parks

65 The size of Minoru Park. At 65 acres it is one of Richmond's largest parks



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

? Would you like to learn more about the framework for Richmond Parks? View the 2022 Parks & Open Space Strategy available at www.richmond.ca/parks



There are many new developments that have been recently completed or are underway, particularly east of Minoru Park. These changes are providing opportunities to improve connectivity to the park

Most residents in the City Centre Area live in apartments making access to green space very important

The City Centre Area is Richmond's most culturally-diverse neighbourhood signifying that a range of culturally-based activities should be considered at Minoru Park

Minoru Park is at the heart Richmond's civic precinct – the hospital, Richmond Secondary School, City Hall, Fire Hall, and numerous recreational facilities are located in and surrounding the park



VEGETATION & PRECINCTS



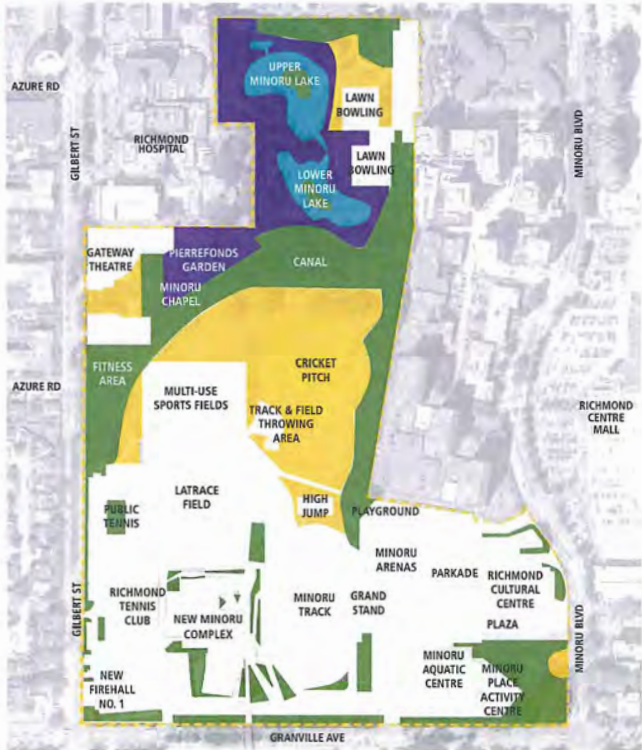
VEGETATION & ENVIRONMENT

- » Minoru Park has been cultivated over the years, including clearing for agriculture in the 1800s and establishment of a horse-racing track on the site at the start of the 1900s
- » Today, the park has vegetation that has matured over the past century and provides green space valued by park users. There are a number of significant trees throughout the park, including mature heritage trees that line the former race track boundary
- » Many of the mature trees are of similar age and it becoming increasingly important to consider their renewal
- » The Minoru Lakes were constructed in the 1970s and are clay-lined shallow ponds between 0.15 m to 1.5 m deep. After 40 years, the lakes have begun to deteriorate; the edges of the liner have failed, infill is occurring, and the water quality is very poor. It is becoming more costly and more challenging to maintain the lakes in their current state and future planning for this area is needed
- » The existing canal in the centre of the park plays a role in collecting and managing stormwater, but is known to have functional and aesthetic challenges



MAP LEGEND

- MINORU PARK
- TREES / VEGETATED AREAS
- LAKES
- MANICURED GARDENS
- TURF / LAWN
- NON-VEGETATED AREA



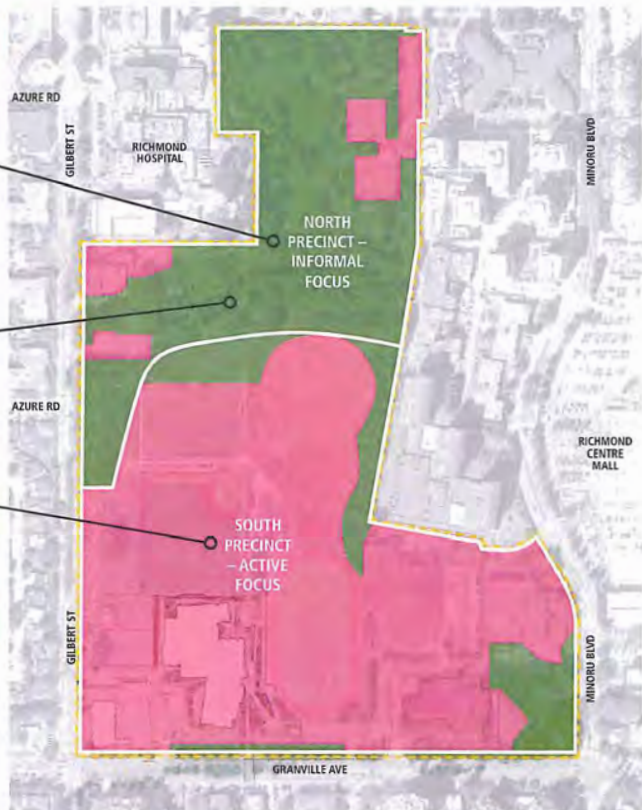
ACTIVE & INFORMAL SPACES

- » One of the most appealing features of Minoru Park is the variety of activities that draw people of all ages and interests
- » Today, active uses, including facilities, sports fields, and parking occupy approximately 67% or two-thirds of Minoru Park. The remaining 33% focuses on passive spaces including gardens, trees, lakes, trails, and open space
- » Minoru Park has two distinct character precincts, divided east-west:
 - » **North Precinct – Informal Focus:** Naturalized landscapes, horticultural gardens, and lakes are interconnected with weaving pathways and sitting areas, where visitors come to relax, picnic, stroll, and watch wildlife.
 - » **South Precinct – Active Focus:** The south precinct is home to indoor skating, swimming, and activity facilities, the 400 m track, courts and sports fields, centres for culture and art, a playground, as well as parking and utilities.

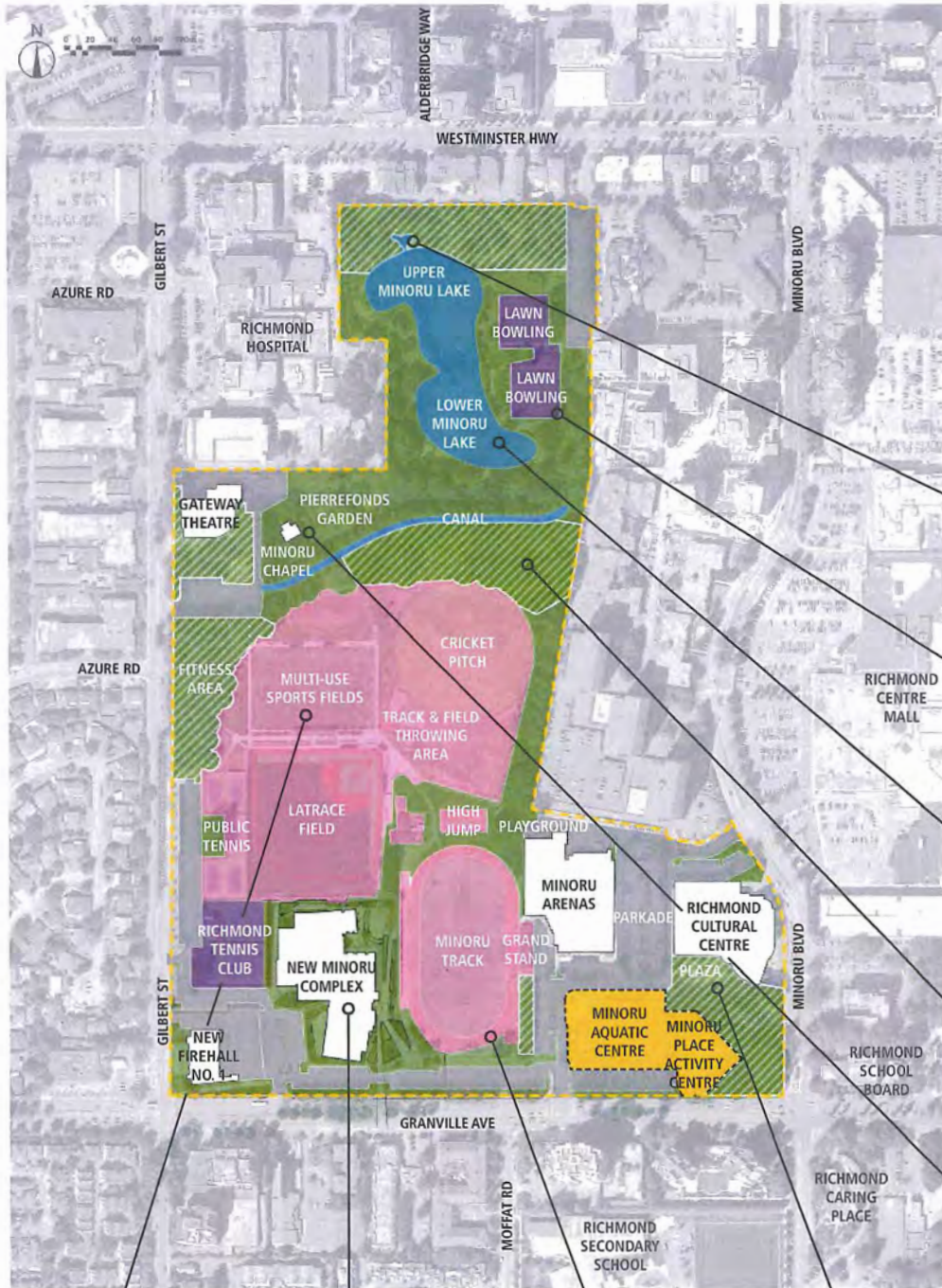


MAP LEGEND

- MINORU PARK
- INFORMAL USES (such as gardens, trees, lakes, trails, open space)
- ACTIVE USES (such as facilities, sports fields/courts, parking)



EXISTING CONDITIONS

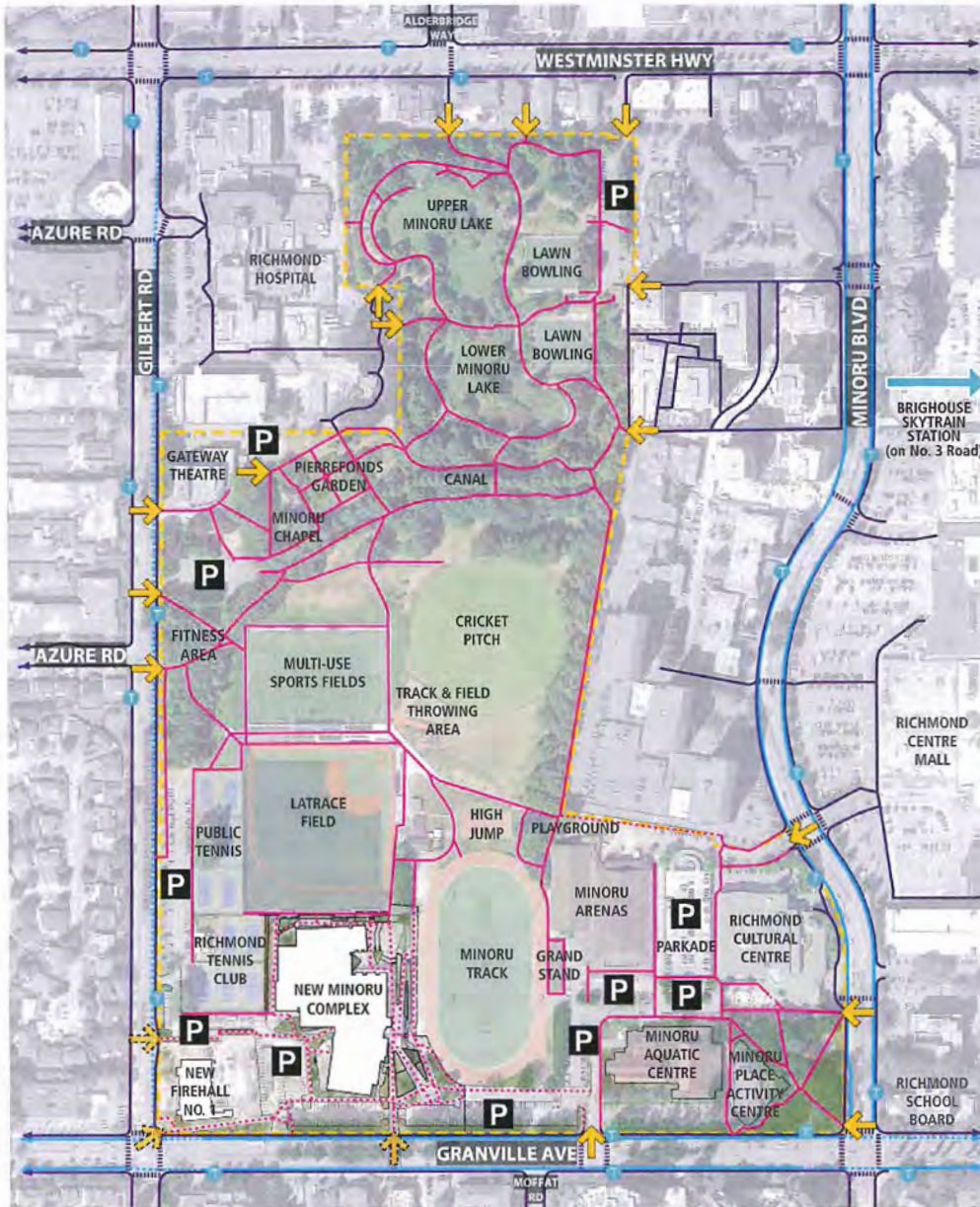


MAP LEGEND

- MINORU PARK
- ACTIVE OUTDOOR SPORTS USES (recent upgrades / good condition)
- OPEN / INFORMAL PARK SPACE
- LAKES / CANAL
- INDOOR FACILITIES (to remain)
- INDOOR FACILITIES (future use to be determined – outside Vision Plan process)
- SPORT CLUB USE
- PARKING
- POTENTIALLY UNDERUTILIZED PARK AREAS



EXISTING CIRCULATION



MAP LEGEND

- PARK BOUNDARY
- PUBLIC TRANSIT STOP
- PARKING LOT
- PARK ENTRANCE
- PARK ENTRANCE (future/improved)
- PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION
 - EXTERNAL
 - INTERNAL
 - INTERNAL (future)
 - CROSSWALK
 - CROSSWALK (future/improved)
- BICYCLE CIRCULATION
 - LANE
 - SHARED LANE MARKINGS

COMMENTS

Tell us the experiences you have had arriving at and traveling through Minoru Park on a sticky note and add it to the map or below.

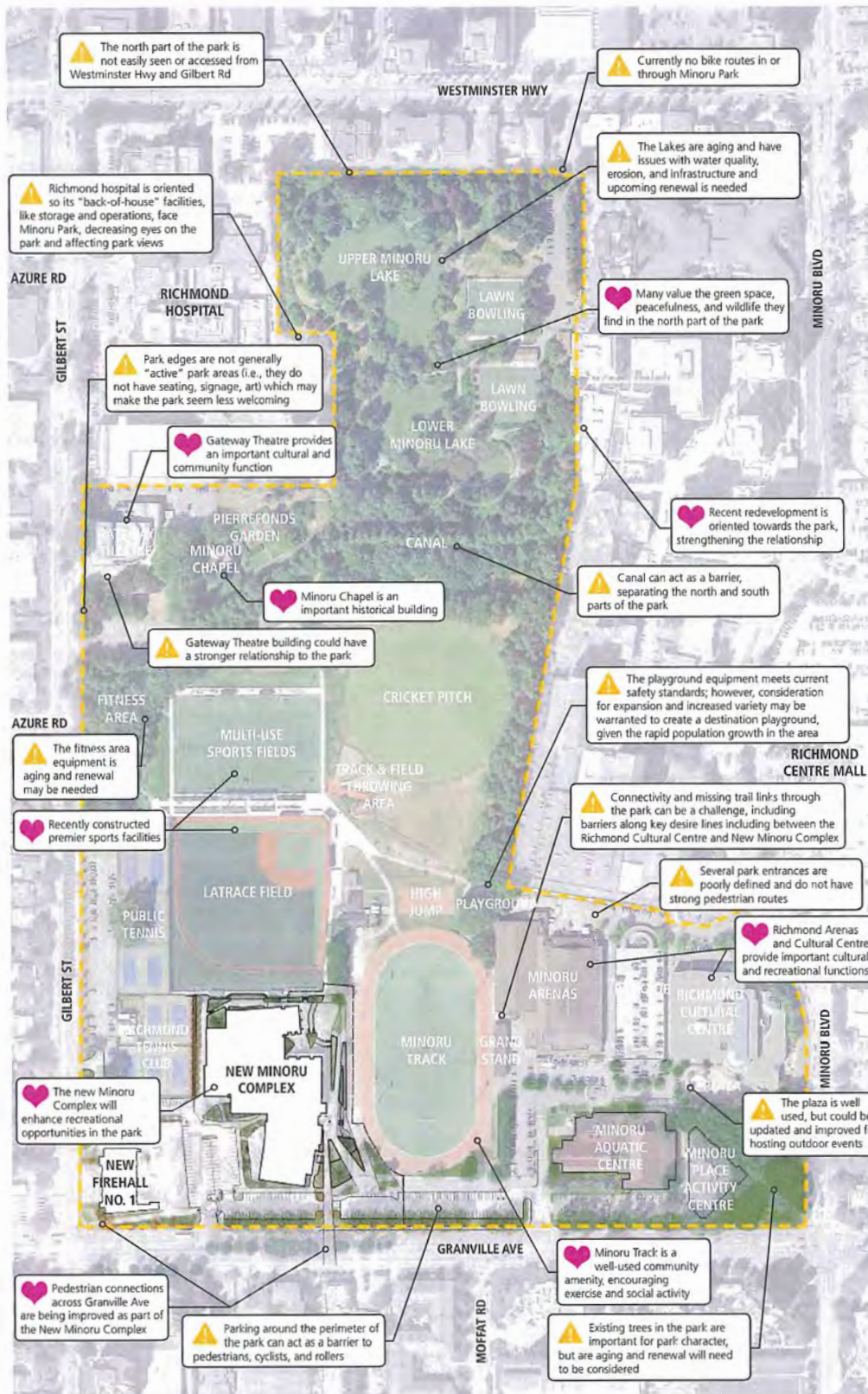


- » Existing trails are typically narrow widths (1.5 m to 2 m) with asphalt surfacing
- » New trails around the updated sports fields and New Minoru Complex are wider and oriented towards multi-use
- » Analysis shows missing links in the network, notably east-west connections across the park and places where perimeter surface parking interrupts pedestrian, cyclist, and roller movements into the park
- » Transit stops exist on all the major roads surrounding the park
- » Wayfinding and trail markers are limited

- » Cycling lanes or shared lane markings are provided on Minoru Blvd, Granville Ave, and Gilbert St
- » There is no cycling provision on Westminister Hwy at the north end of the park
- » There are no designated cycling routes through Minoru Park and narrow trails are not well-suited to multi-modal use
- » The New Minoru Complex will incorporate new bike parking, but end-of-trip cycling facilities (e.g., bike lock-up, covered bike parking) may warrant consideration at other park facilities or destinations

- » Vehicle circulation is limited to perimeter of the park where parking is accessed; there are no roads through the park
- » There is existing vehicle access from each of the surrounding roads – Granville Ave, Gilbert St, Westminister Hwy, and Minoru Blvd into parking areas
- » Parking reconfiguration and improved site access in the south part of the park are being provided through the New Minoru Complex facility

VALUES & CONCERNS MAPPING



VALUES & CONCERNS

The map records some initial observations about:

- ♥ **VALUES:** What is loved about Minoru Park
- ⚠ **CONCERNS:** What may need to be considered for improvement

We would like you to add yours!

Please continue to build our inventory of values and concerns for Minoru Park by writing yours on a sticky note and adding them to the map or below!

Please Add Your Value or Concern!

MAILBOX TO THE FUTURE



WE WANT YOU TO ENVISION THE FUTURE OF MINORU PARK!

Take a postcard from the stack on the table. Answer the question on the back and mail your ideas to the future!

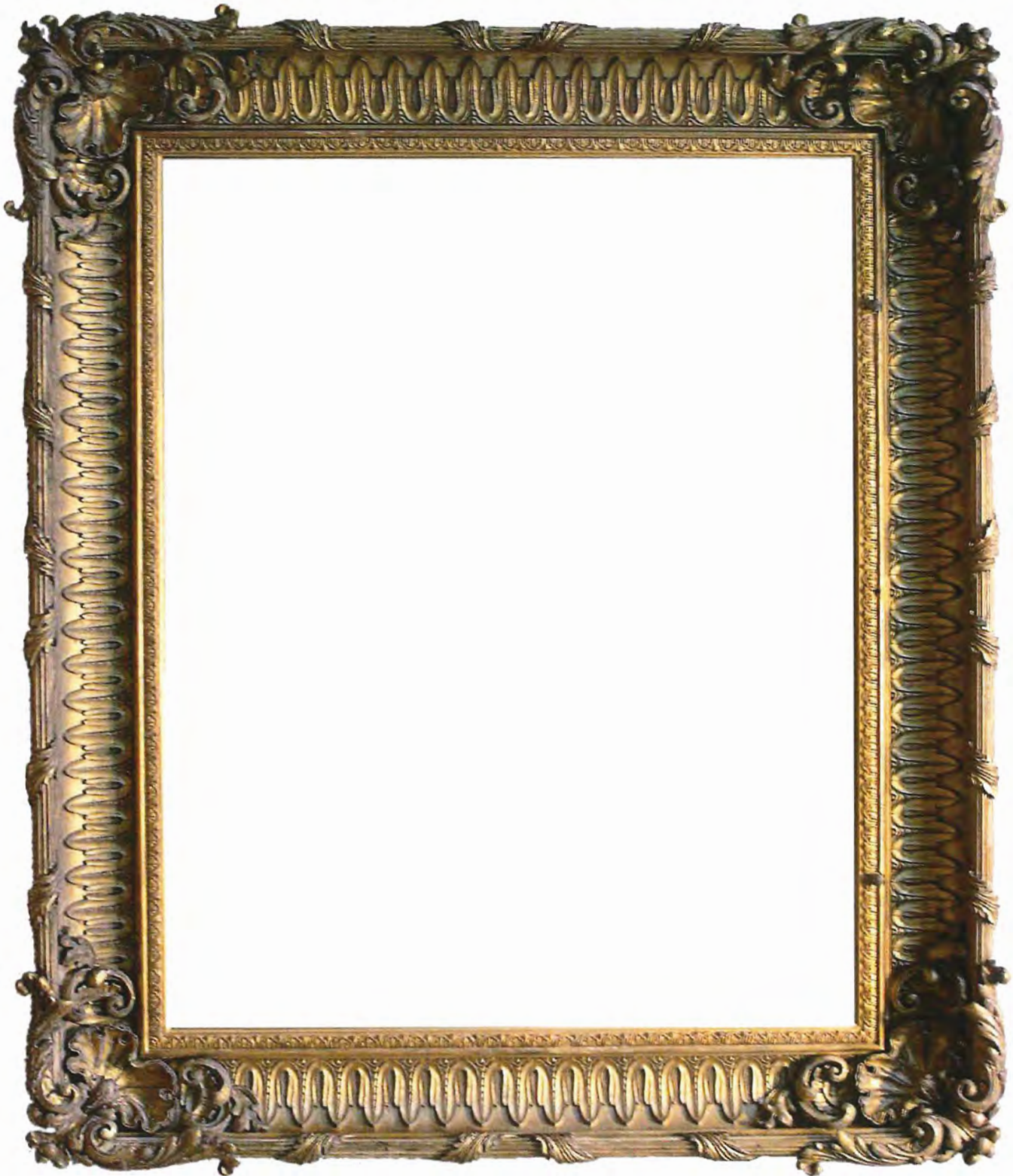
Visit envisionminoru.com or letstalkrichmond.ca for more details



DRAW YOUR PARK IDEAS!



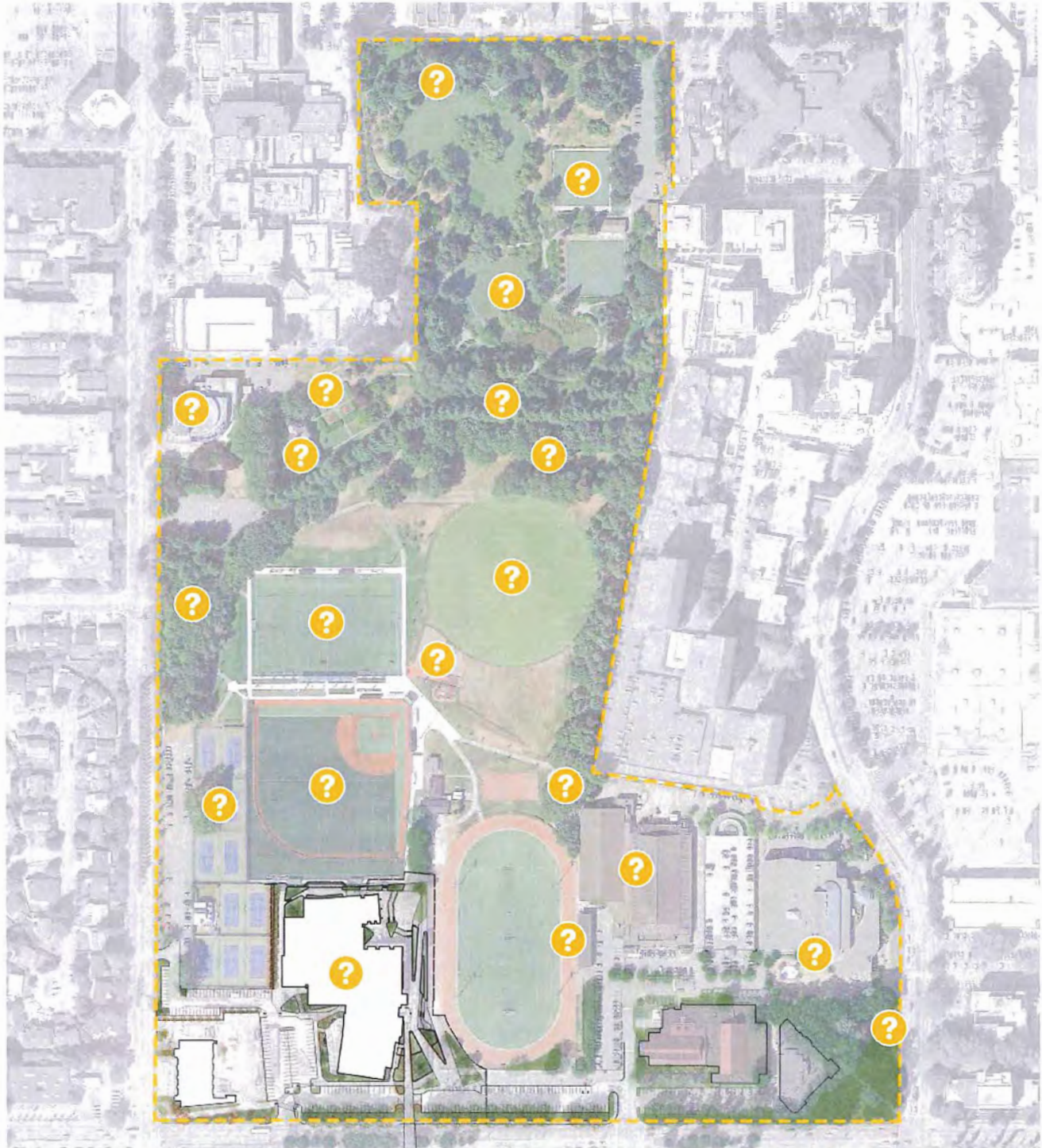
Share your idea for Minoru Park by drawing it at the craft station and pasting it in the frame for others to see!



MINORU PARK TREASURE HUNT



How well do you know Minoru Park? Take a little treasure hunt to see! Using your “Can you Find It?” worksheet, guess which ? marks each item listed. Flip the attached card to see if you have guessed correctly.



MINORU PARK VISION PLAN: PHASE ONE PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE SURVEY



The planning process for the future renewal of Minoru Park has started and we want to hear from you!

The City of Richmond invites public input to help enVISION the potential future for Minoru Park through participation in Phase 1 of the process. Input received during Phase 1 will be used to develop Guiding Principles for Council approval. Once approved, the principles will guide the creation of concept plan options which will be presented to the public for feedback during Phase 2 in the summer of 2017.

Please review the display boards then take a few minutes to complete this survey. All responses must be received by Sunday, March 5, 2017 at 11:59 pm. The open house display boards and this survey are also available online at

LetsTalkRichmond.ca.

THANK YOU FOR PROVIDING YOUR INPUT ON MINORU PARK

1. On average, my family and I typically visit Minoru Park:

During warm months (e.g., April to October)

- Almost every day
- One or two times a week
- One or two times a month
- One or two times a year
- Never

During cool months (e.g., November to March)

- Almost every day
- One or two times a week
- One or two times a month
- One or two times a year
- Never

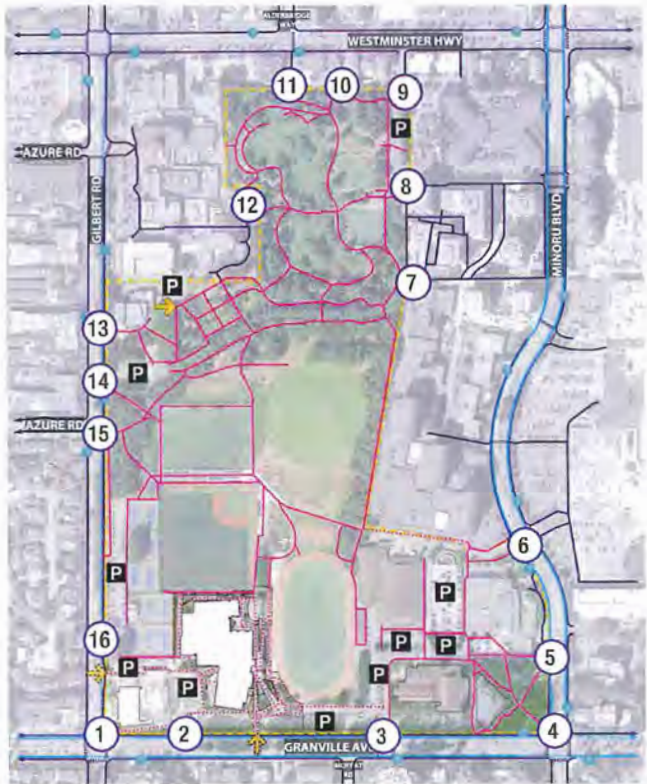
2. When I visit Minoru Park I typically arrive (check all that apply):

- By foot (pedestrian)
- By bicycle
- By rolling (e.g., skateboarding, wheelchair, with stroller, inline skating)
- By vehicle (as a passenger or a driver)
- By transit
- Other (please describe)



**3. I usually enter the park at (check all that apply):
(refer to adjacent map for entrance locations)**

- 1: Granville Ave at Gilbert Rd
- 2: Granville Ave, near fire hall (currently closed for construction)
- 3: Granville Ave, near Aquatic Centre
- 4: Granville Ave at Minoru Blvd
- 5: Cultural Centre Plaza
- 6: Minoru Blvd, behind Cultural Centre
- 7: Lane off Minoru Blvd
- 8: Gollner Avenue off Minoru Blvd
- 9: Bowling Green Lane off Westminster Hwy
- 10: Pedestrian Access Lane off Westminster Hwy
- 11: Pedestrian Access Lane off Westminster Hwy
- 12: Behind the Hospital
- 13: Gilbert Rd at Gateway Theatre Plaza
- 14: Gilbert Rd at Gateway Theatre Parking Lot
- 15: Gateway Rd at Azure Rd
- 16: Gilbert Rd at Tennis Courts



4. In the last year, my family and I engaged in the following activities at Minoru Park (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Attending a Community Event in the Park <input type="checkbox"/> Attending an Event at Gateway Theatre <input type="checkbox"/> Attending an Event at Minoru Chapel <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball Game or Practice <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket Game or Practice <input type="checkbox"/> Dog Walking <input type="checkbox"/> Field Hockey Game or Practice <input type="checkbox"/> Lacrosse Game or Practice <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn Bowling <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking <input type="checkbox"/> Playground Activities <input type="checkbox"/> Relaxing <input type="checkbox"/> Skating or Ice Sports (e.g., hockey) at the Arena <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer Game or Practice <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming at the Aquatic Centre | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis <input type="checkbox"/> Track & Field Meet or Practice <input type="checkbox"/> Using the Equipment in the Outdoor Fitness Area <input type="checkbox"/> Viewing the Gardens <input type="checkbox"/> Visiting the Cultural Centre <input type="checkbox"/> Visiting the Lakes Area <input type="checkbox"/> Visiting the Minoru Place Activity Centre <input type="checkbox"/> Walking, Jogging, or Running on Clement (400 m)Track <input type="checkbox"/> Walking, Jogging, or Running on Park Trails <input type="checkbox"/> Watching a Sporting Event <input type="checkbox"/> Watching Wildlife (e.g., birds, bunnies, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe) <hr/> <hr/> |
|---|---|

5. The two elements or aspects of Minoru Park that I value most are:

1 _____

2 _____

6. If I could, I would change or improve the following two elements or aspects of Minoru Park:

1 _____

2 _____

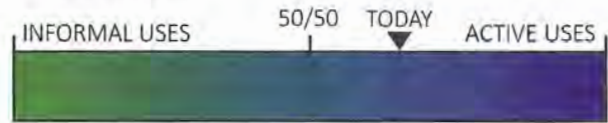
7. In the future, I would like to see the following elements or programs in Minoru Park:

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

8. The scale below shows the approximate current balance between active uses (e.g., facilities, sports fields/courts, parking) and informal uses (e.g., gardens, trees, lakes, trails, and open space) in Minoru Park.



In the future, I think this balance should:

- Stay similar to today
- Shift towards providing more informal uses (e.g., gardens, trees, lakes, trails, and open space)
- Shift towards providing more active uses (e.g., facilities, sports fields/courts, parking)

9. Built in the 1970s, the lakes area was designed as a beautiful oasis for the community. Over time, erosion, mechanical failures, wildlife, and general wear-and-tear have contributed to deterioration of the lake infrastructure and water quality. The lakes are now nearing a point where renewal is required. This Vision Plan process provides an opportunity to consider the future for this space.

In the future, I think the lakes should be:

- Maintained at the same size and character
- Reduced in size with alternate park uses on part of the site
- Completely removed and replaced with alternate park uses

10. If the the lakes are reduced or eliminated, other uses I think should be considered for this area of Minoru Park include:

11. Please think about each of the following aspects of Minoru Park and identify how important you think each aspect is in Minoru Park and ideas for improving the aspect.

▶ **community health and wellness**

Both open-ended informal uses and active sports uses support community health and wellness. The Vision Plan will consider how to improve opportunities for community health and wellness in Minoru Park.

I believe that providing opportunities for Community Health and Wellness in Minoru Park is:

Very Important *Moderately Important* *Not Important*

Specific ideas I have for enhancing Community Health and Wellness opportunities in Minoru Park include:

▶ **connectivity and trails**

The northern and southern parts of Minoru Park are physically divided by the canal and can feel like two separate parks. The Vision Plan will consider ways to better link the park through a well planned system of paths and trails.

I believe that a well kept system of Paths and Trails in Minoru Park is:

Very Important *Moderately Important* *Not Important*

Specific ideas I have for improving the system of Paths and Trails in Minoru Park include:

▶ **arts, culture, & heritage**

Minoru Park is home to the Gateway Theatre, Cultural Centre, Pierrefonds Garden, and public art. The Vision Plan will consider opportunities to build on these elements.

I believe that increasing information about and examples of Arts, Culture, and Heritage in Minoru Park is:

Very Important *Moderately Important* *Not Important*

Specific ideas I have for enhancing Arts, Culture, and Heritage in Minoru Park include:

▶ **nature and green park space**

Minoru Park includes mature tree stands, gardens, lakes, and informal green spaces. Opportunities may exist to improve these spaces to provide enhanced environmental, social, and recreational benefits for residents.

I believe that providing Nature and Green Park Space in Minoru Park is:

Very Important *Moderately Important* *Not Important*

Specific ideas I have for improving Nature in Green Park Space in Minoru Park include:

▶ **outdoor events and activities**

Minoru Park is home to a wide range of events and activities – from large community events to small informal gatherings. The Vision Plan will consider how the park can continue to support and enhance outdoor events and activities.

I believe that providing spaces that support Outdoor Events and Activities in Minoru Park is:

Very Important *Moderately Important* *Not Important*

Specific ideas I have for improving Outdoor Events and Activities in Minoru Park include:

▶ **park identity and character**

Minoru Park has evolved over the years as new facilities and amenities have been introduced. The Vision Plan will consider how to enhance and unify the park's identity and character to ensure it is an enduring source of community pride.

I believe that a strong Identity and Character for Minoru Park is:

Very Important *Moderately Important* *Not Important*

Specific ideas I have for improving the Identity and Character of Minoru Park include:

OTHER COMMENTS ABOUT MINORU PARK?

12. Other ideas or thoughts I would like to share about Minoru Park are:

13. My age group is:

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 19 years or under | <input type="checkbox"/> 35- 39 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 55- 59 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 75+ years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 20 - 24 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 40- 44 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 60- 64 years | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25- 29 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 45- 49 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 65- 69 years | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 30- 34 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 50- 54 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 70- 74 years | |

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

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper ad in Richmond News | <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper ad in Ming Pao | <input type="checkbox"/> Twitter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> News story written by reported in local newspaper | <input type="checkbox"/> Poster in a City facility |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LetsTalkRichmond.ca email sent to me | <input type="checkbox"/> Poster in Minoru Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LetsTalkRichmond.ca website (not an email from this site) | <input type="checkbox"/> Word of mouth |

My postal code is: _____

My email address is (optional): _____

*Thank you for your
time and feedback!*

Please stay tuned to the process for our next public consultation planned for June 2017.

QUESTIONS?

Continue to visit www.LetsTalkRichmond.ca and www.envisionminoru.com for up-to-date information. If you have any further questions, contact the Parks Department at 604-244-1208



MINORU PARK VISION PLAN

- ▶ Summary of the Process and Phase One Community Engagement Results
- ▶ Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles

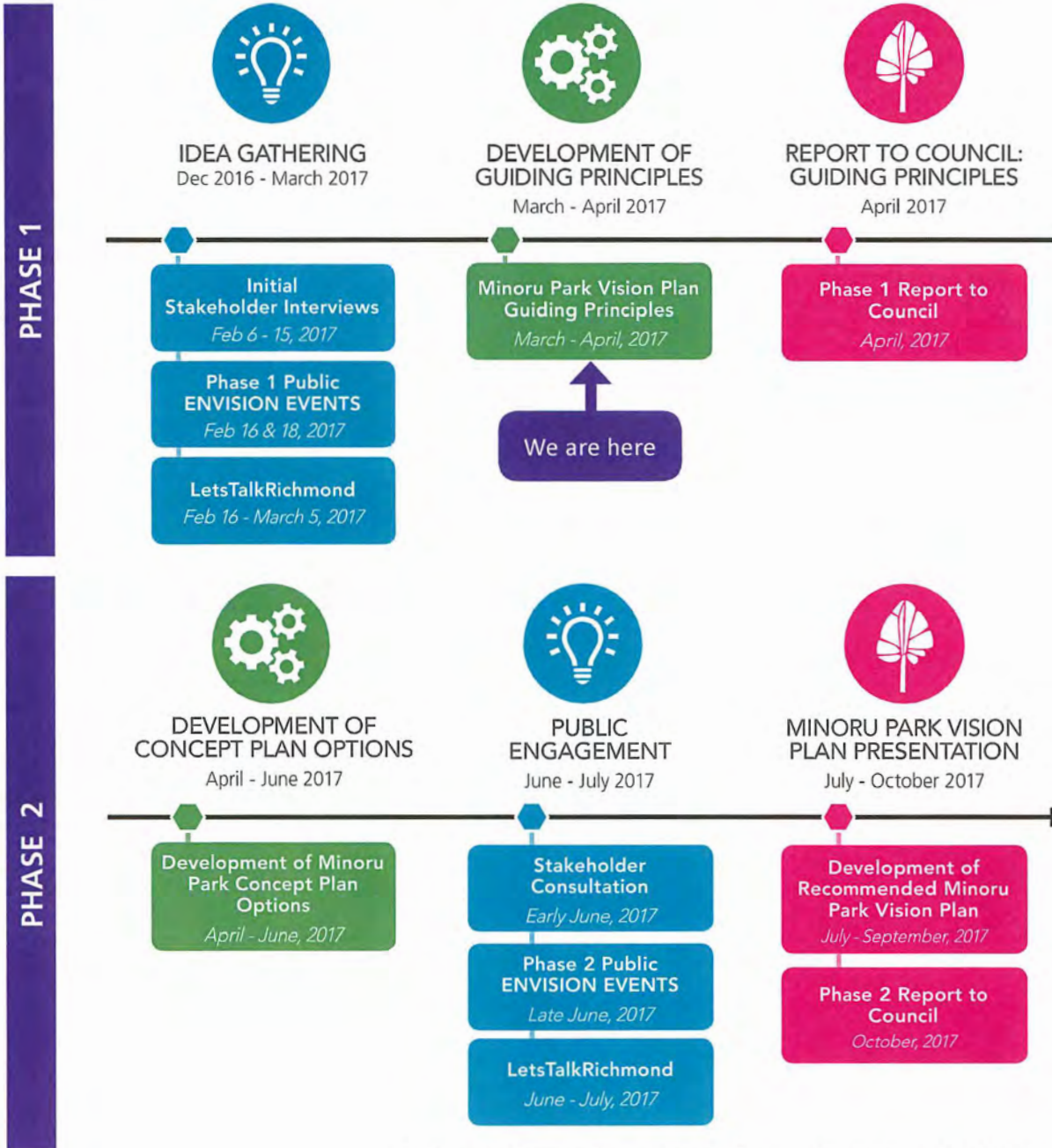


- ▶ A summary of the process to date, phase one community engagement results, and Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles

April 2017



01 Summary of the Process and Community Engagement Results



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROCESS SUMMARY

The Minoru Park Vision Plan Phase One outreach focused on gathering opinions about Minoru Park's existing conditions as well as identifying key issues and opportunities for the park's future renewal. The process included multiple City staff and stakeholder workshops, two drop-in style public open houses, and online engagement via LetsTalkRichmond. Below is a brief overview of the consultation process to date.

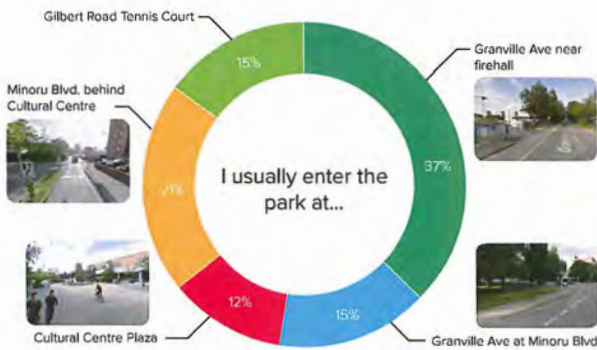
<p>6 City Staff Meetings (interviews)</p>	<p>» Held: from February 6 - 14, 2017. Each group was focused on their particular area of expertise including Minoru Park Facilities, Outdoor Sports and Events, Community Groups, Planning and Sustainability, Parks Operations, and Arts, Culture and Heritage. The meetings were formatted as informal round-table discussions at which each participant was asked questions several questions.</p>
<p>2 Stakeholder Workshops</p>	<p>» Held: the evenings of February 6 and 7, 2017. A large number of community groups and organizations were invited to attend ranging from Richmond Lawn Bowling to Richmond Centre for Disability. The workshops were generally well attended and resulted in meaningful discussions and valuable feedback.</p>
<p>2 Public Open Houses</p>	<p>» Held: one on the evening of Thursday, February 16 at the Minoru Place Activity Centre; and one on the afternoon of Saturday, February 18, 2017 at Richmond City Hall. Both were well attended with approximately 100 visitors at each and the general input received about the process was positive.</p>
<p>186 Completed Surveys</p>	<p>» Via LetsTalkRichmond, the City of Richmond's online public engagement platform, which hosted a Minoru Park Vision Plan Phase One web page from February 16-March 5, 2017.</p>

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE PHOTOS

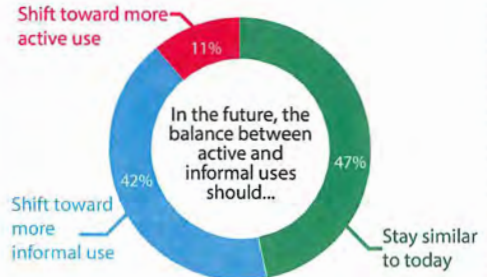


PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE AND LETSTALKRICHMOND SURVEY RESULTS

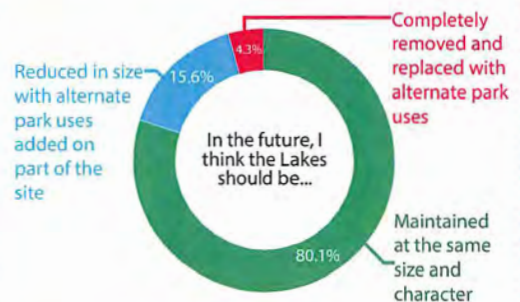
HOW AND WHERE I ARRIVE AT MINORU PARK AND WHAT AREAS I VISIT



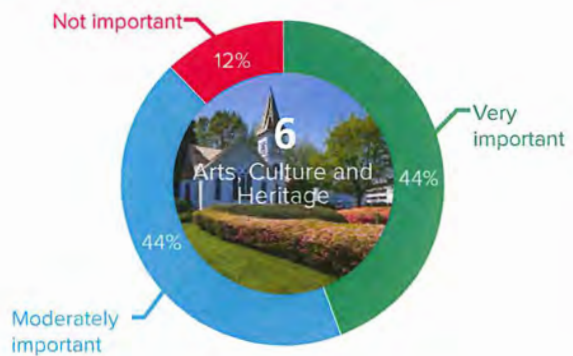
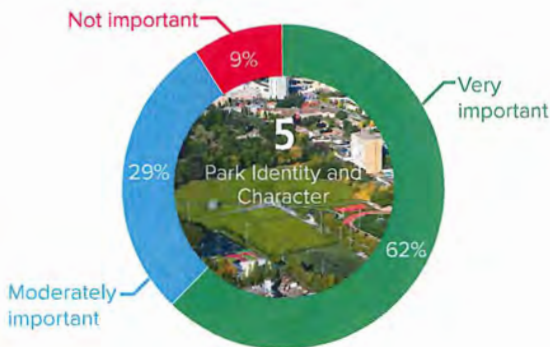
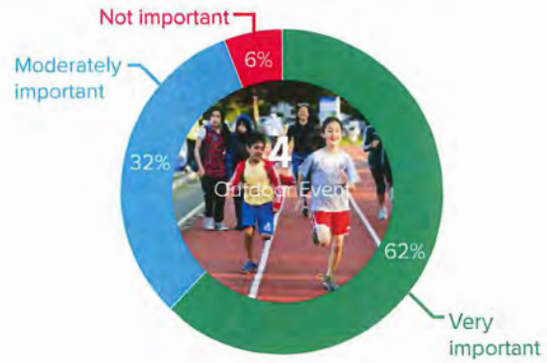
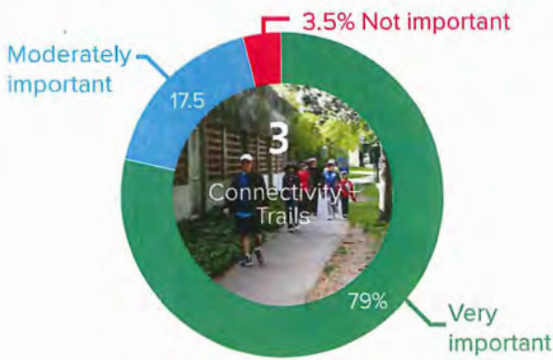
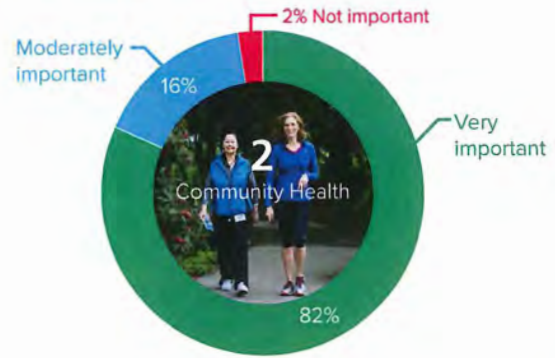
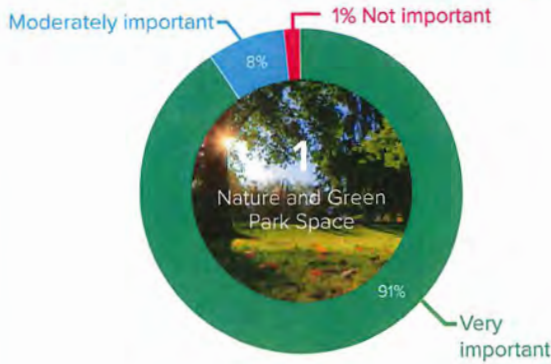
I THINK THE BALANCE BETWEEN ACTIVE AND INFORMAL USES SHOULD...



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



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



SAMPLE SURVEY 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 I built parts of the city.”



MINORU MEMORIES



02

Vision & Guiding Principles

INTRODUCTION

A Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles were generated based on the results of site analysis and the community engagement process. The Minoru Park Vision and Guiding Principles build on Minoru Park's existing strengths and valued aspects while at the same time, look forward to envision what Minoru Park might become in response to Richmond's rapidly growing and diversifying population and community needs. They are aspirational and future-oriented and will function as touchstones when decisions need to be made about renewal and redevelopment in and around the park.

VISION STATEMENT

Minoru Park is: *a dynamic CityWide park located in the civic core of Richmond's City Centre area. It 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 Brighthouse Village neighbourhood as high density residential development continues grow and be concentrated in this area.*

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 at the same time will be 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.*



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 now and for future generations.

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.

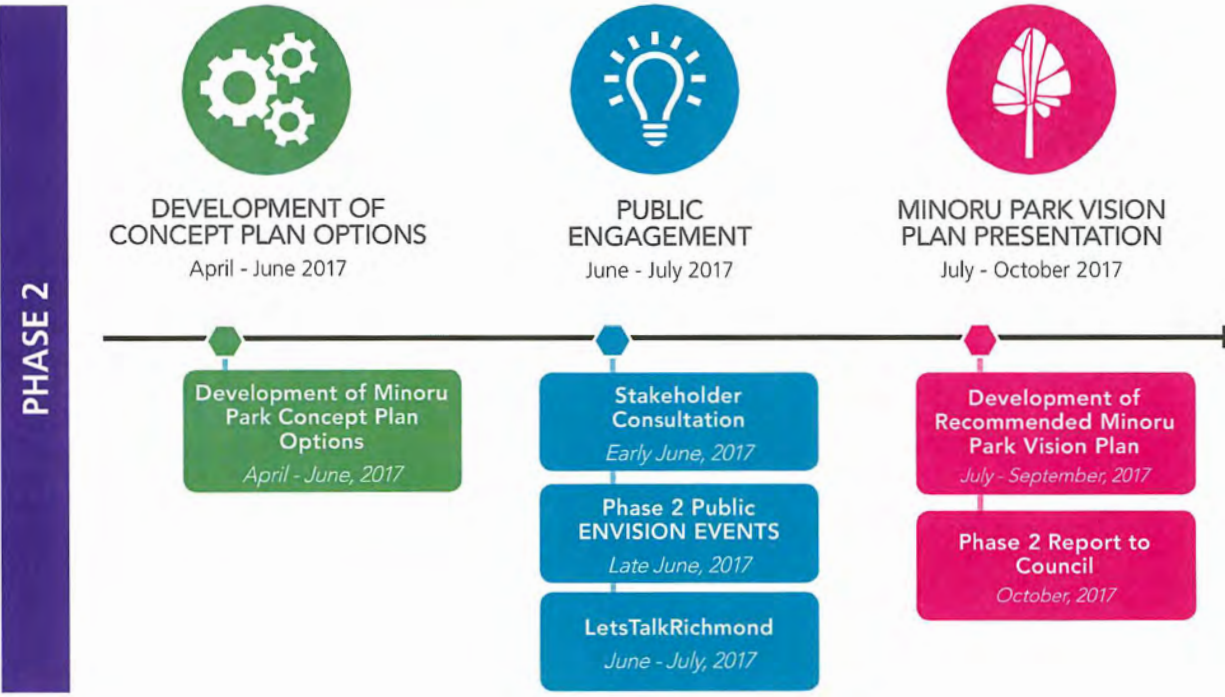
DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

- » 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.





03
Next Steps in the Process



- » **In April**, the Guiding Principles will be presented to Council. Following adoption, the Guiding Principles will inform the development of vision plan options.
- » **Phase 2** will build on Phase 1 to develop vision plan options which will be presented to stakeholders and the public in June 2017 for feedback.
- » **The Outcome** of this process will be generation of a Minoru Vision Plan which will be presented to Council at the end of 2017.

Project Webpage: envisionminoru.com
Project Manager: Miriam Plishka, Parks Planner | Community Services
Email: MPlishka@richmond.ca **Tel:** 604.233.3310