



General Purposes Committee

Anderson Room, City Hall
6911 No. 3 Road

Tuesday, May 19, 2015
4:00 p.m.

Pg. # ITEM

MINUTES

- GP-4** *Motion to adopt the **minutes** of the special meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on Monday, May 11, 2015.*



DELEGATION

- GP-8** Craig Richmond, President and Chief Executive Officer, Vancouver Airport Authority, to provide an update on the **Airport Authority's activities**.

ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION

1. **AMENDMENTS TO WATER USE RESTRICTION BYLAW AND CONSOLIDATED FEES BYLAW TO SUPPORT CHAFER BEETLE BIOCONTROL**

(File Ref. No. 10-6125-04-01; 12-8060-20-009247/9248) (REDMS No. 4561394 v. 3)

GP-32

See Page GP-32 for full report

Designated Speaker: Lesley Douglas

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- (1) *That Water Use Restriction Bylaw No. 7784, Amendment Bylaw No. 9247 be introduced and given first, second and third readings; and*

- (2) *That Consolidated Fees Bylaw No. 8636, Amendment Bylaw No. 9248 be introduced and given first, second and third readings.*



COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

2. **LONDON/STEVESTON PARK CONCEPT PLAN**
(File Ref. No. 06-2345-20-LSTE1) (REDMS No. 4540721 v. 8)

GP-38

See Page GP-38 for full report

Designated Speaker: Mike Redpath

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the London/Steveston Park Concept Plan, as outlined in the staff report titled “London/Steveston Park Concept Plan,” dated May 1, 2015, from the Senior Manager, Parks, be approved.



LAW AND COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

3. **SISTER CITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2014 YEAR IN REVIEW**
(File Ref. No. 01-0100-30-SCIT1-01) (REDMS No. 4562749)

GP-188

See Page GP-188 for full report

Designated Speaker: Amarjeet Rattan

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the staff report titled “Sister City Advisory Committee 2014 Year in Review,” dated May 1, 2015, from the Director, Intergovernmental Relations and Protocol Unit, be received for information.



FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION

4. **UPDATE ON SIGNAGE ON PRIVATE PROPERTIES**
(File Ref. No. 03-0900-01) (REDMS No. 4403117 v. 12)

GP-199

See Page GP-199 for full report

Designated Speaker: Cecilia Achiam

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- (1) *That Option 2: “De-cluttering without a language provision” which entails the continuation of outreach effort and updating Sign Bylaw No. 5560 be approved. The Sign Bylaw update will include de-cluttering without a language provision and addressing non language related regulatory gaps; and*
- (2) *That staff be directed to review the Sign Permit Application fees and bring an update to the Consolidated Fees Bylaw No. 8636 for consideration by Council along with the new Sign Bylaw.*



CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR’S OFFICE

5. **COUNCIL TERM GOALS 2014-2018**

(File Ref. No. 01-0105-07-01) (REDMS No. 4537297 v. 12)

GP-262

See Page GP-262 for full report

Designated Speaker: Lani Schultz

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Council consider the information contained in this report from the Corporate Programs Consultant, dated May 5th, 2015, and either adopt the 9 themes and priorities presented herein as their Council Term Goals for the 2014-2018 term of office, or identify and adopt any modifications, deletions or additions to this information for their Council Term Goals for the 2014-2018 term of office.



ADJOURNMENT





Special General Purposes Committee

Date: Mondays, May 11, 2015

Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall

Present: Mayor Malcolm D. Brodie, Chair
Councillor Chak Au
Councillor Derek Dang
Councillor Carol Day
Councillor Ken Johnston
Councillor Alexa Loo
Councillor Bill McNulty
Councillor Linda McPhail
Councillor Harold Steves

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

MINUTES

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on Monday, May 4, 2015, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

AGENDA ADDITION

It was moved and seconded

That "Fraser Surrey Docks – Public Comment Period, Consideration to Amend Permit No. 2012-072" be added to the Agenda as Item No. 2.

CARRIED

Special General Purposes Committee
Monday, May 11, 2015

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

1. **MINORU COMPLEX MULTIPURPOSE ROOM ALTERNATIVES**

(File Ref. No. 06-2052-55-01) (REDMS No. 4574174 v. 6)

With the aid of artist renderings, Serena Lusk, Senior Manager, Recreation and Sport, provided background information and spoke on potential new design alternatives for the Minoru Complex multipurpose room. She noted that Alternative 3 reconfigures the current sport storage area on the main floor area to provide approximately 800 ft² for a sport tournament support centre, and thus the sport storage space would be relocated to a modular space elsewhere in Minoru Park. Also, Ms. Lusk remarked that views to the fields adjacent to the room would be created as a result of the difference in elevation. Alternative 3 is anticipated to cost approximately \$250,000 and will impact the schedule by approximately three months.

With regard to Alternative 4, Ms. Lusk stated that a new building would replace the caretaker suite and washrooms at Minoru Park and include storage space for sport uses, an 800 ft² sport tournament support room and a veranda. She noted that this alternative would cost approximately \$2 million and require submission to the Capital budget process.

Ms. Lusk then commented on meetings with stakeholders, noting that the Richmond Sports Council has indicated that their preference is Alternative 4 – the “Hub.”

In reply to queries from Committee, Ms. Lusk and Jim Young, Senior Manager, Project Development, provided the following information:

- Alternative 3 can be accommodated within the previously approved Minoru Complex capital project budget;
- the current caretaker suite at Minoru Park carries out a number of functions and as such, staff anticipate the continuation of this role;
- the “Hub” concept is not currently part of the approved Minoru Park Master Plan; however, this concept could be revisited at Council’s discretion;
- the sport storage area proposed to be reconfigured was for use by field sport users; there are other storage areas throughout the building for other user groups; and
- storage below the multipurpose room cannot be accommodated due to flood plain regulations and use of the crawl space for mechanical equipment.

2.

Special General Purposes Committee

Monday, May 11, 2015

Jim Lamond, Chair, Richmond Sports Council, commented on the number of meetings the Richmond Sports Council held in relation to the configuration of Minoru Park, noting that a representative from an array of sport organizations were invited to provide input. He then spoke on options previously presented to Council on the location of the multipurpose room, noting that Richmond Sports Council prefers the “Hub” concept as illustrated in Alternative 4.

Bob Jackson, Vice-Chair, Richmond Sports Council, commented on initial discussions regarding the Minoru Complex, noting that Richmond Sports Council was invited to provide input on the fields only. He remarked that Richmond Sports Council has not had the opportunity to meet with the Major Facility Building / Project Technical Advisory Committee or the Minoru Major Facility Stakeholder Advisory Committee, and expressed concern regarding the conveyance of Richmond Sports Council’s preferences to Council.

Mike Fletcher, member of Richmond Sports Council and Vice-Chair, Richmond FC, commented on the benefits of a veranda, noting that Richmond Sports Council has requested that a veranda be incorporated in the building’s design from the onset. In referencing Alternative 3, he expressed concern regarding the use of a modular building to meet storage needs as a result of the potential conversion of the sport storage area.

In reply to a query from Committee, Mr. Young advised that Alternative 3 may be converted in the future should Council wish to modify the design.

It was moved and seconded

- (1) *That the Minoru Complex ground floor plan be revised to reconfigure the sport storage area to be an approximately 800 ft² Tournament Centre and that the storage area be relocated elsewhere in Minoru Park as described in Alternative 3 within the staff report titled “Minoru Complex Multipurpose Room Alternatives,” dated May 7, 2015 from the Senior Manager, Recreation and Sport and the Senior Manager, Project Development; and*
- (2) *That the Council Appointed Advisory Committees for the Minoru Complex Project be informed of the proposed changes and any feedback received from these Committees be shared with Council prior to advancing any design changes.*

CARRIED

Opposed: Cllr. McNulty

Special General Purposes Committee
Monday, May 11, 2015

**2. FRASER SURREY DOCKS – PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD,
CONSIDERATION TO AMEND PERMIT NO. 2012-072**

(File Ref. No. 01-0140-20-PMVA1) (REDMS No. 4574708, 4574968)

Discussion took place and concern was expressed regarding the use of the Annacis Island Wastewater Treatment Plant to process Fraser Surrey Docks' wastewater as many barge materials contain toxins. The Chair directed staff to incorporate comments regarding the use of Annacis Island Wastewater Treatment Plant in the letter to Fraser Surrey Docks.

Discussion further ensued on the potential risks to marshes and river banks as a result of dredging to a depth of 18 metres and the need to identify any potential modifications to the George Massey Tunnel.

The Chair requested that the response letter attached to the memorandum titled "Fraser Surrey Docks – Public Comment Period, Consideration to Amend Permit No. 2012-072," dated May 7, 2015 be revised to include Committee's comments.

It was moved and seconded

That the response letter attached to the memorandum titled "Fraser Surrey Docks – Public Comment Period, Consideration to Amend Permit No. 2012-072," dated May 7, 2015 from the Director, Intergovernmental Relations and Protocol Unit be endorsed for submission to Fraser Surrey Docks.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

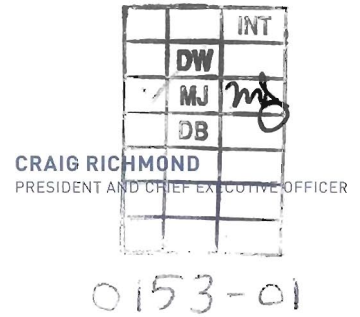
That the meeting adjourn (4:32 p.m.).

CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Special General Purposes Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Monday, May 11, 2015.

Mayor Malcolm D. Brodie
Chair

Hanieh Berg
Committee Clerk



May 12, 2015

His Worship Mayor Malcolm Brodie
and Members of City Council
The City of Richmond
6911 No. 3 Road
Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

Delivered via e-mail to: mayorandcouncillors@richmond.ca

Your Worship and Members of Council:

I am looking forward to my second annual presentation to Richmond City Council on behalf of the Vancouver Airport Authority on May 19, 2015. Joining me will be Howard Jampolsky, Richmond's appointee to our Board of Directors, and Anne Murray, Vice President Marketing and Communications.

Attached is a summary of our Annual Report with highlights of YVR activities over the past year. I hope that providing this information in advance will facilitate our discussion. My presentation will provide additional details and also describe upcoming consultations on the airport's long term development plan, our Master Plan 2037. We will be pleased to answer questions from Council; should you wish you are welcome to send questions in advance to the e-mail below.

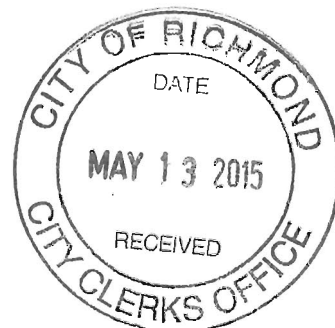
I would also like to use this occasion to extend a standing offer to members of Council for a tour of YVR. You are welcome to get in touch with me directly at 604-276-6501 or craig_richmond@yvr.ca.

Again, I look forward to seeing all of you.

Sincerely,

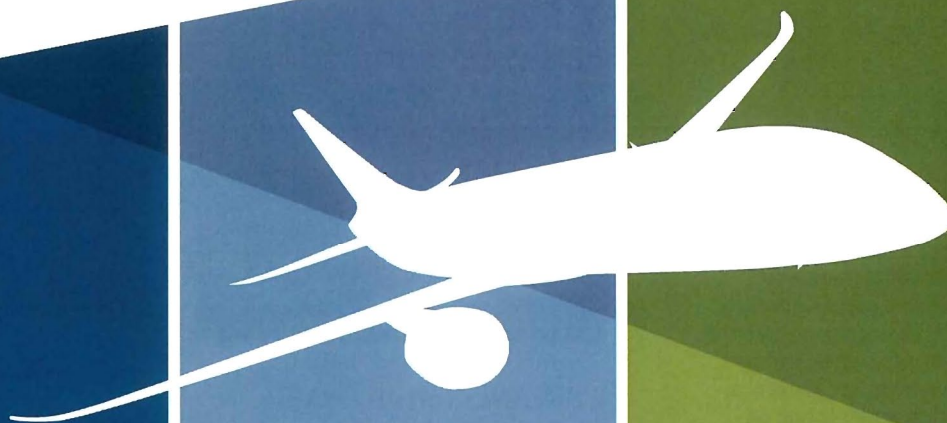
Craig Richmond
President & Chief Executive Officer

Attachment



THE YEAR OF THE DREAMLINER

2014 YVR ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS



A MESSAGE FROM MARY JORDAN CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS VANCOUVER AIRPORT AUTHORITY

2014 was a year of great ideas and big achievements by the team on behalf of our customers, our communities, our province and our country.

More people than ever chose to fly through YVR in 2014 and many did this with the help of our incredible Green Coats. We were proud to honour these individuals on the 25th anniversary of YVR's award-winning volunteer program. Our Green Coats speak the language of welcome and help—and over 30 other languages. This is one of the reasons YVR once again achieved a high customer satisfaction rating in 2014 and received the Skytrax World Airport Award for best airport in North America—for the sixth year in a row.

We continued to build on our strong community relationships in 2014, with generous donations

and expanded programs. We introduced the Explorer Tour, a formalized, year-round guided program for groups including seniors, children with disabilities and students. Through our Speakers' Bureau, we shared YVR's gateway airport story with communities across the province. We also continued popular initiatives such as the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup, the YVR School Tour Program and the annual Quest Holiday Hamper Drive.

To meet the ever increasing competition, we crafted a new Strategic Plan to deliver on our mission of connecting British Columbia proudly to the world. As a foundation for YVR's diverse objectives and initiatives, the new plan sets an ambitious goal of 25 million passengers by 2020, within a vision that sees YVR as a world class, sustainable gateway between Asia and the Americas.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank the employees of the Airport

Authority for their outstanding work and all of the businesses and agencies on Sea Island for their commitment to excellence. And, most of all, I would like to thank the people of British Columbia for giving us their support and our reason for striving to go beyond, every day.

Mary Jordan
CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS
VANCOUVER AIRPORT AUTHORITY



VANCOUVER
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT

Beyond, Every Day.

Vancouver Airport Authority is a community-based, not-for-profit organization that manages Vancouver International Airport (YVR). As a sustainable gateway, we provide social and economic benefits to the communities we serve, while protecting the environment.

MISSION: CONNECTING BRITISH COLUMBIA PROUDLY TO THE WORLD

VISION: A WORLD CLASS SUSTAINABLE GATEWAY BETWEEN ASIA AND THE AMERICAS

VALUES: SAFETY, TEAMWORK, ACCOUNTABILITY, INNOVATION



#1 AIRPORT HOTEL IN NORTH AMERICA

FAIRMONT VANCOUVER AIRPORT—CONDÉ NAST

"LEAST FRUSTRATING AIRPORT IN NORTH AMERICA"

— BLOOMBERG NEWS

91%

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION RATING—TWO YEARS IN A ROW



25 YEARS OF GREEN COAT VOLUNTEERS

470 GREEN COAT VOLUNTEERS, WORKING IN 33 DIFFERENT LANGUAGES FOR OUR PASSENGERS



BEST AIRPORT IN NORTH AMERICA FOR A HISTORIC 6 YEARS IN A ROW

YVR WAS NAMED BEST AIRPORT IN NORTH AMERICA BY THE PRESTIGIOUS SKYTRAX WORLD AIRPORT AWARDS, WHICH RANK AIRPORTS BASED ON VOLUNTARY SURVEY RESULTS OF OVER 13 MILLION GLOBAL PASSENGERS.

Our Business

YVR welcomed a record 19.4 million passengers in 2014, thanks to strong domestic travel and Asia-Pacific traffic. To keep pace with this record growth, we continued key projects, expanding our presence in Asia, starting construction on the McArthurGlen Designer Outlet Centre and finalizing work on the A-B Connector, part of our expansion of the Domestic Terminal.

110 NON-STOP DESTINATIONS

AVAILABLE TO TRAVELLERS FROM YVR



4 DREAMLINER AIRCRAFT

INTRODUCED AT YVR IN 2014

53 AIRLINES

SERVE YVR EVERY DAY

19.4 MILLION

PASSENGERS SERVED IN 2014



Our Leadership

The Airport Authority is governed by a community-based Board of Directors. A seven-member Executive Committee, led by President & CEO Craig Richmond, oversees daily operations at YVR.

7 MEMBER

EXECUTIVE TEAM

14 DIRECTORS

ON OUR BOARD

YEAR	2014	2013	2012
Revenue (Millions)	464.9	433.3	403.6
Operating Expenses (Millions)	320.4	291.1	280.2
Ground Lease (Millions) paid to the Federal Govt.	46.6	42.3	39.1
Excess Of Revenue Over Expenses (Millions)	101.7	98.3	84.9
Net Assets (Millions)	1,377.8	1,273.6	1,162.8
Capital Expenditures For The Year (Millions)	277.6	186.0	106.0
Passengers (Millions)	19.4	18.0	17.6
Aircraft Runway Take-Offs / Landings (Thousands)	273	263	261
Cargo Handled (Thousands Of Tonnes)	256.9	228.3	227.9



Our Environment

YVR is committed to sound environmental management, which we demonstrate through a range of initiatives. These include upgrading light fixtures and buildings to reduce energy use, monitoring water quality to protect ecosystems, improving cycling infrastructure to reduce emissions and recycling materials to reduce waste.



93% WASTE REDUCTION

93% OF SOLID CONSTRUCTION WASTE MATERIALS
DIVERTED FROM LANDFILLS IN 2014

76% HYBRID TAXI FLEET

RUNNING ON HYBRID-ELECTRIC ENGINES,
OPERATING AT YVR IN 2014

1.3 MILLION KG

OF MATERIAL FROM THE TERMINAL
WAS RECYCLED IN 2014

2014 POWERSMART AWARDS

LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE DESIGNATION FOR
ACHIEVING GREAT LEVELS OF ENERGY SAVINGS
YEAR-OVER-YEAR



Our People

Over 24,000 people call YVR their workplace. At the core of this community is the YVR team, a group of 416 employees who go beyond, every day for our customers.



BC'S TOP EMPLOYER—NINE YEARS IN A ROW



Safety

The safety and security of YVR's passengers and employees is the Airport Authority's primary responsibility, during regular operations and in times of crisis. We regularly test our emergency response through exercises, drills and discussions. In 2014, we had zero health and safety non-compliances.



Our Community

YVR is a dedicated community partner. In 2014, we donated more than \$900,000 to local not-for-profit organizations, charities and sponsorships. We hosted a diverse range of community engagement programs, including the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup, and our new YVR Explorer Tour—a year-round guided tour for diverse community groups.



OVER \$900,000 IN COMMUNITY
INVESTMENT



PARTICIPATED IN 19 COMMUNITY
FESTIVALS ACROSS B.C.



OVER 550 FOOD HAMPERS COLLECTED
AT ANNUAL QUEST HOLIDAY HAMPER DRIVE



1,485 STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN
OUR SCHOOL TOUR PROGRAM



Innovation

We constantly innovate to improve the customer experience. We made history with the debut of our BORDERXPRESS™ Automated Passport Control (APC) kiosks in Aruba in 2014—the first time a self-service border control technology has been available to travelers at an international airport with U.S. preclearance.

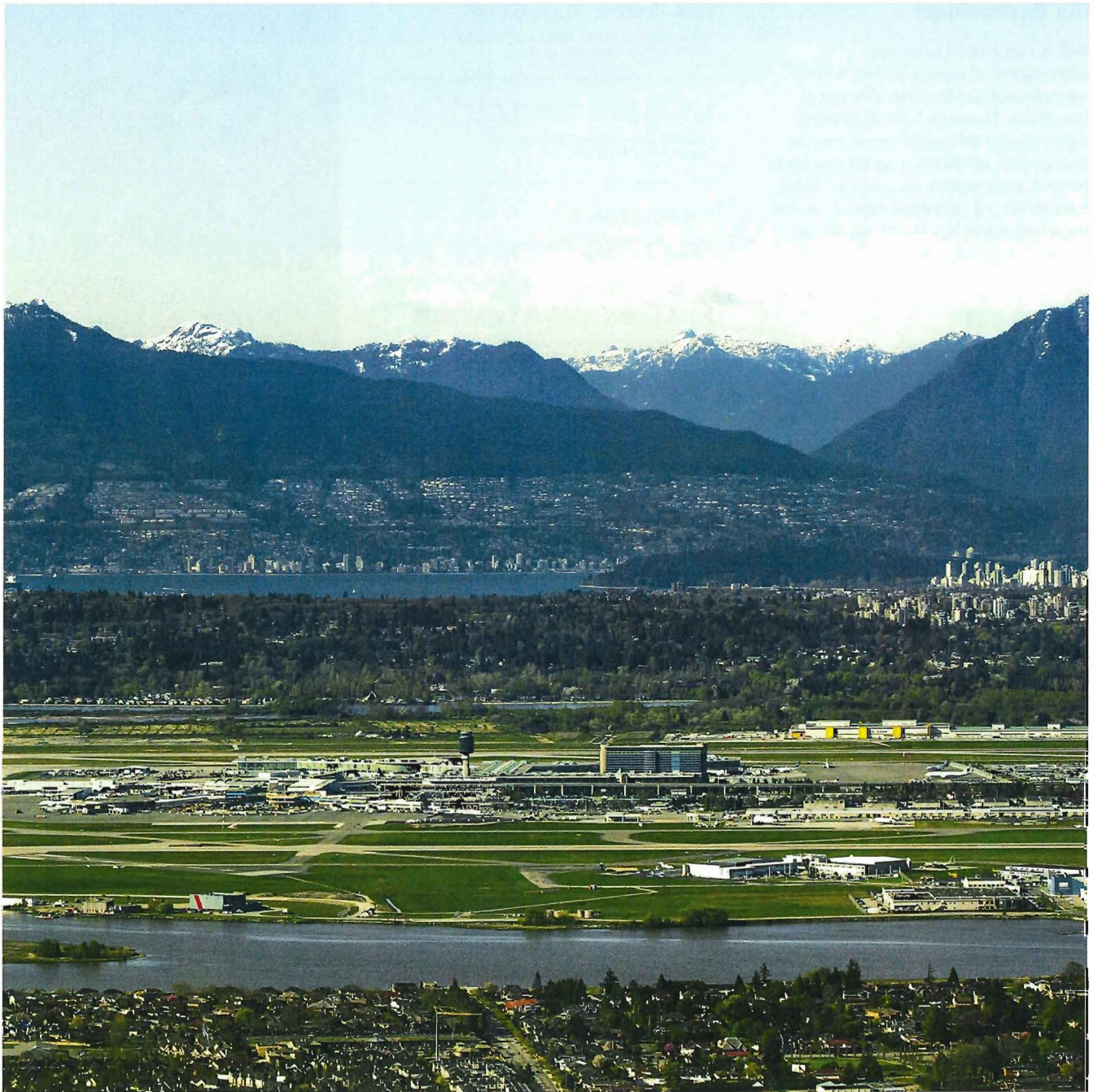


OVER 16.8 MILLION

PASSENGERS SERVED

338 BORDERXPRESS™ KIOSKS

SOLD IN 2014



We strive to be accountable to you, our customers, neighbours and business partners.

To view the complete Annual Report and learn about how we report on our four sustainability pillars—Economic, Environment, Social and Governance—please visit

WWW.YVR.CA

We welcome your comments and questions. Please email us at: **community_relations@yvr.ca**

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@YVRAIRPORT

@YVRAIRPORT

VANCOUVERAIRPORT

VANCOUVERINTERNATIONALAIRPORT

Join us at the Vancouver Airport Authority's **Annual Public Meeting**

to find out more about 2014 and our future plans, May 14 at YVR. Registration begins at 4:00pm. The meeting begins at 5:00pm. Details available at yvr.ca



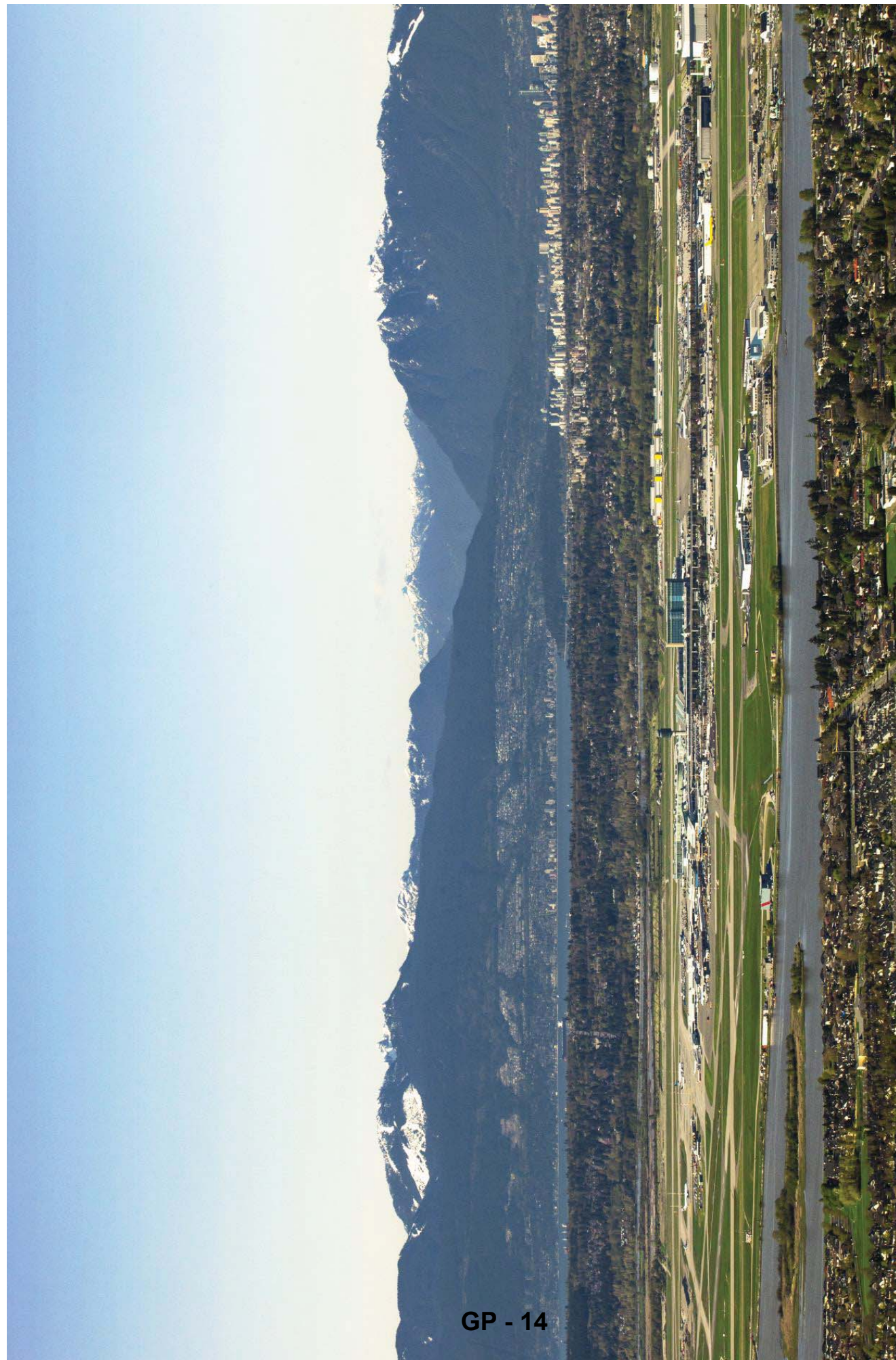
RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL PRESENTATION

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Howard Jampolsky
Director

Craig Richmond
President & CEO

Anne Murray
Vice President,
Marketing & Communications



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GP - 15

AWARDED BEST
AIRPORT IN
NORTH AMERICA
6 YEARS IN A ROW





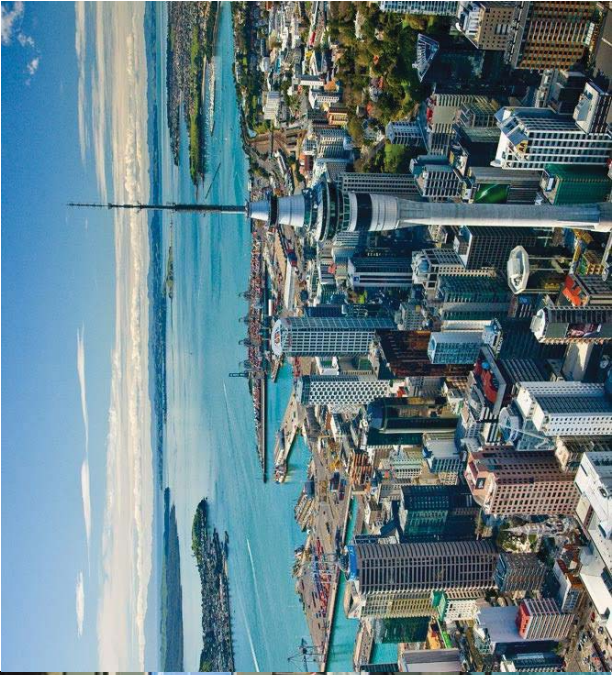


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ECONOMIC IMPACT



ECONOMIC IMPACT



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COMMUNITY



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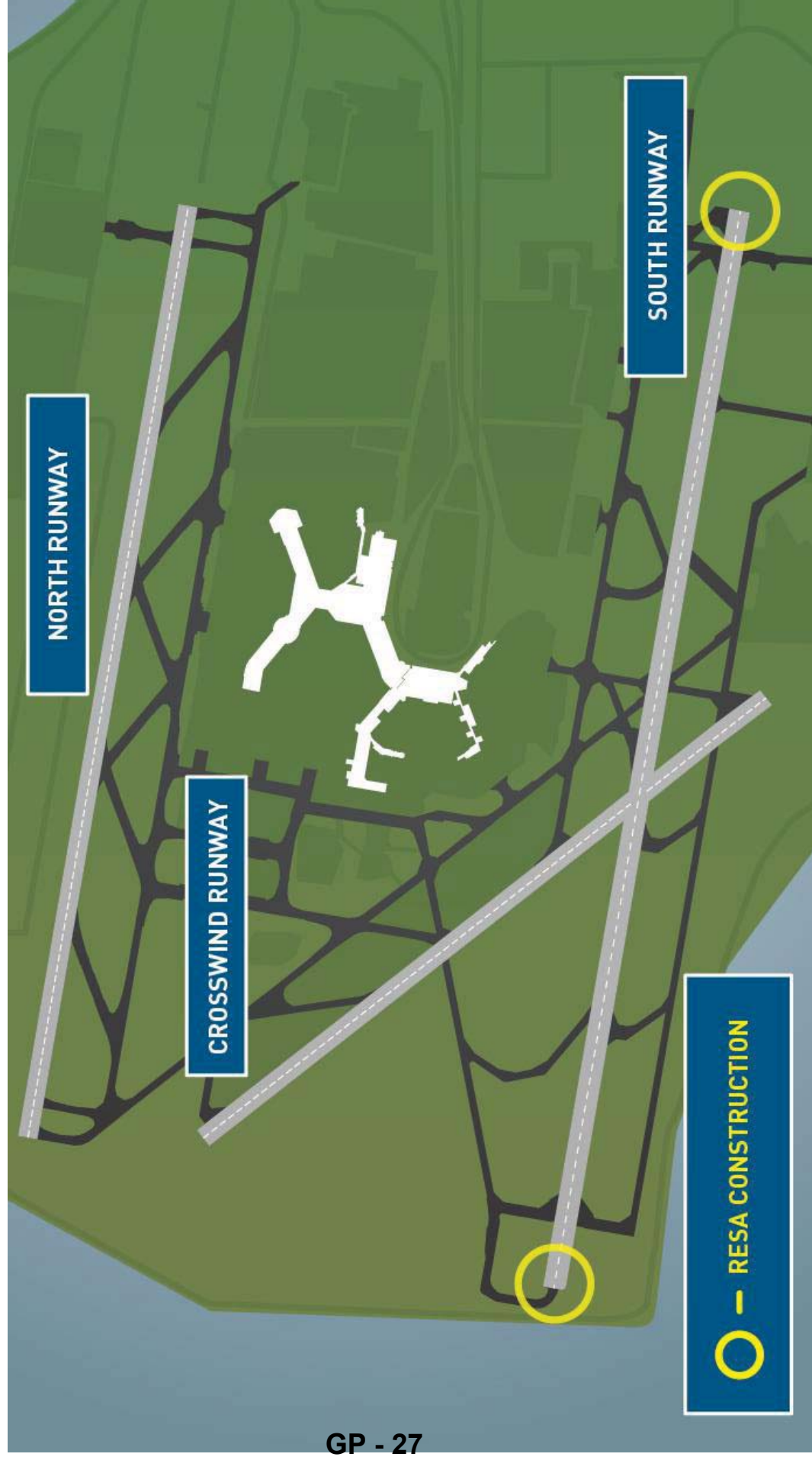
SUSTAINABILITY



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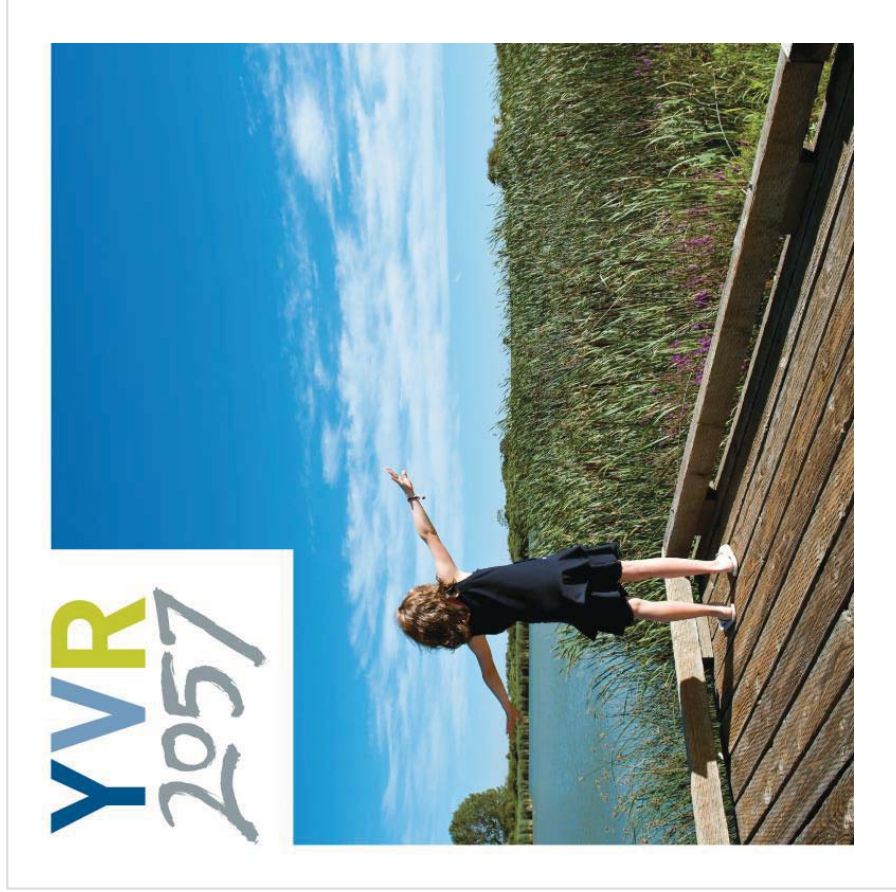
RUNWAY END SAFETY AREA

YVR.CA/RESA

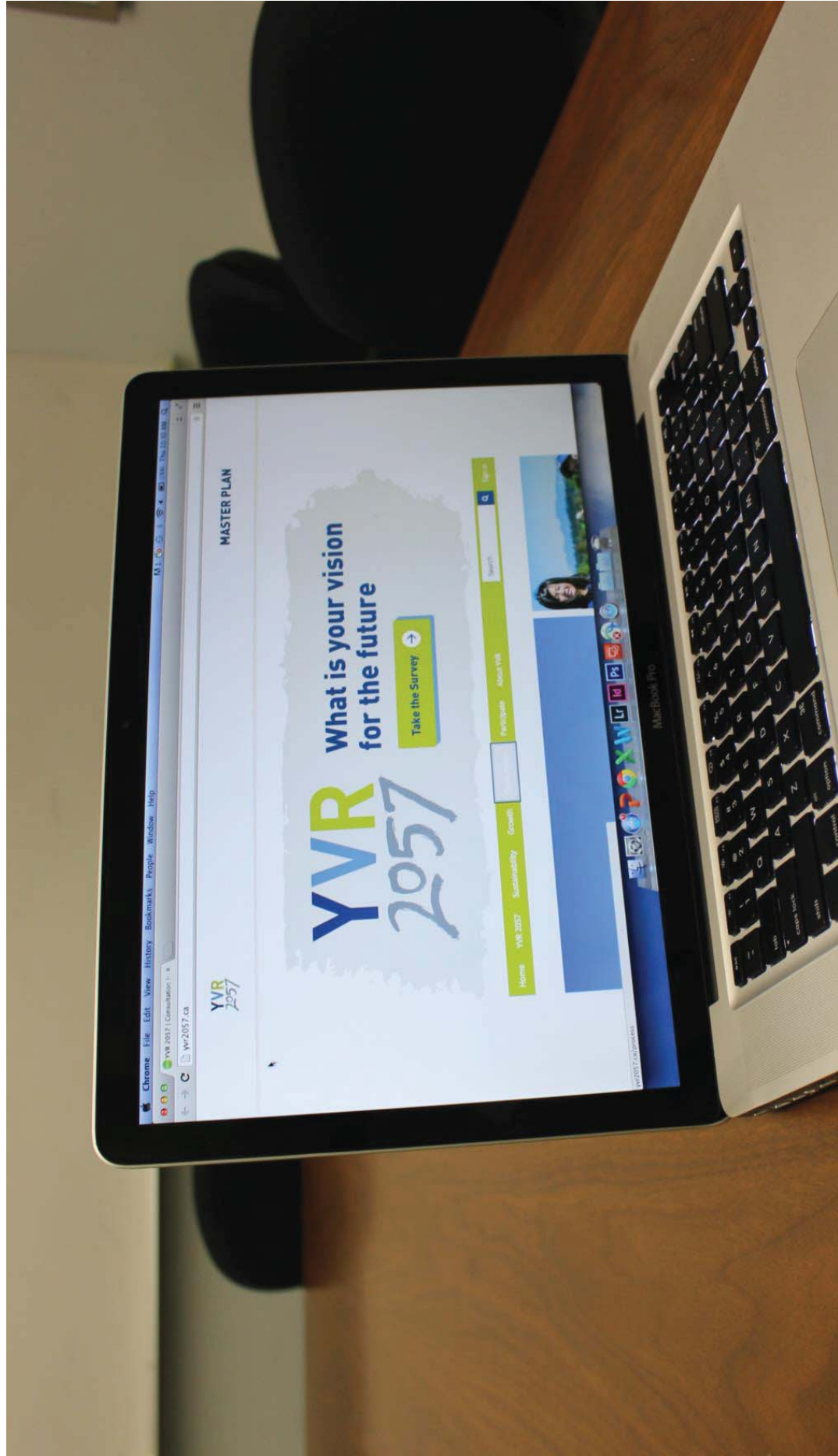


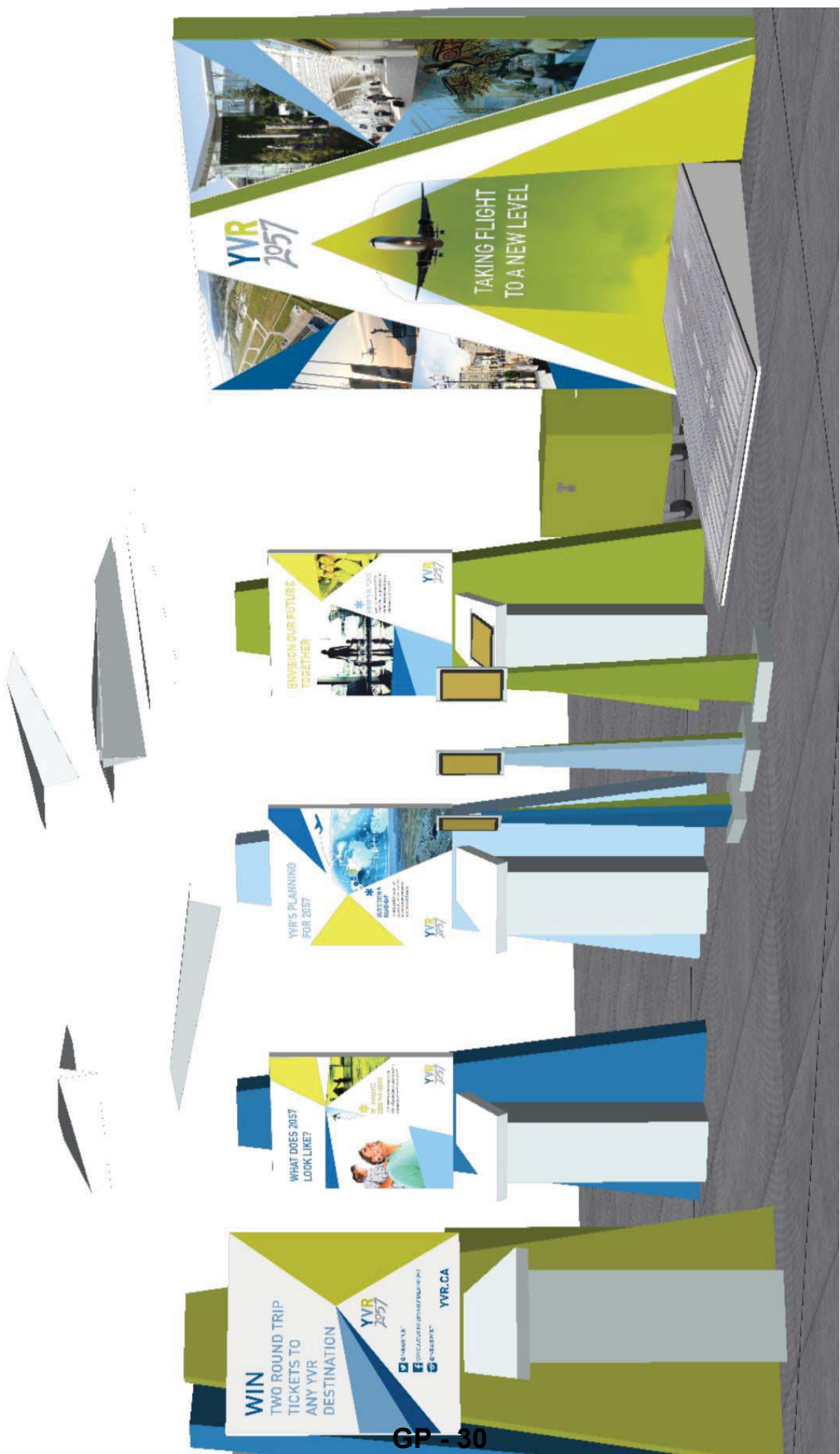
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MASTER PLAN



MASTER PLAN





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Beyond, Every Day.



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: General Purposes Committee

Date: April 27, 2015

From: John Irving, P.Eng. MPA
Director, Engineering

File: 10-6125-04-01/2015-
Vol 01

Re: **Amendments to Water Use Restriction Bylaw and Consolidated Fees Bylaw
to Support Chafer Beetle Biocontrol**

Staff Recommendation

1. That Water Use Restriction Bylaw No. 7784, Amendment Bylaw No.9247 be introduced and given first, second and third readings.
2. That Consolidated Fees Bylaw No. 8636, Amendment Bylaw No. 9248 be introduced and given first, second and third readings.

John Irving, P.Eng. MPA
Director, Engineering
(604-276-4140)

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Parks Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Water Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Community Bylaws	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Law	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

In order to control the damage to lawns associated with pest damage on private property, amendments to the City's Water Use Restriction Bylaw No. 7784 and Consolidated Fees Bylaw No. 8636 are being proposed. These amendments will allow watering of lawns on private property during summer months, when water restrictions are in place, in order to support biocontrol of the European chafer beetle.

Analysis

European Chafer Beetle Control

European chafer beetle *Rhizotrogus majalis* has become a serious lawn pest found in residential, commercial and city landscapes. It was first discovered in New Westminster in 2001 and has subsequently spread to Richmond, Burnaby, Vancouver and Coquitlam. Since first observations in 2010, the European chafer beetle has spread across the City, with significant damage occurring over the past twelve months.

Currently, there are no permitted chemical insecticides for use on chafer larvae under the City's Pesticide Use Control Bylaw No. 8514. For infested lawn areas, the application of nematodes (naturally occurring microscopic round worms) has proven to be the most effective control. Products containing *heterorhabditis bacteriophora* nematodes are available at local garden centres. The beneficial nematodes should be applied to the infested lawn area at the end of July when chafer is in the beginning of its grub/larvae stage. Ample watering is required before and after application of nematodes for at least two weeks to allow the nematodes to percolate into the soil profile to the chafer grubs. The amount of watering required is greater than allowed under Stage 1 and Stage 2 water restrictions as set out in Bylaw 7784.

An amendment to Bylaw No. 7784 is proposed to provide the means for property owners to obtain a water exemption permit (See Attachment 1, Water Use Restriction Bylaw No. 7784, Amendment Bylaw No. 9247). Applicants will be required to provide proof of purchase of nematodes via receipt or invoice from a company to the applicant's address showing nematode treatment is required. A company may apply for nematode permits on behalf of a property. The application fee for this permit is proposed to be \$33.50 for properties without metered water and free for properties with metered water (see Attachment 2, Consolidated Fees Bylaw No. 8636, Amendment Bylaw No. 9248). Properties without a water meter will have to accept a water meter installation as part of the permit approval process as well, where applicable. The permit will allow sprinkling outside of restricted days/hours to the area of lawn treated with nematodes under Stage 1 and Stage 2 water restrictions. Permits are not valid during Stage 3 and Stage 4 water restrictions. The permit will only be valid between July 15 and August 15 for 21 days within the validity period and cannot be renewed. The City reserves the right to revoke and/or cancel a permit for non-compliance within the terms or conditions of this permit. A resident applying for a water exemption permit must have the permit affixed to a post facing the street serving the premises, beside the principal driveway or in a visible location on the front yard.

As part of the City's Enhanced Pesticide Management Program, information on European chafer beetle control can be found in Richmond's *European Chafer in Your Lawn* brochure and at Richmond.ca/chafer. City Staff continue to respond to telephone calls and provide expert advice including recommendations to home owners experiencing lawn damage associated with the European chafer beetle. The City's 2015 spring and summer Natural Lawn Care workshops include more sessions specific to European chafer beetle control to address the growing concern of this pest in the community.

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts associated with these bylaw amendments.

Conclusion

Due to the recent proliferation of European Chafer Beetle damage to lawns on private property in the City, the use of nematodes for biocontrol of this pest is recommended. Amendments to the Water Use Restriction and Consolidated Fees bylaws support the requirement for successful biocontrol of the European chafer beetle on private properties.



Lesley Douglas, B.Sc., R.P.Bio.
Manager, Environmental Sustainability
(604-247-4672)

LD:th

- Att. 1: Water Use Restriction Bylaw No. 7784, Amendment Bylaw No. 9247.
2: Consolidated Fee Bylaw No. 8636, Amendment Bylaw No. 9248.



**Water Use Restriction Bylaw No. 7784,
Amendment Bylaw No. 9247**

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

1. The Water Use Restriction Bylaw No. 7784, as amended, is further amended by deleting Section 3.1 in its entirety and substituting the following:

“3.1 Permits

- 3.1.1 A **person** may apply to the **General Manager, Engineering & Public Works** for a **permit** authorizing the **person** to **water** when **Stage 1 Restrictions** or **Stage 2 Restrictions** are in force if:
 - (a) the **person** has installed a new lawn, either by placing sod or turf or by seeding, or new landscaping on a substantial part of the outdoor portion of a property; or
 - (b) the **person** is applying nematodes to a lawn to control the growth of European Chafer Beetle.
- 3.1.2 An application for a **permit** must be accompanied by supporting documents, as required by the **General Manager, Engineering & Public Works**, and the application fee specified in the Consolidated Fees Bylaw No. 8636, as amended or replaced from time to time.
- 3.1.3 The **General Manager, Engineering & Public Works**, upon being satisfied that an applicant qualifies under subsection 3.1.1(a) or (b) and has complied with subsection 3.1.2, may issue a **permit** to the applicant and include terms and conditions in respect to the **permit**.
- 3.1.4 Notwithstanding **Stage 1 Restrictions** or **Stage 2 Restrictions**, the holder of a valid **permit** is authorized to **water** in accordance with the terms and conditions of the **permit**.
- 3.1.5 A **permit** does not exempt the **permit** holder from **Stage 3 Restrictions** or **Stage 4 Restrictions**.
- 3.1.6 A **permit** must be affixed to a post facing the street servicing the property, beside the principal driveway or if there is no driveway, in a visible location in the front yard of the property.



- 3.1.7 A **permit** is valid for the period of 21 days from the date of issue, except that a **permit** issued for the purpose of subsection 3.1.1(b) may only be valid for a period of 21 days between July 15 and August 15 of each year.
- 3.1.8 A **permit** holder may apply for an extension of a **permit** issued for the purpose of subsection 3.1.1(a), but such extension must end on or before 42 days from the original date of issue under subsection 3.1.3. A **permit** issued for the purpose of subsection 3.1.1(b) cannot be extended.”
2. This Bylaw is cited as “**Water Use Restriction Bylaw No. 7784, Amendment Bylaw 9247**”.

FIRST READING

SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED

CITY OF RICHMOND
APPROVED for content by originating dept. 
APPROVED for legality by Solicitor 

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER



**Consolidated Fees Bylaw No. 8636,
Amendment Bylaw No. 9248**

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

1. The Consolidated Fees Bylaw No. 8636, as amended, is further amended by deleting the table under Schedule – Water Use Restriction and substituting the following:

Description	Fee
Permit application fee for new lawns or landscaping (s. 3.1.1(a))	\$33.50
Permit application fee for nematode applications for European Chafer Beetle control, where property does not have water meter service (s. 3.1.1(b))	\$33.50
Permit application fee for nematode applications for European Chafer Beetle control, where property has water meter service (s. 3.1.1(b))	NIL

2. This Bylaw is cited as “**Consolidated Fees Bylaw No. 8636, Amendment Bylaw No. 9248**”.

FIRST READING


SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER

CITY OF RICHMOND
APPROVED for content by originating dept. 
APPROVED for legality by Solicitor 



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: General Purposes Committee

Date: May 1, 2015

From: Mike Redpath
Senior Manager, Parks

File: 06-2345-20-LSTE1/Vol
01

Re: London/Steveston Park Concept Plan

Staff Recommendation

That the London/Steveston Park Concept Plan, as outlined in the staff report titled "London/Steveston Park Concept Plan," dated May 1, 2015, from the Senior Manager, Parks, be approved.

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

Att. 4

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO: Development Applications	CONCURRENCE <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/>	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

Polygon 273 Development Ltd. has applied to rezone a 7.0 acre portion of a 13.0 acre site at 10440 and 10460 No. 2 Road to a site specific “Town Housing (ZT72) – London/Steveston (No.2 Road)” zone to permit a 133-unit townhouse development on a proposed Parcel 1. The remaining 5.8 acres of the site will maintain the current School and Institutional Use (SI) zoning taking into account minor widening of No. 2 Road required for the development. A 5.0 acre portion of the former Steveston Secondary School property will be transferred to the City and added to the existing site of London/Steveston School Park and a 0.8 acre portion transferred to the City for a childcare site facing No. 2 Road.

A series of Open Houses were held in February and March 2015 to gain public input towards the development of a concept plan that integrates the portion of the old Steveston High site to be transferred to the City, with the existing properties of London/Steveston School Park. The purpose of this report is to summarise the findings of the public consultation process, and to present the London/Steveston Park Concept Plan for approval.

Analysis

The Existing Site

The existing London/Steveston School Park comprises of properties owned by the City of Richmond and School District No. 38. The Steveston-London Secondary School opened in 2007 after the merger of Steveston Secondary and Charles E. London Secondary. The new Steveston-London Secondary School faces both Williams Road and Gilbert Road, and the old Steveston Secondary School fronts onto No. 2 Road.

The portion of the old Steveston Secondary site that is proposed to become City park property is an open lawn approximately 4.0 acres in size, another 1.0 acre within in two greenways linking the park to No. 2 Road, and a small portion of the property will also locate a childcare facility (Attachment 1). This area is being transferred to the City from Polygon as described above as a condition of rezoning. From a park planning perspective the proposed addition of accessible open space has presented a unique opportunity to engage the community and surrounding established neighbourhoods through consultation for master planning the London/Steveston community park as a whole.

The existing City property is located between the new and old school sites and is approximately 18 acres in area. Its main feature is a softball complex of four ball diamonds that is supported by a caretaker suite/field house/public washroom building, a batting cage and a parking lot that runs parallel with Williams Road. A natural grass sand field exists in the north part of the property and a small playground and seating area is located near the site’s Goldsmith Avenue frontage. Lighting has been provided so that the field and one ball diamond can be programmed for use in the evenings. The existing athletic facilities were not included within the scope of the design for the new concept plan, since at present they are regularly programmed and well used by community sport groups.

Public Consultation Process

The public was invited to provide input and feedback towards the preparation of the concept plan for the expanded park at a series of Open Houses held at Steveston-London Secondary School over a six week period from February 12 to March 31, 2015. Approximately 1,200 notices were sent to residential properties in the surrounding neighbourhood. The public engagement process was advertised in the local newspapers, and information was posted on the City's website. The public engagement process was intentionally designed to build on ideas generated from the community and participants at each stage of the process.

February 12 and February 14, 2015 – Ideas Generation Consultation

Phase one was considered the ideas generation and discovery phase, where the public was invited at two sessions, to describe concerns with the existing park and to share ideas and express their aspirations for the future development.

Twenty four people attended the first session and twenty nine people participated at the second open house. The analysis of the input revealed some consistent themes including:

- Improving opportunities for fitness and walking;
- Creating more diversity of spaces, including social spaces, within the park;
- Improving circulation around the site;
- Providing activities that are suitable for a wide range of ages; and
- Improving drainage at the site.

The majority of the participants did not express an interest in sports fields being part of the redevelopment plan.

March 5, 2015 Meeting – Concept Options Consultation

From the feedback received at the first two Ideas Generation sessions, three concept design options were prepared and presented for review at the third open house. Each concept was presented with a large plan, perspective sketch, as well as precedent images to illustrate the park program in each option. Twenty four participants attended this event and they appeared to enjoy playing their part in the design process. Comments were received relating to each concept design and these were amalgamated with the findings of the ideas fair to help develop the final concept plan.

March 31, 2015 Meeting – Draft - Final Concept Consultation

The purpose of the final Open House was to present the preferred concept design that was generated based on the progressive feedback from the community received to date. Thirty one participants attended this event where participants were encouraged to interact through informal discussions regarding the concept plan. The final concept design was presented with a large plan, cross sections, and a perspective sketch as well as precedent images to illustrate the

proposed park plan. In addition, a sketch was presented that showed the proposed layout of a proposed new play area integrated with existing trees and new site features.

Parks staff also met with the Principal and Vice Principals of Steveston-London Secondary School to gather their feedback on the proposed preferred concept design plan. School staff were very supportive of the concept proposal to increase the diversity of uses at the site.

Concurrent to the Open House process, the community was also invited to view all of the engagement process materials and complete the questionnaires on the Let's Talk Richmond website, www.LetsTalkRichmond.ca.

Interest shown at the Open Houses was strong and response to the park proposal was generally favorable. Most of the local residents who participated in the design process attended all of the sessions, and this provided valuable consistency in discussion and commentary as the concept design plan progressed from start to finish. A complete review of the planning process and its results are included (Attachment 3 and 4).

Proposed London/Steveston Park Concept Plan

The concept design (Attachment 2) for London/Steveston Park proposes two distinct areas for the site:

- Park Addition – a large, flexible use, open space and a central area that focuses on social activities and play; and
- Greenways – two 30 foot wide greenways, located to the north and south of the Polygon townhouse development, that connect the Park Addition to No. 2 Road.

A proposed open lawn which is approximately 2 acres in size is included that can be used for informal activities, games and sports, and also for larger neighbourhood scale programs and events. Around its edges and planted within it trees are proposed to be planted in groups, as specimens, and as rows flanking the walkways creating an enjoyable walking experience and greening the park.

The concept proposes a grading plan to ensure that the pathways and main use areas remain dry throughout the year, with some areas adjacent the pathways at lower elevations designed to accept water during the wet season. These detention areas will allow water to infiltrate the ground slowly, thereby reducing pressure on the City's storm drainage system.

A variety of trees and shrubs may be planted within these areas to increase biodiversity and enhance habitat creation for wildlife. This open space improves upon the old school site's existing lawn. The two smaller ball diamond backstops will be removed and replaced at new sites within the park system. A contained/fenced, dog off leash area (0.75 acres) is proposed to be located in the northwest section of the park.

A large mound, approximately 4 metres in height, is proposed to anchor the middle of the park. This feature will add prominence and variety to the park's topography, become a play feature unto itself, and reinforce the park's unique character within the City's park system.

The central area located close to Goldsmith Drive is proposed to enhance the existing play ground with the proposed future addition of new play elements, and a covered structure that could provide shelter for outdoor activities and programs. Seating and picnic tables are also proposed to encourage social gathering and the making of connections among the neighbourhood residents.

The new concept presents a major revision of the park's pathway/trail system. Primary pathways, including a 650 metre long circular loop, are proposed which can include distance markers and fitness equipment placed along the routes. The existing main trails will be increased to 3 metres in width, and will ensure neighbourhood connections to Williams Road, Gilbert Road and to No. 2 Road through the proposed two Greenways.

Next Steps and Advancing Phased Future Park Development

Approval of the London/Steveston Park Concept Plan will advance Polygon satisfying rezoning considerations, including transfer of the proposed park and childcare lands to the City. Subsequently, the Polygon rezoning and development permit applications will be brought forward to Council for consideration before the final adoption.

The rezoning considerations for the Polygon development project provided for two options of either the applicant constructing the park works under a Servicing Agreement based on an approved park plan or the City electing to do the work.

The Community Services Division has elected to the construct the Park Addition, as such Polygon will construct the proposed two east-west Greenways and will be eligible for Park Development DCC credits for the actual cost of the park construction works (from part of the maximum payable DCCs of approximately \$600,000 to be paid by Polygon). The estimated cost of full implementation of the London/Steveston Park Concept Plan park construction is \$ 4.0 million to be phased in over time.

Financial Impact

This report presents the London/Steveston Park Concept Plan for approval. Subject to Council's approval of the park concept plan, capital submissions will be considered as part of the City's five-year financial capital plan with proposed phased construction of the park improvements targeted for commencement in 2017, concurrent with the Polygon Development.

Conclusion

The transfer of land to the City will lead towards the renewed development of London/Steveston Park. The park will better function both as a quiet neighbourhood green space and as a place for local residents to gather, socialize and entertain within an active setting. The recommended London/Steveston Park Concept Plan is the result of a comprehensive public engagement

May 1, 2015

- 6 -

process, and approval of the plan will advance the rezoning application of Polygon's development project to the zoning adoption stage.



Clarence Sihoe
Park Planner
(604-233-3311)

- Att. 1: Site Map – Proposed Addition to London-Steveston Park
2: Final Concept Design Plan
3: London/Steveston Park Concept Design volume 1 – Report
4: London/FSteveston Park Concept Design volume 2 – Appendices







City of Richmond 29th April 2015

LONDON-STEVESTON PARK

CONCEPT DESIGN

GP - 46

Volume 1



Project Team

City of Richmond

Mike Redpath	Senior Manager, Parks
Clarence Sihoe	Parks Planner
Tricia Buemann	Area Coordinator, Parks Programs
Marie Fenwick	Manager, Parks Programs
Mark McMullen	Senior Coordinator, Major Projects, Planning & Development
Gregg Wheeler	Manager, Sports and Community Events

space2place

Jeff Cutler	Principal
Phil Wyatt	Project Manager

Polygon Homes

Chris Ho	VP Development
Emma Cartwright	Development Coordinator



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G Let's Talk Richmond Survey Responses	

01 INTRODUCTION

Polygon Homes have purchased the old London-Steveston High School to build a residential development. As part of this development Polygon Homes is passing over approx. 4.5 acres of land to London-Steveston Park.

This additional parcel of land is great news for the park and the local community and its a good opportunity for the City of Richmond to review the use of the park and decide how best to connect the additional land to the park while also establishing a larger plan to revitalize the park with the involvement of the local community. This document is intended to summarise the process that was used to prepare a preferred concept design with community involvement. Refer to all presentation material and summary reports in Volume 2 of this document for more detail relating to the design process.

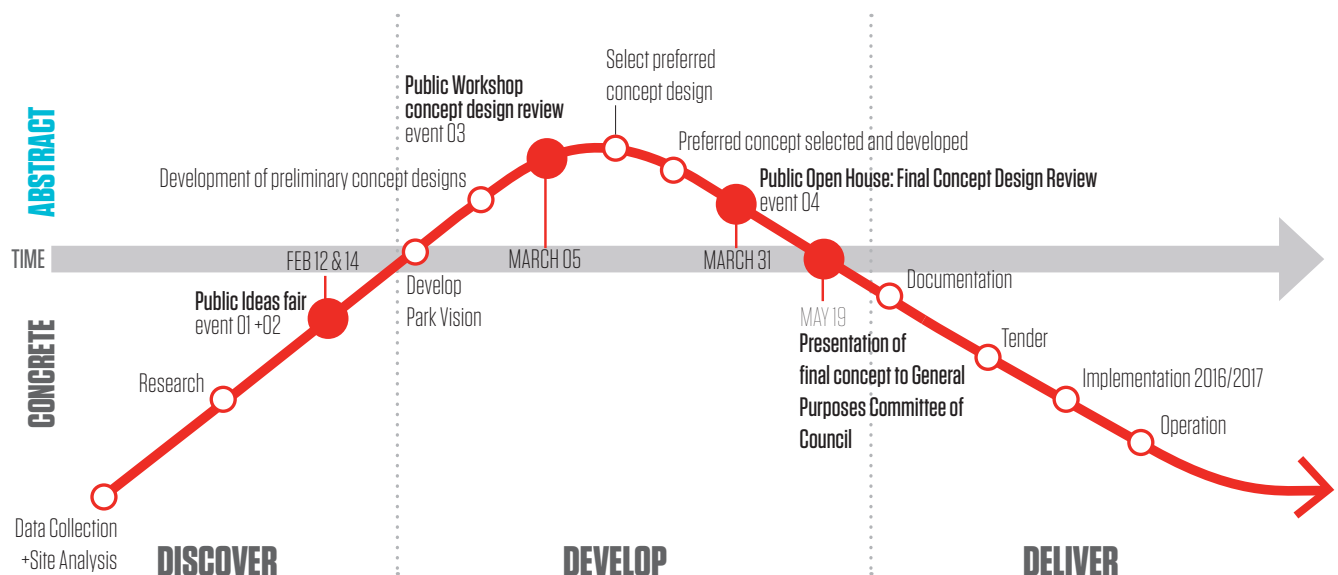
Design Process

The design process has been structured around three main phases: **DISCOVER, DEVELOP, and DELIVER.**

During the **DISCOVER** phase, research and analysis was carried out in preparation for a public ideas fair to understand the current uses of the whole park site, and expectations, issues, and concerns of the community regarding the renovation of the park.

During the **DEVELOP** phase, concept options were developed, public workshops helped to decide the direction before developing a preferred concept design. Again, the public attended an event to comment on this preferred concept before presenting the design to Council.

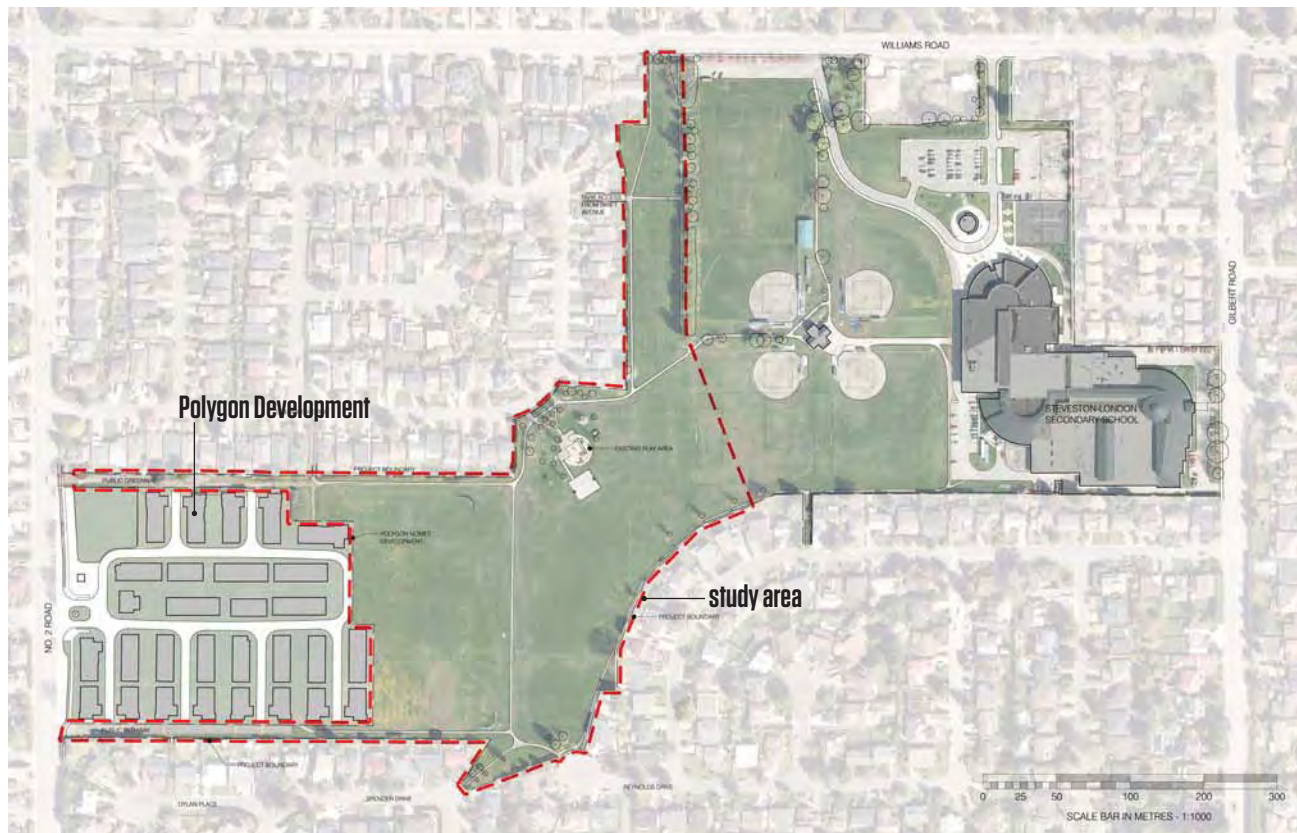
Space2place is not currently providing services for the **DELIVER** phase, however in theory this phase would include the detailed design and implementation of the project over a period of time depending on the number of phases and allocation of funds.



02 DATA COLLECTION & SITE ANALYSIS

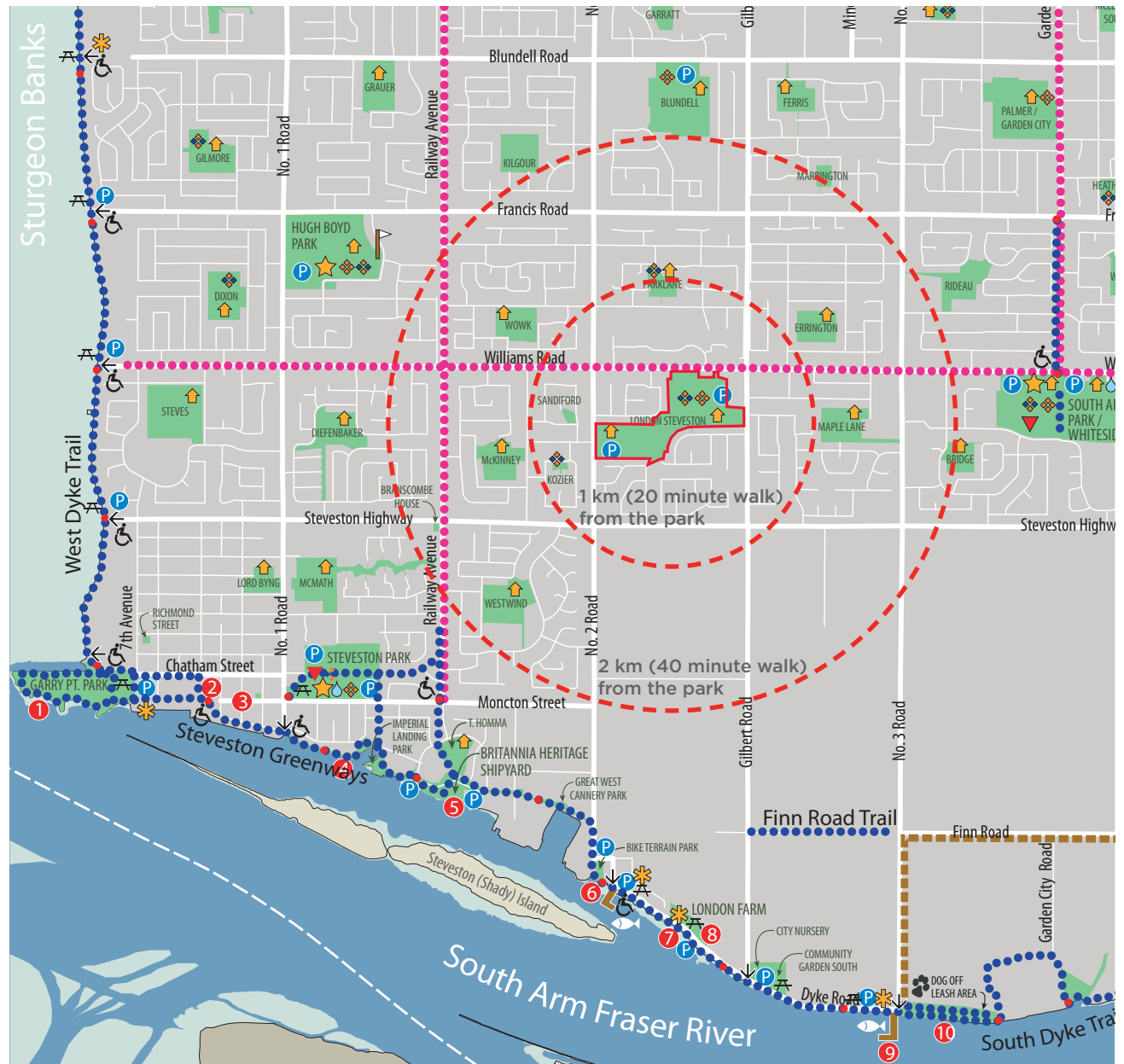
This first part of the work included the collection of background data, policies and guidelines; review of relevant precedents and theory; and analysis of the site. Following a detailed review of the background materials we undertook an analysis of the site, including important contextual linkages to the surrounding park and community. This material has been presented to participants at all of the open houses and it forms a key element in the design process as well as helping to determine the park programme.

Existing Site Plan



Existing site photos - credit Clayton Perry (<http://claytonperryphotography.tumblr.com/>)

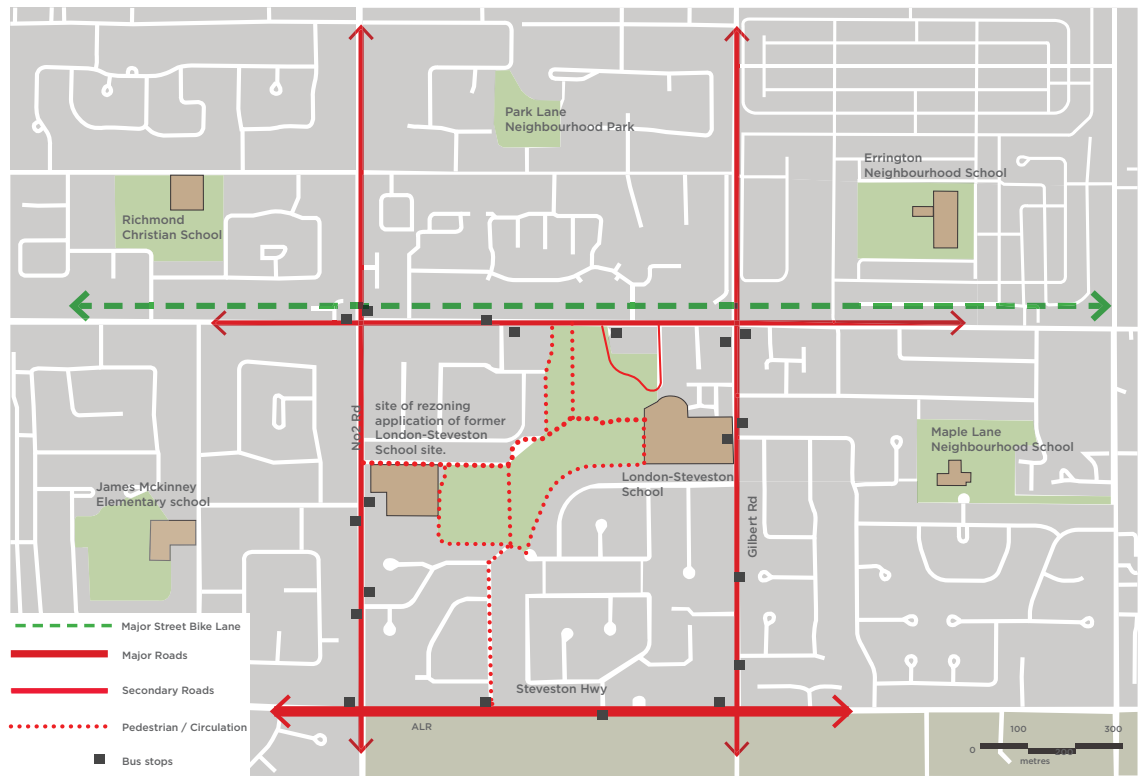
Community Plan



LEGEND:

Marsh / Wet Lands	Connector Routes	Aquatic Centres / Outdoor Pools	Picnic Table Areas	Handicapped Accessible
Parks	School sites	Ice Skating Arenas	Outdoor Tennis Courts	Dog Off-Leash Areas
Trail - Pedestrian / cyclist / Wheelchair accessible	1 km Distance Markers	Dyke Trail Access Points	Basketball Courts	Trail Washroom Facilities
Commuter Cycling Routes (designated bike lanes)	Trail Names	Points of Interest	Lacrosse Box/Ball Hockey Courts	
	Community Centre	Picnic Table Areas	Parking	

Neighbourhood Plan - Existing Connections



Site Plan - Existing Spatial Uses, Connections, Vegetation



03 PUBLIC IDEAS FAIR

Events 01 + 02

24 participants attended event 01

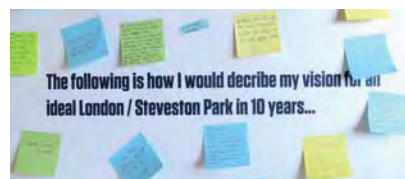
29 participants attended event 02

Objective

The purpose of the ideas fair was for discovery; to understand the current uses of the whole park site, and expectations, issues, and concerns of the community regarding the renovation of the park. The results from this event informed the park program and concept options that were presented at the next open house.

Framework

Boards were displayed to communicate the existing site conditions including park context, circulation, connections, and spatial uses. Next, we asked participants to respond a series of high level questions regarding the existing park conditions and the potential for the park redevelopment. Participants responded with sticky notes that were placed in context on the park plans.



To supplement these questions, we followed with an exercise where the participants identified their preferences for activities within the park redevelopment. The input from the ideas fair events was supplemented with feedback received from the Let's Talk Richmond online survey.

Summary of Findings

The analysis of the input received from the public events and Let's Talk Richmond has revealed some consistent themes including: improved opportunities for **fitness and walking**, creating **more diversity of spaces** within the park, the provision of more **social spaces** within the park, **improved circulation** around the site, provision of **activities that are suitable for a wide range of ages** (from children to seniors), and **improved drainage** in the park to make it more accessible for year round use.

The majority of the participants did not express an interest in sports fields being part of the park redevelopment apart from those that exist on the Secondary School site. There was a sentiment that softball was a potential conflict with more passive park functions.



There was some diversity of opinion regarding the suitability of a fenced off-leash dog area within the park.


All of the feedback that we received at this stage was used to define 'Key Park Design Considerations'. These considerations were used to prepare the concept design options and were also presented at the Concept Design Review event.

For a more detailed report, refer to Appendix B- Ideas Fair Summary Report in Volume 2.

All of the feedback and findings from the two public ideas fair events were presented at the Concept Design Review (event 03). Refer to Appendix C for the full presentation material of the Concept Design Review located in Volume 2.

London / Steveston Park



Findings from the Ideas Fair

Common responses to the following questions...

I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Park...

- there is and should be a difference between what is park and what is playing field
- the park as it already is!
- walk area for walkers, trails, green space
- walking spaces
- there is a place for children to fly a kite! (ie open space)
- large area of open green space
- quiet setting open spaces
- the fact that it can be re-designed period!
- lots of sport fields
- running in the summer


If I could, I would change the following things about the park....

- more for rainy season
- dedicated open and passive park separate from sports field
- boundaries between properties and park (what to do with the chain link fence)
- small clumps of trees in centre instead of trees on the border
- a little pond and a small hill here could enrich the landscape of the park
- additional parking on Williams rd. double existing lot
- is there a way to use "traffic calming devices" on walking paths - slows motorbike, skateboards, and bicycles - especially at blindspots
- evergreen trees, fewer deciduous, still able to see mountains
- good ambient lighting on walkways and playground areas to discourage nefarious activity
- meandering pathways
- get rid of existing 2 baseball back stops
- better management of tournament events - keeping space for locals community (quieter during events)
- bigger playground for children
- places to sit
- drainage and water pooling
- park washrooms need to be open more often
- need more mounds or hillocks for kids to play
- no more beer leagues Noise and Adult ball on old Steveston high field
- communicating rules on the site
- incorporate a bike path with the walking path
- make off leash park or a large off leash area for dogs
- open lawn for multi use activities, bocce, Frisbee, sports
- add naturalistic planting and trees
- separate contain development with buffer; do not want park to be backyard of development
- more implements for toddlers and benches for seniors at the play areas



The following is how I would describe my vision for an ideal London / Steveston Park in 10 years...


- mature plantings on trails with gathering spaces
- meandering fitness trails, beautification of the park
- supervised off leash dog park (owner present to 'pickup')
- nice pathways, nice trees and planting but also open...(the centre part)
- do not want development to have majority access to park
- trees, habitat for song birds
- open/covered space for tai chi area with green roof for the birds
- designated quiet times - ie. after 9pm
- dog off leash area
- better playground
- need washroom so kids can play longer in the play ground
- open space to see the mountains, families walking and playing
- room for people to play bocce ball
- open space for people of all ages and not organized sports
- walking, jogging trails, quiet retreat, wooded areas - pine trees!, tree lined walkways, wide open spaces, song bird habitats
- ambient lighting on the west of the site

This is what the preferences look like for the balance of uses in the park...



London / Steveston Park



Findings from the Ideas Fair

The most noted words used during the ideas fair...

This word cloud filters 75 of the most noted words and the size of each word is in relation to the number of occurrences it was noted in the responses.

Results of the sticker exercise to identify new activities for the park...

Total	Priorities
155	Spaces For Seniors
62	Pathways & Fitness Trails
47	Planting
21	Open Space For Flexible Use
15	Passive Areas & Gathering Spaces
13	Spaces For Youth
12	Play Environment
12	Dog Off Leash Area
12	Sports Fields
3	Pond
3	Sports Court

Key Park Design Considerations

Year-round Use

- make the park usable during the winter months
- provide a covered flexible use space for a range of activities

Diverse Landscape Character & Vegetation

- increase the diversity of landscape characteristics
- maximize year-round greenery of the park
- provide trees for shade
- conserve mountain view from park

Play

- expand the existing play area
- provide more for toddlers
- play area becomes over capacity during large events and its difficult for local residents to access

Improved Social Amenities for Neighbourhood Use

- social hubs including an outdoor bbq & picnic tables
- install water fountain
- provide seating opportunities with option for shade
- install fitness equipment along fitness trail

Dogs

- install fenced dog off-leash area
- consider size of off-leash dog area so that it doesn't take up too much flexible open space

Flexible Use / Open Space

- provide open space for multi-use activities, such as bocce, frisbee and other sports

Site Safety

- keep existing path lighting
- The site has a number of dark spots which impacts on the use of the site during the evening and morning periods; install low-level path lighting in any darker spots
- encourage extended use by families
- discourage nefarious activity
- establish strategies to extend use of the park in the mornings and evenings

Existing Park Issues

- improve drainage
- better management of snow geese required.
- improve the balance of uses within the park; open/passive park versus what is sports field
- find ways to improve parking situation during sporting events

Trails / Fitness / Connections

- encourage site access by foot and bike
- develop a network of paths
- install measured fitness trail (e.g. 1km)
- connect the new development with the park
- provide better connections to existing site entry points
- make path widths wide enough to allow for shared use by bikes and pedestrians.

04 PRELIMINARY CONCEPT DESIGNS

Concept No.1

The park design enhances opportunities for physical activity with a 1 km walking loop, fitness stations, play area and flexible open space.



Concept No.2

The park design distributes activities throughout the site. The organic layout of paths is complemented by an enhanced variation of topography.



Concept No.3

The park design features the central organization of activities in the park with enhanced tree planting and water management using bioswales.



05 CONCEPT DESIGN REVIEW

Event 03

24 participants attended event 03



Objective

The purpose of this event was to present the community with concept design options based on the feedback received during the two ideas fair events in February. Participants were invited to make comments on all three concept designs in an informal setting through notes and discussions with city staff and consultants.

Framework

Boards from the previous events were displayed to communicate the existing site conditions including park context, circulation, connections, and spatial uses. The findings from the two ideas fair events were also presented as well as the key park design considerations used for the development of all three concept options.

The three concepts were presented with a large plan, perspective sketch, as well as precedent images to illustrate the park program in each concept. Participants were asked to comment on each concept. Participants provided comments on sticky notes that were placed in context on a separate sheet. To supplement this exercise, separate forms were handed out where participants selected their preferred concept as well as adding any additional comments.

All of the concept design review material was posted onto the Let's Talk Richmond website for further feedback.

Findings

The event was very informative and participants appeared to be enjoying playing their part in the design process. A number of comments were received relating to each concept design and these were amalgamated with the findings from the ideas fair events to help to refine the Key Park Design Considerations for developing the final concept design. At this stage we also prepared summary with a hierarchy of decisions relating to the park program and its overall design.

For a more detailed report, refer to Appendix D - Concept Design Review Summary Report in Volume 2.

All of the feedback and findings from the Concept Design Review (event 03) was referenced when developing the final concept design. It was also presented at the Final Concept Design Review (event 04). Refer to Appendix E for the full presentation material of the Final Concept Design Review located in Volume 2.



06 FINAL CONCEPT DESIGN



Overview

Based on the findings from the concept design review, elements from all three concepts were selected for the development of the preferred concept design:

- The organic layout of paths with enhanced variation in topography from concept no.2
- A walking loop with fitness stations in concept no.1
- The central organisation of activities in concept no.3
- Water management using bioswales in concept no.2 & no.3
- Informal layout of trees in concept no.2
- Fenced off-leash dog area in concept no.3

The final concept design for London/Steveston Park features two distinct areas - **a large flexible use open space** and a **central activity hub** area focused on active use. The existing landscape character is enhanced with varied topography, tree planting as well as water management with infiltration areas to create biodiversity. The central activity hub area replaces the existing play area with renewed play elements, a sheltered space for neighbourhood activities and a relocated small sport court. A new walking loop with fitness stations will enhance opportunities for physical activity. This design also features a small fenced off-leash dog area for neighbourhood residents.

The following pages provide a description of the key park elements along with drawings that illustrate the final concept design.

Key Park Elements

Pathways



There are now two path sizes; the primary paths are 3 metres wide and the secondary paths are 2 metres wide. The path layout has been revised to enhance the connections with the existing and new features within the park environment. The path layout also includes a fitness loop measuring 645 metres long for walking, running and dog walking.

The layout of paths has been designed to move all paths away from the property line which will also help with the grading of the site to ensure that paths are kept free of water to maximize use year-round use of the park.

Mounds



Increasing the diversity of landscape characteristics with the addition of a mound received good support from a majority of the participants. Mounds should be well integrated with pathways and should increase the view of the mountains from within the park. In the final concept design the mounds also help to stabilise the environment underneath the canopy structure by providing wind protection.

Canada Geese only like very flat ground therefore the addition of mounds could see a reduction in issues with these geese on the site.

Fenced off-leash dog area



The final concept design includes a small fenced off-leash dog area measuring 0.58 acres with a double gated entry positioned at the north and the south of this area. The area should include diversity in landscape characteristics with tree planting and topography to establish a more natural integration with the rest of the park. 58% (1400 sq m) of this dog park area is grass. The remainder consists of gravel paving. The final concept includes seating with opportunities for shade and dog waste bins.



Recreational open lawn

A majority of participants showed a consistently strong level of support for open flexible green space for a variety of activities including bocce, frisbee and sports.



Tree planting

Based on feedback from the ideas fair events, there was consistent interest from the participants in increasing the diversity of landscape characteristics throughout the park with the use of additional trees.

Some recommendations for tree planting from the public:

- Keep trees away from the fence line in order to avoid casting shadows onto neighbouring properties
- Make gaps between trees to not block existing views of the mountains.
- Use trees to add greater spatial diversity - enhance the feeling of 'openness'
- Small deciduous trees should be used to enhance diversity in the landscape character and not plant too many evergreen trees.
- Provide shade opportunities.
- The layout of trees should be more random and informal.
- Incorporate tree-lined paths.



Drainage - Infiltration area for seasonal use

Poor drainage of the study area is a clear constraint of the project. Therefore the requirement to regrade the majority of the site to ensure positive drainage is essential for extending use of the park throughout the year.

Grass infiltration areas have been included in the final concept design however their size requirements will need to be determined during the detail development of the park.



Canopy Structure (within central activity hub)

The use of a 'flexible' covered open space received good support throughout all of the events as a way to make the park more usable throughout the year. The structure should be well integrated within central activity hub; near the play area, facing south. Consideration should be given to wind protection and ensuring good visibility into the space to reduce the risk of any undesirable activities. It is anticipated that the space will be used in a number of ways therefore the covered spaced should have a minimal amount of picnic tables.

The intended size of the structure is 14 metres long x 6 metres wide.



Basketball Area (within central activity hub)

The basketball area is proposed to be relocated and shaped to better integrate with the design of the central activity hub. The basketball area is intended to have one hoop with court markings on asphalt paving.



Improved Social Amenities

Opportunities for social gathering space including benches and picnic tables as well as space for an outdoor bbq should be provided. In addition it is recommended that garbage cans and recycling containers are provided. The design of the central activity hub includes seat walls to increase opportunities for social interaction among the community.



Fitness stations

Four fitness stations with basic fitness equipment will be installed along the 645 metre long, 3 metre wide primary loop path. The stations will consist of simple rubber safety surfacing area with a concrete edge.



Greenway path connection to No.2 Road

Greenways are positioned north and south of the Polygon Development connecting the Park with No.2 Road. Three metre wide meandering paths will be connected to the primary loop path and it is intended that the landscape character of these greenways will integrate these paths with the rest of the park. Removable bollards will need to be positioned at the entry to these paths from No.2 to stop vehicles from entering the park.



Play Area (within central activity hub)

The new play area replaces the old play area but has been moved slightly to be set amongst existing trees for children to freely explore and experience open-ended play in a natural setting. The design is integrated within the central activity hub so that parents and guardians have the opportunity to socialise with other members of the community.

This area was designed with the goal of creating a well-rounded play environment that offers a rich variety of experiences. Children of all ages will have unique opportunities to play, explore, imagine, learn, socialize and experience movement and challenge.

The play area should also be large enough to accommodate more capacity during peak times when large events are taking place in the Secondary School site.

Refer to the following pages to view the concept design for the play area and its key elements. Refer to Appendix F for the full presentation material used in Final Concept Design Review, located in Volume 2.

Considerations

Baseball and Soccer Courts

In the final concept design, no softball backstops or soccer fields were shown in the final concept design due to the conflict that was identified between the sporting facilities and the passive uses of the park. Note however that the layout of trees in the south west of the park site were chosen to allow the future accommodation of an informal backstop and soccer field. No further comments were made about softball in the site as participants felt satisfied that softball would not be a permanent fixture on the new site.

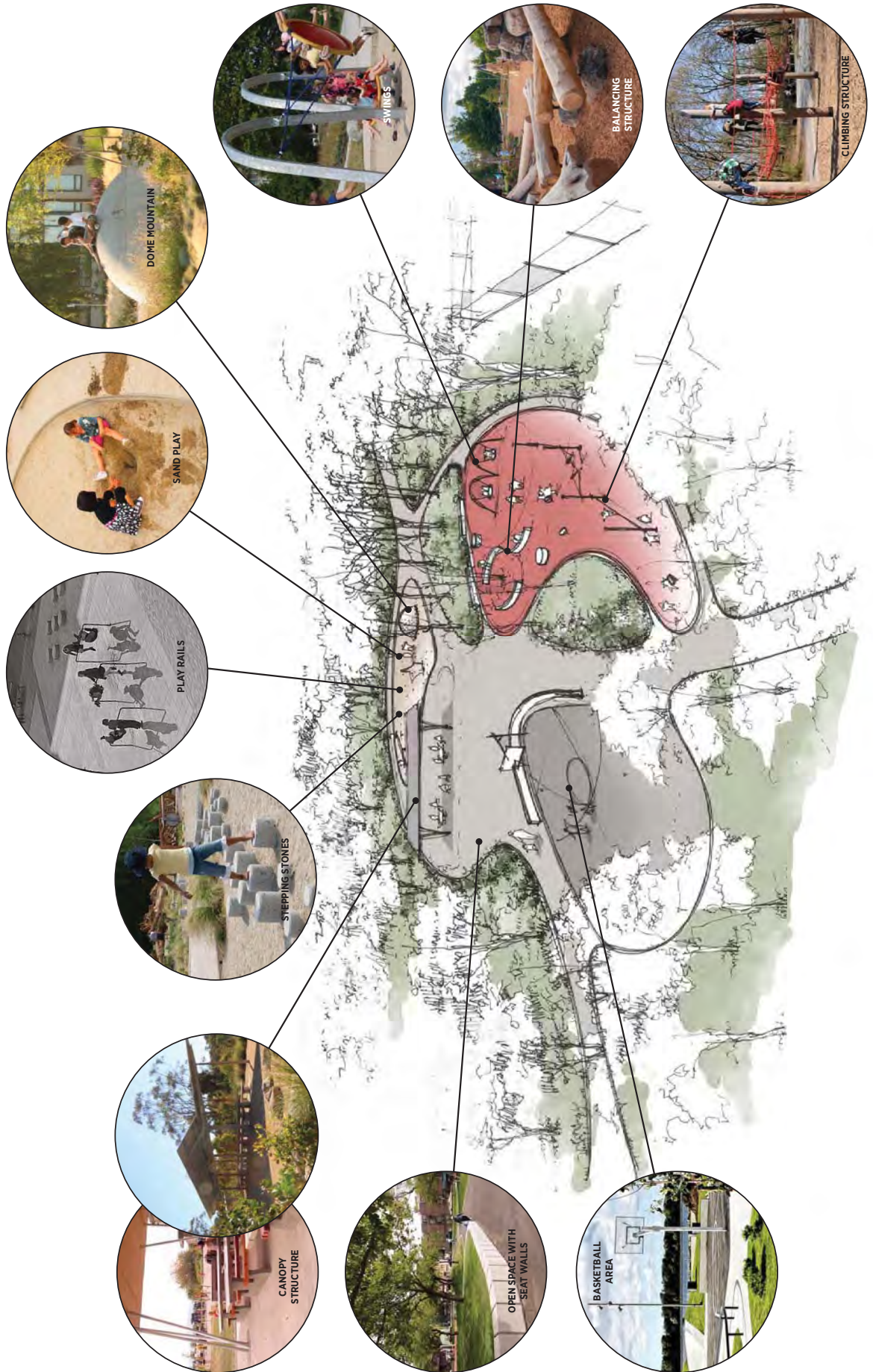
Final Concept Design - Rendered Plan



Final Concept - Perspective Sketch



Central Activity Hub - Play Area and Canopy Structure



07 FINAL CONCEPT DESIGN REVIEW

Event #4

31 participants attended event 04

Objective

The purpose of the final concept design review was to present the preferred concept design to the community. Participants were encouraged to interact through informal discussions with city staff and consultants as well as to make comments on the final concept design by adding notes to the presentation material. The feedback gathered from this event has been documented for refinement to the final concept design.

Framework

As in the previous events, boards were displayed to communicate the existing site conditions as a refresher for returning participants or participants attending for the first time.

The findings from all previous open houses were also presented including refined key park design considerations based on all of the participant comments and findings from the Concept Design Review event on March 05.

The final concept design was presented with a large plan, cross sections, perspective sketch as well as precedent images to illustrate the proposed park program. In addition a sketch was presented that showed the proposed layout of the new play area integrated with existing trees as new site features such as a covered structure and a basketball area.

All participants were asked to comment on each concept. Participants provided comments on sticky notes that were placed in context on a separate sheet. To supplement this exercise, separate forms were handed out so that participants could add any additional comments relating to the final concept design.

All of the final concept design material was also posted onto the Talk Richmond website. The feedback from the 'Let's Talk Richmond' website is located in Volume 2 as Appendix G.

Findings

Participants shared their positive feedback about the final concept design and the whole process to City staff and consultants. The comments received throughout the public engagement process have been combined to form a hierarchy of decisions relating to the park program and its overall design.

Based on the feedback received during the final round of engagement, there appears to be support for the final concept as suggested.

For a more detailed report, please refer to Appendix F - Final Concept Design Review Summary Report located in Volume 2.

08 COST ESTIMATE - CLASS D

London-Steveston Park - Class D cost estimate

Item	Detail	Notes	Qty	Units	Unit \$	Cost
Site preparation	Demolition and disposal of on-site asphalt		3,500	sq m	\$16	\$56,000
	Tree protection		810	lin m	\$15	\$12,150
	Drainage works (refer to note #1)		1	allow	\$300,000	\$300,000
SUB TOTAL						\$368,150
Grading	Rough grading (refer to note #2)	Refer to grading calculations table	24,445	cu m	\$10	\$244,447
	Import of non-structural fill (refer to note #2)	Refer to grading calculations table	12,702	cu m	\$39	\$495,363
SUB TOTAL						\$739,810
Paving & Surfacing	Asphalt Paving	tamped edge	5,853	sq m	\$70	\$409,679
	Concrete Paving	C.I.P Concrete	879	sq m	\$150	\$131,915
	Sand (450mm depth)		171	sq m	\$50	\$8,550
	Rubber Safety Surfacing - on slope, 2" thick		402	sq m	\$130	\$52,260
			290	sq m	\$70	\$20,300
	Line Painting	for basket ball area	1	allow	\$500	\$500
SUB TOTAL						\$623,204
Walls	Sand Edge (in play area)	C.I.P Concrete	4.6	cu m	\$2,500	\$11,400
	Seating Wall	C.I.P Concrete	5.8	cu m	\$2,500	\$14,500
SUB TOTAL						\$25,900
Covered Structure	Architectural scope	85 sq m structure	1	allow	\$120,000	\$120,000
SUB TOTAL						\$120,000
Planting	Planted areas	Planting only	2,030	sq m	\$30	\$60,895
	Growing medium for planted areas	450mm depth	913	cu m	\$40	\$36,537
	Seeded lawn	Seeding only	47,530	sq m	\$6	\$285,182
	Growing medium on regraded areas	150mm depth	5,400	cu m	\$40	\$216,003
	Trees		373	each	\$750	\$279,750
SUB TOTAL						\$878,368
Site furnishings	Standard benches	incl. shipping+installation+footing	21	each	\$3,000	\$63,000
	Picnic tables	incl. shipping+installation+footing	10	each	\$4,000	\$40,000
	Bollards	incl. shipping+installation+footing	19	each	\$1,500	\$28,500
	Bike Racks	incl. shipping+installation+footing	10	each	\$500	\$5,000
	Waste receptacles	incl. shipping+installation+footing	4	each	\$2,500	\$10,000
	Basket Ball Net	incl. shipping+installation+footing	1	each	\$1,750	\$1,750
SUB TOTAL						\$148,250
Play Equipment	See saw	installed with concrete footing	1	unit	\$5,850	\$5,850
	Concrete Dome Mountain	cast-in-place concrete	1	unit	\$25,000	\$25,000
	Concrete Stepping Stones	cast-in-place concrete	1.50	cu m	\$2,500	\$3,750
	Steel Rail Climber	installed with concrete footing	1	unit	\$3,750	\$3,750
	Concrete Seats with rubber safety surfacing on top	cast-in-place concrete	2	unit	\$2,450	\$4,900
	Concrete Sand Table	Cast-in-place Concrete	0.70	cu m	\$2,500	\$1,750
	Balancing Bar	Including concrete footing	13	lin. m	\$1,050	\$13,650
	Swing	incl. shipping+installation	1	unit	\$17,960	\$17,960
	Corocord spinner bowl	incl. shipping+installation+footing	3	unit	\$1,200	\$3,600
	Corocord Rope Parkour Elements	incl. shipping+installation+footing	1	unit	\$24,000	\$24,000
SUB TOTAL						\$104,210

Fitness Stations	Rubber Safety Surfacing - on slope, 2" thick		121	sq m	\$130	\$15,787
	Concrete Paving	Cast-in-place Concrete	86	sq m	\$150	\$12,954
	Fitness Equipment	incl. shipping+installation+footing	4	each	\$5,500	\$22,000
SUB TOTAL						\$50,741

Item	Detail	Assumptions	Qty	Units	Unit \$	Cost
Fenced Off-leash Dog Area	Post + page wire (1.2m)		211	lin m	\$120	\$25,320
	Access gate (1.5m wide; 2 at each entrance)		2	each	\$1,000	\$2,000
	Crushed gravel paving (0.2m thick) and base prep		1,005	sq m	\$50	\$50,250
	Waste receptacles	2 single bins at entry if required	2	each	\$2,500	\$5,000
	Standard benches	Including concrete base	6	each	\$3,000	\$18,000
SUB TOTAL						\$100,570

FINAL CONCEPT SUBTOTAL						\$3,159,202
General conditions (7%)						\$221,144
Contingency (20%)						\$631,840
TOTAL (excluding crossing improvements - see table 5)						\$4,012,187

NOTES

- 1) High Level Cost Estimate - Further investigation will be required to determine the approach and methods to drain the site. Once the approach for drainage
- 2) There maybe an opportunity to reduce this estimated cost if coordinated with a local development project.

EXCLUSIONS

Land costs.
Disbursements.
Planning, administration and financing costs.
Legal fees and expenses.
Building permits and development cost charges.
Temporary facilities.
Removal of hazardous materials.
Loose furnishings and equipment.
Unforeseen ground conditions and associated extras.
Off-site works.
Phasing of the works and accelerated schedule.
Decanting and moving.
Project commissioning.
Erratic market conditions, such as lack of bidders.
Proprietary specifications.
Cost Escalation beyond 2015.
Government Tax (GST) 5 % on value of goods
Construction of Greenways
Path Lighting

Note: Opinions of probable construction costs provided by the Landscape Architect are based on the designer's familiarity with the landscape construction industry and are provided only to assist the Client's budget planning; such opinions shall not be construed to provide a guarantee or warranty of the actual construction costs at the time

Grading Calculations

			Area (sq.m)	Depth(m)	Volume (cu.m)
Landscape build up	1	Asphalt Paving (incl. base prep)	5,853	0.2	1,171
	2	Concrete Paving (incl. base prep)	879	0.275	242
	3	Crushed gravel paving (0.2m thick) and base prep	1,005	0.15	151
	4	Planting w/ 450mm growing medium	2,030	0.45	913
	5	Growing medium on regraded areas	36,000	0.15	5,400
Subtotal					7,877
Civil 3d calculation based on existing vs. proposed contours	6	Cut Volume			1933.25
	7	Fill Volume			22511.41
Net Volume (#7 minus #6)					20,578
Net Volume less landscape build up					12,702

London-Steveston Park Final Concept Design

Phasing Strategy - Phase 1

- connect the Polygon development to the existing grade
- build greenways and west portion of primary loop path
- build water infiltration area adjacent to Polygon development
- install trees and planting



Issued 2015.04.24

Prepared by Phil Wyatt - space2place

Phase 2

- demolish existing path connections in work area
- drainage works
- rough grading works to be completed to achieve desired grades including mounds - seed all disturbed areas
- build remaining water infiltration areas
- install remainder of primary path loop including the widening of the school south access path and install new south path connections.



Phase 3

- demolish existing play area and basketball court and adjacent existing paving
- build play area; install play equipment, basketball area, covered structure and plaza paving
- install planting and trees
- install site furnishings (benches, bins, picnic tables)



Phase 4

- demolish existing paths in north portion of site
- install north access path to Williams and Roads and other connections
- install fences off-leash dog area, including fences, site furnishings and paving.
- install planting and trees
- install fitness stations and adjacent rubber paving





City of Richmond 29th April 2015

LONDON-STEVESTON PARK CONCEPT DESIGN

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Volume 2 - Appendices



Project Team

City of Richmond

Mike Redpath	Senior Manager, Parks
Clarence Sihoe	Parks Planner
Tricia Buemann	Area Coordinator, Parks Programs
Marie Fenwick	Manager, Parks Programs
Mark McMullen	Senior Coordinator, Major Projects, Planning & Development
Gregg Wheeler	Manager, Sports and Community Events

space2place

Jeff Cutler	Principal
Phil Wyatt	Project Manager

Polygon Homes

Chris Ho	VP Development
Emma Cartwright	Development Coordinator



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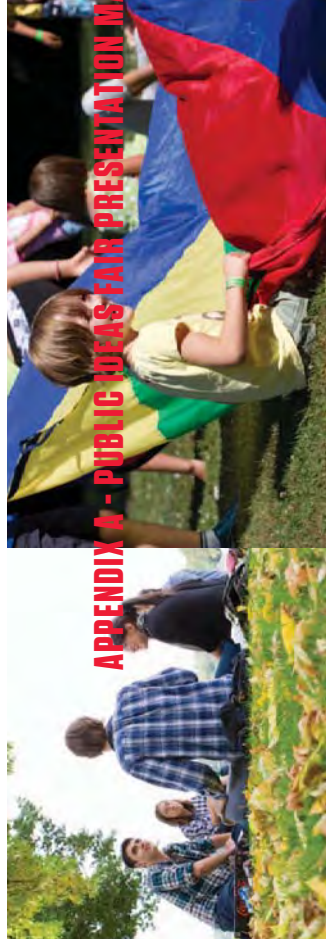
Volume 2

Appendices

A Public Ideas Fair Presentation Material	
B Public Ideas Fair Summary Report (event 01 + 02)	
C Concept Design Review Presentation Material	
D Concept Design Review Summary Report (event 03)	
E Final Concept Design Review Presentation Material	
F Final Concept Design Review Summary Report (event 04)	
G Let's Talk Richmond Survey Responses	

Welcome to the ideas fair...

Existing site photos - credit Clayton Perry (<http://claytonperryphotography.tumblr.com/>)



APPENDIX A - PUBLIC IDEAS FAIR PRESENTATION MATERIAL

1

The City of Richmond invites your input about London/Steveston Neighbourhood Park

The planning process for the redesign of the western part of London/Steveston Neighbourhood Park is underway.

This process will focus on the area of the park proposed to be transferred to the City as part of the rezoning application for the former Steveston School site at 10440 and 10460 No. 2 Road.

We invite you to participate by sharing your ideas and providing input toward the preparation of the park concept plan.

Ways to be involved:

- Visit www.LetsTalkRichmond.ca after February 12 to learn more about the plans and provide comments
- Attend the series of drop-in style public open houses for one-on-one interaction with City staff, display boards, handouts and comment form.



Dates, Times and Agenda:

- Thursday, February 12 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Sharing ideas
- Saturday, February 14 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sharing ideas
- Thursday, March 5 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Reviewing concept options
- Tuesday, March 31 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Preparing a preferred design

Place: The Gilbert Lounge, Steveston-London Secondary School, 6600 Williams Road

For more information, contact the Parks Department at 604-244-1208 or visit www.richmond.ca/parksprojects.

www.richmond.ca



YouTube

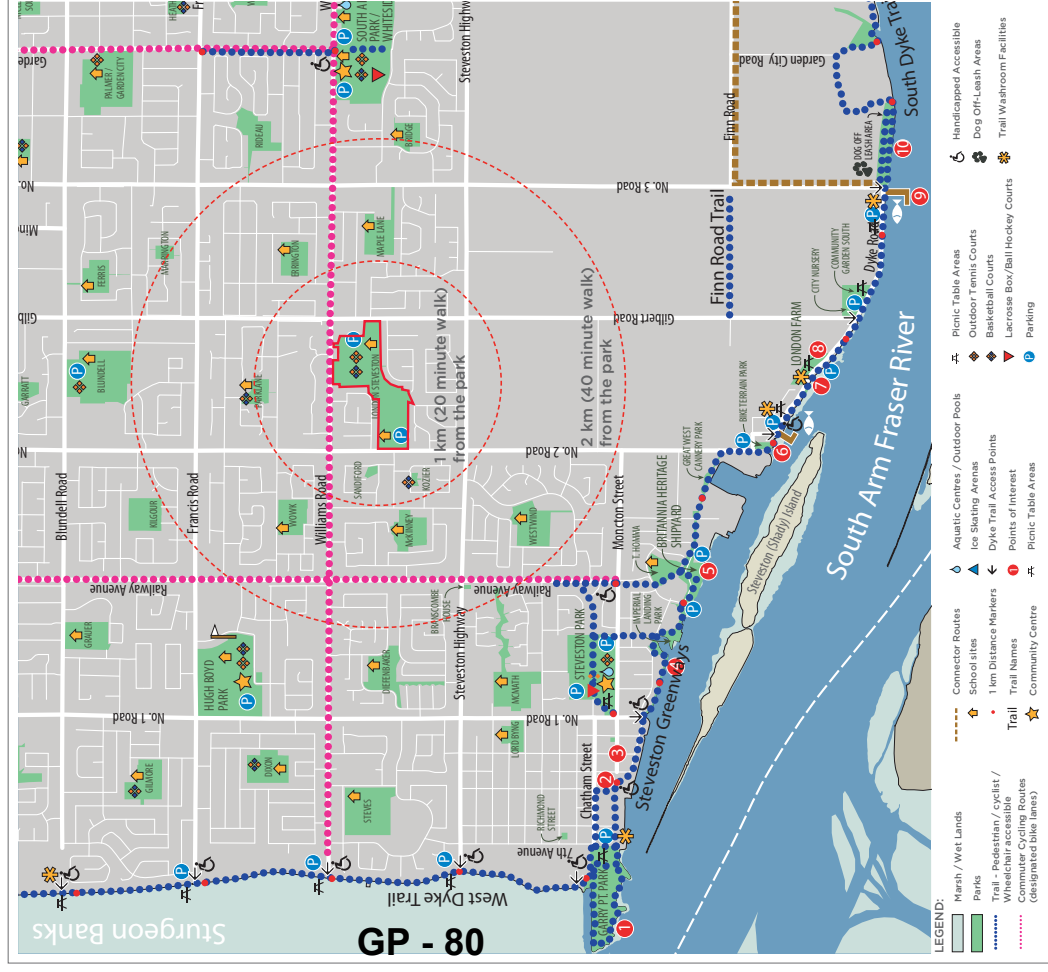
Richmond

London / Steveston Park

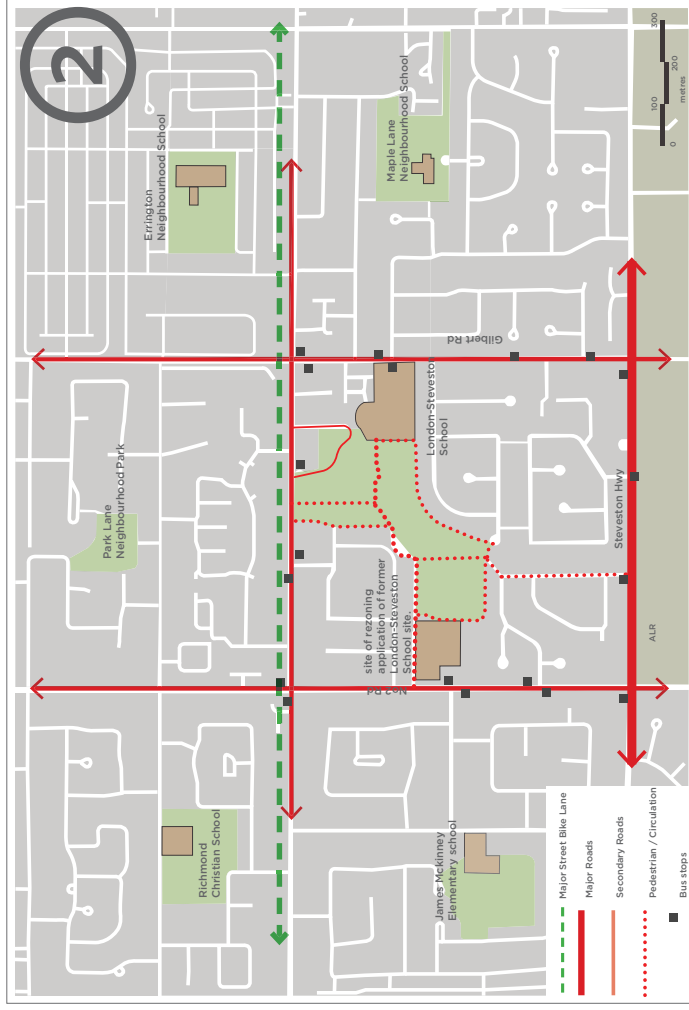
Background & Community



Site Analysis



Community Plan



Neighbourhood Plan - Existing Connections



Site Plan - Existing Conditions
Vegetation

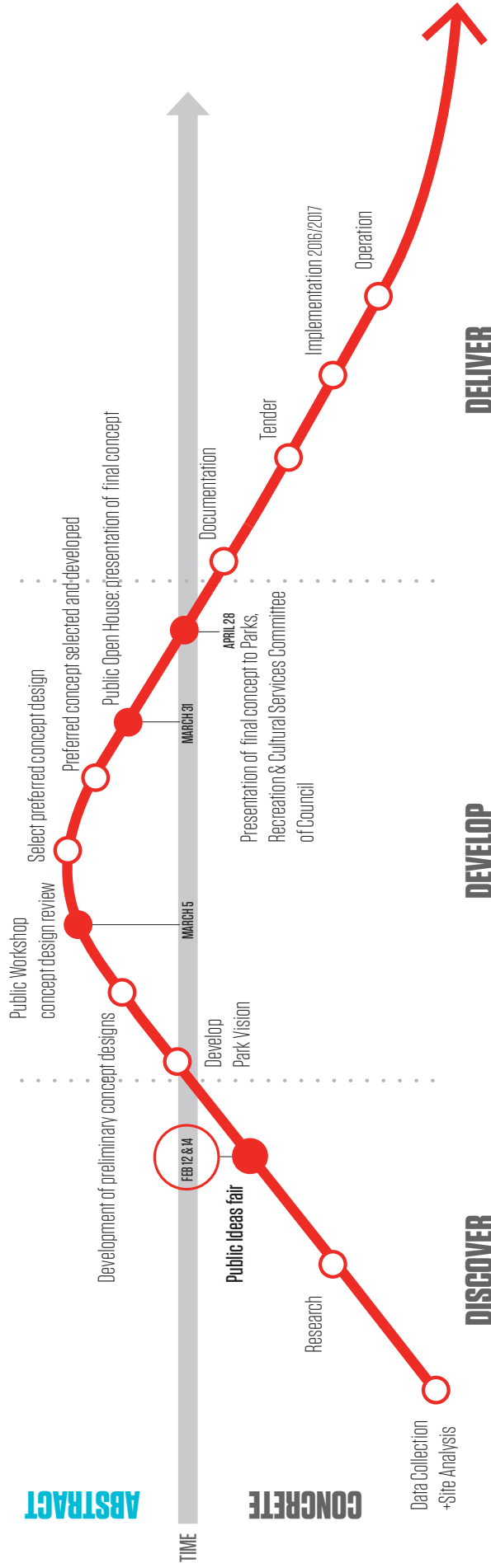
Process

ABSTRACT

TIME

CONCRETE

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Example of Garden City Park, Richmond, BC

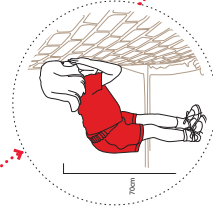
Research

Examination of leading research on outdoor play environments for children enabled the design team to create a play environment that meets the needs of children of all ages.



Analysis

An understanding of the physical site and its processes, together with an understanding of the site context is an essential starting point for the process of design.

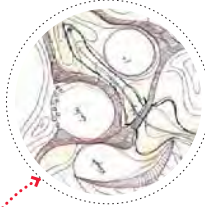


Public Consultation

Workshops were held at a local elementary school to gain insight into the interests and activities of the park's immediate ground users. This was an iterative process that involved children in the preliminary design to the play environment.

Conceptual Design

Through public consultation, research, analysis and exchange of ideas, the preferred design for the Garden City play environment was developed.



Construction

The preferred concept was then refined into drawings for construction. This process evolved loose conceptual ideas and forms into a network of detailed designs with special emphasis on structures, surfaces, spaces, planting and materials. The drawings were then used to select and build the play environment to ensure the play environment was built to the highest standards.



Built Project

The end result of the design process is a space that achieves traditional notions of playgrounds and instead utilizes the site's context and children's inherent curiosities to provide an experientially rich play environment.



I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Park...



If I could, I would change the following things about the park...

5



**The following is how I would describe my vision for an
ideal London / Steveston Park in 10 years...**

Balance of uses within the Park redesign...

7



Organised Sports

Examples:



Social Amenities

Examples:

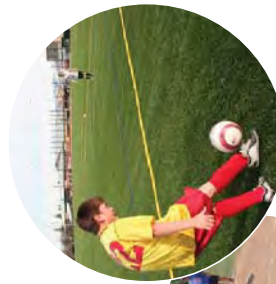


Play Environment

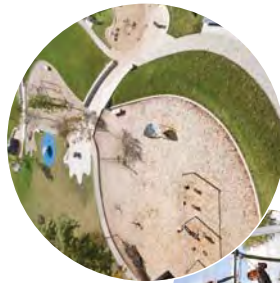
Identify new activities for the Park...



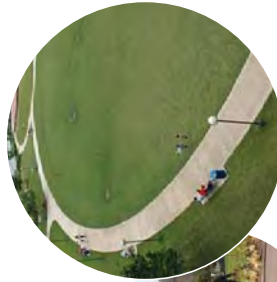
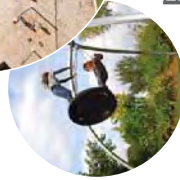
sports courts



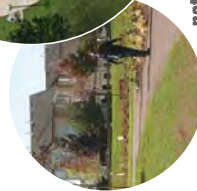
sports fields
(softball / soccer)



play environment



pathways & fitness trails



dog off leash area



spaces for youth



planting



open space for
flexible use



spaces for seniors



passive areas &
gathering spaces



anything missing ?

Public Ideas Fair Summary Report

Ideas Fair #1

Date: 7-9pm February 12, 2015
Location: Gilbert Lounge of London-Steveston School

Ideas Fair #2

Date: 1-3pm February 14, 2015
Location: Gilbert Lounge of London-Steveston School

Prepared by: Phil Wyatt - space2place
Date Prepared: February 17, 2015

Participants

Polygon Homes Representatives

Chris Ho, Emma

City of Richmond

Mike Redpath Senior Manager, Parks
Clarence Sihoe Parks Planner
Tricia Buemann Area Coordinator, Parks Programs
Marie Fenwick Manager, Parks Programs
Mark McMullen Senior Coordinator, Major Projects, Planning & Development
Gregg Wheeler Manager, Sports and Community Events

space2place

Jeff Cutler Principal
Phil Wyatt Project Manager

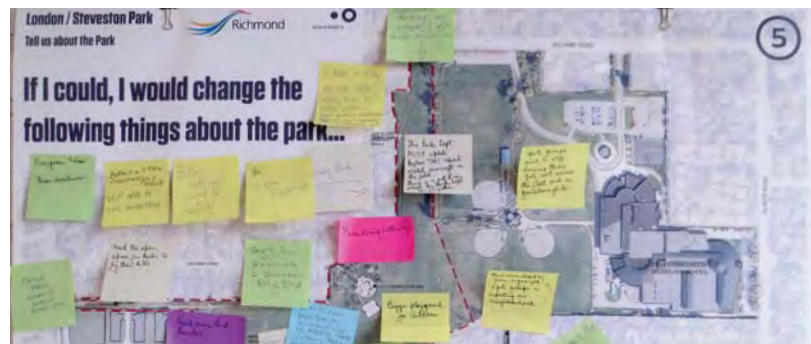
Objective

The ideas fair was the first touch point with the community. The purpose of the ideas fair was to listen and understand the current uses of the whole park site, expectations, issues, and concerns of the community regarding the renovation of the Park. Participants were able to express their ideas and expectations surrounding the park renovation in an informal setting through notes and discussions with city staff and consultants. The results will inform the park program and the concept options that will be presented in the second Open House.

Framework

Boards were displayed to communicate the existing site conditions including park context, circulation, connections, spatial uses. Another board identifying the project process and schedule was displayed so that Participant's were aware of the upcoming events to follow the Idea's Fair.

Next we asked participants to respond to the following high level questions (illustrated on the images below) regarding the existing park conditions and the potential for the park redevelopment. Participants responded with sticky notes that were placed in context on the park plans.



To supplement these questions we followed with an exercise where the participants identified their preferences for activities within the park redevelopment. This included a station where people were given 3 dots to identify their top three preferred activities and a single red dot to identify how they feel the activities should be balanced in the new park program.

The input from the ideas fair events was supplemented with feedback received from the Talk Richmond online survey. This input was incorporated in this summary report.

Findings

Existing Park Use

The primary participants in the two events were older residents from the surrounding neighbourhood. These residents either had properties backing onto the park space or were regular users of London/ Steveston Park. The park is considered by many to be the 'backyard' for local residents. The site receives waves of large groups during sports events during the summer months and it would appear that the park site becomes 'over capacity' during this period. This issue not only extends to the car parking capacity and the play area but also leaves local residents feeling 'pushed out' during these periods. The park is used regularly by seniors walking and walking with dogs. It was noted that the drainage in the existing park is poor, especially during the winter months.

The feedback responding to the questions was transcribed and is available in the appendix for reference. To get a quick snapshot of the frequency that items were noted we have prepared the following Word Cloud. The word cloud filters the 75 most noted words and the size of each word is in relation to the number of occurrences it was noted in the responses.



The comments documented were analysed and organised into categories to gain an understanding of the prevalent patterns. These categories have been organized into Opportunities and Constraints for consideration in the park redevelopment. The opportunities highlight areas for new potential and the constraints identify areas of concern regarding the redevelopment of London/Steveston Park.

Opportunities

YEAR-ROUND USE

There were a number of comments to find more ways to promote fitness as well as to make the park usable during the winter months. This included the opportunity to provide a covered flexible use space for a range of activities such as Tai Chi or Yoga.

TRAILS/FITNESS/CONNECTIONS

There were a large amount of people who like to exercise using the network of paths to walk, run, including walking with dogs on a leash. Developing this network of paths to perhaps include fitness equipment either as part of the trail or within a specific area; make the most of the mountain view within the new design of the pathways as well as provide opportunities to view the sports events while using these pathways.

DIVERSE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER / VEGETATION

A number of participants expressed interest in increasing the diversity of landscape characteristics throughout the park site including a little pond; small mounds for play whilst also maintaining the view of the mountains; habitat for song birds; a balance between deciduous trees and coniferous trees to maximize year-round greenery of the park. One comment stated that replacement trees should be at least 12ft high when installed so as to make a better impact to the site.

PLAY

Of the small number of comments related to the playground area, it was suggested that the play area be expanded and renovated to replace the safety surfacing as well as providing more opportunities for toddlers and social amenities for seniors.

IMPROVED SOCIAL AMENITIES FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD USE

A couple of social hubs including an outdoor bbq, picnic tables, a water fountain, trees (for shade), benches, room for people to play bocce ball. A flexible covered exercise area for use by seniors was mentioned on a number of occasions.

SPORTS

There is an opportunity to fit renewed sports fields within the study area however this was a preference stated by a minority of participants.

SITE SAFETY

Review existing path lighting throughout the park and install low-level path lighting in any darker spots. Encourage use by families as well as extend use of the park in the mornings and evening and discourage nefarious activity.

FLEXIBLE USE / OPEN

A majority of participants showed a lot of support for open flexible green space for multi- use activities, bocce, frisbee and sports.

DOGS

There are quite a large amount of local residents who walk their dogs (on leash) around the park on a daily basis. It was also identified by a minority of participants that a dog off-leash area could be part of the new park development.

Constraints

EXISTING PARK ISSUES

Poor drainage of the study area is a clear constraint as well as issues with Snow Geese. In addition there is a very clear conflict between the balance of uses within the park; local residents would like there to be a difference between what is an open/passive park versus what is sports field.

TRAILS/FITNESS/CONNECTIONS

A number of comments arose around the connectivity of the new Polygon Development. Can the public walk through the new development or is it just the new home owners of the properties that able to walk through this site?

CAR PARKING / SITE ACCESS

Capacity of parking is currently limited, especially with the removal of the parking lot on the old school site. During sporting events, the site becomes 'over capacity' and participants of events park their cars in the local neighbourhood which causes friction.

DIVERSE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER / VEGETATION

There were pretty consistent concerns about views from surrounding properties; planting trees or adding natural landforms maybe difficult when trying not to block the view of the mountains.

PLAY

When large events are on the play area is over capacity and its difficult for local residents to access.

SPORTS

Too congested around baseball diamonds during tournaments, as well as noise issues; potential conflicts with passive park activities.

SITE SAFETY

The site has a number of dark spots which impacts on the use of the site during the evening and morning periods.

DOGS

There were quite a number of people who spoke out against having an off-leash dog area as it would make less usable space.

Additional Items to be Considered

- The 'beer league' use the existing soft ball courts located east of the old school site during the summer period.
- The public washrooms only appear to be open during sporting events.
- There are a number of issues relating to the sports groups using the field; with flood lights on late at night; loud music on late at night. It was requested that organized sports groups have more accountability in respecting the surrounding neighbourhood.
- A washroom is needed so that kids can play longer in the playground.
- There are a number of noise issues associated with the sports fields in the summer.

NEW POLYGON DEVELOPMENT ISSUES - COMMENTS

- Do not want development to have majority access to park
- Contain development with buffer; do not want park to be backyard of development
- Like to move the last 2 buildings on the south east to the north and get a straight border line would be much better – The both sides of the pathway would have the equal open view.
- Ensure home owners of the new development are not parking their vehicles in existing neighbourhoods that surround the new Polygon development.
- One safe path open at all times during demo and construction (greenways connecting No.2 Road with the whole site.)
- When demolishing the old building, do you have plans for the rats and skunks? Especially if we have problems with Racoons.

Program Priorities

Below is a visual representation of the preferred activities for the new park program based on the feedback from the participants, one board represents the feedback from each event.

The Thursday Evening Event:



The Saturday Event:



Balance of Activities

Below is a visual representation of the preferred activities for the new park program based on the feedback from the participants, one board represents the feedback from each event.

The Thursday Evening Event:



The Saturday Event:



Summary

Overall the events were constructive and the input received from the community was helpful and informative to understand the potential for the park redevelopment. The content covered a wide range of topics reflecting the ideas and concerns of the surrounding neighbourhood.

The analysis of the input received from the public events and Talk Richmond has revealed some consistent themes including: improved opportunities for **fitness and walking**, creating **more diversity of spaces** within the park, the provision of more **social spaces** within the park, provision of **activities that are suitable for a wide range of ages** (from children to seniors), and **improved drainage** in the park to make it more accessible for year round use.

There were a couple of categories where there is some diversity of opinion regarding their suitability for the park redevelopment. These include the following items:

Sport Fields

The majority of the participants did not express an interest in sports fields being part of the park redevelopment apart from those that exist on the High School site. A small group expressed interest in more sports fields. The general impression is that users of the sports fields are generally not from the surrounding neighbourhood and they arrive by car. The Polygon development will remove a number of parking stalls from the site putting greater pressure on street parking on the residential streets. If the park redevelopment includes sports fields they should also be accompanied with more parking on site. There was also a sentiment that softball was a potential conflict with more passive park functions.

Tree Planting

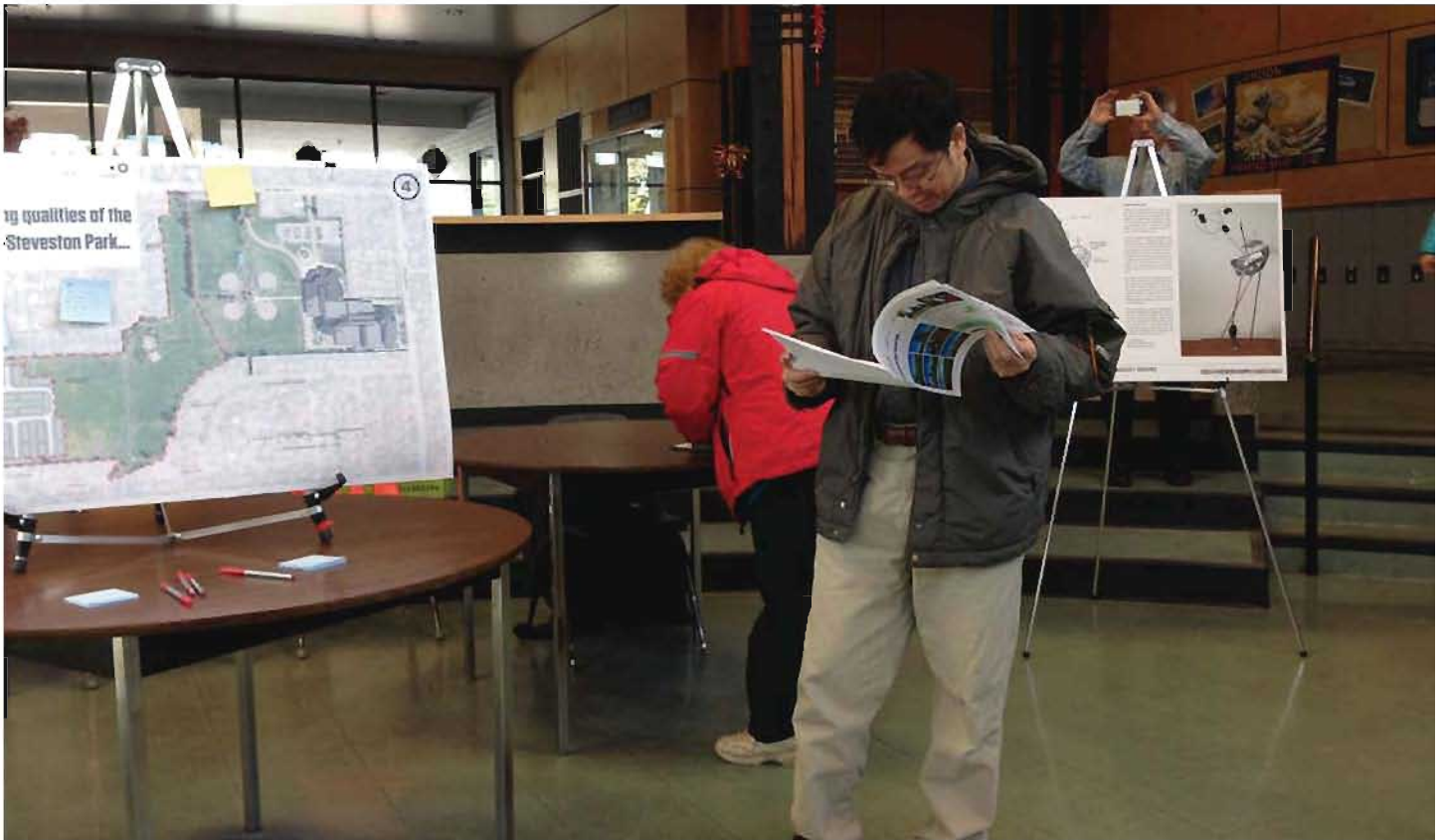
There were a lot of requests for more trees and planting within the park to provide shade opportunities and greater spatial diversity. There were also a number of respondents that preferred to keep the park space open and to maintain the views within and across the park.

Dogs in the Park

A small number of participants requested a dog off leash area within the park. This was balanced by a similar number of participants expressing a strong opposition to a dog off leash area. For the majority of participants this appeared to be a category that was not a priority for the park redevelopment.

The feedback illustrates the potential for this park and that the park redevelopment has the opportunity to strengthen its role in serving the surrounding neighbourhood. A greater diversity of activities is desired ranging from places for seniors, play opportunities for children, improved circulation throughout the site and places for small social gatherings. The participants expressed a preference for the new redevelopment to be weighted toward more passive activities over more active sports. Though there was a recognition that the park should be integrated with the sports facilities to the east of the study area.

The findings from this initial round of consultation provides valuable insight into how London/Steveston Park fits within this community. These will help to guide the design team as candidate concepts are prepared for the redevelopment of the park.



Appendix

The following notes were generated in the ideas fairs held on February 12 and February 14, 2015.

London Steveston Park Open House Feb 12 2015

Station # 1 - Background & Community

Site Analysis

- New Green Zone!

Station # 2 - Tell us about the park

I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Park...

- there is and should be a difference between what is park and what is playing field
- the park as it already is
- if the beer league is removed where will they go?
- walk area for walkers, trails, green space
- why isn't the washrooms open to the neighbours during weekdays? Only open when baseball is in session
- dedicated open and passive part separate from sports field
- walking spaces
- small clumps of trees in centre instead of trees on the border
- boundaries between properties and park (what to do with the chain link fence)
- there is a place for children to fly a kite! (ie open space)
- large area of open green space
- quiet setting open spaces
- a little ponds and a small hill here could enrich the landscape of the park
- the fact that it can be re-designed period!
- lots of sport fields
- running in the summer

Station # 2 - Tell us about the park

If I could, I would change the following things about the park.....

- Additional parking on Williams Rd. Double existing lot
- Is there a way to use “traffic calming devices” on walking paths – slows motorbike, skateboards, and bicycles – especially at blind spots
- Evergreen Trees, fewer deciduous
- Berms and a few coniferous trees, still able to see mountains
- better lighting around for safety
- bigger playground
- dog park
- the parks dept MUST update bylaw 7301 about model aircraft in the field. There is a petition which the Parks Dept. has forgotten
- sports groups need to stop driving their golf cart across the field and on Gainsborough Dr
- Meandering Pathways
- passive park enhancing what we already have
- need the open space for kids to fly their kites
- get rid of existing 2 baseball back stops
- more accountability from organized sports groups in respecting our neighbourhood
- bigger playground for children
- existing baseball diamond in Maple Lane School Park has never been used in 25 years
- need more park benches
- bocce court
- removed the rusty baseball diamond. DO NOT REPLACE
- add ambient lighting. Low lights not high
- sloped grade, connect Polygon Development to park – Grass?
- Poor drainage of field (all over)
- good low level lighting all over park
- Park washrooms need to be open more often
- What does the Care taker do?
- 1. Firm quiet period – NO GAMES AFTER 9pm!! 2. Better access for police to patrol park – I have had my fence smashed twice!!
- better management of tournament events – keeping space for locals community (quieter during events)
- need more mounds or hillocks for kids to play

- no more beer leagues Noise and Adult ball on old Steveston high field
- low density shrubbery, low planting along walkway so views to north are not further obscured (Mountains)
- communicating rules on the site
- pathway should be lit at night
- drainage and water pooling
- A conflict between balance of uses within the park
- more berms
- balance between deciduous trees and coniferous trees
- places to sit, evergreen trees
- incorporate a bike path with the walking path
- redo drainage for the entire green space! Without proper drainage nothing will last
- rolling hills, seating, light the pathway?, good pathway, dog off leash, washroom
- make off leash park or a large off leash area for dogs
- keep park open to see the mountains
- enforce dogs on leash by-law
- open lawn for multi use activities, bocce, Frisbee, sports
- add naturalistic planting and trees
- bylaw on dogs without leash
- need a new playground
- 1. better paths for people and bicycles. 2. expand playground for young children
- public toilet would be nice
- desirable landscape could be similar to Russ Baker area by YVR with rolling hills, very light density in terms of trees
- better walkways in and around
- more for rainy season
- good ambient lighting on walkways and playground areas to discourage nefarious activity
- add lighting to new site
- no need for more sports fields, more trees, quiet buffer by residences, drainage along border, walking/ jogging trails, some more not too many land contours
- separate contain development with buffer; do not want park to be backyard of development
- old playground needs improvement, limited age, save the trees, safety surface replace playground, multi purpose
- we were promised that lights would be out by 9pm, lights on timer?, should turn off before 11pm, lower lights?? Pedestrian safe?, goose control, trees / but not forest preserve some open space!

Station # 3 - Future for the park / vision

The following is how I would describe my vision for an ideal London / Steveston Park in 10 years...

- meandering fitness trails, beautification of the park
 - supervised off leash dog park (owner present to 'pickup')
 - nice pathways, nice trees and planting but also open....(the centre part)
 - do not want development to have majority access to park
 - trees, habitat for song birds
 - can the public walk through the new development? Better connecting through new site
 - open space for tai chi area with green roof for the birds
 - convert old steveston high field/playground into old folks home in 10 years
 - improve life expectancy. Open/covered space with green roof for birds. For senior exercise (tai chi) (for growing population of seniors)
 - 1. green space, pathways for people and bicycles. 2. slightly bigger children's area (playground). 3. designated quiet times – ie. after 9pm
 - no high density townhouse in our area
 - dog off leash area and better playground
 - need washroom so kids can play longer in the play ground
 - MORE OPEN SPACE
 - open space to see the mountains, families walking and playing
 - room for people to play bocce ball
 - more implements for toddlers and benches for seniors at the play areas
 - 1. trees, paths, green spaces. 2. all noisy activities stop by 9pm – ABSOLUTE LATEST
 - mature plantings trails and gathering spaces
 - green space for people of all ages AND not organized sports
 - fitness trails
 - walking, jogging trails, quiet retreat, wooded areas – pine trees!, tree lined walkways, wide open spaces, song bird habitats
- senior learning centre to keep healthy and family learn to care elder members
- ambient lighting on the west of the site

Station # 4 - Visual Explorer - sticker vote

Identify New activities for the Park...

Sports court = 1

Sports fields = 3

Spaces for youth = 4

Play environment = 7

Open space for flexible use = 9

Spaces for seniors = 25

Planting = 23

Passive areas & gathering spaces = 8

Pathways & fitness trails = 26

Dog off leash area = 9

Additional Comments

park too small for dog trail

London Steveston Park Open House Feb 14 2015

Station # 2 - Tell us about the park

I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Park...

I like the openness of the Park

openness of Park – green areas

openness of the park; Good – more trees/ plants along pathway

openness and original park and maybe best to keep it.

The size of the green space and quiet nature of the parkland.

Where is the Mayor and the Aldermen?

New site is well connected to existing park.

Openness is good but these green spaces haven't been used for years as they should be; just by dog owners. You can create a small fenced dog park but make the rest usable. Better Sod so the geese don't wreck it. Better Lighting for Safety. Maybe a bigger play area for kids to play.

Open space

Walking trails, openness & pathways.

Openness, view, play area, green, sports field.

Adults use these informal softball diamonds a lot in the summer.

I'd like to keep everything

Like the pathways, to see the mountains, like to watch a few minutes of softball in the summer as I walk the pathways.

Where is the mayor and city aldermen?

The play area isn't used enough, only when events are on in the softball area does the play area become busier.

Important to have trees and pathways for strolling – well lit park to encourage use by families. Add “contours” to the land with a pond, fountain, benches and a children's playground.

I like the ability to walk a fair distance from No.2 Road, south of the existing school, around the fields and back on the north side of the school. I particularly like the path by the line of trees in the green space that goes up to Williams Road.

Pathways, greenery, dog walking.

I like to see the softball and the snow geese.

Station # 2 - Tell us about the park

If I could, I would change the following things about the park.....

Better drainage

Any additional parking

Leave as park

Are there parking problems?

Bordering houses need higher fences – if current old.

Clean up the grass clippings on the sidewalks after you mow; they are a hazard especially in the rain when you slip on them.

Remove the old baseball back splashes on the new area.

Improve the pathways.

In the new development put in a new all purpose field.

Add trees and picnic tables.

Existing benches close to Reynolds Drive and Spend Drive are in direct sunlight.

Add more trees for the environment, shade and for birds.

Fix flooding close to Reynolds Drive and Spend Drive.

More nature, trees and a pond.

Add small areas with benches and trees (with shade).

Fence the sports fields – flying baseballs are dangerous.

Open up washrooms in caretaker building

Fix flooding issues and broken pavement west of base ball diamonds (south of line of trees)

If you want people to use these green spaces then they need to be re-sod.

More plants/Trees along the pathway.

More car parking.

More birds, trees. Feeders, flowers. Nicely landscaped and a small hill.

Have social areas in the centre of the park.

Outdoor exercise equipment in a specific area.

Make the new section a non-sports field. Make it as a park with trees and benches for the daily walkers. Deciduous and non deciduous trees.

Would like to see fitness trails, pond and benches and small trees only please!!

I'm on the spender walkway: get buried in leaves from maples on walkway – ken Peterson.

Washrooms are “never” open to the public.

Don't block view with trees.

Garbage pick-up.

One safe path open at all times during demo and construction (greenways connecting No.2 Road with the whole site.)

Tamed Eagles for goose control

Flexible space for yoga – what about a raised platform?

Area for Tai Chi

Flooding in park to be improved.

Open space

Too congested around baseball diamonds during tournaments.

Have the washrooms open daily not just when they have organised sports; I have seen children and adults squat & urinate in the park because the washrooms are never open.

Keep the green space as it is, keep the softball (on behalf of the residents of Steele Crescent)

More landscaping – fewer geese.

Lighting to be improved between the school and the play area.

Lighting along path areas for night walking.

Pathways are “blocked” during tournaments.

Walking with dogs

I like open space

More tree should be added to the remaining parkland to compensate for the many trees (mature & large) that will be lost to the new development. Replacement Trees should be at least 12ft when installed not just small spindly young trees that take decades to develop.

Maximise green space.

Minimise parking space for properties and cars in the new development.

Would like to have the park green as its not crowded.

Walkway must be open to Steveston-London School and Park during demo & construction.

Rat Traps / Skunk Traps.

Maximise the green space

Add community garden

It would be great to have 2 more skinned softball diamonds to make Steveston-London an elite complex.

Don't like to enlarge the building area. Please keep the green field as much as possible.

Would love to have some areas of slight elevation (not crucial)

When demolishing the old building, do you have plans for the rats and skunks? Especially if we have problems with Racoons.

The 2 new properties / homes being developed in the south-east corner of the Polygon area should be retained as parkland. Right now these 2 homes jut into the parkland.

Like to move the last 2 buildings on the south east to the north and get a straight border line would be much better – The both sides of the pathway would have the equal open view.

Station # 3 - Future for the park / vision

The following is how I would describe my vision for an ideal London / Steveston Park in 10 years...

Small trees on please – evergreens

Two more washrooms

A lot of lighting

Small trees with lighting on the paths

Ensure home owners of the new development are not parking their vehicles in existing neighbourhoods that surround the new Polygon development.

Keep the original landscape as it is the bats option.

Benches made of inflammable materials – anchored.

Environmental friendly design – open space.

Not too many trees. Can be unsafe, just a few trees – poplar and cherry tree – not evergreen.

Please, no, no, no trees as they will block the view the nice green park

We need a park, not another sports field!

How much is being set aside for a new hospital?

More lighting on paths

South arm design could serve as a model.

More greenery, shrubs, trees, pathways safe for elderly & dog walkers.

A couple of community hubs (smaller). Outdoor bbq use, water fountain, trees (shade), benches, Conversations.

More kids play grounds.

Leave the park as is now.

Leave the park as it is now and maybe a few more trees.

Leave it mush as is now.

Leave it alone, lots of trees, walks, open space.

Please keep it open as it is now.

Safe protected green space.

Regional Park - no sports

Keep it open but with some small areas of planting.

Some benches, more open, but more trees and landscaped but maintain open aspect, better play area.

Safe, visually appealing, cultural & environmental, friendly, more trees and plants

Rose Garden, new parking area off Williams Road, covered rood area

Raised flower beds & shrubs

Add plastic strips into Chain-link fence.

Consider using some of the parkland for the fenced-off dog off-leash park. More off-leash areas are needed in Richmond.

An area for the local community to use for walking, sports, playing, multi-generational area. Some trees, some open areas and benches.

I represent 33 people of 11+ houses. Object rezoning. Just using the area for adult and senior health learning centre to promote life expectancy. Indoor & covered exercise area.

As with almost all other parks with natural grass; a way must be found to stop the snow geese from destroying the park turf and fouling the walkways with goose feces. Most Richmond parks and school yards are unusable from November through to March due to snow geese.

Station # 4 - Visual Explorer - sticker vote

Identify New activities for the Park...

Sports courts = 2

Sports fields = 9

Play environment = 5

Open space for flexible use = 12

Spaces for seniors = 130

Planting = 24

Passive areas & gathering spaces = 7

Pathways & fitness trails = 36

Dog off leash area = 3

Spaces for youth = 9

Anything Missing

People should have leash on their dog = 1

Pond = 3

Additional Comments

I don't like to have more spaces for the sports fields, more for flexible use or more for playground, it is already crowded especially for the weekend. Please keep as it is quiet.

No, no - Dog off leash area

I don't want to step on poop - Dog off leash area

Small off leash dog park – enclosed, dogs and poop is controlled.

No dogs

No - Dog off leash area

No - Dog off leash area

Off leash – No !!

No no, no - Dog off leash area

No !!! - Dog off leash area

Yes: Consideration should be given for a small off-leash dog area. This area should be fenced in. There are too few off-leash areas for dogs in Richmond.

Pathway design should be both aesthetic and functional

Only paving the pathways.

Bark mulched fitness trails

Selected tree areas (deciduous)

Spaces for seniors - 14 houses (33 people) wish to have health learning centre, simple exercise equipment and empty space to do work out. – No rezoning.

Welcome to the Public Workshop Concept Design Review...

Existing site photos - credit Clayton Perry (<http://claytonperryphotography.tumblr.com/>)



APPENDIX C - CONCEPT DESIGN REVIEW PRESENTATION MATERIAL

1

The City of Richmond invites your input about London/Steveston Neighbourhood Park

The planning process for the redesign of the western part of London/Steveston Neighbourhood Park is underway.

This process will focus on the area of the park proposed to be transferred to the City as part of the rezoning application for the former Steveston School site at 10440 and 10460 No. 2 Road.

We invite you to participate by sharing your ideas and providing input toward the preparation of the park concept plan.

Ways to be involved:

- Visit www.LetsTalkRichmond.ca after February 12 to learn more about the plans and provide comments
- Attend the series of drop-in style public open houses for one-on-one interaction with City staff, display boards, handouts and comment form.



Dates, Times and Agenda:

Thursday, February 12 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Sharing ideas
Saturday, February 14 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sharing ideas
Thursday, March 5 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Reviewing concept options
Tuesday, March 31 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Preparing a preferred design

Place: The Gilbert Lounge, Steveston-London Secondary School, 6600 Williams Road

For more information, contact the Parks Department at 604-244-1208 or visit www.richmond.ca/parksprojects.

www.richmond.ca



YouTube

Richmond

Existing London-Steveston Park...

2



Steveston-London Secondary School

Williams Rd

Goldsmith Dr

Site Boundary

Former School Field

Playground

Soccer Field

Softball

Softball

Softball

Caretaker Building

Soccer Field

Flexible Open Space

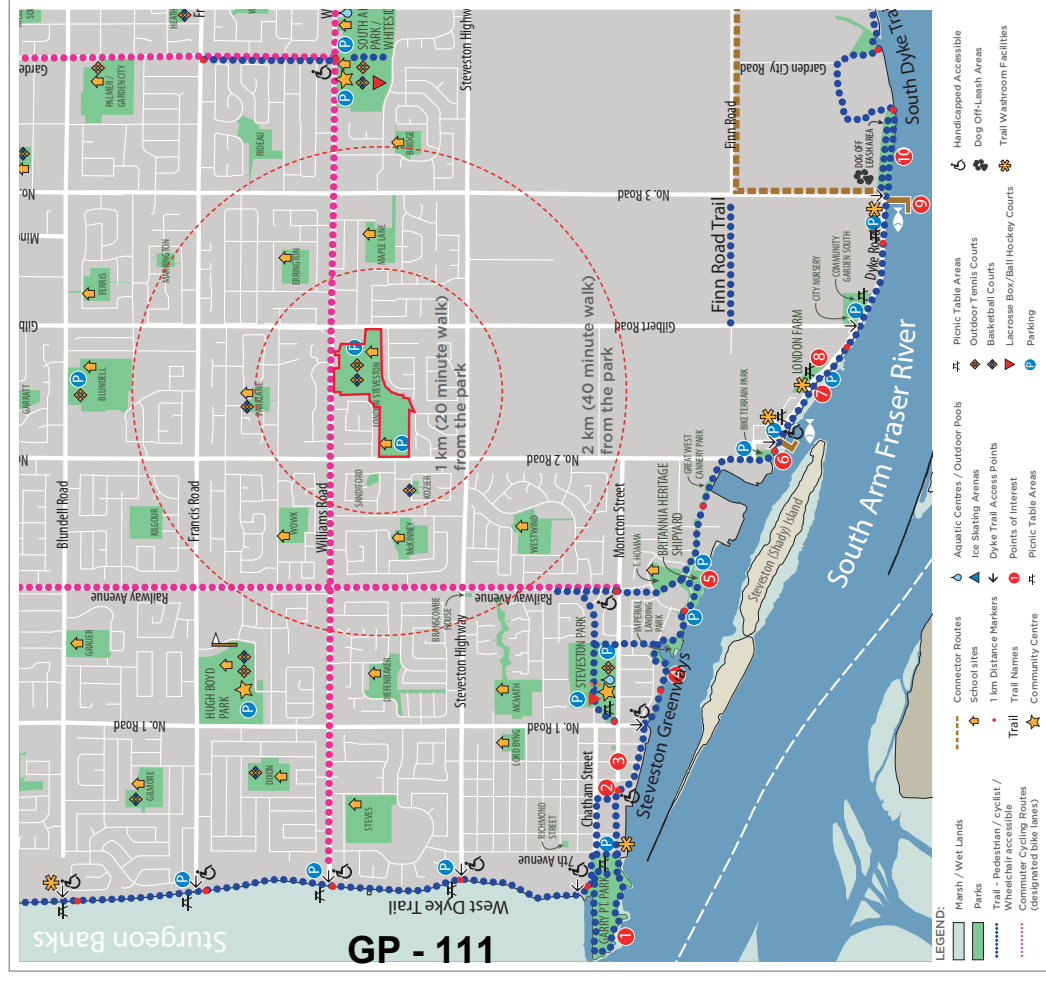
Entry to Site

Pedestrian Circulation

0m 25m 50m

Site of proposed development by Polygon Homes

Site Plan - Existing Spatial Uses, Connections, Vegetation.



Community Plan

Process

ABSTRACT

CONCRETE

GP - 112



Example of Garden City Park, Richmond, BC

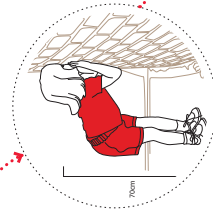
Research

Examination of leading research on outdoor play environments for children enabled the design team to create a play environment that meets the needs of children of all ages.



Analysis

An understanding of the physical site and its processes, together with an understanding of the site in its context is an essential starting point for the process of design.



Public Consultation

Workshops were held at a local elementary school to gain insight into the interests and activities of the park's immediate ground users. This was an iterative process that involved children in the preliminary design to the play environment.

Conceptual Design

Through public consultation, research, analysis and exchange of ideas, the preferred design for the Garden City play environment was developed.



Construction

The preferred concept was then refined into drawings for construction. This process evolved loose conceptual ideas and forms into a network of detailed designs with special emphasis on structures, surfaces, spaces, planting and materials. The drawings were then used to select and build the play environment to ensure the play environment was built to the highest standards.



Built Project

The end result of the design process is a space that achieves traditional notions of playgrounds and instead utilizes the site's context and children's inherent curiosities to provide an experientially rich play environment.



Findings from the Ideas Fair

Common responses to the following questions...

I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Park...

- there is and should be a difference between what is park and what is playing field
- the park as it already is!
- walk area for walkers, trails, green space
- walking spaces
- there is a place for children to fly a kite! (ie open space)
- large area of open green space
- quiet setting open spaces
- the fact that it can be re-designed period!
- lots of sport fields
- opening in the summer

GP-13

If I could, I would change the following things about the park.....

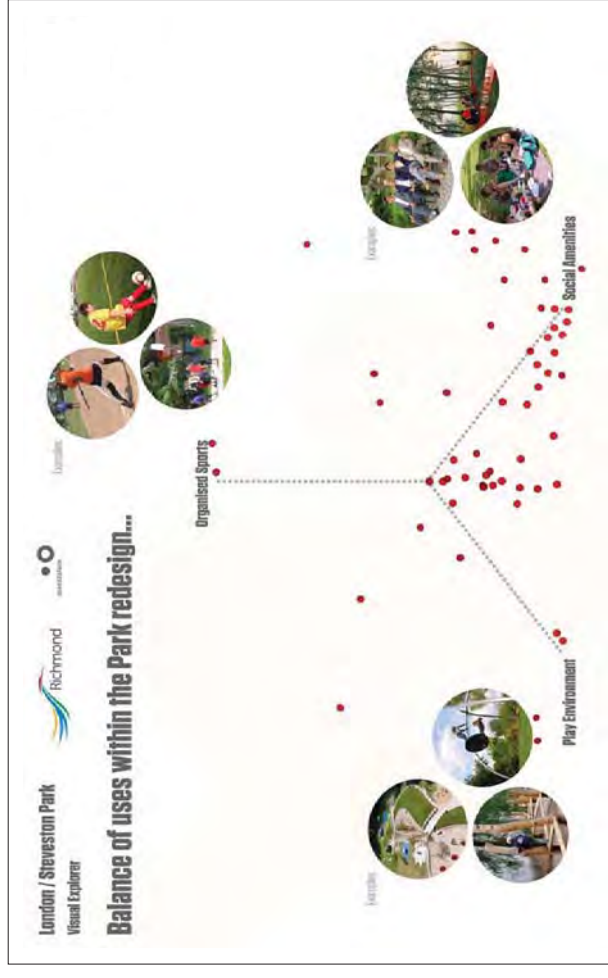
- more for rainy season
- designated open and passive park separate from sports field
- boundaries between properties and park (what to do with the chain link fence)
- small clumps of trees in centre instead of trees on the border
- a little pond and a small hill here could enrich the landscape of the park
- additional parking on williams rd. double existing lot
- is there a way to use "traffic calming devices" on walking paths - slows motorbike, skateboards, and bicycles - especially at blindspots
- evergreen trees, fewer deciduous, still able to see mountains
- good ambient lighting on walkways and playground areas to discourage nefarious activity
- meandering pathways
- get rid of existing 2 baseball back stops
- better management of tournament events - keeping space for locals community (quieter during events)
- bigger playground for children
- places to sit
- drainage and water pooling
- park washrooms need to be open more often
- need more mounds or hillocks for kids to play
- no more beer leagues Noise and Adult ball on old Steveston high field
- communicating rules on the site
- incorporate a bike path with the walking path
- make off leash park or a large off leash area for dogs
- open lawn for multi use activities, bocce, Frisbee, sports
- add naturalistic planting and trees
- separate contain development with buffer; do not want park to be backyard of development
- more implements for toddlers and benches for seniors at the play areas



The following is how I would describe my vision for an ideal London / Steveston Park in 10 years...

- mature plantings on trails with gathering spaces
- meandering fitness trails, beautification of the park
- supervised off leash dog park (owner present to 'pickup')
- nice pathways, nice trees and planting but also open....(the centre part)
- do not want development to have majority access to park
- trees, habitat for song birds
- open/covered space for tai chi area with green roof for the birds
- designated quiet times - ie. after 9pm
- dog off leash area
- better playground
- need washroom so kids can play longer in the play ground
- open space to see the mountains, families walking and playing
- room for people to play bocce ball
- open space for people of all ages and not organized sports
- walking, jogging trails, quiet retreat, wooded areas - pine trees!, tree lined walkways, wide open spaces, song bird habitats
- ambient lighting on the west of the site

This is what the preferences look like for the balance of uses in the park...



Findings from the Ideas Fair

The most noted words used during the ideas fair...

This word cloud filters 75 of the most noted words and the size of each word is in relation to the number of occurrences it was noted in the responses.



Results of the sticker exercise to identify new activities for the park...

Total	Priorities
155	Spaces For Seniors
62	Pathways & Fitness Trails
47	Planting
21	Open Space For Flexible Use
15	Passive Areas & Gathering Spaces
13	Play Environment
12	Dog Off Leash Area
12	Sports Fields
3	Pond
3	Sports Court

Key Park Design Considerations

Year-round Use

- make the park usable during the winter months
- provide a covered flexible use space for a range of activities

Diverse Landscape Character & Vegetation

- increase the diversity of landscape characteristics
- maximize year-round greenery of the park
- provide trees for shade
- conserve mountain view from park

Play

- expand the existing play area
- provide more for toddlers
- play area becomes over capacity during large events and its difficult for local residents to access

Flexible Use / Open Space

- provide open space for multi-use activities, such as bocce, frisbee and other sports

Site Safety

- keep existing path lighting
- The site has a number of dark spots which impacts on the use of the site during the evening and morning periods; install low-level path lighting in any darker spots
- encourage extended use by families
- discourage nefarious activity
- establish strategies to extend use of the park in the mornings and evenings

Existing Park Issues

- improve drainage
- better management of snow geese required.
- improve the balance of uses within the park; open/passive park versus what is sports field
- find ways to improve parking situation during sporting events

Trails / Fitness / Connections

- encourage site access by foot and bike
- develop a network of paths
- install measured fitness trail (e.g. 1km)
- connect the new development with the park
- provide better connections to existing site entry points
- make path widths wide enough to allow for shared use by bikes and pedestrians.

Dogs

- install fenced dog off-leash area
- consider size of off-leash dog area so that it doesn't take up too much flexible open space

Concept No.1

The park design enhances opportunities for physical activity with a 1 km walking loop, fitness stations, play area and flexible open space.

7



Concept No.1

The park design enhances opportunities for physical activity with a 1 km walking loop, fitness stations, play area and flexible open space.

8



GP - 116

What are your thoughts on Concept No.1 ?

Concept No.2 The park design distributes activities throughout the site. The organic layout of paths is complemented by an enhanced variation of topography.

10



The park design distributes activities throughout the site. The organic layout of paths is complemented by an enhanced variation of topography.

Concept No.2

11



What are your thoughts on Concept No.2 ?

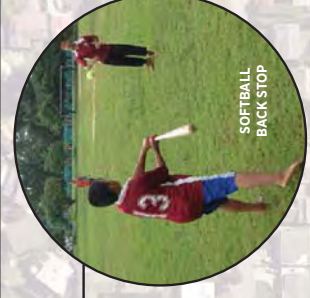
The park design features the central organisation of activities in the park with enhanced tree planting and water management using bioswales.

Concept No.3

13

WILLIAMS ROAD

STEVESTON LONDON
SECONDARY SCHOOL



The park design features the central organisation of activities in the park with enhanced tree planting and water management using bioswales.

Concept No.3

14



What are your thoughts on Concept No.3 ?

Select for your preferred concept design....



Public Workshop: Concept Design Review

Summary Report

Concept Design Review - Event 03

Date: 7-9pm March 05 , 2015
Location: Gilbert Lounge of London-Steveston School

Prepared by: Phil Wyatt - space2place
Date Prepared: March 11, 2015

Participants

City of Richmond

Clarence Sihoe Parks Planner
Tricia Buemann Area Coordinator, Parks Programs
Marie Fenwick Manager, Parks Programs
Gregg Wheeler Manager, Sports and Community Events

space2place

Jeff Cutler Principal
Phil Wyatt Project Manager

Objective

The concept design review was the second touch point with the community surrounding London-Steveston Park. The purpose of the concept design review was to return back to the community to present concept design options based on the feedback received during the two ideas fair events in February. Participants were encouraged to make comments on all three concept designs in an informal setting through notes and discussions with city staff and consultants.

The results from this second event will inform the park program as well as final concept design that will be presented to the public in the third open house on March 31 2015.

Framework

Boards were displayed to communicate the existing site conditions including park context, circulation, connections, spatial uses. Another board identifying the project process and schedule was displayed so that Participant's were aware of the upcoming event to follow the Concept Design Review.

London / Steveston Park

Welcome to the Public Workshop Concept Design Review...

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Place: The Gilbert Lounge, Steveston London Secondary School, 6000 Williams Road

For more information, contact the Parks Department at 604-244-1208 or visit www.richmond.ca/parkprojects

1

London / Steveston Park

Existing London-Steveston Park...

2

London / Steveston Park

Site Analysis

3

London / Steveston Park

Process

4

The findings were presented from the two ideas fair events which were intended to clearly explain the findings and layout the key park design considerations we used for the development of all three concepts options.

London / Steveston Park

Findings from the Ideas Fair

5

London / Steveston Park

Findings from the Ideas Fair

6

Next all three concepts were presented with a large plan, perspective sketch as well as precedent images to illustrate the park program in each concept. Participants were asked to comment on each concept. Participants responded with sticky notes that were placed in context on a separate sheet.

Concept No.1

The park design enhances opportunities for physical activity with a 1 km walking loop, fitness stations, play area and flexible open space.



Concept No.2

The park design distributes activities throughout the site. The organic layout of paths is complemented by an enhanced variation of topography.

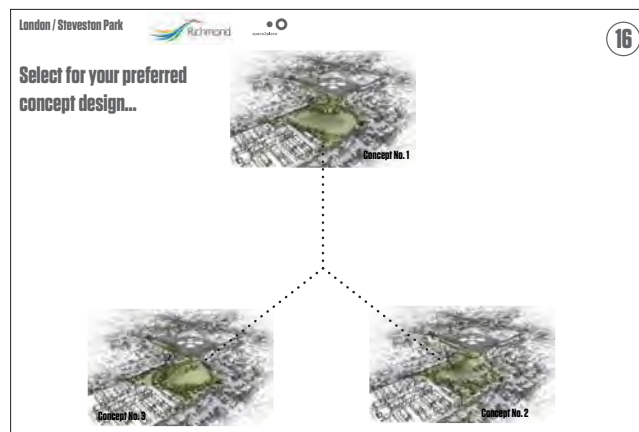


Concept No.3

The park design features the central organisation of activities in the park with enhanced tree planting and water management using bioswales.



Next, participants were given a single red sticky dot to identify their preferred concept on the board pictured below.



To supplement this exercise, separate forms handed out where participants selected their preferred concept as well as adding any addition comments related to the any of the concept designs.

All of the concept design review material has also been posted onto the Talk Richmond website. This input has been incorporated into this summary report.

Findings

COMMENTS FOR CONCEPT NO.1

This concept received 58% of the participant vote but is important to understand why this concept received so much support. Concept No.1 has no softball back stops which were a contentious issue from the beginning. This concept also did not include a fenced off-leash dog area



Below are some of the comments summarized:

- good support for the flexible open spaces
- good support trees along the pathways with lighting improvements - consider adding lines on pathways
- some support to add a small mound
- some support to add an fenced off leash dog area
- little support for fitness stations
- some participants dislike the idea of the water detention (on concepts 2 & 3) because of its negative link to the history of flooding issues within the park
- some support to add a back stop
- general comment to keep trees away from the fence line – views for existing homes are already suffering – leave some gaps - less big trees - consider shadows cast along north boundary of existing homes
- deciduous trees great idea to allow for different views through the seasons disagree with too much evergreen growth. Ie. no forests please. deciduous would also provide shade during hot months
- support for the trees along the west boundary to naturalize and create a buffer between park and development
- consider moving covered area should be closer to play area like in Concept No.3 - also consider wind protection - some concern was raised about late night usage
- consider additional parking capacity to be added to Williams Rd
- small support for adding community gardens.

COMMENTS FOR CONCEPT NO.2

This concept received 17% of the public vote, which is the least support out of all three concepts.

Concept No.2 includes a large mound, water detention area, softball back stop, fenced off-leash dog area

'Concept 2 is conducive to my idea of the outdoors'



Below are some of the comments summarized:

- good support for the flexible open spaces
- good support for the less formal tree layout 'sprinkling of trees'
- some support for the spreading out of site features
- good support for a fenced off leash dog area
- good support for trees along the pathways with lighting improvements - consider adding painted lines on pathways
- keep park maintenance low
- general comment to keep trees away from the fence line – views for existing homes are already suffering – leave some gaps - less big trees - consider shadows cast along north boundary of existing homes
- little support for the large mound - consider making mound smaller
- little support for location of covered open space - consider moving next to play area (like in concept 3), to allow for more open space
- consider use of cyclists on greenway
- add perimeter drainage
- water retention area - there was a preference for a grassy basin vs. rain garden planting - the grassy basin will require less maintenance and is more use able during dry periods.

COMMENTS FOR CONCEPT NO.3

This concept received 25% of the public vote, which comes in second place out of all three concepts.

Concept No.3 includes a small mound, 2 water detention areas, softball back stop, fenced off-leash dog area.



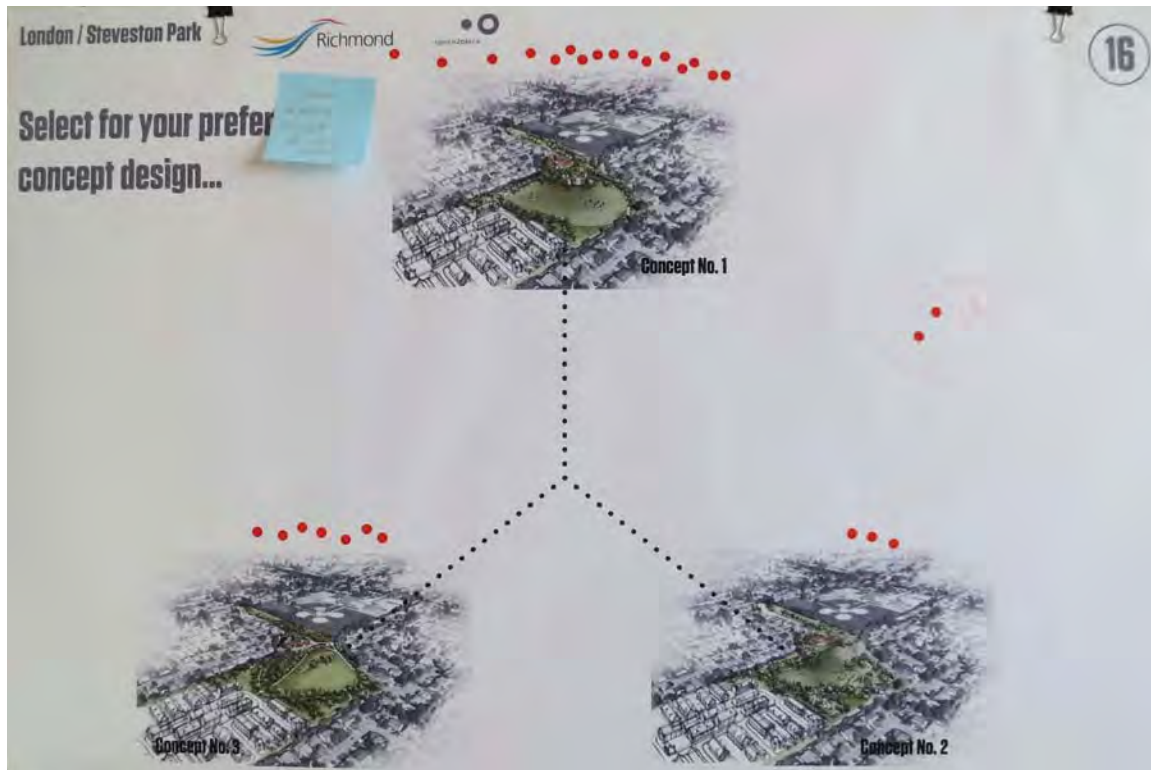
Below are some of the comments summarized:

- good support for the location of the covered open space consider position in concept 1.
- mixed support for the softball back stop.
- some support for a fenced off leash dog area
- some support for the mound.
- some support for the extra middle walkway
- consider use of cyclists on greenway
- consider adding a water feature to enhance the landscape character
- general comment trees too dense. Random sprinkling preferred - spaces don't need to be overly defined – should allow the users flexibility to figure out what to do - shade is good but vision of children needed - consider shadows cast along north boundary of existing homes
- Consider connecting water detention area to new development. “innovative storm water management”



Summary of concept choices

Below is a visual representation of the preferred concept design based on the feedback from the workshop participants.



Analysing the votes on the preferred concept board and the votes made on separate sheets ,the statistics are as follows:

Preferred concept board

Concept No.1 = 16 votes

Concept No.2 = 3 votes

Concept No.3 = 7 votes

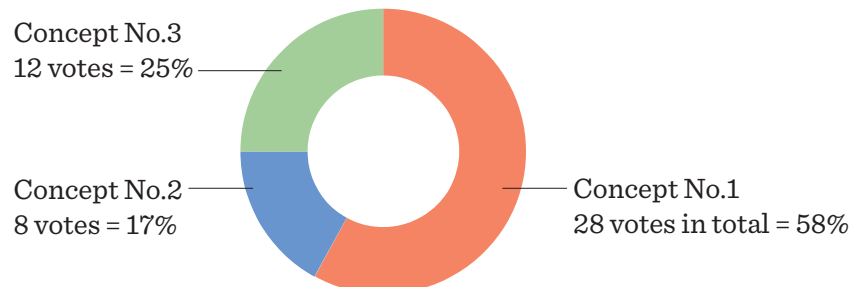
Voting exercise on the separate sheet

Concept No.1 = 12 people

Concept No.2 = 5 people

Concept No.3 = 5 people

Combined numbers = 48 votes in total



Summary



The event was very informative and participants appeared to be enjoying play their part in the design process. A number of comments were received relating to each concept design which has been amalgamated with the findings of the ideas fair summary report to generate a hierarchy of decisions relating to the park program and its overall design.

Based on the feedback received, there was no critical feedback regarding the similarities between all three concepts. These included the location of the play area, the general location of the flexible open space and the greenways.

The development of the final concept design to be presented to the public on March 31 will be developed based on the following items within this summary:

Strong Support

YEAR-ROUND USE

At the ideas fair events, there were a number of comments to find more ways to promote fitness as well as to make the park usable during the winter months. This included the opportunity to provide a covered flexible use space for a range of activities such as Tai Chi or Yoga.

During the concept design review event, the covered open space was presented and received good support. Base on the feedback the covered open space should be located near to the existing play area, facing south. Consideration should be given to the wind protection but also consider how the covered open space would be integrated into the lighting design to reduce the risk of late night use for nefarious activity.

FLEXIBLE USE / OPEN

A majority of participants showed a lot of support for open flexible green space for multi- use activities, bocce, frisbee and sports.

During the concept design review event, flexible open space has been fully supported. There have been a number of requests to maximize the feeling of openness by not planting too many trees and spreading amenities too far apart.

IMPROVED SOCIAL AMENITIES FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD USE

At the ideas fair events, there was a general request for a couple of social hubs including an outdoor bbq, picnic tables, trees (for shade), benches. These will be included within the final concept design.

TRAILS/FITNESS/CONNECTIONS

At the ideas fair events, there were a large amount of people who like to exercise using the network of paths to walk, run, including walking with dogs on a leash. Therefore it was clear that the paths would need to be widened to allow more capacity and better connect the existing and new features within the park environment. There were also several requests to the make most of the mountain view.

In all three concepts presented at the concept design review, the network of paths had been developed to respond to above requirements which received good support. There were some comments supporting the use of the tree-lined paths with lighting which has been received as a consistent message throughout the ideas fair events. The measured fitness trail was not explicitly mentioned but based on the findings the fitness stations didn't seem to resonate well with participants of this event.

Some consideration should be given to the connectivity & borders relating to the Polygon Development. Although some people liked the central path in concept 3, it is understood that the public will not be able to walk through this gated-private development.

DIVERSE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER / VEGETATION

Base on feedback from the ideas fair events, there was a consistent interest in increasing the diversity of landscape characteristics throughout the park.

Tree planting

In all three concepts, trees formed a major element within the park designs, in varying scales. It was interesting to see the responses of where and how trees should be used with the site:

- Keep trees away from the fence line in order to avoid casting shadows onto neighbouring properties
- Make gaps between trees to not block existing views to the mountains.
- Adding greater spatial diversity seemed to be important to the participants.
- Small deciduous trees should be used to enhance diversity in the landscape character and not planting too many evergreen trees.
- Provide shade opportunities within the summer.
- The layout of trees should be more random and informal; stating that the spaces don't need to be overly defined.

SITE SAFETY

Based on the current feedback, the review of existing path lighting with the addition of low path lighting has received consistent support. The main reasons are to encourage use by families as well as extend use of the park in the mornings and evening and discourage any nefarious activity.

Moderate Support

DIVERSE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER / VEGETATION

Base on feedback from the ideas fair events, there was a consistent interest in increasing the diversity of landscape characteristics throughout the park

Mound

Increasing the diversity of landscape characteristics with the addition of a small mound seems to have received good support from a majority of the participants. It should be well integrated as well as to maintain the view of the mountains.

DOGS

In both public engagement events, there were quite a number of people who spoke out against having an

off-leash dog area as it would make less usable space, although there was evidence of mixed opinion on this item.

A fenced off leash dog area was presented in the 2 concepts at the concept design review and received moderate support.

PLAY

Of the small number of comments related to the playground area in the ideas fair, it was suggested that the play area be renovated to replace the safety surfacing as well as providing more opportunities for toddlers and social amenities for seniors. It should also be expanded to accommodate more capacity locally as well as visitors during peak times when large events are taking place.

SPORTS

An informal softball backstop was present in concept 2 and 3 which received mixed support from participants at the concept design review. Consideration should be given to the programming of the softball backstop so that it doesn't conflict too much with the passive activities within the park.

Considerations

EXISTING PARK ISSUES

Poor drainage of the study area is a clear constraint as well as issues with Snow Geese. Concepts 2 & 3 presented the use of water detention areas, and some participants dislike the idea of the water detention (on concepts 2 & 3) because of its negative link to the history of flooding issues within the park. There were also some maintenance concerns related to this feature therefore a grassy basin would be preferred over a rain garden with water tolerant planting to be more use able during dry periods.

CAR PARKING / SITE ACCESS

Capacity of parking is currently limited, especially with the removal of the the parking lot on the old school site. During sporting events, the site becomes 'over capacity' and participants of events park their cars in the local neighbourhood which causes friction.

The expansion of car parking was not presented within any of the comments but there were some comments from participants who didn't understand why additional parking had not been added into any of the concept designs.

All of the feedback responding to the 3 concept designs was transcribed and is available in the appendix for reference.

Additional Items to be Considered

(repeated from ideas fair summary report)

- The 'beer league' use the existing soft ball courts located east of the old school site during the summer period.
- The public washrooms only appear to be open during sporting events.
- There are a number of issues relating to the sports groups using the field; with flood lights on late at night; loud music on late at night. It was requested that organized sports groups have more accountability in respecting the surrounding neighbourhood.
- A washroom is needed so that kids can play longer in the playground.
- There are a number of noise issues associated with the sports fields in the summer.

NEW POLYGON DEVELOPMENT ISSUES - COMMENTS

- Do not want development to have majority access to the park
- Contain development with buffer; do not want park to be backyard of development
- Like to move the last 2 buildings on the south east to the north and get a straight border line would be much better – The both sides of the pathway would have the equal open view.
- Ensure home owners of the new development are not parking their vehicles in existing neighbourhoods that surround the new Polygon development.
- One safe path open at all times during demo and construction (greenways connecting No.2 Road with the whole site.)
- When demolishing the old building, do you have plans for the rats and skunks? Especially if we have problems with Racoons.

Appendix

The following notes were generated in the concept design review held on March 05, 2015.

Notes collected from the Public Workshop : Concept Design Review on March 05, 2015

Preferred Concept: 1

Comments: Im happy, looks great

Preferred Concept: 1,2,3

Comments: ** Trying to do too much. Keep simple, green, open. Look to all other green spaces inside other quadrants – the freshness of “openness” space green is “calming” – these plans are toooo busy.

Preferred Concept: 1

Comments: Fence off the playground area too keep out the dogs, leashed or otherwise. Do not over populate the play area when the play area is expanded. For option 1,2 or 3 PLEASE make sure that whatever plan is finally chosen it is chosen with the view to keep maintenance costs down and is relatively easy to maintain.

Preferred Concept: 1,3

Comments: 3 – I like the multi use design – passive enjoyment and washable; out of the way place for dogs; maintain ball field for adults – minimal mound ok. I also like concept 1 b/c full use of space – no we to water detention areas and no mound

Preferred Concept:1

Comments: drainage of field at west end (water detention area) is bad now, therefore I don't feel a low spot to retain more is good. I like concept 1 for its paths and open areas but would like the off leash area incl. low level path lights would be great all over the paths. Not sure about covered area just because of late night use but does offer more use time during spring/fall. Don't care for mounds. Drainage of fields is of concern. Needs to be done better than it is now.

Preferred Concept: 3

Comments: I like #3 the best, it has the more trees throughout and I like the path through the middle

Preferred Concept: 3

Comments: Clem Thibault – NO ORGANIZE SPORT. Bocce ok, badminton ok. Kid game ok

Preferred Concept: 1

Comments: like: some pathways, don't mind mounds...can add to landscape without being hardscapes. Could include an off leash dog run too

Don't like: tall or overly dense perimeter trees esp along pathways (I love trees in general) but no “forests” please – keep it light and random (love landscaping & fitness pathways) but don't over define spaces...let users decide... more imaginative use

Suggest: slight expansion of parking strip to North along Williams. Not crazy about covered “BBQ” space unless its more attractive than the example pictured on the poster board

Preferred Concept: 1

Comments: #1 looks clean and uncomplicated

#2 and #3 is going to give the fellow cutting the grass heartburn as he negotiates the curves

Take the best features from 2&3 and incorporate them into #1 such as berms, keep the covered space adjacent to the playground area as in option 1

Preferred Concept:1

Comments: covered area closer to kids park, small hills in the flex area, lines on pathways, no outdoor fitness stations

Preferred Concept: 1,2,3

Comments: ** Need space for community gardens. Less big trees, more open unstructured space, perimeter pathway, rainwater gardens, native plants

Preferred Concept: 2

Comments: Concept 2 is conducive to my idea of ‘outdoors’: 1, larger mound. 2. the 2 water detention areas. 3, the way trees are spread out.

I like the feeling of ‘outdoors’ as I walk into the park from my neighbourhood. Im greeted by trees spread throughout on walkways. The two water detention area the one larger mound that simulates “real” outdoor atmonsphere, and yet it has the basic needs of both kids and adults that I think supports an “escape” from our day to day scene within the neighbourhood. It is the layout of the park as a whole that attracts my interests.

Dody Sison @ 6200 Goldsmith Dr

Preferred Concept: 1

Comments: I like #1 layout. Still needs parking added to North Side. No baseball. Less trees in greenways.

#2 No Baseball

#3 No baseball

Where is the parking (additional)

Preferred Concept: 1, 2(conditional see below)

Comments: * Concern that trees along N border are too tall or will get too tall casting shadows on house and yards on N. side. Note: shadow effects are prominent on that side, while none on the S. side. Small hedge or shrubbery

* would like to see increased continuity to east green space and north side

* option 2 with smaller mount that of opt 3

* perimeter drainage please

Preferred Concept: 1 (but if 2 or 3 is selected)

Comments: with mound. For water retention area like grassy basin vs bush vegetation as I believe the bushy retention will attract more litter, cups, food packages etc. and become unsightly. The grassy basin require less maintenance and is more useable during dry periods. Would like to see less tree density in the southwest corner of park as would be visually more appealing to see more open space. Also opens the south west corner more use as greased area. That corner would be less dark looking during fall/winter sundown.

Preferred Concept: 2

Comments: like the spread out concept, drainage issues addressed, off leash fenced dog park

Preferred Concept:

Comments:

* represent 14 house and over persons

we prefer concept #1

cover spaces back to houses to avoid wind with open area facing south. Minimum 2 cover spaces. One large area for dancing or other purpose like "Robson Square" *MORE trees to separate the park from houses.

Comments collected for each Concept at the Concept Design Review on March 05, 2015

Comments for Concept No.1

- don't like water detention area. We have worked hard to get this park area dry in winter. It can still flood in heavy rain season which creates a mess for everyone to navigate. Also NO more baseball diamonds backstops.
- I like the concept #1 but would include the area for dog off leash
- need at least 2 cover areas Prefer concept #1
- I like the flexible open spaces
- park benches?
- I like the trees on the path, and lighting improvements
- deciduous trees great idea to allow for different views through the seasons disagree with too much evergreen growth. I.e. no forests pls. deciduous would also provide shade during hot months
- like trees along the path – good idea
- please keep trees away from fence line – roots go into the residents adjacent
- flat benches so that they can be used for board games ie: chess
- make sure trees along fence line do not root into residents properties. Otherwise, great concept
- extra cover area with flat benches for games
- more backstops!
- more trees along west boundary to naturalize and create a buffer between park and development
- why did the project boundary changes from earlier versions.
- 44persons 14 houses consider wind with the position of the covered open space. Its too way in the centre
- flex area with a mound would be nice
- covered area should be close to kids park
- more tree to separate the park from houses
- lighten up on perimeter trees on S pathway. Views for existing homes ae already suffering – leave some gaps.

Comments for Concept No.2

- more flexible space not defined for any defined purpose
- don't like the mound
- there is nothing here that we asked for, no open space. No water detention area, we want this drained
- only good part of this plan is fenced off-leash area
- #2 Bad location for covered area move in North
- think about cyclists using park as greenway
- more backstops
- greenway to No 2 Road and to Williams good idea
- please no tall trees casting shadows on N perimeter
- located covered space at playground, allows more greenspace

Comments for Concept No.3

- no back stops, no mound, the rest is fine
- I like concept #3 the best with the extra middle walkway and the trees. You need open public washrooms for the childrens playground
- I like the backstop, I don't like the mound. The rest is good
- 2 ball diamonds which are currently used by seasonal softball
- public washrooms are never open, so what good is a park open washrooms dawn to dusk daily
- trees too dense. Random sprinkling preferred. Spaces don't need to overly defined – should allow the users flexibility to figure out what to do. I'm sure we'll figure it out
- less trees, shade is good but vision of children needed
- I like #3 but get rid of backstop
- more backstops
- good location for covered area
- plan paths for cyclists using park as greenway
- do not put in baseball park (one already exists). consider the higher population density in park. Put in a fountain or water feature and enhance landscape
- statue in fountain , spray fountains, art into life
- no baseball backstop, safety, damage to houses, parking, water fountain next to mound, pathways around pond fountain
- No backstops!!
- would like to see some consultation between the people developing the playground area plan for London/ Steveston park and the people developing the new Steveston Community Centre Park
- Please no tall tree shadows on N side
- I like it, I like it, I like it, I like it, no playing ball
- connect water detention area to new development. “innovative storm water management”

Welcome to the Public Workshop Final Concept Design Review...

Existing site photos - credit Clayton Perry (http://claytonperryphotography.tumblr.com/)



APPENDIX E - FINAL CONCEPT DESIGN REVIEW PRESENTATION MATERIAL

1

The City of Richmond invites your input about London/Steveston Neighbourhood Park

The planning process for the redesign of the western part of London/Steveston Neighbourhood Park is underway.

This process will focus on the area of the park proposed to be transferred to the City as part of the rezoning application for the former Steveston School site at 10440 and 10460 No. 2 Road.

We invite you to participate by sharing your ideas and providing input toward the preparation of the park concept plan.

Ways to be involved:

- Visit www.LetsTalkRichmond.ca after February 12 to learn more about the plans and provide comments
- Attend the series of drop-in style public open houses for one-on-one interaction with City staff, display boards, handouts and comment form.



Dates, Times and Agenda:

Thursday, February 12 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Sharing ideas
Saturday, February 14 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Sharing ideas
Thursday, March 5 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Reviewing concept options
Tuesday, March 31 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Preparing a preferred design

Place: The Gilbert Lounge, Steveston-London Secondary School, 6600 Williams Road

For more information, contact the Parks Department at 604-244-1208 or visit www.richmond.ca/parksprojects.

www.richmond.ca

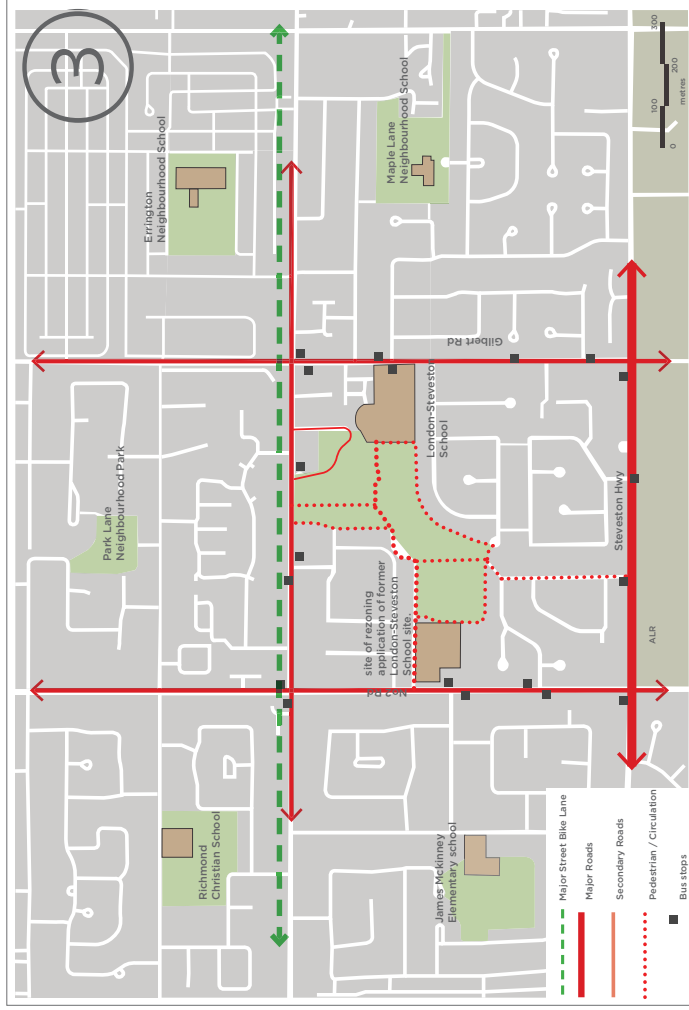
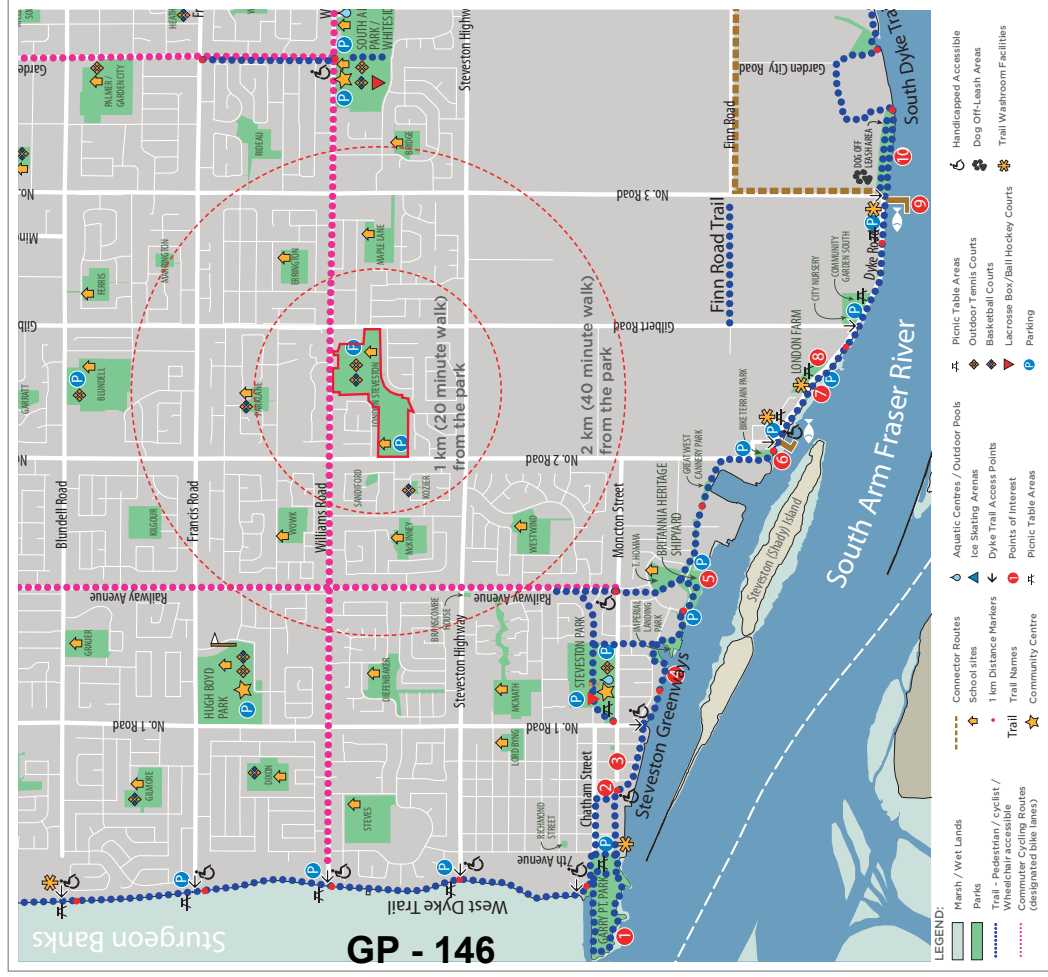


Existing London-Steveston Park...

2



Site Analysis



Process

ABSTRACT

CONCRETE

GP - 147



Example of Garden City Park, Richmond, BC

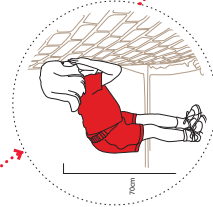
Research

Examination of leading research on outdoor play environments for children enabled the design team to create a play environment that meets the needs of children of all ages.



Analysis

An understanding of the physical site and its processes, together with an understanding of the site in its context is an essential starting point for the process of design.

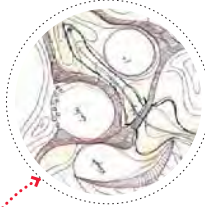


Public Consultation

Workshops were held at a local elementary school to gain insight into the interests and activities of the park's immediate ground users. This was a valuable process that involved children in the preliminary design to the play environment.

Conceptual Design

Through public consultation, research, analysis and exchange of ideas, the preferred design for the Garden City play environment was developed.



Construction

The preferred concept was then refined into drawings for construction. This process evolved loose conceptual ideas and forms into a network of detailed designs with special emphasis on structures, surfaces, spaces, planting and materials. The drawings were then used to select contractors to ensure the play environment was built to the highest standards.



Built Project

The end result of the design process is a space that achieves traditional notions of playgrounds and instead utilizes the site's context and children's inherent curiosities to provide an experientially rich play environment.



Findings from the Ideas Fair

Common responses to the following questions...

I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Park...

- there is and should be a difference between what is park and what is playing field
- the park as it already is!
- walk area for walkers, trails, green space
- walking spaces
- there is a place for children to fly a kite! (ie open space)
- large area of open green space
- quiet setting open spaces
- the fact that it can be re-designed period!
- lots of sport fields
- opening in the summer

GP-148

If I could, I would change the following things about the park.....

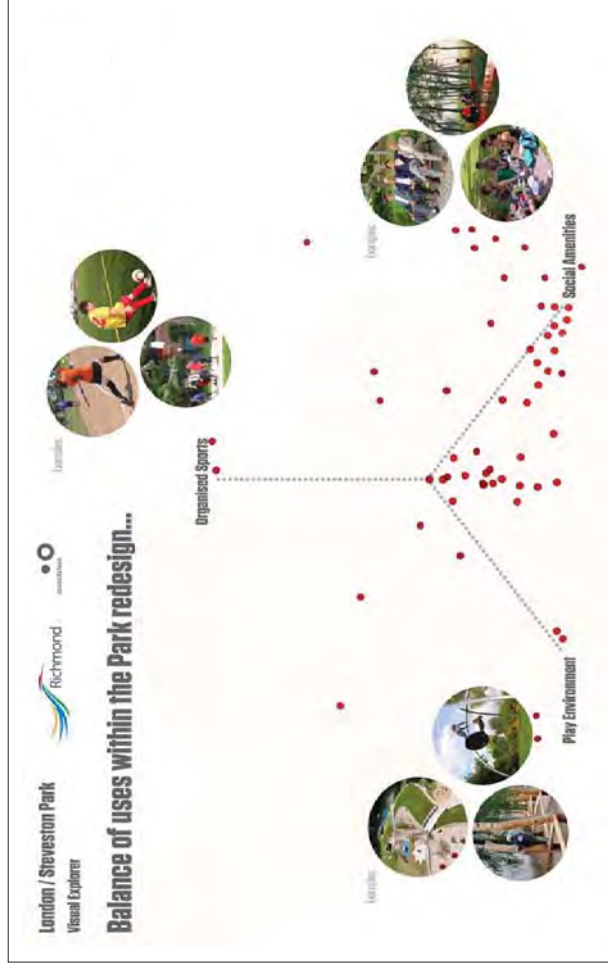
- more for rainy season
- dedicated open and passive park separate from sports field
- boundaries between properties and park (what to do with the chain link fence)
- small clumps of trees in centre instead of trees on the border
- a little pond and a small hill here could enrich the landscape of the park
- additional parking on williams rd. double existing lot
- is there a way to use "traffic calming devices" on walking paths - slows motorbike, skateboards, and bicycles - especially at blindspots
- evergreen trees, fewer deciduous, still able to see mountains
- good ambient lighting on walkways and playground areas to discourage nefarious activity
- meandering pathways
- get rid of existing 2 baseball back stops
- better management of tournament events - keeping space for locals community (quieter during events)
- bigger playground for children
- places to sit
- drainage and water pooling
- park washrooms need to be open more often
- need more mounds or hillocks for kids to play
- no more beer leagues Noise and Adult ball on old Steveston high field
- communicating rules on the site
- incorporate a bike path with the walking path
- make off leash park or a large off leash area for dogs
- open lawn for multi use activities, bocce, Frisbee, sports
- add naturalistic planting and trees
- separate contain development with buffer; do not want park to be backyard of development
- more implements for toddlers and benches for seniors at the play areas



The following is how I would describe my vision for an ideal London / Steveston Park in 10 years...

- mature plantings on trails with gathering spaces
- meandering fitness trails, beautification of the park
- supervised off leash dog park (owner present to 'pickup')
- nice pathways, nice trees and planting but also open....(the centre part)
- do not want development to have majority access to park
- trees, habitat for song birds
- open/covered space for tai chi area with green roof for the birds
- designated quiet times - ie. after 9pm
- dog off leash area
- better playground
- need washroom so kids can play longer in the play ground
- open space to see the mountains, families walking and playing
- room for people to play bocce ball
- open space for people of all ages and not organized sports
- walking, jogging trails, quiet retreat, wooded areas - pine trees!, tree lined walkways, wide open spaces, song bird habitats
- ambient lighting on the west of the site

This is what the preferences look like for the balance of uses in the park...



Findings from the Ideas Fair

The most noted words used during the ideas fair...

This word cloud filters 75 of the most noted words and the size of each word is in relation to the number of occurrences it was noted in the responses.



Results of the sticker exercise to identify new activities for the park...

Total	Priorities
155	Spaces For Seniors
62	Pathways & Fitness Trails
47	Planting
21	Open Space For Flexible Use
15	Passive Areas & Gathering Spaces
13	Spaces For Youth
12	Play Environment
12	Dog Off Leash Area
12	Sports Fields
3	Pond
3	Sports Court

Key Park Design Considerations

Year-round Use

- make the park usable during the winter months
- provide a covered flexible use space for a range of activities

Diverse Landscape Character & Vegetation

- increase the diversity of landscape characteristics
- maximize year-round greenery of the park
- provide trees for shade
- conserve mountain view from park

Play

- expand the existing play area
- provide more for toddlers
- play area becomes over capacity during large events and its difficult for local residents to access

Flexible Use / Open Space

- provide open space for multi-use activities, such as bocce, frisbee and other sports

Site Safety

- keep existing path lighting
- The site has a number of dark spots which impacts on the use of the site during the evening and morning periods; install low-level path lighting in any darker spots
- encourage extended use by families
- discourage nefarious activity
- establish strategies to extend use of the park in the mornings and evenings

Existing Park Issues

- improve drainage
- better management of snow geese required.
- improve the balance of uses within the park; open/passive park versus what is sports field
- find ways to improve parking situation during sporting events

Trails / Fitness / Connections

- encourage site access by foot and bike
- develop a network of paths
- install measured fitness trail (e.g. 1km)
- connect the new development with the park
- provide better connections to existing site entry points
- make path widths wide enough to allow for shared use by bikes and pedestrians.

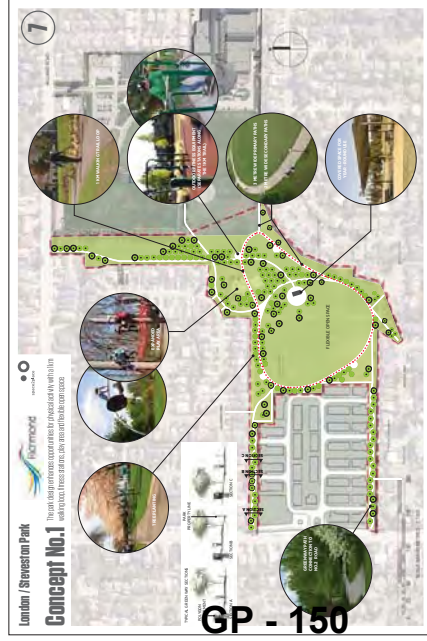
Dogs

- install fenced dog off-leash area
- consider size of off-leash dog area so that it doesn't take up too much flexible open space

Original Concept Design options

Concept No.1

The park design enhances opportunities for physical activity with a 1 km walking loop, fitness stations, play area and flexible open space.



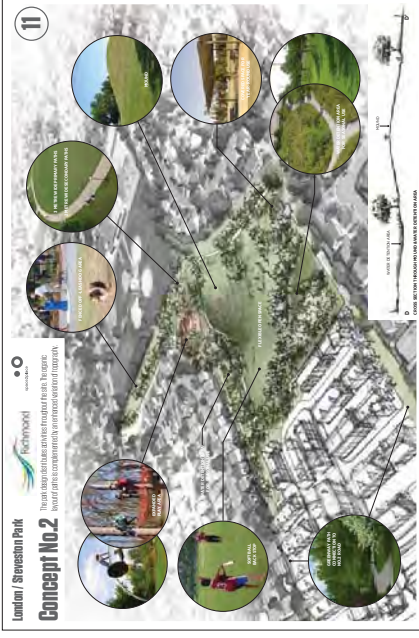
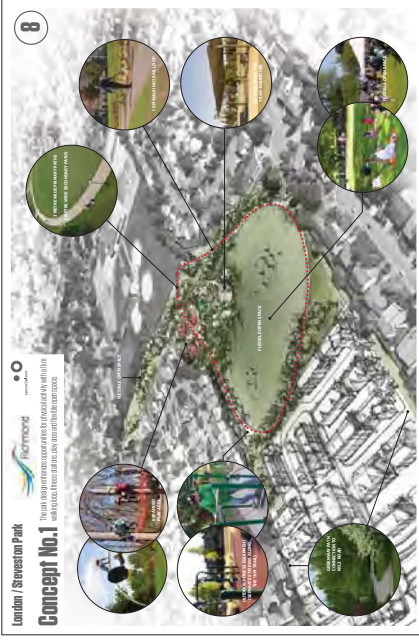
Concept No.2

The park design distributes activities throughout the site. The organic layout of paths is complemented by an enhanced variation of topography.



Concept No.3

The park design features the central organisation of activities in the park with enhanced tree planting and water management using bioswales.



Findings from Concept Design Review

Comments for Concept No.1

This concept received 58% of the participant vote but is important to understand why this concept received so much support. Concept No.1 has no softball back stops which were a contentious issue from the beginning. This concept also did not include a fenced off-leash dog area. Below are some of the comments summarized:

- good support for the flexible open spaces
- good support trees along the pathways with lighting improvements - consider adding lines on pathways
- some support to add a small mound
- some support for a fenced off-leash dog area
- little support for fitness stations
- some participants dislike the idea of the water detention (on concepts 2 & 3) because of its negative link to the history of flooding issues within the park
- some support to add a back stop
- general comment to keep trees away from the fence line - views for existing homes are already suffering - leave some gaps - less big trees - consider shadows cast along north boundary of existing homes
- deciduous trees great idea to allow for different views through the seasons disagree with too much evergreen growth - ie. no forests pls. deciduous would also provide shade during hot months
- some support for the trees along the west boundary to naturalize and create a buffer between park and development
- consider moving covered area should be closer to play area like in Concept No.3 - also consider wind protection - some concern was raised about late night usage
- consider additional parking capacity to be added to Williams Rd
- small support for adding community gardens.

Comments for Concept No.2

Concept No.2 includes a large mound, water detention area, softball back stop, fenced off-leash dog area. Below are some of the comments summarized:

- good support for the flexible open spaces
- good support for the less formal tree layout 'sprinkling of trees'
- some support for the spreading out of site features
- good support for a fenced off-leash dog area
- good support trees along the pathways with lighting improvements - consider adding painted lines on pathways
- keep park maintenance low
- general comment to keep trees away from the fence line - views for existing homes are already suffering - leave some gaps - less big trees - consider shadows cast along north boundary of existing homes
- little support for the large mound - consider making mound smaller
- little support for location of covered open space - consider moving next to play area like in concept 3), to allow for more open space
- consider use of cyclists on greenway
- add perimeter drainage
- water retention area - there was a preference for a grassy basin vs. rain garden planting - the grassy basin will require less maintenance and is more useable during dry periods.

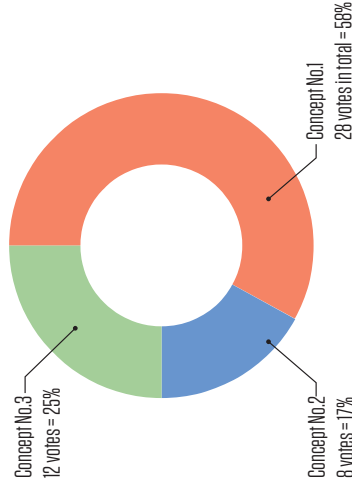
Comments for Concept No.3

This concept received 25% of the public vote, which comes in second place out of all three concepts. Concept No.3 includes a small mound, 2 water detention areas, softball back stop, fenced off-leash dog area.

- Below are some of the comments summarized:
- good support for the location of the covered open space consider position in concept 1.
 - mixed support for the softball back stop.
 - some support for a fenced off-leash dog area
 - some support for the mound.
 - some support for the extra middle walkway
 - consider use of cyclists on greenway
 - consider adding a water feature to enhance the landscape character
 - general comment trees too dense. Random sprinkling preferred - spaces don't need to be overly defined - should allow the users flexibility to figure out what to do - shade is good but vision of children needed - consider shadows cast along north boundary of existing homes
 - Consider connecting water detention area to new development. "innovative storm water management"

Summary of concept choices

48 votes in total



Key Park Design Considerations for the Final Concept Design

The development of the final concept design will be developed based on the following 'Key Park' Design Considerations:

Strong Support

Year-round Use

- make the park usable during the winter months
- promote fitness
- provide a covered flexible use space for a range of activities, locate near to the play area; facing south - consider wind protection - integrate with path lighting to reduce risk of nefarious activity

Flexible use / open

- Provide open flexible green space for multi-use activities, bocce, frisbee and sports
- Maximize the feeling of openness by not planting too many trees and spreading amenities too far apart

Improved social amenities for neighbourhood use

- Add some social hubs including an outdoor dog, picnic tables, trees (for shade), benches
- provide fitness equipment along fitness trail

Trails/Fitness/Connections

- Provide network of paths to walk, run, including walking with dogs on a leash.
- Widen Paths to allow more capacity and better connect the existing and new features within the park environment.
- Provide tree-lined paths with lighting

SITE SAFETY

- add low path lighting

Strong Support (continued)

Diverse Landscape Character / Vegetation

- Tree planting
- Keep trees away from the fence line in order to avoid casting shadows onto neighbouring properties
- Make gaps between trees to not block existing views to the mountains
- Add greater spatial diversity
- Small deciduous trees should be used to enhance diversity in the landscape character and not planting too many evergreen trees.
- Provide shade opportunities within the summer
- The layout of trees should be more random and informal, stating that the spaces don't need to be overly defined

Moderate Support

Diverse Landscape Character / Vegetation

- Mound
- Increase the diversity of landscape characteristics with the addition of a small mound participants. It should be well
- Conserve or increase the view of the mountains

Dogs

- Add a fenced off-leash dog area to the north of the site
- consider size of off-leash dog areas so that it doesn't take up too much flexible open space

Play

- providing more opportunities for toddlers and social amenities for seniors.
- expand play area to accommodate more capacity locally as well as visitors during peak times when large events are taking place

Considerations

Existing park issues

- improve drainage
- better management of snow geese required.
- Improve the balance of uses within the park: open/passive park versus what is sports field

Car parking / site access

- Add parking to allow for improved capacity during peak times.

Final Concept Design

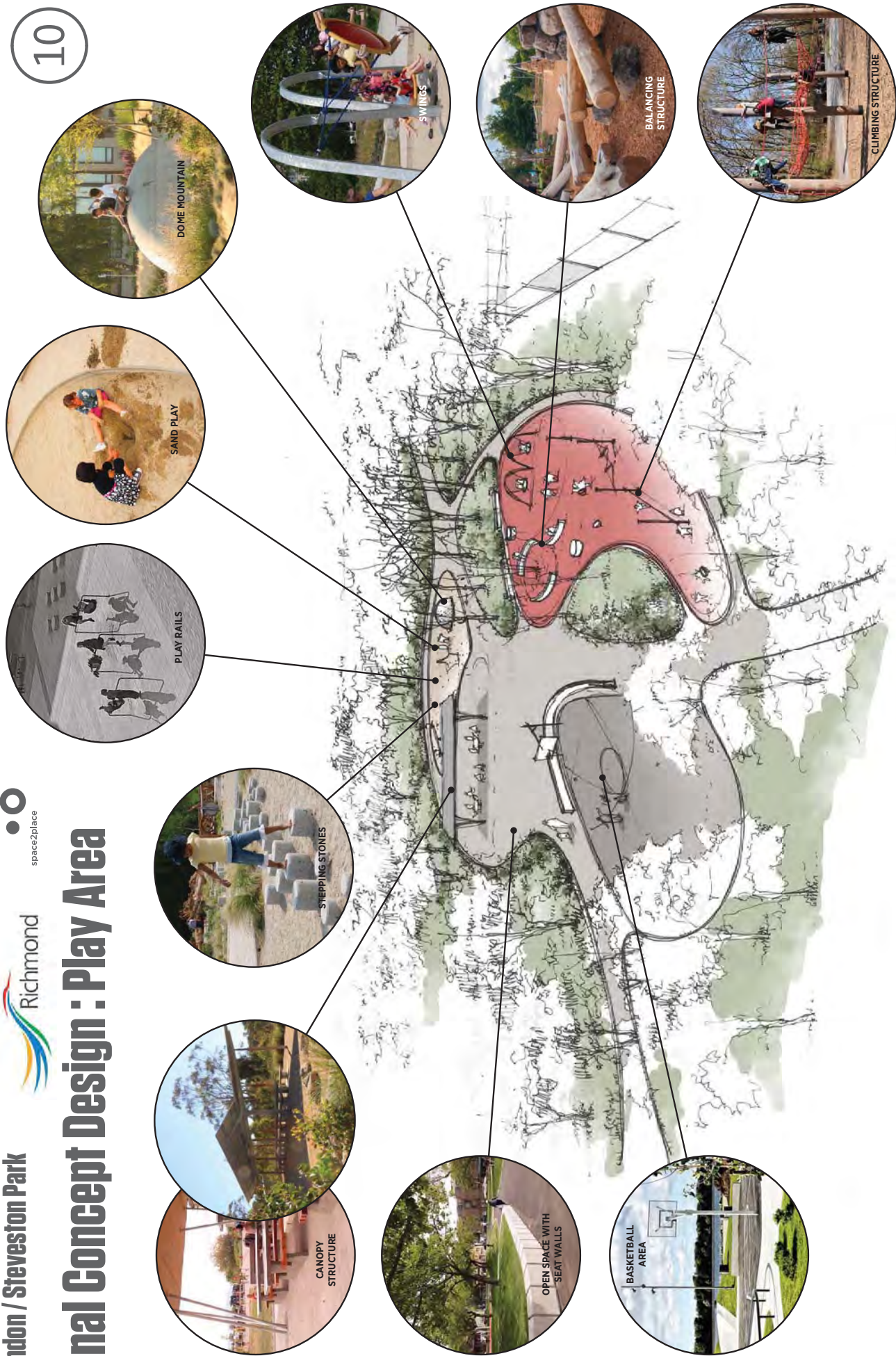
9

The design for London/Steveston Park features two distinct areas - a large flexible use open space and a central area focused on active use. The existing landscape character is enhanced with varied topography, tree planting as well as water management with infiltration areas to create biodiversity. The central area replaces the existing play area with renewed play elements, a sheltered space for neighbourhood activities and a relocated small sport court. A new walking loop with fitness stations will enhance opportunities for physical activity. This design also features a small fenced off-leash dog area for neighbourhood residents.



Final Concept Design : Play Area

10



What are your thoughts on the Final Concept Design ?



Public Workshop: Final Concept Design Review Summary Report

Final Concept Design Review

Date: 7-9pm March 31 , 2015

Location: Gilbert Lounge of London-Steveston School

Prepared by: Phil Wyatt - space2place

Date Prepared: April 07, 2015

Participants

City of Richmond

Mike Redpath Senior Manager, Parks

Clarence Sihoe Parks Planner

Tricia Buemann Area Coordinator, Parks Programs

Marie Fenwick Manager, Parks Programs

Mark McMullen Senior Coordinator, Major Projects, Planning & Development

Gregg Wheeler Manager, Sports and Community Events

space2place

Jeff Cutler Principal

Phil Wyatt Project Manager

Objective

The final concept design review was the third point of contact with the community surrounding London-Steveston Park. The purpose of the final concept design review was to return back to the community to present a final preferred concept design based on the feedback received during the review of three initial concept designs in March and the ideas fair events in February. Participants were encouraged interact through informal discussions with city staff and consultants as well as to make comments on the final concept design by adding notes to the presentation material.

The feedback gathered from this event will be documented for further refinement to the final concept design. This summary report will be combined with previous summary reports along with the final concept design for presentation to General Purposes Committee of Council on April 28 2015.

Framework

Boards were displayed to communicate the existing site conditions including park context, circulation, connections, spatial uses. Another board identifying the project process and schedule was displayed so that Participant's were aware of the upcoming event to follow the Final Concept Design Review.

London / Steveston Park

Welcome to the Public Workshop Final Concept Design Review...

The City of Richmond invites your input about **London/Steveston Neighbourhood Park**

The planning process for the redesign of the western part of London/Steveston Neighbourhood Park is underway. This process will focus on the area of the park proposed to be transferred to the City as part of the rezoning application for the former Steveston School site at 10440 and 10460 No. 2 Road.

We invite you to participate by sharing your ideas and providing input toward the preparation of the park concept plan.

Way to be involved:

- Visit www.LetsTalkRichmond.ca after February 12 to learn more about the plans and provide comments.
- Attend the series of drop-in style public open houses for one-on-one interaction with City staff, display boards, handouts and comment form.

Dates, Times and Agenda:

- Thursday, February 12: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. - Sharing ideas
- Saturday, February 14: 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. - Sharing ideas
- Thursday, March 7: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. - Reviewing concept options
- Thursday, March 7: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. - Preparing a preferred design

The official design, Steveston London Steveston School, 6000 Williams Road

For more information, contact the Parks Department at 604-244-1208 or visit www.richmond.ca/parkprojects

London / Steveston Park

Existing London-Steveston Park...

London / Steveston Park

Site Analysis

London / Steveston Park

Process

The findings from the two ideas fair events were presented which were intended to clearly explain the findings and the key park design considerations we used for the development of all three concepts options.

London / Steveston Park

Findings from the Ideas Fair

Common responses to the following questions...

Like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Park...

- the park is well lit
- walk area for workers, trails, green space
- existing paths
- there is a place for children to fly a kite (on open space)
- large area of open green space
- quiet walking open spaces
- the fact that it can be developed period
- lots of open fields
- nothing in the summer

If could, I would change the following things about the park...

- more for rainy season
- dedicated open and active park separate from sports field
- boundaries between properties and park (what to do with the chain link fence)
- small groups of trees in centre instead of trees on the border
- a little pond and a small hill have could enrich the landscape of the park
- additional parking on Williams or double existing lot
- is there a way to use "traffic calming devices" on walking paths - slows motorbikes, skateboards, and bicycles - especially at 104th
- evergreen trees, fewer deciduous, still able to see mountains
- good ambient lighting on walkways and playground areas to discourage references activity
- removal of existing 3 basketball hoop
- better management of tournament events - keeping space for locals community (quieter during events)
- places for all
- drainage and water pooling
- park washrooms need to be open more often
- need more events or facilities for kids to play
- no more beer leagues Noise and Adult had on old Steveston high field
- communicating rules on the site
- incorporate a bike path with the walking path
- make off leash park or a large off leash area for dogs
- open lawn for multi use activities, soccer, Frisbee, sports
- add recreational, playing and trees
- separate certain development with buffer, do not want park to be backdrop of development
- more improvements for toddlers and benches for seniors at the play area

London / Steveston Park

Findings from the Ideas Fair

The most noted words used during the ideas fair...

This word cloud illustrates 75 of the most noted words and the size of each word is related to the number of responses it was noted in the responses.

Results of the sticker used to identify new activities for the park...

Total	Priorities
100	Scenes For Seniors
62	Pathways & Fitness Trails
47	Playground
28	Open Space For Flexible Use
25	Passive Areas & Gathering Spaces
12	Play Environment
12	Drop Off/ Pick Up Area
12	Sports Fields
2	Pond
2	Sports Court

Key Park Design Considerations

Year-round Use

- make the park usable during the winter months
- provide a covered facility use space for a range of activities

Diverse Landscape Character & Vegetation

- increase the diversity of landscape characteristics
- maintain year-round greenery of the park
- provide trees for shade
- conserve mountain view from park

Play

- expand the existing play area
- provide more for toddlers
- play area become over capacity during large events and is difficult for local residents to access

Improved Social Amenities for Neighbourhood Use

- social hubs including an outdoor kitchen & picnic tables
- install water fountain
- provide seating opportunities with options for shade
- install fitness equipment along fitness trail

Flexible Use / Open Space

- provide open space for multi-use activities, such as soccer, frisbee and other sports

Site Safety

- keep existing path lighting
- The site has a number of dark spots which impacts on the use of the site during the evening and morning periods, install low-level path lighting in any darker spots
- encourage extended use by families
- discourage reference activity
- establish strategies to extend use of the park in the mornings and evenings

Existing Park Issues

- improve drainage
- better management of soccer game request
- improve the balance of uses within the park, open/active park versus what is sports field
- find ways to improve parking situation during sporting events

Tools / Fitness / Connections

- encourage site access by foot and bike
- develop a network of paths
- install measured fitness trail (e.g. 5km)
- connect the new development with the park
- provide better connections to existing entry points
- make path widths wide enough to allow for shared use by bikes and pedestrians

Next, all three concept options were presented in a smaller format so that participants could refresh their memories of the concept design review event on March 05.

London / Steveston Park

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Original Concept Design options

Concept No.1

The park design enhances opportunities for physical activity with a 1 km walking loop, fitness stations, play area and flexible open space.

Concept No.2

The park design distributes activities throughout the site. The organic layout of paths is complemented by an enhanced variation of topography.

Concept No.3

The park design features the central organisation of activities in the park with enhanced tree planting and water management using bioswales.

Then we presented a board that consolidated all of the participant comments and findings from the concept design review. This helped us to refine our key park design considerations.

London / Steveston Park

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Findings from Concept Design Review

Comments for Concept No.1

This concept received 58% of the participant vote but is important to understand why this concept received so much support. Concept No.1 has no softball back stops which were a contentious issue from the beginning. This concept also did not include a fenced off-leash dog area. Below are some of the comments summarized:

- good support for the flexible open spaces
- good support trees along the pathways with lighting improvements - consider adding lines on pathways
- some support to add a small mound
- some support to add an fenced off-leash dog area
- little support for fitness stations
- some participants dislike the idea of the water detention (on concepts 2 & 3) because of its negative link to the history of flooding issues within the park
- some support to add a back stop
- general comment to keep trees away from the fence line - views for existing homes are already suffering - leave some gaps - less big trees - consider shadows cast along north boundary of existing homes
- deciduous trees great idea to allow for different views through the seasons disagree with too much evergreen growth. i.e. no forests pls. deciduous would also provide shade during hot months
- some support for the trees along the west boundary to naturalize and create a buffer between park and development
- consider moving covered area should be closer to play area like in Concept No.3 - also consider wind protection - some concern was raised about late night usage
- consider additional parking capacity to be added to Williams Rd
- small support for adding community gardens.

Comments for Concept No.2

Concept No.2 includes a large mound, water detention area, softball back stop, fenced off-leash dog area. Below are some of the comments summarized:

- good support for the flexible open spaces
- good support for the less formal tree layout - sprinkling of trees
- some support for the spreading out of site features
- good support for a fenced off-leash dog area
- good support trees along the pathways with lighting improvements - consider adding painted lines on pathways
- keep park maintenance low
- general comment to keep trees away from the fence line - views for existing homes are already suffering - leave some gaps - less big trees - consider shadows cast along north boundary of existing homes
- little support for the large mound - consider making mound smaller
- little support for the location of covered open space - consider moving next to play area like in concept 3L, to allow for more open space
- consider use of cyclades on greenway
- add perimeter drainage
- water retention area - there was a preference for a grassy basin vs. rain garden planting - the grassy basin will require less maintenance and is more use able during dry periods.

Comments for Concept No.3

This concept received 25% of the public vote, which comes in second place out of all three concepts. Concept No.3 includes a small mound, 2 water detention areas, softball back stop, fenced off-leash dog area.

Below are some of the comments summarized:

- good support for the location of the covered open space consider position in concept 1
- mixed support for the softball back stop.
- some support for a fenced off-leash dog area
- some support for the mound.
- some support for the extra middle walkway
- consider use of cyclades on greenway
- consider adding a water feature to enhance the landscape character
- general comment trees too dense. Random sprinkling preferred - spaces don't need to be overly defined - should allow the users flexibility to figure out what to do - shade is good but vision of children needed - consider shadows cast along north boundary of existing homes
- Consider connecting water detention area to new development - "innovative storm water management"

Summary of concept choices

48 votes in total

Concept No.3
12 votes = 25%

Concept No.2
8 votes = 17%

Concept No.1
28 votes in total = 58%

Key Park Design Considerations for the Final Concept Design

The development of the final concept design will be developed based on the following Key Park Design Considerations:

Strong Support

Year-round Use

- make the park usable during the winter months
- promote fitness
- provide a covered flexible use space for a range of activities, locate near to the play area facing south - consider wind protection - integrate with path lighting to reduce risk of nefarious activity

Flexible use / open

- Provide open flexible green space for multi-use activities, booze, fitness and sports
- Maximize the feeling of openness by not planting too many trees and spreading amenities too far apart

Improved social amenities for neighbourhood use

- Add some social hubs including outdoor bar, picnic tables, trees (for shade), benches
- provide fitness equipment along fitness trail

Trails/Fitness/Connections

- Provide network of paths to walk, run, including walking with dogs on a leash.
- Widen Paths to allow more capacity and better connect the existing and new features within the park environment.
- Provide tree-lined paths with lighting

SITE SAFETY

- add low path lighting

Strong Support (continued)

Diverse Landscape Character / Vegetation

Tree planting

- Keep trees away from the fence line in order to avoid casting shadows onto neighbouring properties
- Make gaps between trees to not block existing views to the mountains
- Add greater spatial diversity
- Small deciduous trees should be used to enhance diversity in the landscape character and not planting too many evergreen trees.
- Provide shade opportunities within the summer
- The layout of trees should be more random and informal; stating that the spaces don't need to be overly defined

Moderate Support

Diverse Landscape Character / Vegetation

Mound

- Increase the diversity of landscape characteristics with the addition of a small mound participants. It should be well
- Conserve or increase the view of the mountains

Dogs

- Add a fenced off-leash dog area to the north of the site
- consider size of off-leash dog area so that it doesn't take up too much flexible open space

Play

- providing more opportunities for toddlers and social amenities for seniors.
- expand play area to accommodate more capacity locally as well as visitors during peak times when large events are taking place

Considerations

Existing park issues

- improve drainage
- better management of snow geese required.
- improve the balance of uses within the park; open/passive park versus what is sports field

Car parking / site access

- Add parking to allow for improved capacity during peak times.

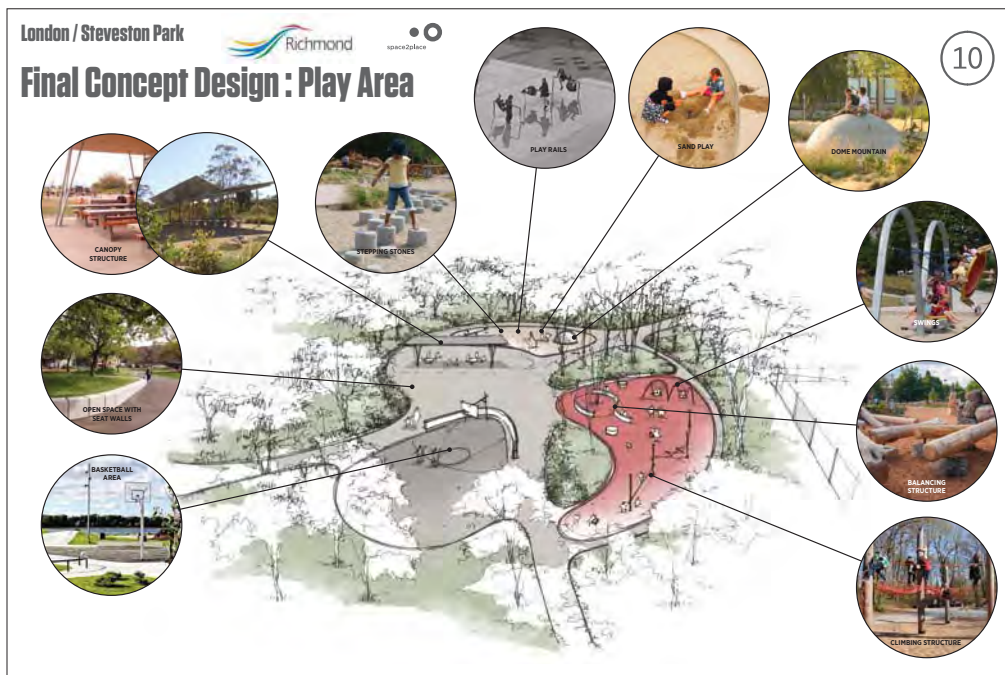
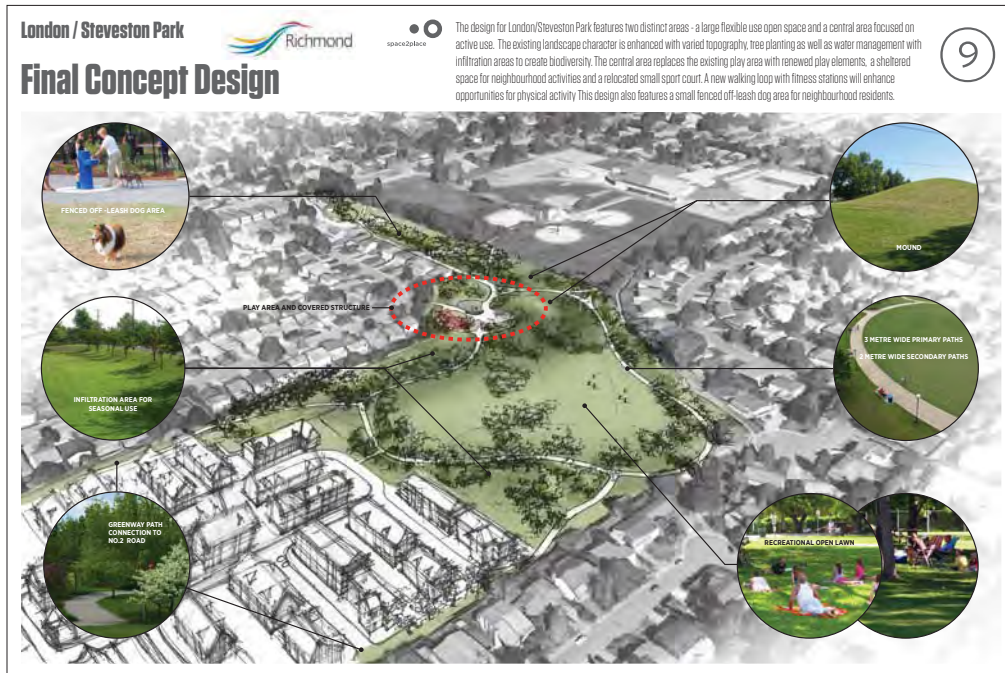
Final Concept Design

The design for London/Steveston Park features two distinct areas - a large flexible use open space and a central area focused on active use. The existing landscape character is enhanced with varied topography, tree planting as well as water management with infiltration areas to create biodiversity. The central area replaces the existing play area with renewed play elements, a sheltered space for neighbourhood activities and a relocated small sport court. A new walking loop with fitness stations will enhance opportunities for physical activity. This design also features a small fenced off-leash dog area for neighbourhood residents.



The final concept design was presented with a large plan, cross sections, perspective sketch as well as precedent images to illustrate the proposed park program.

In addition a sketch was presented that showed the proposed layout of the new play area integrated with existing trees as new site features such as a covered structure and a basketball area.



All participants were asked to comment on the concept. Participants responded with sticky notes that were placed in context on a separate sheet.

To supplement this exercise, separate forms were handed out so that participants could add any additional comments relating to the final concept design.

All of the final concept design material has also been posted onto the Talk Richmond website. The feedback has been incorporated into this summary report.



Participants

City staff and consultants that facilitated the Final Concept Design Review received a lot of positive feedback. Participants also expressed their enjoyment and satisfaction to be involved in the design development of their park.

Approximately 30 - 40 participants attended the Final Concept Design Review. It is important to note that the majority of participants who attended this event also attended the Ideas Fair Events and the Concept Design review. This continuity of attendance is important as it meant that the participants gained trust in the event facilitators and the overall design process but the messages that we were receiving were generally consistent.

Summary

This event was very positive and participants shared their positive feedback about the final concept design to City staff and consultants. The comments received throughout the public engagement process have been combined to form a hierarchy of decisions relating to the park program and its overall design (see below):

Based on the feedback received during the final round of engagement, there appears to be support for the concept as suggested.

STRONG SUPPORT

Year-round Use

At the ideas fair events, there were a number of comments to find more ways to promote fitness as well as to make the park usable during the winter months. This included the opportunity to provide a covered flexible use space for a range of activities such as Tai Chi or Yoga.

During the concept design review event and final concept design review event, the covered structure received good support. Based on all the feedback, the covered structure should be integrated within the hub of activity; near to the play area, facing south. Consideration should be given to the wind protection but also consider how the covered structure would be integrated into the lighting design to reduce the risk of late night use for nefarious activity.

Flexible Use / Open

A majority of participants showed a consistent strong level of support for open flexible green space for multi-use activities, bocce, frisbee and sports.

There have been a number of requests to maximize the feeling of openness by not planting too many trees and spreading amenities too far apart.

There were no specific comments relating to flexible open space during the final concept design review, which indicates that participants were satisfied with the amount of flexible open space within the final concept design.

Improved Social Amenities For Neighbourhood Use

At all of the public events associated with this project, there was a general request for a couple of social hubs including picnic tables, trees (for shade), benches as well as space for an outdoor bbq. These were included in the final concept design. During this review, comments called for more benches throughout the park as well as garbage cans and recycling containers.

Trails/Fitness/Connections

At the ideas fair events, there were a large amount of people who like to exercise using the network of paths to walk, run, including walking with dogs on a leash. Therefore it was clear that the paths would need to be widened to allow more capacity/flexibility of uses and better connect the existing and new features within the park environment. There were also several requests to make most of the mountain view.

There were some comments supporting the use of the tree-lined paths with lighting which has been received as a consistent message throughout the ideas fair events.

The measured fitness trail with fitness stations was not explicitly mentioned during the concept design review or the final concept design review, however this trail assists the overall objective to enhance opportunities for exercise within the park.

Diverse Landscape Character / Vegetation

Based on feedback from the ideas fair events, there was a consistent interest in increasing the diversity of landscape characteristics throughout the park.

Tree planting

In all three concepts, trees formed a major element within the park designs, in varying scales. It was interesting to see the responses of where and how trees should be used with the site:

- Keep trees away from the fence line in order to avoid casting shadows onto neighbouring properties
- Make gaps between trees to not block existing views to the mountains.
- Adding greater spatial diversity seemed to be important to the participants.
- Small deciduous trees should be used to enhance diversity in the landscape character and not planting too many evergreen trees.
- Provide shade opportunities within the summer.
- The layout of trees should be more random and informal

Site Safety - Lighting

Based on the current feedback, the review of existing path lighting with the addition of low path lighting has received consistent support. The main reasons are to encourage use by families as well as extend use of the park in the mornings and evening and discourage any nefarious activity.

During the final concept design review, there were a couple of comments stating that lighting should be considered carefully so that adjacent properties don't receive too much light pollution from park lighting, especially along the Greenways.

Moderate Support

Diverse Landscape Character / Vegetation

Based on feedback from the ideas fair events, there was a consistent interest in increasing the diversity of landscape characteristics throughout the park

Mound

Increasing the diversity of landscape characteristics with the addition of a mound seems to have received good support from a majority of the participants. It should be well integrated as well as to maintain the view of the mountains.

It is understood also that snow geese only like very flat ground therefore the addition of mounds could see the reduction in the issues of snow geese on the site (refer to Constraints - Existing Site Issues).

Play

Throughout the public engagement process, it was clear that the play area be renovated to provide more opportunities for toddlers and social amenities for seniors. It should also be expanded to accommodate more capacity locally as well as visitors during peak times when large events are taking place.

The concept design of the play area as an enhanced, larger area was presented at the Final Concept Design Review. This design received positive support from a number of participants.

Sports

There was a clear conflict between sporting activities such as softball and the passive activities of the park. An informal softball backstop was presented in two of the concepts which received mixed support from participants at the concept design review.

Consideration should be given to the programming of the softball backstop so that it doesn't conflict too much with the passive activities within the park.

In the final concept design, the layout of trees in the south west of the park site were chosen to allow the future accommodation of an informal backstop and soccer field, however the lines of these courts were not shown on the plan presented to the public. As a result no further comments were made about softball in the site as participants felt satisfied that softball would not be a permanent fixture on the new site.

The basketball court in the existing play area was relocated to be better integrated into the design of the play area and covered structure.

Dogs

The initial public engagement events, there were quite a number of people who spoke out against having an off-leash dog area as it would make less usable space, although there was evidence of mixed opinion on this item. A fenced off leash dog area was then presented in 2 concepts at the concept design review and received moderate support.

The final concept design included a small fenced off-leash dog area and the majority of comments we received were positive. There were some comments requesting the area to be made larger and there were also a number of concerns raised about maintenance of this area.

Considerations

Existing Park Issues

Poor drainage of the study area is a clear constraint as well as issues with Snow Geese. Concepts 2 & 3 presented the use of water detention areas, and Some participants disliked the idea of the water detention (on concepts 2 & 3) because of its negative link to the history of flooding issues within the park. There were also some maintenance concerns related to this feature therefore a grassy basin would be preferred over a rain garden with water tolerant planting to be more usable during dry periods.

The infiltration areas required throughout the site to improve the natural drainage has received good support at the final concept design review. It would appear participants are happy that these areas will only be dry throughout the summer months.

Car Parking / Site Access

Capacity of parking is currently limited, especially with the removal of the parking lot on the old school site. During sporting events, the site becomes 'over capacity' and participants of events park their cars in the local neighbourhood which causes friction.

The expansion of car parking was not presented within any of the comments but there were some comments from participants who didn't understand why additional parking had not been added into any of the concept designs.

All of the feedback responding to the 3 concept designs and the final concept design was transcribed and is available in the appendix for reference.

Appendix

The following notes were generated in the concept design review held on March 31, 2015.

15-001 London Steveston Park – Comments 2015.03.31

Below are a categorized list of the comments that were posted on the presentation boards at the Final Concept Design Review on 2015.03.31:

GENERAL COMMENTS

- like it - love it - lets do it - thanks for a job well done
- i like the design and ideas developed. it looks like a good neighbourhood park, lots of walkways and open areas. great to see the playground bigger and better. i am leaving richmond but am glad to see the end results and after 20 years and living here like the way the park will move forward.
- i am grateful that we were asked to vote on concepts for the park. i like the final concept, thank you
- the designers are very helpful from 44 neighbours
- To the Parks Dept and the design team kudos for a job well done and thank you for your courtesy and engagement with the neighbourhood for developing the concept design. I hope it was fun for you all as it was fun for me to advance many of my wishes for the park design.

YEAR-ROUND USE

- i'm glad the overhead shelter is in the play area
- cover area need to be 20m x 30m open area for group tai chi or group exercise with benches on both ends from 44 neighbours - face south and wind proof

IMPROVED SOCIAL AMENITIES FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD USE

- more benches needed in park
- recycling bins and compost bins
- please add more benches for the seniors. not just in the play area, throughout the park
- the covered area is good, a small stream or some water feature would be nice – the sound of water is so peaceful
- include water feature, more benches
- water fountains
- more trees more recreation & more facility for seniors
- flower beds in style, benches, types of stoves
- garbage cans recycling bins and compost

PLAY

- please put in slides in play area for children
- maybe if there are more kids they should put a fun station.
- maybe they should put a slide in

TRAILS/FITNESS/CONNECTIONS

- separate bike lanes from walkways – increase pathway width, lane markers
- paint lines to separate bike lanes and walking path on shared pathway
- please widen path to 5m and have separated path for bikes roller blades, skateboards, just painted line would be fine
- maybe consider dividing pathways for pedestrians and cyclists so as to avoid accidents. thanks.

DIVERSE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

- would like a variety of trees but not too many heavy pollinators (thinking of hay fever here)
- ideal trees: katsura, japanese maples, armstrong maples, redwood, ashes, tulip trees.
- please keep trees low in front of houses – shades properties from sun.
- shade for summer
- good to see trees planned – bird habitat is important
- i like it, just watch out not too many trees planted
- would prefer infiltration areas have grass only
- no big trees on north side please, they cast long shadows!
- i would like to see a pond with ducks etc.
- All those trees, please make them evergreen or small leaf variety, I am buried in leaves at housman and spender every fall. Thanks K.Peterson
- great concept. please keep trees low near homes so as to not block the sun.

FENCED OFF-LEASH DOG AREA

- the green area needs to be maintained.
- i do not think it is wise to have a fenced dog area.
- go easy on the tax payers...make the off leash area - bark mulch
- like the dog off-leash area.
- i am against a fenced off leash dog area. how would you maintain that area?
- garbage cans for dog poop
- thank you for all your hard work i cant wait to enjoy a new park. would like a bigger dog walking space though!
- why is the off leash area so small?
- include more dog area
- woof woof! (translation) thank you for a dog park
- has the city ever thought about a roster or alternating days or times for all parks to be for dog owners (off leash) and non dog owners?
- a great concept but could do with a larger dog off leash area. thank you
- no one will clean up after his dog, therefore there is no need for fence off leash dog area
- saying that the city will maintain the fenced off lease area is easy but i don't think it will be maintained. no need for it.
- i am worried about the fences off leash area i cant see that it will be maintained
- bigger dog walking area please
- i cant see areas for a fenced dog area who will maintain that area
- smaller dog area or none at all please
- why is the dog park tucked away in the corner and so small?

CAR PARKING / SITE ACCESS

- please no additional parking at expense of parkland
- additional parking off Williams road increase existing lot or add new in area of off leash dog area

SITE SAFETY

- no intrusive lighting between project and existing neighbourhoods
- care should be taken to ensure that park lighting doesn't overwhelm. ie: directional lamps that don't offer excess glare into backyards at night
- greenway lighting non invasive to properties around development no light spilling into yards
- prefer less lighting between development and neighbourhood.

EXISTING PARK ISSUES

- need to implement pest control
- make sure the street parking on side streets are not used up.

SPORTS

- keep the basketball courts

NEW POLYGON DEVELOPMENT ISSUES - COMMENTS

- from 44 neighbours no mound on park centre to allow future development of sport area and not water problems around the mound footing and path
- can the developer make a temporary pathway along the blue fencing edge of development
- 44+ neighbours are strongly object the city loss control of public land to protect safety and interest for our neighbourhood
- mound should be along west side to block 3 storage townhouses! from 44 neighbours - path on top of mound and other on foot of mound for easy and difficult choices from 44 neighbours (to block development)
- A child care facility on a busy street?

Survey responses

Period: 08 Mar 2015, 12:00 AM - 06 Apr 2015, 11:59 PM

Projects: London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park Design

Sharing ideas survey - February 2015

1

Respondent Name : MartaJ

Responded at 09 Mar 2015, 11:54 AM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

a.Bike path along the northern road b.Many public transit stops c.Large green space

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

a.Create a "gathering" place for people to meet and events can be held b.Make the park accessible and enjoyable for all ages (8-80 years old) c.Increase shaded areas with more trees for gathering on warmer days d.Installation of a covered area so that people can be outdoors during inclement weather e.Increased bike parking facilities f.Install public water fountains g.Public art could enhance the grounds and create spaces for gathering and help social interactions h.Bike paths through the park would allow for accessibility i.I didn't see access to public washrooms? j.Increased access to the park via transit or other active modes of travel k.Larger play spaces for kids

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

a.A park where people come together to mingle and play. This park could be a local gathering spot for outdoor music or events in the summer. I see this park being accessed by all modes of active travel (walk, cycle, roll, bus) and used throughout the year.

2

Respondent Name : FrankY

Responded at 16 Mar 2015, 03:44 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

I like how vast the space is.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

I would love to have a community center with Gym facilities and a swimming pool in the area. Also I would like to have more lights at night on the park as well.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

I would like to see the same high quality residences enjoying clean efficient community facilities on the park.

3

Respondent Name : Mark Sakai

Responded at 19 Mar 2015, 10:30 AM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

To be honest, there's not much too it right now. It's the 'home field' for the RGSA, which is good; it has a couple of community-use softball fields and a playground which are also good.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

I would create a lot more visual interest, through changes in topography, the creation of more winding, serpentine footpaths, and more plantings of trees and shrubs. I would find some way to commemorate and recognize the historical importance of Steveston Secondary School, at the west end of the park. It was an important building to many many people who grew up in Steveston, and to have no recognition of this as its previous location would be a shame.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

I really like Options 2 and 3 of the concept plans. Both bring that more diverse experience for park visitors, whether they are local residents, people walking their dogs, community softball players, or RGSA tournament attendees. I think the retention of at least one softball diamond for adult rec league play is important -- I find it somewhat offensive to have read a comment from the Open House that there should be no more adult softball in the park -- we should be encouraging outdoor activities, not restricting them. I hope that a fitting tribute to the old Steveston Secondary School can be installed on the west side of the park.

4

Respondent Name : Kim

Responded at 20 Mar 2015, 02:13 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

The green space and location.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

I would add a track like the one at Minoru Park. Minoru Park is very busy and I think Richmond could use a second track for walkers and runners.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

Lots of green space with a safe running and walking track to promote physical fitness for all ages.

5

Respondent Name : JenP

Responded at 22 Mar 2015, 09:55 AM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

Flexible, community use View

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

Better year round use Create more wildlife spaces Walking route with varied terrain Include naturalized areas for wildlife

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

Inclusive of full community Space for many activities Includes natural areas and walking spaces Home to wildlife

6

Respondent Name : sand

Responded at 29 Mar 2015, 07:15 AM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

provides a place for softball

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

make it more natural. Provide a place that people can get away from the city and children can feel like they are in a natural environment-trees, bushes, water, rocks and logs to climb on, pathways-things that children can manipulate, not more plastic uninspiring playgrounds that children can only do so much with. Most playgrounds have little to offer to promote children's development, I think the city is headed in the right direction with garden city park and terra nova, but I think it can be even more natural with more malleability offered in the environment.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

An area that is an oasis of nature, that children can play freely-off leash.

7

Respondent Name : Steve May

Responded at 31 Mar 2015, 04:47 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

Open Green space.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

I am a resident on Goldsmith Dr. who has attended all 3 previous meetings and reviewed the proposals. I don't think an off leash dog park is a necessary part of the park plan. Check the city website at <http://www.Richmond.ca/parks/parks/dogsinparks.htm> you will see there are 2 off leash parks only a few miles away from this park already. If anything they need one at Terra Nova lots of space up there. Check the map. Maybe the city could be persuaded to change the location for an off leash dog park to that corner of the city where it makes more sense. If this plan goes through as is, you can see, because we would be closest to the city center all those residents will converge on our park and be parking on Swift Ave. and Goldsmith Drive because there is not enough existing parking. I have proposed increased parking in the area slated for this off leash park, only to told this is to be a neighbourhood park not a destination park. So much for a neighbourhood park and the privacy of the homeowners in our subdivision. I strongly feel there is more of a need for parking near the existing sports fields than an off leash dog park in that area of their proposal. Currently the existing parking fills up and parking spills over into the residential areas on both sides of the sports fields. For these reasons I am Opposed to the off leash dog park, and prefer to see additional parking added to that area. I will be going to the Mar 31 meeting and will again voice my concerns about this issue. Regards Steve May

**3.
The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:**

Meandering pathways, mature colorful seasonal trees and landscaping, park benches to quietly relax under trees and open sunshine to enjoy the space. A passive open green space area for children to play.

8

Respondent Name : Kai Tham

Responded at 01 Apr 2015, 07:21 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

peaceful.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

let it be peaceful like an oasis.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

I would like to add a number of concerns to the Final Concept Design which I reviewed last night. After having digested some salient features of the plan I would like the design/implementation team to add this to their list. Adjacent to the proposed play area is the mound feature. This is a great idea and will be loved by the children especially when we have some snow so they can toboggan off it with some help. The elevation is such that residents on Gainsborough Dr will not have direct line of sight from their decks into the play area on the other side of the mound. Whoever does the actual physical design should consider this in their plan so that neighbours can help keep an eye on what happens in the play area. The secondary pathway from Goldsmith/Swift to the play area should be wide enough to allow emergency vehicles to access this location and removable posts should be installed for this purpose where the existing fence currently exists. There is a BCHydro transformer also next to the fence so the path must be designed on the west side of the transformer. The final concept design does not show this. To the Parks Dept and the design team kudos for a job well done and thank you for your courtesy and engagement with the neighbourhood for developing the concept design. I hope it was fun for you all as it was fun for me to advance many of my wishes for the park design. Having lived here for 29 years and raised two girls and their many cousins in the playground and baseball diamond, I am ready for their offspring to now enjoy the park with lots of exciting features in the next few years. We will also continue to have our father(s) vs daughter(s) baseball games on Father's Day at the west side of the park without the backstop but we will improvise. It has been a tradition for the past 20 years or so for my girls, their cousins and uncles and aunts. We always got beat. Thank you again on a job well done! Regards Kai Tham and family

9

Respondent Name : TedH

Responded at 05 Apr 2015, 08:19 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

1. Open fields for a variety of misc. uses; for example - flying kites, throwing a Frisbee, playing catch, etc. 2. Pathways around and across field. 3. Play / activity center for children.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

1. Pathways wider and slightly higher (drier). 2. A few more activities and equipment in the play / activity center for children; more lighting at the play area to deter vandalism. 3. Tall field lights should be turned off at more reasonable hour - say 9:00 pm, with accompanying cessation of sports activities and associated noise.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

1. No more baseball diamonds than we have now; four is enough. 2. More / better pathways. 3. Better access for police / firemen to deal with vandalism. 4. Limits / curfew for noisy activities, and lights off by 9:00 pm. 5. Section of park patterned after park at Garden City & just north of Granville. 6. Absolutely no more trees that block views of residents facing the park; limit the height of any new greenery to low shrubs or bushes, maybe a few flower beds - as per item 5. As illustrated in the latest drawings of the proposed park, the additional two rows of trees planned for the pathways around the park that will obstruct resident's views must not be implemented.

Survey responses

APPENDIX G - LET'S TALK RICHMOND

Period: 07 Jun 2010, 12:00 AM - 22 Apr 2015, 11:59 PM

Projects: London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park Design

Sharing ideas survey - February 2015

1

Respondent Name : licorise

Responded at 12 Feb 2015, 05:40 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

Open area, walking paths, able to see the mountains, Places to see our beautiful mountains are getting less and less in Richmond because of the high rises being built. A true neighborhood park without too much "stuff".

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

Finish the playground that was promised 25 years ago. Make the girls baseball turn down their music while practicing, this is not very conducive with a park setting.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

People out getting exercise by walking around the paths. Families playing in the fields.

2

Respondent Name : YVR-DJM

Responded at 12 Feb 2015, 07:32 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

parking!!! big green space

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

drainage

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

I like it the way it is now.

3

Respondent Name : Burnro

Responded at 12 Feb 2015, 08:05 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

- the open field spaces - sports fields/diamonds

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

- I would install a very large modern children's playground. - I would also install a large modern children's water park. - I would build 2 new artificial turf soccer/sports fields. - I would re-design and re-pave the walking path so it circumvents the outside of the entire park along with the diagonal path crossing the middle of the park. - perhaps install a small skateboard bowl/park.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

Modern new turf sports fields for use by the city and school with recreational space such as a modern playground for children and young families including a water park. As a child growing up in Richmond, London-Steveston park was always such a wide open space, and until early adulthood did I begin to realize what a wasted space it was and how much more could be done to utilize the space so as to benefit the local residents as well as be a destination park for other residents of Richmond to visit with their families, much like Steveston park/playground/waterpark.

4

Respondent Name : Monty

Responded at 13 Feb 2015, 07:35 AM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

large area with minimal pavement or buildings

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

Add some forested area. Add some shade trees

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

Some open field space for certain sports. Some large wooded areas for play, for shade of people, flora and fauna. A few water fountains for drinking water. Non paved walkways to allow water permeation to be easy.

5

Respondent Name : doestandish

Responded at 13 Feb 2015, 07:36 AM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

Improvements to allow people to bicycle to and from the baseball park would be beneficial to healthy life style.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

Add bike sharing program. Also a place to lock up bikes as part of the transit and bicycle mix. Additionally , it would be nice to have a secured bicycle parking facility at the Templeton Canada line. This would allow people to pick up a bike at London park, bike to Templeton, and then take the transit into town. The opposite transit connection would also be possible. ie. It would be possible for reverse direction bicycle ride.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

The park could be a nice place to pick up a rental bike or to secure your own bicycle . Rentals would allow visors to take a bicycle to Steveston village or Richmond trails. People playing baseball at the park could easily bike to and from the games. Secure bicycle storage is required. Secure locking and dry from the rain and other environmental elements. (examples of secured bicycle parking are available at train stations near Amsterdam, Holland)

6

Respondent Name : Eggplant

Responded at 13 Feb 2015, 12:06 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

Fields for organized sports, walking/jogging paths.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

Bathroom facilities, better small children playground structures, community gardens.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

A balance between organized sports fields, play structures, adequate bathroom facilities, community gardens, and a picnic area.

7

Respondent Name : renneberg

Responded at 13 Feb 2015, 01:13 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

greenspace, natural, suitable for snow geese

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

perimeter walkway

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

no formal play equipment, just greenspace

8

Respondent Name : kevin mcd

Responded at 13 Feb 2015, 04:21 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

I like the park, walking trails etc. Please consider to add walk way lighting to all the walkways like Minoru/ King George Park. Many people walk/exercise in the park including in the morning. There is Tai Chi in the morning but no lights. I go there every morning at 6:00 am to walk and exercise but in the dark months I stay close to the school due to the lack of lighting.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

Remove the softball pitch(s). Too noisy in summer.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

Add lighting for extended use in mornings and evenings.

9

Respondent Name : cmackenzie

Responded at 16 Feb 2015, 09:29 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

- Provides a large car-free public space - Decent space to run - feels safe

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

- Significantly more tree cover for parts not needed for organized sports. - Effective integration with future local street bikeway network

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

- A multi-element park with a significant natural forested component complete with mature trees. - Attractive space for neighbourhood residents to simply have a picnic, or to read and study in an outdoor environment. - Opportunities for organized sports mostly maintained - Mostly straight North/south active transportation route established to form part of future bike-route between No. 2. and Gilbert.

10

Respondent Name : kathbeau

Responded at 17 Feb 2015, 03:18 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

There's not much I like about it as it currently exists is just a big barren open space.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

I would like to see it less open with more planted areas between zones. I don't care for the big open postage stamp view. It lack a serendipitous feel. Almost over planned. Is there anywhere for picnics? Wind break areas where people can sit in the early spring in the sunshine but out of the wind.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

I would like to see a park that has a mature feel to it with lots of plantings and trees. i would like it to have a sense of place and permanence. No cheap finishes like black top. Use more crushed granite on surfaces. In the spring I would like it to feel inviting would like it to feel inviting with lots of coastal flowering shrubs which announce the arrival of spring on the lower mainland. Would like to see mature Rhododendrons, Azelias, Camellias, Cherry Blossoms. Avoid plantings which are used purely because they are easy to maintain but lack colour, character, and texture. Shaded areas for people to sit under the trees in the summer. Places for family picnics which are close to the children's playground so the older children can play while parents watch from the picnic tables.

11

Respondent Name : elianachia

Responded at 19 Feb 2015, 08:43 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

Sports field for recreation

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

Boring aesthetic - needs more planting and landscaping, perhaps around the margins to encourage pedestrians and cyclists to use the park's trails.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

Priorities include: pathways and fitness trails, planting, passive areas & gathering spaces. Particularly gathering spaces for neighbourhood events to encourage community members to connect with each other.

12

Respondent Name : vineliving

Responded at 21 Feb 2015, 09:25 AM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

Wide green area.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

Plant more trees.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

Build a city garden.

13

Respondent Name : mrak

Responded at 23 Feb 2015, 01:15 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

Open park feel near the west side of park

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

An open place for children to play More benches for seniors to walk and sit Less organized sports
No model airplanes!!!!

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

With lots getting smaller and a lot more hoisin going up in Richmond I think it's important to have free space that is open and free. Free to do what we have been doing right now not full of organized sports that will not allow us to continue to use

14

Respondent Name : whiteoakhouse

Responded at 23 Feb 2015, 01:21 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveveston Neighbourhood park:

In the Western part of the park, I like the open field. I like to take my walks there and my jogs.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

More shade trees, so I can sit and read or maybe some park benches. Perhaps some dedication benches and people will donate towards them.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

A place where kids can play in the open space at any time of the year.

15

Respondent Name : nimat

Responded at 24 Feb 2015, 04:27 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveveston Neighbourhood park:

The way the park sits today has a nice and open feeling and I would like it to stay that way.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

It should remain a tranquil area. A place that families can walk, a place for children to play flying kites (not remote control planes!) How about adding some benches, a few more trees for shade and change it to a non-sports designation reducing the weekend noise levels

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

All parks should be a peaceful place. We have enough sports fields and areas for such activities

16

Respondent Name : smeixner

Responded at 24 Feb 2015, 08:24 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

Multiple access points around the perimeter of the park from residential areas.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

More dense vegetation providing wildlife habitat with multi-use trails winding through it.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

Well established vegetation that looks wild rather than manicured and clearly man-made. Tall deciduous trees.

17

Respondent Name : pcmatthews

Responded at 24 Feb 2015, 11:47 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

I like the open space and peacefulness offered by the park and grounds. Especially the Western area of the park which I frequent often.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

I would add more trees spread out across the park to offer more shade and to provide more of a park 'feel' to the area. This would provide a nice park environment to be enjoyed by families who wish to escape from city life. Kids would have a nice place to play and people would have a place to go for walks (some new pathways with benches and other aesthetic enhancements should be included instead of the existing straight pathways). I would also have less organized sports occupying the park grounds during spring/summer weekends as it gets quite noisy and hectic during these times.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

My vision is what I have described above. This vision builds upon the current openness I enjoy of the existing grounds with additions that will make the park a nice peaceful place to enjoy with family and friends.

18

Respondent Name : jchoi

Responded at 06 Mar 2015, 12:01 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

- a. Multiple entries to the site for improved accessibility. b. Potential for growth.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

- a. Increase amenities to attract larger social groups and opportunities for social interaction. b. Improve existing play structures to incorporate the natural environment and promote greater levels of physical activity. c. Increase connectivity to the park from other community centres and transportation hubs. d. Improve landscape to increase vegetation and enhancement of natural environment.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

- a. Increase the integration of social gathering areas while utilizing well-designed play environments as a focal point b. Integration of urban agriculture and community level food services c. Creation of safe and accessible areas to the park through highly visible and welcoming entry points d. Easy access through public transit to the location via increased bus services or transit hub

19

Respondent Name : K Gelhorn

Responded at 07 Mar 2015, 10:29 AM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

- It is limited in its use by other than games and the kids park

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

- I would add a dog park

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

- Concept number 3 is the selection I would make

20

Respondent Name : MartaJ

Responded at 09 Mar 2015, 11:54 AM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

a.Bike path along the northern road b.Many public transit stops c.Large green space

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

a.Create a "gathering" place for people to meet and events can be held b.Make the park accessible and enjoyable for all ages (8-80 years old) c.Increase shaded areas with more trees for gathering on warmer days d.Installation of a covered area so that people can be outdoors during inclement weather e.Increased bike parking facilities f.Install public water fountains g.Public art could enhance the grounds and create spaces for gathering and help social interactions h.Bike paths through the park would allow for accessibility i.I didn't see access to public washrooms? j.Increased access to the park via transit or other active modes of travel k.Larger play spaces for kids

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

a.A park where people come together to mingle and play. This park could be a local gathering spot for outdoor music or events in the summer. I see this park being accessed by all modes of active travel (walk, cycle, roll, bus) and used throughout the year.

21

Respondent Name : FrankY

Responded at 16 Mar 2015, 03:44 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

I like how vast the space is.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

I would love to have a community center with Gym facilities and a swimming pool in the area. Also I would like to have more lights at night on the park as well.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

I would like to see the same high quality residences enjoying clean efficient community facilities on the park.

22

Respondent Name : Mark Sakai

Responded at 19 Mar 2015, 10:30 AM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

To be honest, there's not much too it right now. It's the 'home field' for the RGSA, which is good; it has a couple of community-use softball fields and a playground which are also good.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

I would create a lot more visual interest, through changes in topography, the creation of more winding, serpentine footpaths, and more plantings of trees and shrubs. I would find some way to commemorate and recognize the historical importance of Steveston Secondary School, at the west end of the park. It was an important building to many many people who grew up in Steveston, and to have no recognition of this as its previous location would be a shame.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

I really like Options 2 and 3 of the concept plans. Both bring that more diverse experience for park visitors, whether they are local residents, people walking their dogs, community softball players, or RGSA tournament attendees. I think the retention of at least one softball diamond for adult rec league play is important -- I find it somewhat offensive to have read a comment from the Open House that there should be no more adult softball in the park -- we should be encouraging outdoor activities, not restricting them. I hope that a fitting tribute to the old Steveston Secondary School can be installed on the west side of the park.

23

Respondent Name : Kim

Responded at 20 Mar 2015, 02:13 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

The green space and location.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

I would add a track like the one at Minoru Park. Minoru Park is very busy and I think Richmond could use a second track for walkers and runners.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

Lots of green space with a safe running and walking track to promote physical fitness for all ages.

24

Respondent Name : JenP

Responded at 22 Mar 2015, 09:55 AM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

Flexible, community use View

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

Better year round use Create more wildlife spaces Walking route with varied terrain Include naturalized areas for wildlife

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

Inclusive of full community Space for many activities Includes natural areas and walking spaces Home to wildlife

25

Respondent Name : sand

Responded at 29 Mar 2015, 07:15 AM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

provides a place for softball

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

make it more natural. Provide a place that people can get away from the city and children can feel like they are in a natural environment-trees, bushes, water, rocks and logs to climb on, pathways-things that children can manipulate, not more plastic uninspiring playgrounds that children can only do so much with. Most playgrounds have little to offer to promote children's development, I think the city is headed in the right direction with garden city park and terra nova, but I think it can be even more natural with more malleability offered in the environment.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

An area that is an oasis of nature, that children can play freely-off leash.

26

Respondent Name : Steve May

Responded at 31 Mar 2015, 04:47 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

Open Green space.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

I am a resident on Goldsmith Dr. who has attended all 3 previous meetings and reviewed the proposals. I don't think an off leash dog park is a necessary part of the park plan. Check the city website at <http://www.Richmond.ca/parks/parks/dogsinparks.htm> you will see there are 2 off leash parks only a few miles away from this park already. If anything they need one at Terra Nova lots of space up there. Check the map. Maybe the city could be persuaded to change the location for an off leash dog park to that corner of the city where it makes more sense. If this plan goes through as is, you can see, because we would be closest to the city center all those residents will converge on our park and be parking on Swift Ave. and Goldsmith Drive because there is not enough existing parking. I have proposed increased parking in the area slated for this off leash park, only to told this is to be a neighbourhood park not a destination park. So much for a neighbourhood park and the privacy of the homeowners in our subdivision. I strongly feel there is more of a need for parking near the existing sports fields than an off leash dog park in that area of their proposal. Currently the existing parking fills up and parking spills over into the residential areas on both sides of the sports fields. For these reasons I am Opposed to the off leash dog park, and prefer to see additional parking added to that area. I will be going to the Mar 31 meeting and will again voice my concerns about this issue. Regards Steve May

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

Meandering pathways, mature colorful seasonal trees and landscaping, park benches to quietly relax under trees and open sunshine to enjoy the space. A passive open green space area for children to play.

27

Respondent Name : Kai Tham

Responded at 01 Apr 2015, 07:21 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

peaceful.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

let it be peaceful like an oasis.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

I would like to add a number of concerns to the Final Concept Design which I reviewed last night. After having digested some salient features of the plan I would like the design/implementation team to add this to their list. Adjacent to the proposed play area is the mound feature. This is a great idea and will be loved by the children especially when we have some snow so they can toboggan off it with some help. The elevation is such that residents on Gainsborough Dr will not have direct line of sight from their decks into the play area on the other side of the mound. Whoever does the actual physical design should consider this in their plan so that neighbours can help keep an eye on what happens in the play area. The secondary pathway from Goldsmith/Swift to the play area should be wide enough to allow emergency vehicles to access this location and removable posts should be

installed for this purpose where the existing fence currently exists. There is a BCHydro transformer also next to the fence so the path must be designed on the west side of the transformer. The final concept design does not show this. To the Parks Dept and the design team kudos for a job well done and thank you for your courtesy and engagement with the neighbourhood for developing the concept design. I hope it was fun for you all as it was fun for me to advance many of my wishes for the park design. Having lived here for 29 years and raised two girls and their many cousins in the playground and baseball diamond, I am ready for their offspring to now enjoy the park with lots of exciting features in the next few years. We will also continue to have our father(s) vs daughter(s) baseball games on Father's Day at the west side of the park without the backstop but we will improvise. It has been a tradition for the past 20 years or so for my girls, their cousins and uncles and aunts. We always got beat. Thank you again on a job well done! Regards Kai Tham and family

28

Respondent Name : TedH

Responded at 05 Apr 2015, 08:19 PM

1.I like the following qualities of the existing London-Steveston Neighbourhood park:

1. Open fields for a variety of misc. uses; for example - flying kites, throwing a Frisbee, playing catch, etc. 2. Pathways around and across field. 3. Play / activity center for children.

2.If I could, I would change the following things about the park:

1. Pathways wider and slightly higher (drier). 2. A few more activities and equipment in the play / activity center for children; more lighting at the play area to deter vandalism. 3. Tall field lights should be turned off at more reasonable hour - say 9:00 pm, with accompanying cessation of sports activities and associated noise.

3.

The following is how I would describe my vision of an ideal London-Steveston Neighbourhood Park 10 years from now:

1. No more baseball diamonds than we have now; four is enough. 2. More / better pathways. 3. Better access for police / firemen to deal with vandalism. 4. Limits / curfew for noisy activities, and lights off by 9:00 pm. 5. Section of park patterned after park at Garden City & just north of Granville. 6. Absolutely no more trees that block views of residents facing the park; limit the height of any new greenery to low shrubs or bushes, maybe a few flower beds - as per item 5. As illustrated in the latest drawings of the proposed park, the additional two rows of trees planned for the pathways around the park that will obstruct resident's views must not be implemented.



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: General Purposes Committee

Date: May 1, 2015

From: Amarjeet S. Rattan
Director, Intergovernmental Relations & Protocol
Unit

File: 01-0100-30-SCIT1-
01/2015-Vol 01



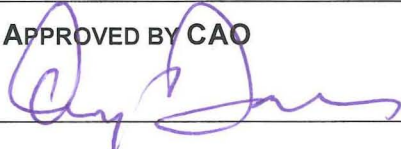
Re: Sister City Advisory Committee 2014 Year In Review

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "Sister City Advisory Committee 2014 Year in Review" dated May 1, 2015, from the Director, Intergovernmental Relations and Protocol Unit, be received for information.

Amarjeet S. Rattan
Director, Intergovernmental Relations & Protocol Unit
(604-247-4686)

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 
APPROVED BY CAO 	

Staff Report

Origin

This report presents the Sister City Advisory Committee (SCAC) 2014 Year in Review Report.

This report supports Council's Term Goal #6 Intergovernmental Relations:

6.6. Development of protocols, role definitions and communication approaches with our Friendship and Sister Cities.

Findings of Fact

The primary purpose of the City of Richmond's Sister City Program is to foster a mutual understanding and meaningful cultural connections with designated Sister/Friendship cities in the interests of our citizens for their common benefit.

The specific objectives of the Sister City Program are:

- To establish and maintain relationships with designated Sister/Friendship Cities that are meaningful and sustained through on-going activity;
- To develop a broad base of activity for Sister/Friendship City relationships in which many people and organizations in the community participate through planned and on-going contact; and
- To engage the Richmond community and its Sister/Friendship Cities in projects and exchanges that promote cultural awareness and joint learning opportunities.

The City of Richmond has enjoyed a Sister City relationship with Pierrefonds, Québec since 1967 and Wakayama, Japan since 1973. The City of Richmond formed a Friendship City relationship with Qingdao, China in 2008 and a Sister City relationship with Xiamen in 2012.

The SCAC activities and events during 2014 are outlined in Attachment 1.

Some of the highlights for 2014 include:

- *Newly appointed committee members were introduced at the first meeting in January:* With the implementation of the new Sister City Program policies and procedures in 2013, the SCAC welcomed six new members for the 2014 term.
- *SCAC receives Council approval to partner with Wakayama Sister City Affiliation Committee on production of book to commemorate 40th Anniversary:* A working group consisting of current and previous SCAC members was formed to research and develop material to celebrate the long standing relationship between Wakayama and Richmond. The book is expected to be printed in early 2014.
- *SCAC Vice-Chair for Pierrefonds, Francis Turmeau, met with new Mayor Beis of Pierrefonds to discuss the Sister City relationship and future opportunities:* Pierrefonds elected a new Mayor and Councillors in August. Mayor Brodie and SCAC members sent congratulatory and thank you letters to the incoming and outgoing Mayors of Pierrefonds.

- *Annual Richmond – Wakayama Student Exchange Visit:* A group of 37 Wakayama student and four teachers visited Richmond as part of the annual student exchange program organized by the Richmond School Board and supported by the Sister City Program.
- *Steveston Salmon Festival Parade:* SCAC members and supporters participated in the annual Steveston Salmon Festival Parade.
- *Xiamen CFIT Delegation visit:* SCAC members and Richmond Chamber of Commerce representatives attended a breakfast meeting at the Westin Wall Centre with the Xiamen CFIT delegation.
- *A Tourism and Business Development Seminar was hosted by the Vice Mayor of Qingdao:* The seminar was organized by the Ministry of International Trade and held at the Richmond Olympic Oval. Members of Richmond Council attended to welcome the Qingdao Vice Mayor and Minister Teresa Wat.

Financial Impact

No financial impact.

Conclusion

The 2014 Sister City Advisory Committee activities and events provide a foundation to further strengthen the existing Friendship and Sister City relationships.



Amarjeet S. Rattan
Director, Intergovernmental Relations & Protocol Unit
(604-247-4686)

AR:zf

Att. 1: SCAC 2014 Activities



City of Richmond

Sister City Advisory Committee 2014 Year in Review

2014 Summary:

The Sister City Advisory Committee manages the relationships with three official Sister Cities: Wakayama, Japan (since 1973), Pierrefonds, Quebec (since 1967) and Xiamen, China (since 2012); as well as one Friendship City: Qingdao, China (since 2008). 2014 was another busy year for the SCAC. Information from various SCAC activities and events is outlined in the following pages.

2014 Committee Members:

Chair
Vice-Chair, Wakayama
Vice-Chair, Xiamen
Vice-Chair, Qingdao
Vice Chair, Pierrefonds
Members

Hans Havas
 Jim Kojima
 Weiping Liu
 Cindy Wang
 Francis Turneau
 Corinna Chan
 Boo Jock Chong
 Andrea Dulay
 Kevin Lainchbury
 Gayle Morris
 Richard Qiu
 Helen Quan
 Howard Smythe

Council Liaison

Councillor Ken Johnston
 Councillor Linda Barnes (Alternate)

School Board Liaison

Eric Yung
 Debbie Tablotney (Alternate)



January

- Newly appointed committee members were introduced at the first meeting in January.
- Sister City Advisory Committee elected the Chair and Vice-Chairs for Wakayama, Pierrefonds, Xiamen and Qingdao; and the selected members to the subcommittee for the Pierrefonds Relationship Review, subcommittee for Community Engagement in SCAC activities, and subcommittee for the Website Updates and Interactive Display.
-

February

- The Chair and Vice-Chairs of Xiamen and Qingdao attended the 15th Annual Richmond Chinese Community Society (RCCS) dinner to celebrate the "Year of the Horse" at the Continental Seafood Restaurant.
- Council approved that the Sister City Advisory Committee work with the Wakayama Sister City Affiliation Committee to produce a joint 40th Anniversary commemorative book.
- Vice-Chair Francis Turmeau met with new Mayor Beis of Pierrefonds to discuss the Sister City relationship and future opportunities.

May

- Wakayama Student and Teachers delegation consisting of 37 students and 4 teachers visited Richmond;





- Members of the Wakayama delegation with Richmond School Representatives, Trustees and SCAC members in Steveston.





Sayonara Party for the Wakayama Student Delegation – Saturday, May 17, 2014





July

- SCAC members and supporters participated in the annual Steveston Salmon Festival Parade.





- July 25 - Wakayama Mayor Ohashi's wife was in Vancouver attending a conference in an official capacity, representing a delegation from Wakayama. SCAC Chair, Vice-Chair Wakayama and Councillor's Ken Johnston and Linda Barnes attended a dinner with Mrs. Ohashi on July 25, at the Blue Canoe.
- July 7 - SCAC members and Richmond Chamber of Commerce representative attended a breakfast meeting at the Westin Wall Centre with the Xiamen CFIT delegation.



Xiamen CFIT Delegation



September

- SCAC members attended a dinner hosted by the Steveston Judo Club held on Thursday September 25th with the Judo group from Qingdao.

December

- Councillors Bill McNulty and Alexa Loo attended a Tourism and Business Development Seminar hosted by the Vice Mayor of Qingdao. The seminar was organized by the Ministry of International Trade and held at the Richmond Olympic Oval on December 19.



Councillor Alexa Loo, Qingdao Vice-Mayor, Mr. Liu and Minister Teresa Wat



To: General Purposes Committee
From: Cecilia Achiam
Director, Administration and Compliance
Re: Update on Signage on Private Properties

Date: May 14, 2015
File: 03-0900-01/2014-Vol
01

Staff Recommendations:

That:

1. Option 2: "De-cluttering without a language provision" which entails the continuation of outreach effort and updating Sign Bylaw No. 5560 be approved. The Sign Bylaw update will include de-cluttering without a language provision and addressing non language related regulatory gaps; and
2. Staff be directed to review the Sign Permit Application fees and bring an update to the Consolidated Fees Bylaw No. 8636 for consideration by Council along with the new Sign Bylaw.

Cecilia Achiam
Director, Administration and Compliance
(604-276-4122)

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Community Social Development Community Bylaws Law	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	 _____
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

This report is in response to the Council resolution of October 27, 2014, as follows:

That:

- 1) as a priority, staff consult with the sign owners to encourage more use of the English language on their signs;*
- 2) staff engage in a broad public consultation on the language on signs issue;*
- 3) the language on signs issue be referred to the Intercultural Advisory Committee, the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, the Richmond Chinese Community Society, and other appropriate business associations for comment;*
- 4) staff compile relevant information on the effect of the sign issue on community harmony that would be necessary to support adoption of a bylaw regulating language on signs should that option be considered in the future; and*
- 5) staff report back to Council within 6 months on the effectiveness of the measures identified in recommendations 1, 2, and 3 for Council to determine if a bylaw needs to be considered.*

At the October 27, 2014 meeting, City Council had indicated that the priority approach to the language on sign issue during the six months outreach initiative would be to promote community harmony through inclusion and open communication vs. an enforcement based approach. In addition to following Council direction throughout the public engagement process, the City engaged external expertise to fully address Council's referral. The Simon Fraser University - Wosk Centre for Dialogue was engaged to plan, implement and moderate the public workshop to address item 2 of the referral, and the University of British Columbia (UBC) was contracted to conduct research on community harmony/social cohesion and linguistic landscape in diverse communities to address item 4 of the referral.

Analysis

1. Consultation With Sign Owners

A pilot outreach initiative was undertaken. This involved deployment of temporary staff, fluent in Mandarin, Cantonese and English, who conducted site visits to businesses in the City Centre area (Sea Island Way to the north, Garden City Road to the east, Granville Avenue to the south, and Minoru Boulevard to the west), and parts of Bridgeport Road and River Road, to promote community harmony by encouraging the inclusion of English on signage and advertisement, and to remind businesses about sign permit requirements under the current Sign Bylaw.

Additional visual inspection was completed by Bylaw Officers in commercial centres in the Steveston and Hamilton areas. No business signage solely in another language other than English was found in these areas (Figure 1).

Sign inspections commenced on December 17, 2014 and are still ongoing. For the purposes of this report, the data hereunder reflects inspections conducted up to May 1, 2015, totalling 73 inspection days. Staff completed over 1,500 visual inspections of business signage and conducted over 850 door to door visits with business operators who did not have valid sign permits for their business signs. There were only 13 business signs at these premises that are solely in a language other than English (Figure 2).

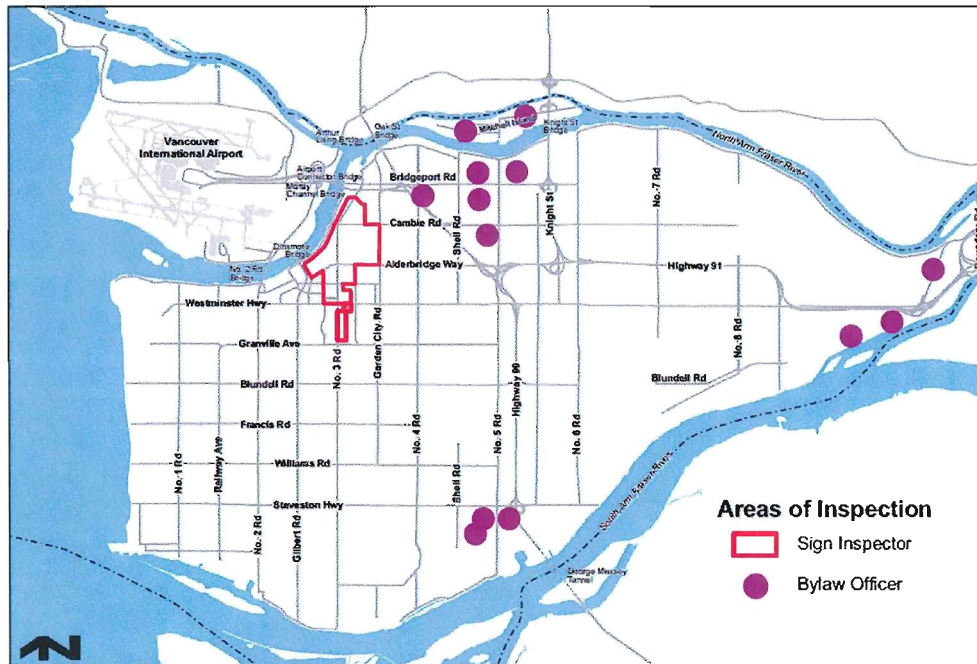


Figure 1: Areas of Inspection Map

Area	Estimated No. of Businesses Requiring Inspections ¹	Businesses that had Signs Visually Inspected	Businesses without Sign Permits ²	Door to Door Meetings with Business Operator ³	Sign Permit Applications Received ⁴	Businesses with Language Issue Based on Current Sign Bylaw
City Centre ⁵	2,000	1,394	868	784	504	13
Outside City Centre ⁶ (beginning March 20, 2015 only)	855	156	103	93	93	0
Total	2,855	1,550	971	877	597	13

Figure 2: Inspection Summary from December 17, 2014 to May 1, 2015

¹ Source: Business Licence data excluding those for home occupations, and businesses that do not require sign permits because they are located in the interior of a structure (e.g. stores inside a shopping mall).

² Approximately 60% of signs visually inspected do not have a sign permit.

³ Door to Door Meeting with Business Operator means that the sign inspector, after having conducted a visual inspection of a sign, met with the business owner/manager/employee in person to discuss the City's sign permit requirement and/or to request that their sign be modified to include or incorporate more English wording.

⁴ Businesses may have submitted more than one sign permit application. The increase in the number of applications received is not attributable alone to outreach efforts.

⁵ Sea Island Way to the north, Garden City Road to the east, Granville Avenue to the south, and Minoru Blvd. to the west.

⁶ Primarily Bridgeport Road and River Road.

Since winter 2014, staff began notifying all Richmond “commercial businesses” (excluding home business and home-based businesses which are exempted from the Sign Bylaw), through the year round Business License renewal process, regarding the sign permit requirement and encouraging them to include at least 50% English content on signs. Of the over 10,000 commercial business license holders with storefront premises, over 50% have received the notification to date. By December 2015, all commercial business license holders will have been notified. A special insert in both English and Chinese with City contact information has been produced for this purpose to ensure that language is not a barrier to communication with commercial businesses.

As a result of these combined efforts, a total of 597 new sign applications have been received as of May 1, 2015. More sign permit applications are anticipated to be submitted. The majority of these new applications rectify the current situation whereby existing signs have been installed without a sign permit.

One finding from the pilot outreach initiative is that posters and other advertisement material are not regulated under the current Sign Bylaw. In addition, signs on construction sites advertising the development or construction services, for sale, and for lease signs erected in some residential areas also do not require a sign permit. Some of these materials are in a language other than English. An abundance of these signs that are either clearly noticeable on storefront windows or visible in some residential neighbourhoods in the City are significant contributors to “visual clutter” and contribute to the perception of a proliferation of non-English “signage”. As an example, the City of Surrey incorporated “de-cluttering” provisions into the Surrey Sign By-Law No. 13656 in July 2013 to address some similar concerns from its community.

2. Broad Public Consultation

All of the material related to the language on sign issue including the staff report to Council, the consultant reports from UBC and SFU, as well as videos, will be made available on the City’s website at <http://www.richmond.ca/busdev/signs/community.htm> after the presentation to Council.

The City’s outreach and engagement efforts included the following:

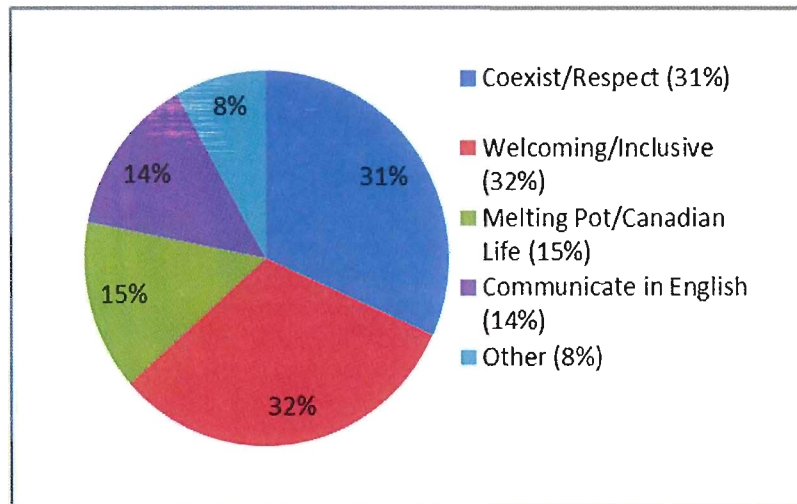
- Approximately 100 people attended a community workshop, moderated by the SFU Centre for Dialogue, which was held on Thursday, March 12 from 6:30- 8:30 p.m. at the John M.S. Lecky UBC Boathouse, 7277 River Road. Workshop participants heard about Richmond’s efforts to promote and strengthen community harmony, explore the topics of language on signs and community harmony and share their own perspectives on the topic. *Attachment 1* provides a summary of the workshop. The SFU Centre for Dialogue also produced a short video from exit interviews of the attendees at the workshop.
- In addition to the community workshop, community members and groups were able to obtain more information on the program and respond to an online survey via the City’s online discussion platform at LetsTalkRichmond.ca from March 6-

Outreach Numbers:

<i>Input Opportunity Since Council Referral</i>	<i>Response</i>
Signsconsult@richmond.ca	24 emails received
Let's Talk Richmond	260 responses
Sign Workshop on March 12, 2015	100 participants
Sign Companies	79 contacted in writing
Community Consultation	Over 1000 face to face meetings
	10 community partners/ agencies meetings

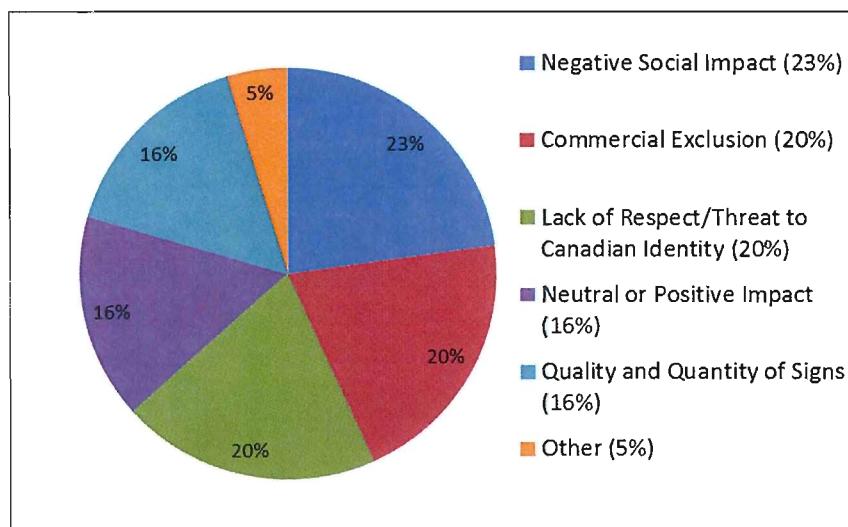
20. A total of 260 responses were received to the online survey. A Summary is provided in *Attachment 2*.

The three questions posted on the LetsTalkRichmond discussion platform were:



1) *What does community harmony in Richmond mean to you?*

The survey verified the complexity of defining community harmony. Key themes identified included: coexistence, working towards common goals, understanding differences, embracing different cultures, contributing to a welcoming and inclusive environment, reciprocal obligation of host community to welcome newcomers and for newcomers to integrate and assimilate, and ongoing communication. In many of the responses, there was an element of unease that the once European majority was becoming a minority and invisible. The feeling of uneasiness manifested in part by the presence of foreign languages on signs and the perception that foreign languages are taking over the urban landscape.

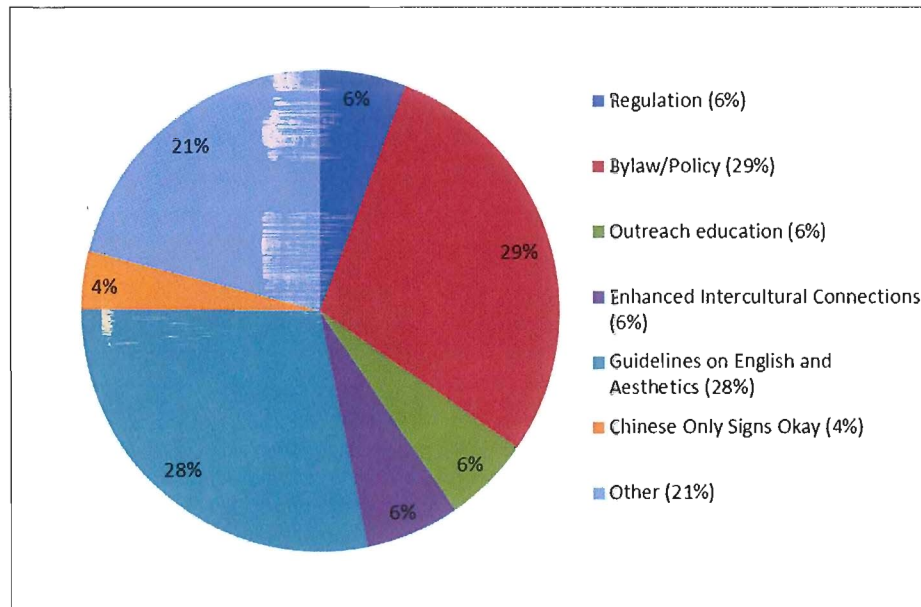


2) *How do you feel about the signage in the community? Does it affect your quality of life?*

Some respondents referenced the negative impact experienced through the perception of foreign language on signs as these signs elicited feelings of exclusion, and disconnect from the surroundings. Some respondents felt that non English signage displayed a lack of respect for Canada and the Canadian identity.

GP - 203

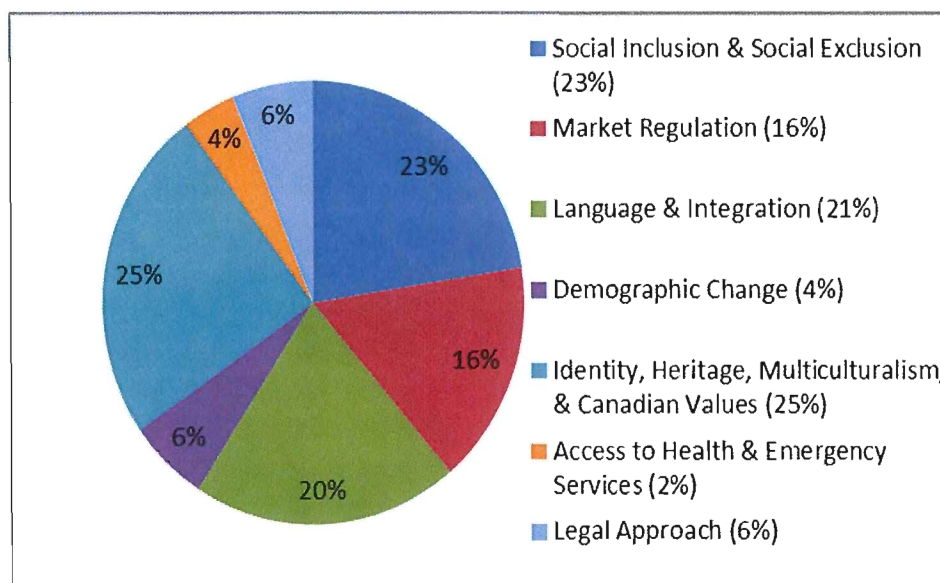
No responses were received indicating that having English on signage would have a negative impact.



3) *Please share any additional comments that can assist the City of Richmond in developing future recommendations and measures related to language on signage.*

Nearly 60% of the respondents favoured some form of guidelines/bylaw/policy to provide clear expectations for business owners to follow in terms of the use of language and aesthetics of signage. Many suggested that the official languages (i.e. English) should be visually prevalent, however, need not be the sole language on signage.

- Comments were also received via email to signsconsult@richmond.ca or by mail or hand to Richmond City Hall. These comments are summarized in *Attachment 3*. A total of 24 emails were received. The scope of the responses in the email submissions was wide-ranging as they were not limited to the questions posted in Let's Talk Richmond. The chart below illustrates the emerging themes from the emails



- 79 sign companies were contacted in writing throughout the region as well as their provincial and national organizations to inform them of Council's direction to encourage the inclusion of 50% English content in future sign applications.

This initiative resulted in active interest by the Canadian Sign Association and specifically the Association's BC Chapter. An Association representative attended the public workshop and provided valuable comment from the industry's perspective. Staff will continue to consult with the Association on any future signage related initiatives.

- Meetings were held and correspondence sent to some local property management companies to explain the purpose of the outreach program and to provide information/support to assist in their communication with the business operators.

These meetings were triggered by feedback from some business owners/operators at strip malls who indicated that they were not aware that a separate sign permit would be required. They were under the impression that their monthly management fees included all necessary permits.

- Extensive media coverage on television, radio, print and digital kept the interest on this issue active throughout the consultation period.

3. Referral to Advisory Committee and Community Partners

- As directed by Council, staff consulted with the Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee, Richmond Chamber of Commerce and the Richmond Chinese Community Society.

On February 23, 2015, Council approved the 2012-2015 Richmond Intercultural Strategic Plan and Work Program (RISPWP) prepared by the Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee (RIAC). Support for the City initiative regarding language on signage was one of the actions cited in the work program which contributes to the RIAC mandate:

"To enhance intercultural harmony and strengthen intercultural co-operation in Richmond."

The RIAC Chair participated in the community workshop as a member of the panel. Other RIAC members also attended the workshop.

- Staff also met with or consulted by mail or email with other community/business partners such as the Chinese Federation of Commerce of Canada, Chinese Real Estate Professionals Association of BC, the Canadian Sign Association, S.U.C.C.E.S.S., local builders, sign companies and property management firms to promote community harmony by including 50% English in any signage.
- Other national organizations such as the Canadian Race Relations Foundation, the Laurier Institution and the Civic Education Society reached out to the City as a result of their mandate/programs. The general feedback from these organizations include:
 1. The issue on language on signage is the "tip of the iceberg" on community harmony/cohesion.

2. Encourage a common language (English) in signage, in addition to any language, to be inclusive and to promote community harmony.
3. The use of outreach to disseminate information and dialogue to promote intercultural understanding is preferable to enforcement alone.
4. Relevant information on the effect of the sign issue on community harmony

The City engaged Elanna Nolan (PhD student) and Dr. Daniel Hiebert from UBC with speciality in community harmony/social cohesion to perform academic research to address Council's referral to "compile relevant information on the effect of sign issue on community harmony that would be necessary to support adoption of any bylaw regulating language on signs should that option be considered in the future".

The executive summary of the report "Social Cohesion and Visual Landscapes in Richmond" by Elanna Nolan and Daniel Hiebert is provided in *Attachment 4*.

The UBC Study (Study) examined the ethnicity/country of origin of Richmond over time. This review also included an analysis of media and written submissions to the City. Some of the key observations regarding the inter-relationship between super-diversity and social cohesion include:

- *"There is often a tendency to see diversity in terms of ethnicity or country-of origin, however, in so doing it can be easy to miss details that shape the contours and textures of every day experiences. The concept of super-diversity helps us see the various population details, such as language, religion, age, immigration stream, that are often overlooked when we talk about diversity based on country-of-origin or ancestry. Recognizing super-diversity in Richmond reveals the multiple groups, communities, and cultures that make it a unique and vibrant city."*
- In the Canadian context, social cohesion has been distinguished from multiculturalism. Seen as complementary to multiculturalism, social cohesion can be interpreted as providing a vision of what social relations under multiculturalism might look like, but ultimately it does not tell the full story of the successes and failures of a super-diverse society.
- Research around signage in public spaces (i.e. linguistic landscapes) revealed that *"illegibility, or an inability to read all that is written in the linguistic landscape, can produce feelings of anxiety and alienation. This experience goes both ways – for official and non-official languages."* Most believe that social inclusion and a sense of belonging are prerequisites for immigrant integration. However, some scholars believe that inclusion is not exclusively the result of official-language proficiency.
- Much of the research around signage in public space (i.e. linguistic landscapes) focuses on super-diverse cities where citizens speak multiple languages. The Study noted that today:
 - 70% of Richmond's population identifies as being "visible minority".
 - There are 161 ethnicities represented in Richmond.
 - Over 60% of Richmond's population are immigrants to Canada.
 - About 90% of the population can speak English.

- The analysis of the media and written submissions to Council from January 2012 to December 2014 indicated that the media has reported the signage issues in a fairly balanced way overall. Public opinion, on the other hand, can sometimes be emotionally charged and “*expressed with a tone that is more emotive and sometimes antagonistic.*” The issue often engages questions of home, belonging and recognition.

Emergent themes across the 98 media reports and 166 written submissions to Council between January 2012 to November 2014 are consistent and include:

- Social inclusion and exclusion
- Regulation of language on signage
- Demographic change
- Identity politics, heritage, multiculturalism, and Canadian values
- Health and safety concerns
- Legalistic approach to a by-law
- Federal immigration policy
- Immigrant integration and language

Figure 2: Media scan, January 2012-December 2014

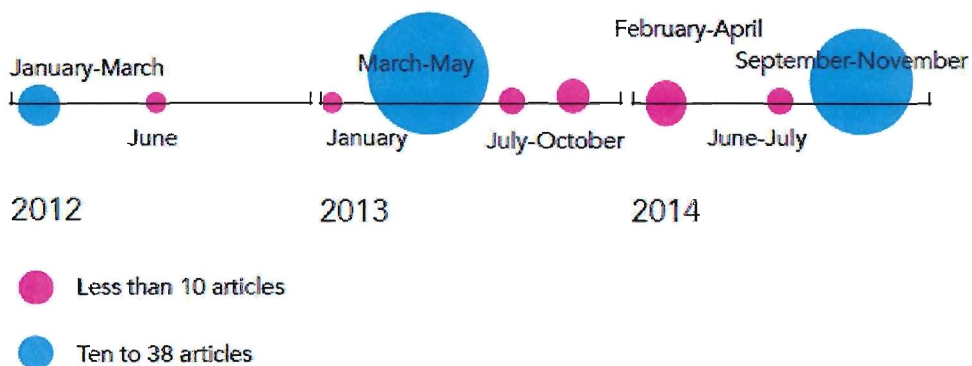
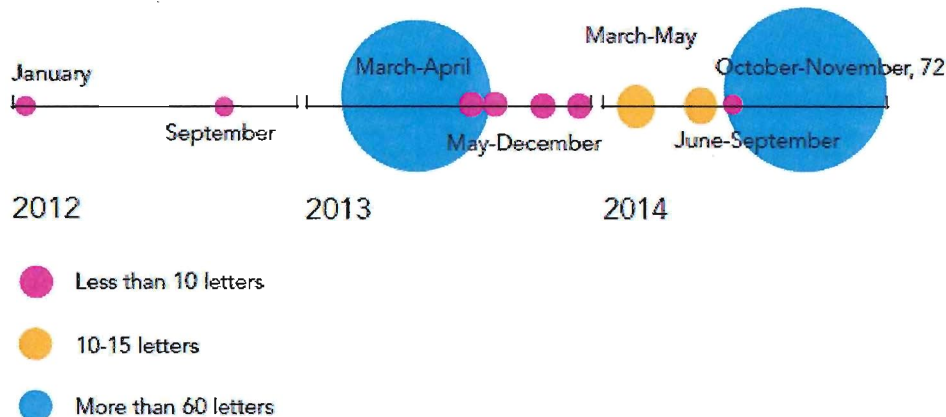


Figure 3: Letters to Council, January 2012-December 2014



There are a couple of important things to note in summarising the 166 submissions received over a three-year period. First, they do not represent 166 concerned citizens, necessarily:

- Of the 166 objections to foreign language on signs, 19 per cent (31) were sent by a single individual.
- More than half (91) of the submissions came from individuals who had previously objected (i.e. sent more than one objection).
- In seven per cent of the submissions (11), the text was repeated exactly.

These points serve to highlight both that objections to the foreign language on signage is not necessarily as widespread as it might first appear, but also, that for some citizens this issue is very important to them, to which their commitment to continued or coordinated campaigning is testament.

Following Dr. Hiebert's methodology, staff continued to analyse the written submissions (284 from Let's Talk Richmond and emails from signconsults@richmond.ca) and media coverage (over 30 spots on television, radio and newspapers) from December 2014-March 2015. The major themes (noted on page 7 of this report) remain unchanged.

Summary of Key Findings

1. Legal Analysis

The following two excerpts are from a legal opinion obtained from Sandra Carter of Valkyrie Law Group LLP previously in response to a Council referral from October 14, 2014 regarding the City's ability to regulate signage and mandate a percentage of English on signage on private property are included for completeness of information:

"In our opinion, a bylaw which imposed an English language content requirement, whether or not in addition to another language, would violate section 2(b) of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* ("Charter") by infringing on the right to freedom of expression. It is not certain whether that infringement would be justifiable under section 1 of the Charter as being a reasonable limit on the right to freedom of expression. In order to be justifiable, the City would need to establish there is a compelling or sufficiently important issue to be remediated, that the City has the necessary legal authority to impose a restriction or condition on the content of signs, and that the proposed restriction or condition is both proportional to the issue to be remediated and only minimally impairs freedom of expression. Courts will be more likely to support the validity of a restriction on freedom of expression if the regulator has undertaken both relevant studies of the issue and engaged in broad public consultation."

"...To be justifiable as a limit on a Charter freedom, the City would need to establish that compelling health, safety, economic or social welfare objectives are at stake. A strong factual basis would need to be established that requiring English on signs would correct or achieve a significant and important problem or purpose which is not being met in the absence of that regulation."

2. Outreach

- The pilot outreach efforts yielded result with respect to compliance amongst business operators to obtain sign permits. Before the outreach initiative, the City received 250-300 applications annually on average. The City has received 597 new applications for sign permits as of May 1, 2015 since the outreach initiatives began in December, 2014. All sign permit submissions to date include English wording on their signs.
- For signage/posters that do not currently require a Sign Permit, the outreach process achieved only moderate success in encouraging the inclusion of English on business signage. The cost and/or inconvenience for replacing signs/posters were the most commonly cited reasons for maintaining status quo.
- In response to feedback from some of the business operators visited and input from the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, the City prepared new multilingual information packages on starting a small business in Richmond, in consultation with the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, to help ensure businesses are aware of regulatory requirements including the need for sign permits. The Chamber is using this as a resource for their members and hard copies have been handed out to business operators during sign inspections. This brochure is also available on line at <http://www.richmond.ca/busdev/econdev/access.htm>.
- There is potential to collaborate with national agencies, such as the Canadian Race Relations Foundation (CRRF) to strengthen community harmony through their “Our Canada 2015-2017” initiatives to celebrate Canada’s 150 years as a nation “by building awareness and understanding of Canadian values, promoting good citizenship, and deepening a sense of belonging for all Canadians.” Administration & Compliance Department staff and Community Services Division staff will collaborate to follow up on community harmony/cohesion initiatives arising from the language on signage initiatives that support the City’s Social Development Strategy and/or the Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee Work Plan.

3. Outdated Sign Bylaw

- Staff received general feedback from businesses and the sign industry that the City’s Sign Bylaw is outdated. While changes to the Sign Bylaw will not include any language provisions, efforts to de-clutter will be strengthened and embedded in the Bylaw. The update to the Bylaw will address deficiencies in the definition section; accommodate trends in sign technology and respond to business needs (e.g. electronic signs, multi-faceted free standing signs, etc.); additional types of signs to be regulated; correct errors and omissions and clarify inspection responsibilities.
- The City’s sign permit fees are relatively low when compared to neighbouring Metro Vancouver municipalities. Fees for some types of signs are less than 50% of the fees charged by Burnaby, Surrey and Vancouver, for example. An increase in permit fees will help with cost recovery of any enhanced sign outreach initiative/application processes provided that the City continues to streamline application process to ensure reasonable processing time. The BC Sign Association has cited that it is desirable for sign permit processes to be both simple and clear.

4. Signage and Community Harmony

The reports from the community workshop and UBC, and feedback from Richmond citizens, confirm the complexity of the link between public signage and community harmony.

The UBC report concluded that:

“As measures of social cohesion cannot tell the full story, neither can linguistic landscapes be used to correlate degrees of integration of immigrant publics, or be seen as indicative of exclusive and anti-social intentions. As such, linguistic landscapes cannot accurately be used as a platform for measuring degrees of social harmony.”

Based on findings from academic research, requiring English on signage does not appear to be an effective means to achieve community harmony.

5. Enforcement Gaps

- Currently there are not any staff resources specifically dedicated to inspect business signs after installation to verify that the signs are in compliance with permits issued. This was previously handled through building inspections and is currently managed on a compliant basis. The updated Sign Bylaw will have to consider the issue of enforcement as this enforcement gap was well known in the sign industry and could have been a contributing factor to the proliferation of illegal signs.
- Dedicated resources in the City are needed to continue the outreach effort. In addition to fluency in English, the ability of City staff to read Chinese and speak Mandarin and Cantonese are critical in breaking down the language barrier during site visits.
- Current practice is to rely solely on professional letters of assurance to ensure structural integrity, proper installation and safety of signs rather than via site inspections by Building Inspectors as per Sign Bylaw. The necessary permits or assurances are not always obtained.

6. Visual Clutter

Based on inspection in the City Centre and other business areas, very few regulated business signs are in a language that is solely non-English (13 signs or <1%). Nonetheless, the perception of a growing presence of foreign language in the “visual landscape” is real as some of the posters and decals adhered to the storefront windows or sandwich boards (not permitted) contain languages other than English.

Including a “de-cluttering” provision in the Sign Bylaw will go a long way to minimize visual clutter in storefront windows in the future.

7. Use of Language

The UBC Study noted that Richmond has 161 ethnicities and associated languages and dialects. The majority of Richmond residents can speak English and use English as a working language.

Options for Council Consideration

Based on the key findings and staff analysis, the three options to address the language on signs issue and compliance with the Sign Bylaw are as follows:

	Option 1 (status quo) <i>(Not Recommended)</i>	Option 2 (De-cluttering) <i>(Recommended)</i>	Option 3 (Minimum English Requirement) <i>(Not Recommended)</i>
Service Delivery	Discontinue outreach and return to the practice of inspections and enforcement conducted on a complaints basis.	Continue with outreach efforts to improve compliance with Sign Bylaw to promote community harmony.	Continue with outreach efforts to promote community harmony and use enforcement to improve compliance with the Sign Bylaw. Use regulation to require the use of English as a common language on business signage.
Sign Bylaw	No change to existing Sign Bylaw.	<p>Repeal of the existing Sign Regulation - Bylaw 5560 (1990) and creation of a new Sign Bylaw to address regulatory gaps and emerging signage technologies/needs and to include a “de-cluttering” provision to control visual clutter.</p> <p>The new bylaw will be accompanied by the development and production of new communication tools (e.g. brochures, video on line) to educate on the benefits of “de-cluttering” storefront windows, and the benefits to community harmony by including English as a common language for communication.</p>	In addition to the changes from the “de-cluttering” option, include a requirement of a minimum of 50% of the copy area on business signs to be in English.
Staffing	No additional staff resources required.	Continuation of the outreach initiative for one year with one Temporary Full Time (TFT) Sign/Business License Inspector position to encourage the inclusion of English on business signs and to improve compliance with Sign and Business License Bylaws. Staff will report back after one year (Summer 2016) of implementation of the community outreach on results and cost effectiveness of the program for Council consideration on whether to further extend the outreach	Creation of one Regular Full Time (RFT) Sign/Business License Inspector position to continue outreach efforts and enforcement to promote compliance with the Sign and Business License Bylaws.

	Option 1 (status quo) (<i>Not Recommended</i>)	Option 2 (De-cluttering) (<i>Recommended</i>)	Option 3 (Minimum English Requirement) (<i>Not Recommended</i>)
		program.	
Timeline	N/A	One year	Continuing
Sign Fees	No change to fees structure.	Fees structure will be reviewed and modified accordingly.	Fees structure will be reviewed and modified accordingly.
Pros/Cons	<p>Pros: No additional resource requirement and no change to the Bylaw or application, inspection and enforcement processes.</p> <p>Cons: This approach does not address the functional issues related to the outdated Sign Bylaw. Examples include the lack of ability to address the posters that is causing “visual clutter”; deficiencies in the Definition section (e.g. interior vs. exterior signs) and difficulty to enforce.</p> <p>Cons: This approach does not build on the momentum achieved during the outreach project nor does it respond to the ideas collected from the public consultation. The City will continue to inspect business signs/signage issues based only on complaints.</p> <p>Cons: This approach will likely lead to lost revenues from sign permit fees due to non-compliance.</p>	<p>Pros: This approach addresses the visual clutter caused by posters and other promotional material that are not currently regulated under the Sign Bylaw. It extends the pilot project having Sign Inspectors fluent in Mandarin, Cantonese and English to continue to ensure that signs are installed based on approved permits and to continue proactive outreach.</p> <p>Pros: The outreach along with improved regulations provides clarity while maintaining a “user friendly” interface to encourage cultural harmony.</p> <p>Cons: This does not address the expressed desire by some community members to require the inclusion of English on signs.</p> <p>Cons: Additional resources will be required and there is no guarantee that all businesses will voluntarily include English on signage.</p>	<p>Pros: The approach addresses the visual clutter caused by posters and other promotional material, and the erection of non-English signs language which are currently not regulated under the Sign Bylaw. This approach will provide clarity of the City’s intent to enforce the inclusion of English on all business signs on a going forward basis and eliminate reliance on voluntary compliance to modifying unilingual signs.</p> <p>Cons: This approach is highly regulatory and the business community may not receive this alternative as positively as other proposed options.</p> <p>Cons: Potential legal challenge related to the Charter of Rights and Freedom.</p> <p>See Legal Analysis above. It is anticipated that fees for external counsel related to a legal challenge will be in the range of \$40,000-\$50,000 not including any appeals.</p>
Financial Impact	There will be no financial impact.	It is anticipated that redrafting of the Sign Bylaw including the use of external expertise (policy and legal), public consultation, communication and accompanying collateral material will result in a one-time cost of \$120,000 which can be funded through general contingency. The Temporary Full-Time Business Licenses/Sign Inspector	The cost for redrafting the Sign Bylaw will be similar to Option 2 resulting in a one-time cost of \$120,000 which can be funded through general contingency. The funding of the Regular Full-Time Business Licenses/Sign Inspector position would be submitted for consideration in the 2016 Budget. Similar to option 2, the Business Licenses/Sign Inspector

	Option 1 (status quo) <i>(Not Recommended)</i>	Option 2 (De-cluttering) <i>(Recommended)</i>	Option 3 (Minimum English Requirement) <i>(Not Recommended)</i>
		<p>position can be absorbed by the Divisional budget through gap funding for existing vacancies.</p> <p>The Business Licenses/Sign Inspector proposed may be partially recovered from increased revenues from sign application fees and fines and improved collection of Business License fees.</p>	<p>proposed may be partially recovered from increased revenues from sign application fees and fines and improved collection of Business License fees.</p> <p>In addition to the cost estimate noted above, if a legal challenge ensues, then it is anticipated that fees for external counsel will be in the range of \$40,000-\$50,000 excluding any appeals.</p>

Financial Impact

The financial impact of Option 2 is estimated to be \$120,000 which can be funded through general contingency. This one-time expenditure will support the use of external expertise (policy and legal) for the drafting of the Bylaw, public consultation, communication and accompanying collateral material to improve the Sign Bylaw and promote community harmony. (See table above for details). Any unspent funds will be returned to the general revenues.

Staff will report back after one year (Summer 2016) of implementation of the community outreach on results and cost effectiveness of the program for Council consideration on whether to further extend the outreach program.

If the updating of the Consolidated Fees Bylaw No. 8636 to bring sign application fees and fines up to par with other jurisdictions is endorsed, the City will be able to bring in additional revenue to offset any additional cost to implement the options.

Conclusion

Option 2 represents a balanced approach without infringing the Charter of Rights and Freedom. The continuing outreach initiative will reinforce efforts to promote the use of English as the “working language” in Richmond to support community harmony, and the creation of a new Sign Bylaw with a “de-cluttering” provision will help address issues associated with visual clutter on storefronts.

The City's pilot project indicates that public outreach and regular enforcement increases compliance with the Sign Bylaw. Public consultation and research undertaken illustrate that the issue of use of language on signage is indicative of a much deeper concern in the community around community harmony, social cohesion and Canadian values. To address these complex community issues, an approach that focuses purely on enforcement should be considered a last resort. The City already has many strategies/initiatives to promote community harmony (e.g. Richmond's Social Development Strategy, the Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee, grants to community agencies, support of faith and inter-faith organizations etc.). Cooperation/collaboration with the multitude of government agencies and community partners working on inter-cultural issues is already a priority of the City and should be continued.



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- Att. 1: Summary of March 12, 2015 Workshop prepared by Dr. Joanna Ashworth, The Simon Fraser University
- 2: Summary of survey response from www.LetsTalkRichmond.ca
 - 3: Summary of email received from signsconsult@richmond.ca or by mail or hand to Richmond City Hall
 - 4: Executive summary of the University of British Columbia report titled "Social Cohesion and Visual Landscapes in Richmond" by Elanna Nolan and Dr. Daniel Hiebert

City of Richmond Community Workshop // March 12, 2015

PUBLIC SIGNAGE and COMMUNITY HARMONY in RICHMOND

REPORT

Submitted to City of Richmond

By Dr. Joanna Ashworth and Associates

Senior Dialogue Associate, Wosk Centre for Dialogue
Simon Fraser University

April 17, 2015





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INTRODUCTION

"Today We Are On A Path For A Better Quality Of Life In Richmond"

On the evening of March 12, 2015, over 100 citizens gathered at the John M.S. Lecky UBC Boathouse to listen, learn and offer their ideas about how to address Richmond's public signage in a way that contributes to community harmony.

City staff opened up the gathering by noting the broad cross-section of people present, including City Council representatives, Mayor Malcolm Brodie and Councillors Chak Au, Bill McNulty and Carol Day; members of the Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee; The Laurier Institute; the Canadian Race Relations Council; representatives from the business and non-profit sectors; and other concerned citizens of Richmond.

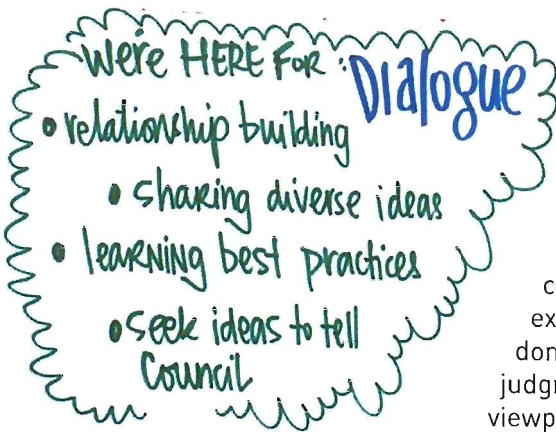
Using the metaphor of a scale, City staff emphasized that, in creating cultural harmony in its approach to business signage, the City of Richmond is attempting to balance two domains. The first is plans and policies, which would include the Richmond Social Development Strategy and Official Community Plan, and the second is regulations and other measures such as the sign by-law, education, and outreach.

City staff then highlighted the evening's four broad objectives:

- To increase opportunities for understanding and relationship among cultural groups.
- To welcome a respectful exchange of diverse viewpoints from members of the community on the public signage issue.
- To learn from best practices in other jurisdictions.
- To seek recommendations for action from the community for Richmond City Council's consideration.



"We're Here To Create Something New"



Senior Dialogue Associate at the Wosk Centre for Dialogue at Simon Fraser University, **Dr. Joanna Ashworth**, the moderator of the workshop, acknowledged that "This is a difficult conversation" with a lot of emotion surrounding it.

To foster a fresh flow of ideas and to spark new conversations, she suggested that people make an extra effort to step beyond the typical polemic that can dominate public meetings, and to suspend their pre-judgments, let go of certainty, and temporarily relax their viewpoints.

Joanna advocated respectful listening, but admitted that, "Respectful listening is extremely hard work because it requires that you put the speaker in the foreground and your desire to express your ideas in the background."

While encouraging people to share their views, she asked them to also be mindful while doing so: "When you speak, be aware of the potential impact of your words on others."

To set a collegial tone and building on the principles of intercultural connections, she invited participants to share stories of how they welcome one another - to their homes, their community and or their workplaces. In small groups, people spoke of simple kindnesses like saying hello and making eye contact, offering a cup of tea or a beer, bringing muffins to someone new in the neighbourhood, inviting neighbours to a barbecue, and walking each others' kids to school.

Some spoke of misunderstandings such as not removing footwear in a "no shoes" home or confusing guests accustomed with more formality with the message, "Make yourself at home." Others shared their discomfort at not feeling welcome by newcomers to Richmond and no longer feeling at home in their community.

In hearing some of these stories, Joanna observed that, "It seems that there's a real desire to welcome others, although sometimes we don't feel welcome and other times our efforts to welcome aren't understood."

VIDEO

"If We Bring People Together They Will Flourish"

Simon Fraser University Creative Media Services presented a short video featuring a series of "streeter" interviews of Richmond residents who described Richmond as "peaceful," "friendly," and "convenient." One interviewee said, "I love the diversity of it... All different kinds of cultures. I like the Nature, there's a lot of green space. There's really a lot of things to like about Richmond."

When asked about their views on Chinese signage in Richmond, a range of views were expressed. One young newcomer was "overwhelmed by Chinese signage at first," but then said "Chinese is the dominant culture here, so it kind of makes sense." Another young woman thought that there should be other languages on the signs to encourage non-Chinese-speaking people to come to the city. In interviewing Chinese-speaking residents, one said, "Some Chinese, some English, that's better" and another said he preferred signs in both languages, "so people know what the business is about." A resident who'd lived in Richmond since the 1980s said, "I think everyone should just get along. I don't think (signage) makes that big of a difference."

Those interviewed felt that creating community harmony required bringing people together in various ways – community outreach programs, informal chats at Tim Horton's, and festivals "that can draw everybody together (so we can) get to know each other and understand each other."



WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT CREATING COMMUNITY HARMONY

4

"We Want Richmond To Be The Most Welcoming, Inclusive And Harmonious Community In Canada"

Chair of the Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee (RIAC), **Diane Tijman**, informed the gathering of RIAC's work in creating harmonious community in the city. As a proud citizen of Richmond, and District Curriculum Coordinator of English Language Learning & Multiculturalism, at the Richmond School Board (RSB), Diane shared her delight in regularly receiving new families from all over the world. "It's a joyful job."

She also spoke of RIAC's broad Council-appointed representation that embraces community services, education, seniors, youth, the disabled community, law enforcement, health services, the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development, as well as six members from the general public.



She went on to describe how this diverse group of 18 citizens addresses issues referred to it by City Council and provides information and recommendations to Council and community stakeholders regarding intercultural issues and opportunities. Their mandate is to "enhance intercultural harmony and strengthen intercultural cooperation in Richmond" and to promote pride in and acceptance of Canadian values and laws, respect for diverse heritages and traditions, and participation in community life.

Diane mentioned many recent RIAC projects, including the January 2015 **City of Richmond Diversity Symposium**, which brought together community leaders and staff to share information on community building; a **National Aboriginal Day celebration** in City Hall in 2014; and the May 2013 **Richmond Civic Engagement Forum**, which brought together diverse sectors to focus on community cohesion. She also drew attention to the *City of Richmond Newcomers' Guide*, which is available in English, Chinese, Russian, Punjabi, and Tagalog, and provides up-to-date information about the city, its government and the services provided by different civic and community organizations.

Diane emphasized that creating community harmony is a many-faceted undertaking that requires facilitating partnership among Richmond's many community stakeholders, educating themselves and others on the meaning of culture and diversity, extending information and welcome to newcomers, and providing opportunities for the city's many cultures to learn and celebrate together.

SEEKING A SHARED VISION ON COMMUNITY HARMONY

"A Good Community May Have Conflicts. Acknowledging These Conflicts Can Lead To Harmony."



To engage the participants in reflecting on what they had heard in the video and the presentation on the work of Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee Joanna then posed the following question to the group:

"What does community harmony mean to you?"

The resulting response was dynamic with many people putting forth their views. Some spoke about what it meant to them personally, with sentiments like "feeling welcome," "feeling at home," and "a feeling of belonging." Others took a more abstract view with words like "empathy," "inclusive of everyone," "respectful of every culture and individual," and "shared experiences."

Still others moved into the governance sphere and emphasized "Consistency. Council needs to apply bylaws equally and consistently." Related to that was the view, "We all live in the same box. Respect the rules. Live in harmony."

A resident of Chinese origin pointed out that, "In Chinese culture, 'harmony' needs many sounds. This creates resonance." Supporting that perspective, another said, "Harmony implies differences; it's about acknowledging and respecting differences." A third participant added, "A good community may have conflicts. Acknowledging these conflicts can lead to harmony." A fourth participant offered a related view, "not unity by conformity, unity in diversity."

A longstanding resident emphasized "the ability to communicate," pointed out that "'communal' comes from the same root as 'communicate,'" and concluded that "a shared language is fundamental to creating community." In a similar vein, a participant said, "It's important to understand that English and French are Canada's official languages." Another said, "Multiculturalism is entrenched in Canadian constitution but that doesn't mean that anything and everything goes."

This discussion suggested a need to find a meeting ground between residents who welcome diversity and those who seek greater uniformity. As one participant put it, "We need to develop our capacity to manage conflict and differences."

THE CITY OF RICHMOND'S ROLE IN ADDRESSING THE SIGNAGE ISSUE

6

"City Council Has Consulted Broadly With The Community"

City staff provided an overview of citizens' concerns about signage and the City's efforts to address them.

Noting some residents' discomfort with the number of signs that are in languages other than English, and with the non-English ads, flyers and promotional materials in the mailboxes, staff explained that the City has no jurisdiction over material that comes in the mail and that the bylaw limits the types of signs that it can regulate.

City staff informed the group that Richmond's Sign Bylaw #5560 applies to exterior signage and rezoning/development signs but not to those on the inside of windows of places of businesses, in the interior of shopping centres or in bus shelters. It also does not apply to directional, "For Sale", "For Lease", and related types of signs. Any amendment to the bylaw applies on a "going forward" basis only and existing signage will not be required to comply.

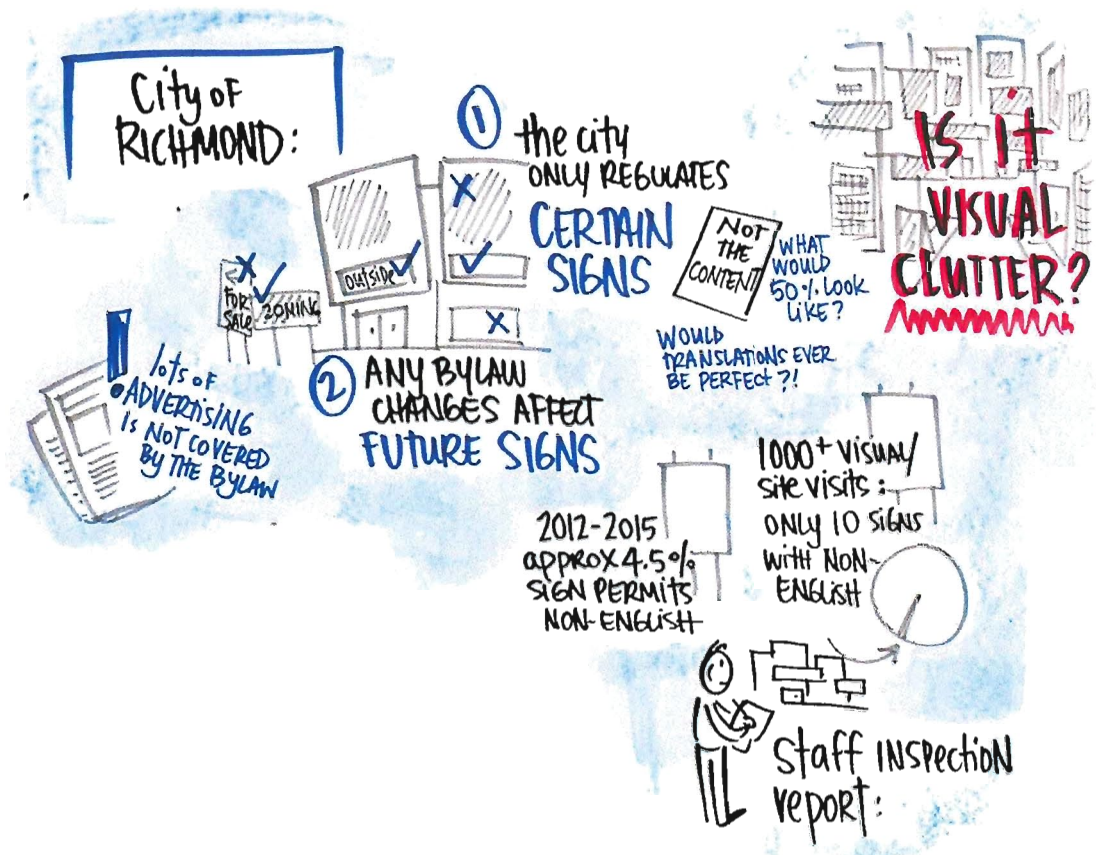
Staff said that there are penalties for not meeting bylaw requirements, but that the City has preferred to employ an educational outreach method to a punitive approach. Asking people to include English in their signage at the sign permit stage has been more effective in encouraging the inclusion of English on signage, as has intervening when new business license applicants require a sign permit and when they are renewing their business licenses.

Staff said that City Inspectors' door-to-door campaign to educate businesses on the importance of having signs that all citizens can understand and on the City's sign permit requirement has also been successful in generating sign permit applications. Non-English-speaking business people have been informed of City Council's message that not including English on their signs can lead to losing 50% of their potential customers, and most of these business people have indicated that they will include or provide additional English in future signage. Of the City's inspection visits to over 1000 places of businesses, only 10 signs had no English on them at all. The rest were in both English and Chinese with some size variance.

Staff also pointed out that the City has established www.richmond.ca/signage, a webpage which provides research and background information on the signage issue and ongoing efforts to address it. It has also created an on-line, three-question signage and community harmony survey to which all residents can respond. They can also email their responses to signsconsult@richmond.ca or they can post them on Letstalkrichmond.ca.

City staff said that overall, the majority of people consulted wanted some English language requirement in business signage. Staff also drew the group's attention to some related signage concerns, notably poor translation and visual clutter. Concerning the latter, staff mentioned the City of Surrey's de-cluttering campaign and recently updated bylaw, which limits all signs to 25 per cent of a business' storefront windows.

The group was informed that staff will be presenting a report on the signage issue to City Council this Spring.



LEARNING FROM OTHER CITIES THAT HAVE FACED CONFLICTS OVER SIGNAGE

7

*“All Found Ways To Turn Challenges
Into Opportunities”*

The next presenter, Dr. Dan Hiebert, Professor of Geography at UBC, has studied the signage issue extensively and, with PhD student, Elanna Nolan, has prepared a study, “Social Cohesion, Diversity and Lessons Learned From Other Jurisdictions.” He affirmed his and his co-author’s neutrality on the issue, saying that neither lives in Richmond and neither is about to suggest what Richmond should or shouldn’t do.

Dan began by debunking “The Big Myth,” which is that Richmond is divided into two cultural/ language groups – Chinese and British. In reality, there are 165 different ethnic groups in Richmond and 77 different languages. **To flesh out the picture, he offered the following facts:**

- 62% of Richmond’s 190,000 residents are immigrants
- Since 1980, 94,000 immigrants, approximately 50% of which are ethnic Chinese, have come to Richmond
- Approximately 90% of the population can speak English; 10% cannot
- 12,000 people living in Richmond, most of whom are Chinese, work in a language other than English
- 108,000 people speak English in the home; 82,000 do not

Dan informed the group that from 1980-2011, 21,000 immigrants came to Richmond through the Business Class category. Immigrants entering Canada through this category are required to start a business as a condition of entry. He explained that it is likely due to this immigration stream, and a concentration of Economic immigrants in Richmond, that we see a proliferation of businesses operated by merchants for whom English is an additional language. He went on to explain that a commercial district with Chinese-dominated signage is common worldwide and is symptomatic of a global Chinese diaspora of 40 to 50 million people. He then described three multi-ethnic communities, similar in character to Richmond, who have successfully addressed similar challenges.

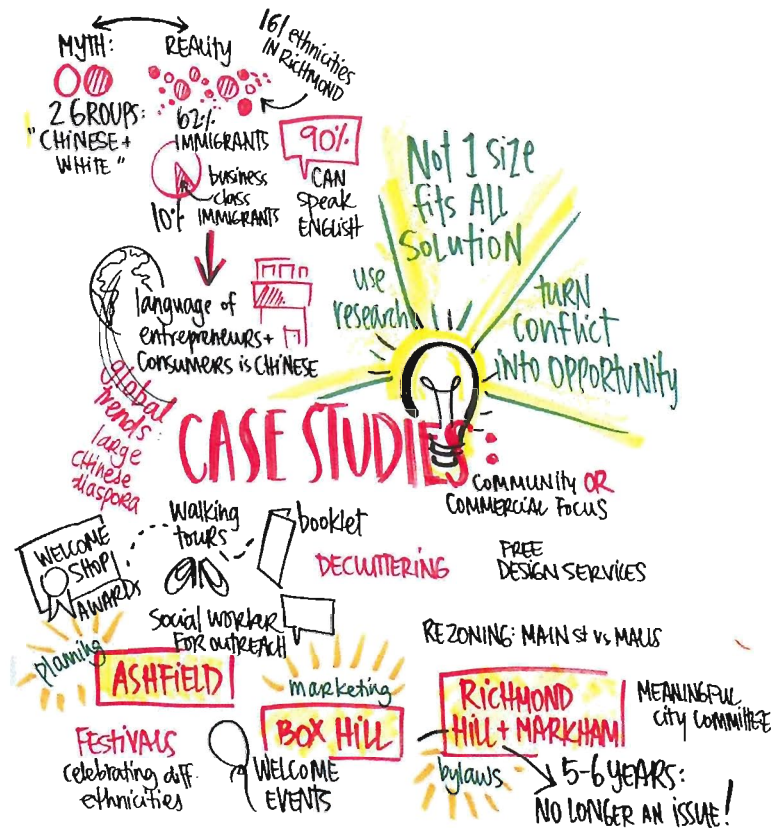
Professor
Dan Hiebert:



RICHMOND:



LIVING WELL WITH
DIVERSITY



Fifty percent of the population of **Ashfield**, near Sydney, Australia, is foreign-born and its “Anglo-Celt” community, many of whom are elderly, complained that Ashfield no longer felt like home. City council took a social planning approach and hired a social worker of Chinese origin to mediate concerns and to encourage Chinese merchants to be more welcoming and inclusive to residents.

Other initiatives included free translation services; a “Welcome Shop Day” to introduce the public to Chinese commercial areas; walking tours with visits to restaurants, herbalists, etc.; and “Welcome Shop Awards” for aesthetically pleasing signage. Council also produced a booklet in both Chinese and English that explained Ashfield’s socio-cultural policies and strategic plans.

The City Council of **Box Hill**, a high-density suburb of Melbourne, had been receiving complaints about the “changing character” of the population and the plethora of Chinese signs. Council took a commercial approach to resolving the issue and funded “Annual Harmony Day” to showcase Box Hill’s ethnic diversity, and funded separate festivals for its larger cultural groups.

In addition, they hired a multilingual consultant and initiated a “Shopfront Improvement Program” with a focus on decluttering. The program included discounted translation services and free graphic design to assist merchants in creating more attractive signs.

Comparable in population to Richmond, **Richmond Hill and Markham**, Ontario, have a diverse population, 55% of which are immigrants and nearly half of which are Chinese. Sixty-five percent of Richmond Hill’s citizens speak a non-official language in their home.

Responding to complaints from long-term residents about Asian-themed malls and visual clutter, Richmond Hill used its municipal powers and enacted a sign bylaw that required 50% of the text on all commercial signs to be in English or French. They also rezoned areas near residential communities as “not for mall building” and encouraged more “Main Street” commerce (as opposed to malls.).

In addition, they established a Race Relations Committee to listen to people’s complaints. Because it included three Council members along with other community representatives, the committee had the political clout to act on the recommendations arising from their Diversity Action Plan.

As a result, Richmond Hill and Markham were able to manage what had been a pressing issue in the 1990s such that it became a non-issue within five to six years. Today, Richmond Hill and Markham enjoy considerable condo and commercial development with a mix of both Asian and North American-style malls, including the largest Asian-Western-style mall in North America.

Dan identified a number of key lessons from this survey of the three communities:

1. Different communities require different solutions. Ashfield’s solution was oriented toward social planning, Box Hill favoured marketing and economic planning, and Richmond Hill and Markham chose a blend of legislation, zoning, and race relations.
2. All solutions required a serious investment of time, energy and money on the part of the municipality.
3. A combination of top-down and bottom-up initiatives proved effective.
4. All three communities established structures to encourage dialogue.
5. All three communities commissioned research to understand issues and to help design solutions.
6. All three communities found ways to turn their challenges into opportunities to improve residents’ quality of life and to promote understanding among cultures.

IDEAS FOR ACTION

“Despite Disparate Views And Interests At Our Table, There Was A Shared Genuine Interest In Finding Solutions.”

Inviting the group to share their views on the ideas offered by Dan and other presenters and fellow participants, Joanna kicked off a plenary discussion with this question: **“From what you have heard tonight, what ideas inspire you and how might they contribute to intercultural harmony?”**

The table responses, an informal show of hands and the posted notices indicated strong support for more robust bylaw regulation of signage, although other than calls for “more teeth” and “consistency” on the part of some participants, few were explicit about what the amendments would consist of.

Some felt that more data was required to ensure that bylaw amendments would reflect the realities of the community. Another urged that the City work with the business community to arrive at a workable bylaw: “The [Chinese business community] want to be part of the solution, not part of the problem.”

There was also a call for leadership on the part of City Council, “Council needs to set a vision and lead us toward it, as opposed to trying to please everyone.” Long-term residents were clear: “We need signage legislation to show that the City is invested in this issue and is prepared to protect English as the hegemonic language.”

Those who were specific about bylaw regulation tended to favour the Richmond Hill and Markham solution – i.e., requiring 50% of the text on commercial signage to be in English or French.

A large number of people favoured a decluttering initiative. Box Hill’s Shopfront Decluttering Program with its discounted translation services and free graphic design appealed to many. One individual suggested having a contest of best business signs. “Richmond citizens can vote on the best signs.”

Few participants considered bylaw regulation to be sufficient to address the issues. As one participant said, “The law is a blunt instrument. Analysis is required. Voluntary compliance is preferred.”

One viewpoint that surfaced frequently was the idea that signage is symptomatic of a deeper division in the community. As one participant expressed it, "Signage is the tip of the iceberg and can be resolved through good governance. We need social cohesion and respect." Another put it more bluntly, "We live in a community in which white people and ethnic Chinese people discriminate against one another. They should get it together. There should be more love."

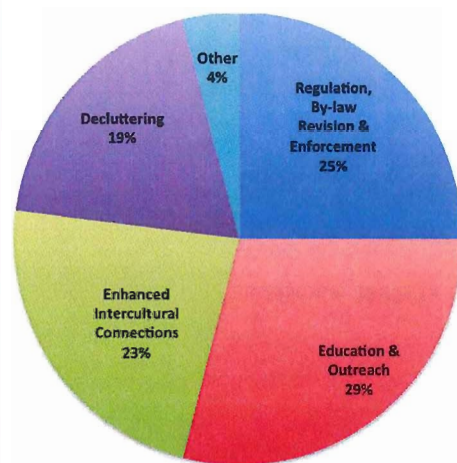
Most attendees recognized the multidimensionality of the problem and supported more education, outreach and intercultural enhancement. According to one attendee, "The bylaw discussion is a red herring. Ideas of intercultural events and resources for immigrants solve the core problem."

Apart from Box Hill's effective approach to decluttering, a number of people also appreciated its cultural outreach initiatives – i.e., hiring a multilingual consultant and funding festivals involving a number of ethnicities.

Initiatives like open house shopping days were also favoured. Support was expressed for the Ashfield model with an emphasis on more social-cultural initiatives such as a Chinese social worker, walking tours, and welcoming events.

FIGURE 1

75 responses were collected from participant post-it notes. These have been categorized according to their support for different solutions.



As a way of strengthening intercultural relations, one person suggested funding summer students to create plasticized "cheat sheets" of common English consumer-oriented phrases to assist non-English-speaking business owners in communicating with English-speaking customers.

There was a persistent call among some participants for respecting the existing culture ("Newcomers need to respect those who built the community.") and for making learning English mandatory among younger newcomers, although not among the elderly.

While there was support for funding more ESL and citizenship programs, one spokesperson said, "It's not just about ESL. It's about outreach, breaking down the silos of communities, bringing people into the community."



NEXT STEPS

"There's A Lot Of Potential For Really Interesting Change In Richmond."

9

Despite the divisions evident in the comments, by meeting's end, there was a prevailing sense of optimism about the possibilities for resolution. As one spokesperson admitted, "We haven't changed our minds but we have begun to understand one another in new ways." One person was surprised that the signage issues "was not as difficult to discuss as I thought it would be." Another was gratified to discover "that it is possible to have a reasonable discussion and to really 'hear' all parties." A third person said something similar: "I learned that a reasonable response can be had among a diverse group of people over a contentious issue."

According to people's comments on the feedback forms, they also gained a greater understanding of what signs can and cannot be regulated, of the diverse nature of Richmond's population, of the city's current efforts to improve community harmony, of how other cities have successfully addressed a similar problem. They also learned that the actual percentage of signs with no English on them is not as high as they had originally thought.



An important new understanding shared by one participant had to do with "the feelings of being excluded on the part of long-term residents."

In concluding remarks, City staff expressed how impressive participants' enthusiasm and energy had been and how evident the shared desire was among those present to bring signage and cultural harmony together.

The overarching message from the meeting was that more discussion is needed, that a creative, multidimensional approach is essential, and that devising as many formal and informal ways as possible to bring disparate groups together is necessary.

I Agenda



City of
Richmond

Community Workshop Agenda
6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

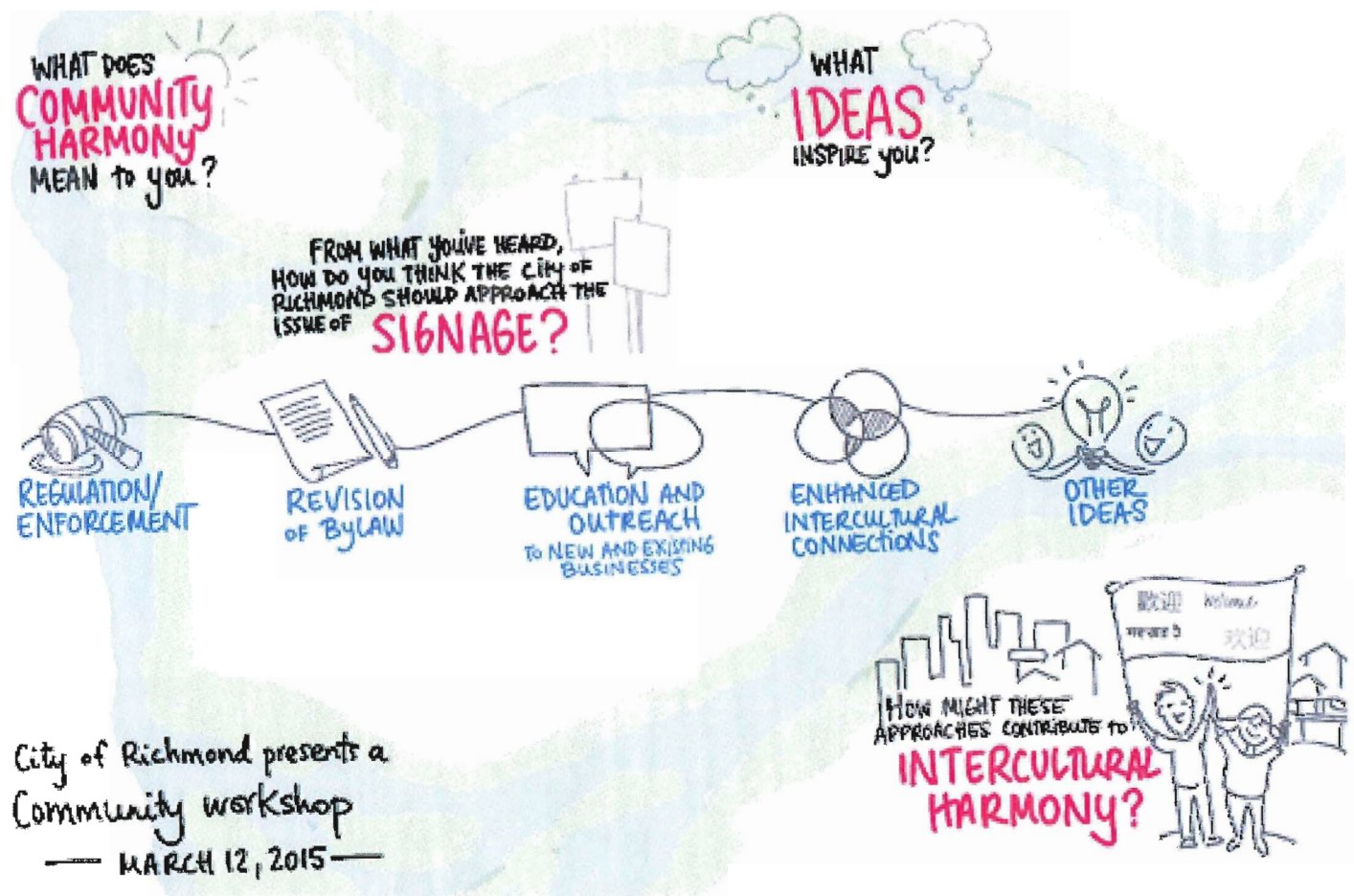
Signage and Community Harmony in Richmond

Thursday March 12, 2015
6:30-8:30 p.m.

1. **Welcome, Goals of the Workshop and Setting the Context**
John Foster, Manager, Community Social Development, City of Richmond
2. **Guidelines and Overview of the Workshop**
Dr. Joanna Ashworth, Senior Dialogue Associate, Work Centre for Dialogue, Simon Fraser University, Workshop Moderator
3. **Video: Living in Richmond, Non-English Signs & Creating Community Harmony**
• Produced by Simon Fraser University Creative Media Services
4. **Presentation: The Work of the Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee**
• What do we know about creating harmonious community? *Diane Tijman, Chair Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee*
5. **Moderated Plenary: Seeking a Shared Vision on Community Harmony**
• What does community harmony mean to you? What ideas inspire you? *Dr. Joanna Ashworth, Facilitator*
6. **Presentation: The Role of the City in Addressing the Signage Issue**
Cecilia Achiam, Director, Administration & Compliance, City of Richmond
7. **Presentation: Living well with diversity: Learning from other cities that have faced conflicts over signage**
Dr. Dan Hiebert, Professor of Geography, University of British Columbia
8. **Small Group Discussion & Report Out: Ideas for Action**
• From what you've heard so far this evening, how do you think the City of Richmond should approach the issue of signage?
• How might these approaches contribute to intercultural harmony?
9. **Closing Remarks**
John Foster, Manager, Community Social Development, City of Richmond
10. **Next Steps: Feedback Forms & Report**
Dr. Joanna Ashworth, Moderator

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II Map of Workshop Questions



III Post-Its Responses To Workshop Questions

What does community harmony mean to you?

- “compassion respectfully helpfully”
- “being respectful of each other irrespective of culture, language, religion”
- “intercultural harmony is a two-way street”
- “understanding which values are cultural”
- “respect for self, others, other values”
- “understanding what fixed and what are cultural values”
- “conflict resolution, not peace at any cost”
- “separate the sign issue from racism”

General Comments

- “Bylaws aren’t the only way. It’s better to explore other options. UBC research was very helpful”
- “Being inclusive is positive for the bottom line”
- “After 40 years, we don’t feel welcome or included any longer here.”
- “After (addressing) signs, where else will it go? There is still racism.”
- “Consider safety in emergency situations where communication is a problem.”
- “Countering public apathy (on so many topics)”
- “I want to feel welcome at all businesses.”
- “Can’t get into the real estate market. Lost sense of community.”
- “problem is immigrants settle in major areas and spread out.”
- “Root is unnecessarily high immigration policy.”
- “[need] greater analysis of issue.”
- “Signage is the tip of a big iceberg in Richmond. This is about waves of immigrants NOT WANTING to integrate into Canadian society in general and Richmond community specifically.”

- “As an English speaker, what about my Charter of Rights?”
- “Create a desire to include non Chinese speakers in all aspects of community. Common language.”
- “I don’t understand why people come to our country and don’t respect English.”
- “Identify and establish what are our ‘Canadian values’”
- “50% of business lost if signs strictly one language.”
- “When no English [speakers] feel excluded.”
- “Include everything in business and speak to size.” [?]
- “Sign regulation won’t work.”
- “signage by-laws are weak to nonexistent in this municipality”
- “how do we educate people who speak limited English to understand our way of living and culture”
- “The main problem is communication through language. One language for everybody.”
- “to promote intercultural harmony, we need to have Chinese business community reach out to Canadian-born residents.”
- “Language issue makes it difficult and makes it hard to be inclusive”
- “Copy Richmond Hill and Markham. That’s what we need.”
- “None of the examples (of successful approaches) presented relied solely on a by-law.”

Support for regulation/enforcement

- “size of signs; French and English; regulation at all levels of government – municipal, provincial and federal”
- “rezoning of residential and commercial areas. More main street.”
- “regulate interior and exterior signs”
- “regulate a wider category of signs (e.g., in front of single houses), which are often Chinese only”
- “We need signage legislation to show that the City is invested in this issue and is prepared to protect English as hegemonic language”
- “if there’s a penalty, then enforce it. Otherwise it’s useless.”

Support for revision of by-law

- “renew the by-laws and give them teeth. This will result in harmony.”
- “enact a by-law in both English and French and apply it consistently.”
- “Bylaws contribute to cultural harmony by being applied consistently.”
- “signs need to be 50% English/French or other language”
- “create a by-law”
- “Have a decluttering by-law” (counted under “by-law” not “decluttering”)
- “Bylaws 50% English. Regulate more signs than done now.”
- “Sign bylaw 80% minimum English/French
- “Start with some basic rules around signs with 50% + English as a basis”
- “comprehensive sign by-law”
- “create by-law”

Support for Education and Outreach

- “education”
- The law is a blunt instrument. Analysis is required. Voluntary compliance is preferred.”
- “Richmond should stay the course of using persuasion to influence more English signage.”
- “More English learning services for immigrants”
- “More citizenship classes/services for new immigrants”
- “education at licensing level”
- “talk to business owners about respect for all”
- “encourage businesses with programs and encourage them to understand how they make the community feel”
- “public education”
- “education, consultation, encouragement”
- “Education. Outreach.”
- “Merchant education”
- “outreach help. Encourage English usage.”
- “Reaching out to business.”

- “Education is key.”
- “Education and outreach”
- “A regulatory regime is dictatorial and costly and would only affect approximately 4.5% of existing signs (and zero new signs are non-English only). Outreach and education are key and more effective.”

Support for Enhanced Intercultural Connections

- “Fund summer students to do plasticized cheat sheets (translating) English (consumer-oriented) phrases (e.g., “How much is that?”) into other languages.” (Intercultural)
- “The bylaw discussion is a red herring. Ideas of intercultural events and resources for immigrants solve the core problem.”
- “willingness to change. Empathy, dialogue, openness.” (Intercultural)
- “Participation in community events (e.g., open doors)”
- “Increase interaction/contact amongst different cultures.”
- “Cultural share. Food fair.”
- “Universal welcome sign in business windows.”
- “Bring people together.”
- “Cultural ambassador/social worker to work with businesses.”
- “Reframe thinking and approach. Instead of advising businesses of their potential loss of business, emphasize the importance of letting people feel included. Welcome ALL PEOPLE. Do not exclude non-Chinese speakers.
- “free translation of signs, menus, etc. would be a great start. Or at least discounted translation” (intercultural)
- Support for “Other” (including combined approaches)
- “Create City Immigrant Affairs office.” [other]
- “Make learning English mandatory.” [other]
- “Ashfield model. Social worker welcoming shop owners; walking tours; booklet; welcoming events; decluttering. (Intercultural + decluttering)
- “Change must be dialogical. A sign bylaw unilaterally imposes a dominant culture on a group. Festivals, education, welcoming tours and outreach build the capacity of the entire community to appreciate other cultures.” (Intercultural + Education & Outreach)
- “Immigrants are generally aware that English is important in Richmond and want to connect with the community. Services like accessible ESL classes, translation services,

tips on marketing, cards with common English translation will be most effective.”
[Outreach/Education + intercultural]

- “Try the approaches of other cities with similar populations – free translation services, education and outreach is a very good approach because most Chinese/other immigrants can’t learn English.” (education/outreach + intercultural)
- “Box Hill – commercial focus; decluttering; multilingual consultant; festivals involving a number of ethnicities; free graphic design” (decluttering + outreach)
- “Use Richmond Hill as an example. Establish by-law + race relations committee.” (bylaw + intercultural)
- “bylaw is not the most effective solution. Education, persuasion is. An open house shopping day is a fabulous idea.” (education + intercultural)
- Reaching out to business and encouraging English signs along with Chinese if wanted. Double-sided bilingual signs should also be enforced. Force will never create harmony [no bylaw]. Intercultural committee = expensive.” (enforcement + outreach)
- “Address clutter”
- “clutter limitation is worth investigating.”
- “decluttering will help immensely”
- “have a contest of best business signs. Richmond citizens can vote on the best signs”
- “declutter to decrease the perceived volume of single language signage”
- “declutter: window signs/ vinyl...Limit the text to a specific amount – i.e., 25%
- “declutter!”
- “decluttering has some merit”
- “encourage decluttering”
- “shop front improvement program”
- “Appearance.”
- “active integration (long term approach) of immigrants into Canadian society” (other)

IV Graphic Illustration of Community Workshop Ideas



Data Summary: Language on Signs

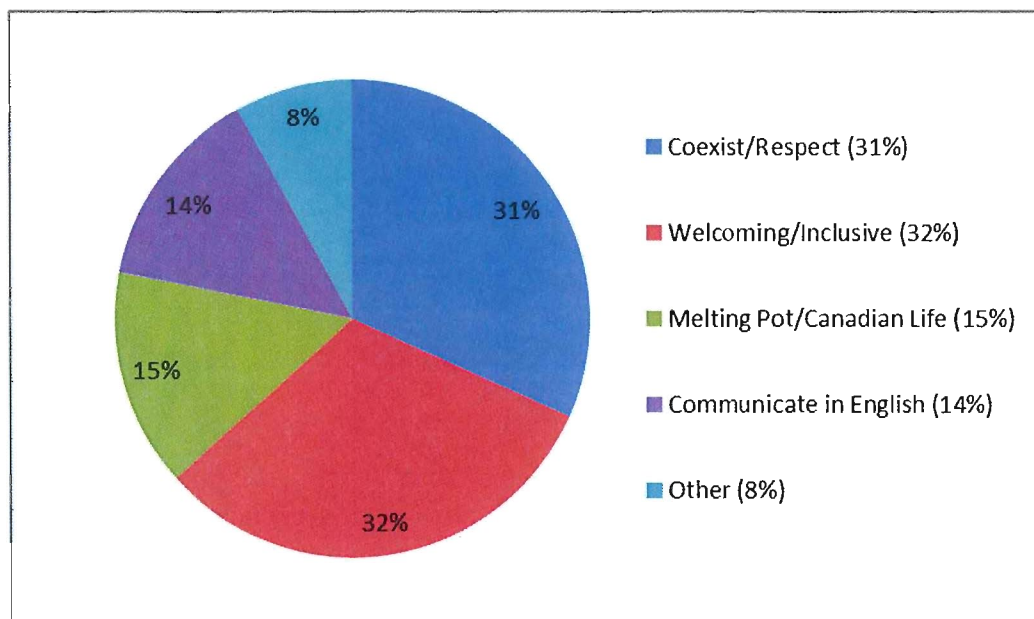
Let's Talk Richmond Survey

The City implemented a multi-pronged public consultation process between January 30 and March 20, 2015 to gauge community perceptions on the language on signs in Richmond. The community was invited to have their say and provide their thoughts on the language on signs issue through mail, email, an online survey hosted at Let's Talk Richmond, or by attending a community workshop hosted by the City.

This document provides a brief overview of the observations from the responses received through the online survey. The survey was offered in English and Chinese, however all responses received were in English.

A total of 260¹ responses were received to the online survey. The summary below includes paraphrased findings to provide a flavor of the diversity and spectrum of responses and is not intended to present verbatim feedback received.

1) What does community harmony in Richmond mean to you?



31% of the responses were related to community harmony being about the coexistence of people from different cultures in a community. Descriptions included a community where everyone works towards achieving the same goals, respecting one another, and conflict is avoided.

¹ The survey had 3 open ended questions, not all respondents responded to each question. 260 is the number of responses received to the questions with the most responses.

Almost as many responses were received (32%) where community harmony was described as a process where community members make a conscious effort to understand one another and each other's differences, embrace each other's cultures and contribute to a welcoming and inclusive environment. Many expressed the opinion that welcoming was not a one way street where host community residents were required to extend a welcome to newcomers/immigrants. They indicated that there was an obligation on the part of newcomers to welcome and integrate with the host community members as well.

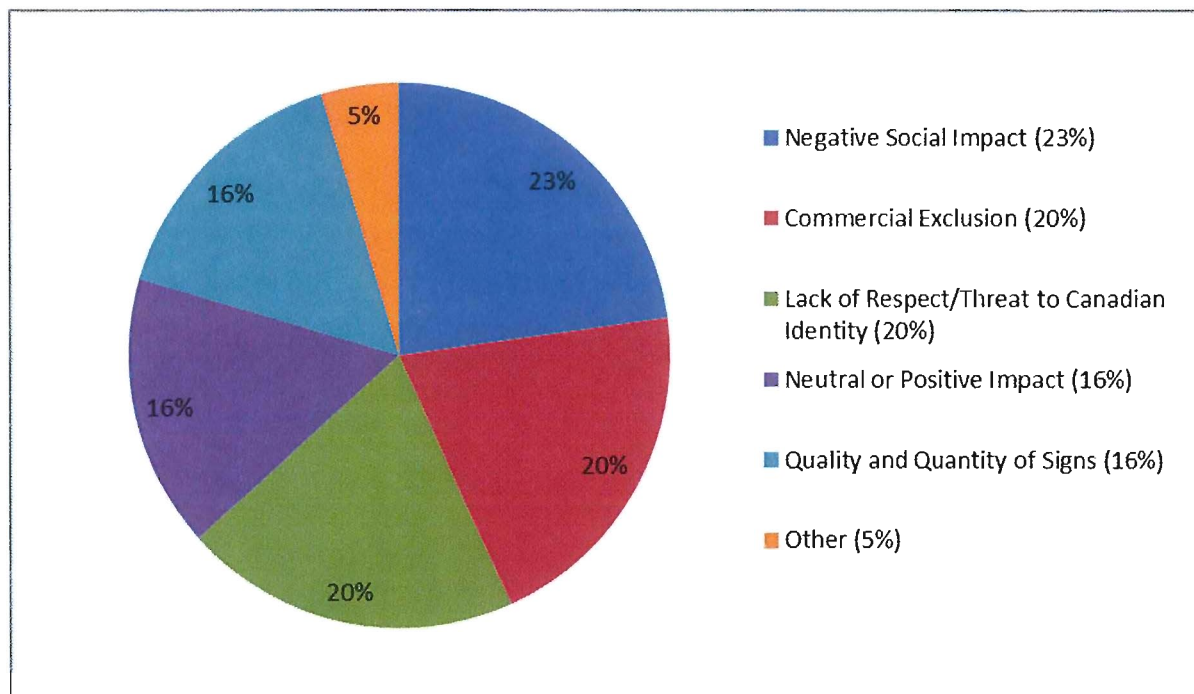
Another 15% of the responses envisioned community harmony to be achieved only if immigrants and newcomers assumed and assimilated to Canadian values and ways of life. That is learning and speaking English, and putting their cultural practices and mother tongue aside to replace with that of Canada's - in essence equating community harmony to an environment of a "melting pot".

Close behind at 14%, indicated community harmony was about communication, more specifically, about the ability of community members to be able to communicate with one another in English. Those with this perspective believe that without communication, and without being to understand one another, that community harmony is not possible as not being able to communicate in English creates silos and mini "Asian communities".

Concepts of respect, lack of conflict, welcoming and inclusiveness were the dominant opinions received in the responses. A strong notion within the responses was that coming to Canada was a choice on the part of immigrants; therefore they should assimilate and adapt to the Canadian way of life, and assume a Canadian identity.

There was an element of fear in many of the responses that immigrants were taking over Richmond and the once European majority that founded this Country was becoming a minority and invisible in the very Country they created. As a consequence, non-official languages are beginning to take over the landscape that should belong to the official languages of Canada.

2) How do you feel about the signage in the community? Does it affect your quality of life?

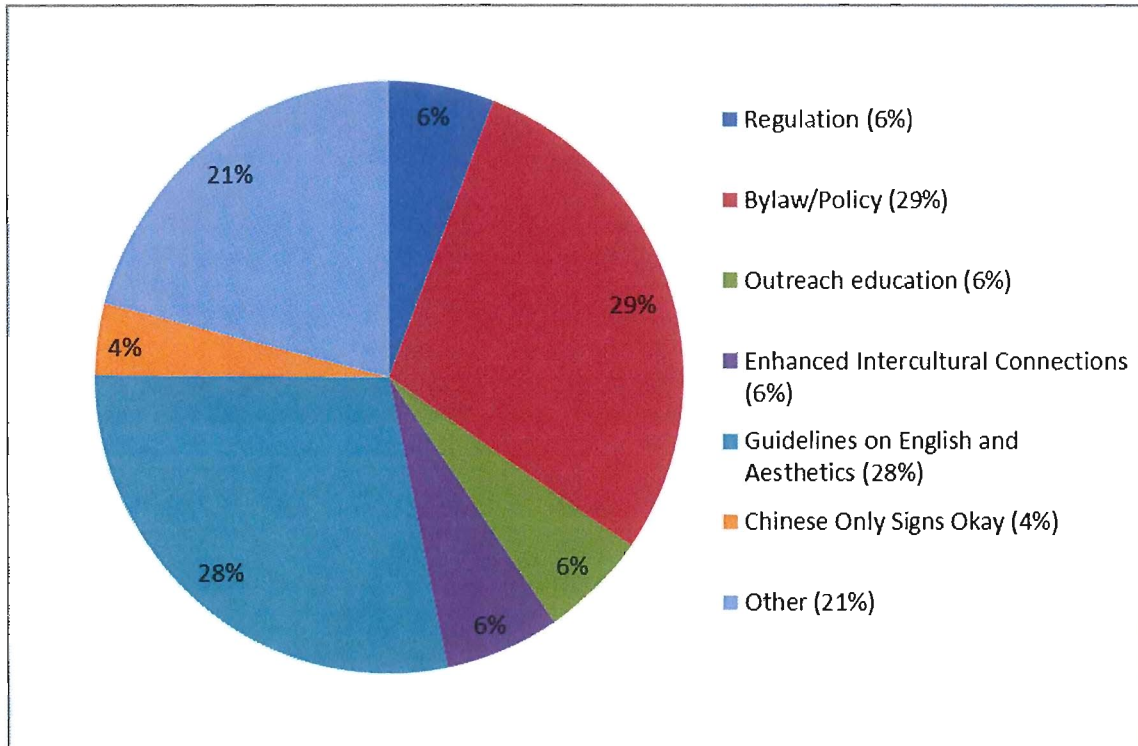


23% of responses referenced the negative impact of language on signs to the quality of life of a community, a few spoke of personal experiences resulting in negative emotional consequences for them. Personal feelings of social exclusion from the community, and feelings of not being welcome in specific areas of the community were prevalent among those noting a negative impact of language on signs. A few responses noted a disconnect from surroundings that is experienced when an individual is not able to read the signs around them.

20% of the responses noted that language on signs led to commercial exclusion or a feeling that they were not wanted or welcome as consumers in a particular store. Not being able to read the business sign also created a lack of understanding of what services a store was offering.

Another 20% of responses were of the opinion that signage that was not in English displays a lack of respect for Canada and Canada's way of life, and a threat/negative consequence to Canadian identity. A message that resonated among many of the responses was that seeing signs in a language other than English made community members feel like they were no longer in Canada, and that Richmond is being transformed into having an Asian feel rather than a Canadian feel.

3) Please share any additional comments that can assist the City of Richmond in developing future recommendations and measures related to language on signage.



The top 2 categories of recommendations (29% and 28% respectively) were Bylaw/Policy and Guidelines on English Aesthetics.

Responses noting the need for some form of guidelines were suggesting that the City take some form of action that would provide clear expectations for business owners to follow in terms of signage. Although the majority specifically noted the need for guidelines on the use of one of the official languages (English and/or French), some also referenced the need for guidelines around visual elements and aesthetics of signs. There was a sense that signs were not visually appealing, and too large. In some cases, it was noted that signs presented a visual clutter to the community and guidelines needs to be implemented to eliminate this clutter.

Bylaw/Policy responses were related to those specifically noted that a Bylaw or formal policy dictating the requirement and mandatory use of English on signs be implemented by the City. Many suggested that English (or any one of the official languages) need not be the sole language, and that another language could be included on a sign, but in much smaller font.

The themes of Outreach and Education, and Enhanced Intercultural Connections were each noted in 6% of the responses. Several responses noted that education on community harmony and the Canadian way of life was essential to include as part of the solution.

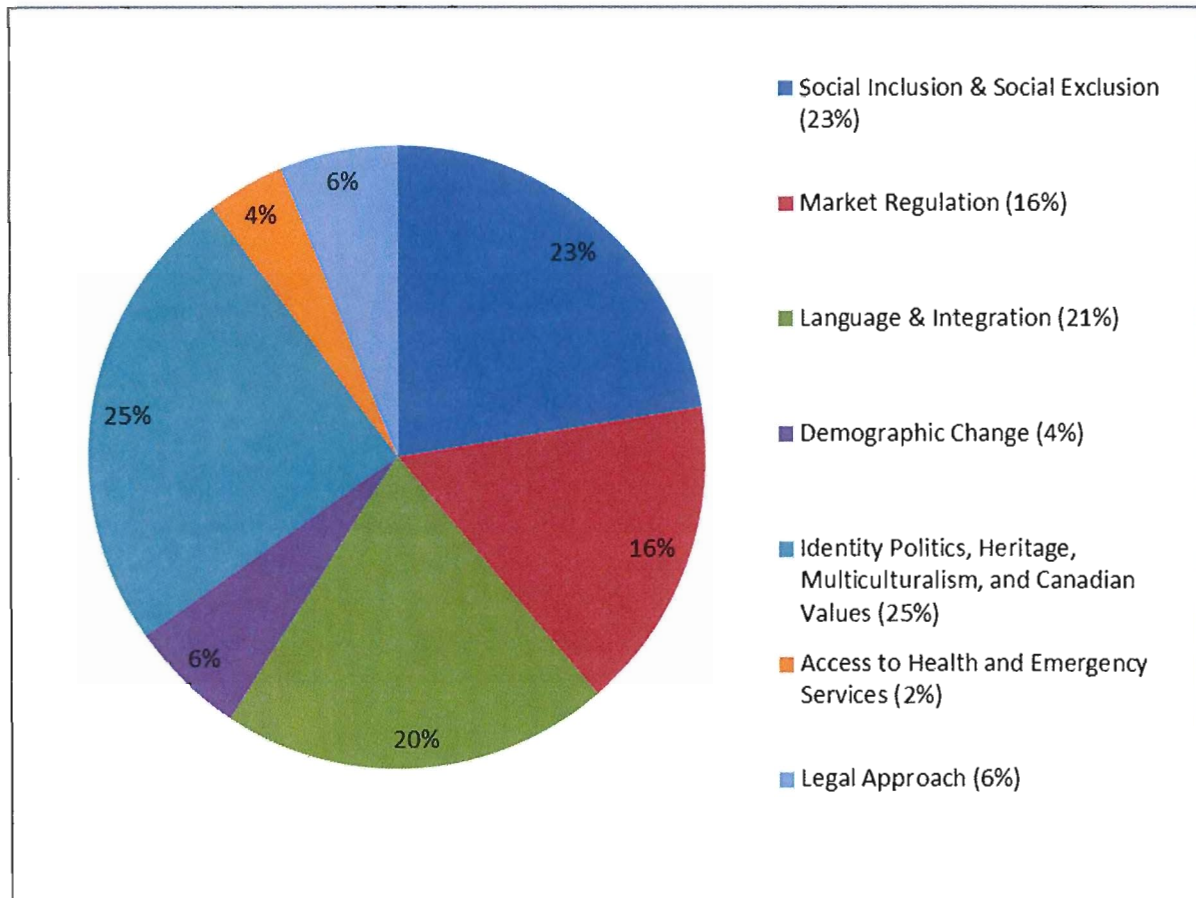
A small minority (4%) felt that Chinese only signs are okay. That is a business owners prerogative to promote to their target market as they wish. As well, some felt that language specific signs were a sign of the multiculturalism in our community, and therefore should not be seen as an issue but rather embraced.

Data Summary: Language on Signs

Emails received through signs consult email address

The City implemented a multi-pronged public consultation process between January 30 and March 20, 2015 to gauge community perceptions on the language on signs in Richmond. The community was invited to have their say and provide their thoughts on the language on signs issue through mail, email, an online survey hosted at Let's Talk Richmond, or by attending a community workshop hosted by the City.

This document summarizes the submissions received through the email address (signsconsult@richmond.ca) created for this engagement process. A total of 24 emails were received¹. The figure below illustrates the emerging themes from the emails. To provide context to these themes, included below are verbatim examples of responses received. No names have been included to the examples to protect confidentiality.



¹ This does not include the propaganda that forwarded to the City through this email. These items were not seen as a community member providing their thoughts on the issue of language on signs, and therefore not included in this summary.

1) Social inclusion and social exclusion are expressed in two ways – non- English signage excludes “host society” (belonging, recognition and heritage, market participation) versus non-English signage prevents populations from participating as they choose in the market and in everyday life. The argument of multiculturalism and the Canadian welcoming of newcomers are expressed in many instances with the analogy of a “two-way-street”, and applied to both sides of the “for” and “against” City regulation of signage.

“As Canada has only two official languages, signage should be in both English and French. If a company wants to add another language - so be it, however English or French should be the dominant language.

I was born and raised in Vancouver, spent a lot of time in Richmond and moved to Richmond in 1990. I refuse to patronize shops where Chinese is the dominant language on signage as I have found that I am ignored or treated very shabbily. This is Canada, not Hong Kong or China. There are a great many people who do not speak either Chinese dialect who are being excluded by this immigrant class. This is reverse discrimination. Would we be allowed to act as they do if we moved to their "home" country - I think not.

I was in Superstore the other day and a young cashier of Asian descent was serving the customer in front of me. The Asian customer began speaking to the young lady in one of the Chinese dialects and when the young lady advised that she did not speak that Asian language, the customer was very rude. Where does this woman think she lives.....China?

While this is supposed to be an open and free society specific immigrants are trying to make it a closed one solely for their benefit, not for the benefit of all Canadians.”

2) Market-regulation is another theme that is employed to make a case that markets will self-regulate and in time English language will increasingly be used in signage in order to access a broader market share.

“Here is an example: there is a business that sells chicken feet, coagulated pig blood, cow stomach, duck tongues, and duck necks, etc. Those foods are popular in Chinese speaking community. Will English speaking local residents ever think about purchase foods? Very likely, no. In this case, since the majority, if not all of its customers are Chinese, it is very natural for the business owner to make Chinese more prominent in their business signs because he or she wants to get as many customers as possible. Assuming all of a sudden, Chinese speaking customers change their appetites and do not eat those foods anymore and on the other hand, English speaking customers start to love those foods and buy them like crazy, what will the business owner do? Any rational business owner will change their former Chinese prominent signs to English prominent or English only signs. That is the power of market.”

3) Language & integration are raised as a key issue for consideration of an amended signage bylaw. Language is interpreted as a marker of integration, and therefore non-English signage is seen to be a sign of failure to integrate. An argument is also presented in this way for a “tough-love” approach, in which English language is enforced in order to assert the primacy and common language of English (and French) in Richmond, and Canada.

“I personally think that English should be on every sign, public or private. Not having English on signage, menus and the like is divisive, especially now that native english speakers are in the minority of Richmond's population. I wouldn't have a problem with another language alongside english, either larger

or smaller depending on their preferences. These immigrants are not being encouraged to integrated into our community if they can live their entire lives here without speaking a word of English. We should encourage them to integrate, and this would be a good first step. Having both languages—English and Chinese—on signage would encourage inclusion in businesses primarily serving Chinese.”

4) Demographic change is cited by many, and is framed by some with a narrative of “Asian Invasion,” of loss of what was seen to be a British heritage, and the perceived development of enclaves and ghettos.

“As a Canadian born citizen I embrace our diverse culture. I feel it makes us richer human beings by understanding our differences. However, myself and many Canadian born citizens I know (regardless of our family backgrounds) feel that there is a disrespect of the Canadian culture and our strong identity when you see an overwhelming amount of influence of other countries growing here and no recognition of the official Canadian languages.”

5) Identity politics, heritage, multiculturalism, and Canadian values are raised both to defend freedom of expression through a lens of multiculturalism in a position against regulation; and in the affirmative by depicting the undoing of Canadian identity and values that is, in some cases, understood as the foundation of the signage issue.

“It is incomprehensible that English speaking Canadians in Richmond have to fight to keep the official language of the country on signage. Canada is a land of immigrants - we have integrated into our communities joined by a common thread, the English language. Canadians also pride themselves on being an inclusive society, welcoming newcomers. Now it appears that some newcomers don't have enough respect for the rest of us to include the common language of Canada (as well as the international language of commerce) on their signs. This is very disturbing. More disturbing is that to date this issue has been of little importance to our public officials.

For those non Chinese speakers who still choose to live in Richmond, this issue must be resolved. All signs posted in public places should be readable by all residents in the community by equally including one of the official languages of Canada.”

6) Provision and access to and by health and emergency services are used to present a case for English as primary, and signage regulation by the City.

“No one seems to have mentioned that English on signage allows emergency services to find businesses faster when they are responding to calls for service when time is of the essence.

It is incredibly hard to find a business by name on a street or in a strip mall when one cannot read the signage and can only go by tiny street number lettering on the corners of buildings or on inconsistent places near the units in question. All emergency services have English language in common.

In an emergency, every second counts so clear signage with at least the business name displayed prominently in English is essential. No one really cares what language today's lunch special is displayed in.”

7) Taking a legal approach, some cite the Charter of Rights & Freedoms and in so doing, make an affirmative case for the right to enforce official language, and an opposing case is made with the logic of freedom of expression, in whatever language one chooses.

*"I feel the regulation of signage does relate to the Charter of Rights portion that states, **The City would need to establish that compelling health, safety, economic or social welfare objectives are at stake to justify a limit on the Charter freedom**", in that the social welfare of all our citizens doesn't benefit all if you see the dividing line that has been created by signage in areas that don't "feel" welcoming to all citizens. This has already created rifts with residence and many have left the city because of the frustration they feel and being "over run" with other countries values. (yes, economics has played a factor, and a higher population of Asian immigrants, but my children and some of their friends (heritage being very diverse) feel that in order for them to have opportunities for their future they have to leave because many of the jobs they see advertised say that "speaking Chinese is an asset" so they know that the opportunities here are fewer and fewer."*

Executive summary.

Social Cohesion and visual landscapes in Richmond

Research prepared for the City of Richmond

Elanna Nolan & Daniel Hiebert

April 2015

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Introduction

Following a referral from City Council in October 2014, City staff have been directed to undertake a comprehensive study and consultation regarding what has come to be known as the Richmond “signage issue.” Coinciding with the lead up to the November 2014 City election, Council’s directive follows a period of public interest and demand that the City take greater action to regulate signage language. In October 2014, the City received sixty-one letters and emails from the public requesting that the City take action and enforce English as the priority language on all signage (and in many cases advertisements). While regulation of advertising is beyond the City’s jurisdiction, exterior commercial signage does require submission of an application for permit.

At present the Sign Bylaw (No. 5560) regulates the size, design and location of exterior signage. A permit is required prior to installation (Figure 1). Signage not covered in the Sign Bylaw includes interior signage (i.e. posters placed on the inside of a window, menus, mall signage, etc.), directional signs, property lease and sale signs, along with some others. Council have directed City staff to study the issue of language on signs, undertake public and stakeholder consultation and to compile critical and relevant information on the effect of signage issues locally and afar, to assist Council in determining if a bylaw or some other strategy would be most appropriate.



Figure 1. Only signs on the exterior of the building are regulated by the Richmond Sign Bylaw (No. 5560). Advertising and promotional material are not regulated under the Sign Bylaw.

Background for this report

Concern over the language used in commercial signage is by no means a new issue. However, it has gained particular momentum on two occasions over the past three years: in March 2013 with the submission of a 1,000 signature petition requesting that Council introduce a Sign Bylaw condition of two-thirds of text in English language on all signage; and in October 2014 in the lead-up to the most recent City election. Between the letters and the news coverage, a common narrative has emerged connecting “rapidly” changing demographics and the ethnic make up of the City of Richmond with concern over a lack of immigrant integration.

A survey of news media and letters to Council reveal a gap between perceptions of demographic change and the demographic reality of the City of Richmond. In the report, we present data that shows this discontinuity, and busts some of the “myths” that have become the basis of many expressions of concern. However, we also acknowledge that this “myth” is still meaningful. It provides insight into the ways in which some citizens of Richmond are experiencing feelings of social exclusion, isolation and a lack of recognition.

We see the signage issue as involving two sets of concerns. In the foreground are issues related to the symbolic nature of visuals in the urban landscape of Richmond, specifically focused on the regulation of text in public and commercial spaces. In the background, we identify issues that frame this particular concern; these include questions over how visual landscapes represent people, history and culture in Richmond, as well as raising questions over the nature of intercultural engagement and social cohesion in Richmond.

It is important that we make clear, that while we seek to address the above listed issues, we are not legal scholars. As such we can only recognize the legal backdrop of the signage issue as they relate to the protection of freedom of expression as outlined in the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. With this legal backdrop in place, we have investigated the signage issue in relation to a mandate and commitment by the City of Richmond to enhance intercultural harmony and strengthen intercultural cooperation in Richmond (RIAC 2011). It being beyond our capacity to advise, we limit our contribution in this way. Put simply, we do not seek to offer “solutions” or specific regulatory recommendations, rather to provide resources to support thinking through the signage issue.

Project structure & methodology

The research questions that guided this research study included:

1. What is the nature of the relationship between visual and linguistic landscapes with multiculturalism, social cohesion, and community harmony?
2. How can we think about the role of local government, in terms of these relationships in a super-diverse city?
3. Are there examples of urban governance and regulation/non-regulation of visual/linguistic landscapes that could cast light on the challenges faced by the City of Richmond?

The research was carried out in three parts:

- Part One* Mapping super-diversity in Richmond and seeing the signage issue: Demographic context and discourse analysis, including review of news media and letters to Council
- Part Two* Literature review: Multiculturalism, social cohesion, and community harmony in the linguistic landscape
- Learning from cities afar: An international jurisdictional scan
- Part Three* Bringing it all together: Synthesising research, lessons, and reflections

Super-diverse Richmond

There is often a tendency to see diversity in terms of ethnicity or country-of-origin, however, in so doing it can be easy to miss details that shape the contours and textures of every day experiences. The concept of super-diversity helps us see the various population details, such as language, religion, age, immigration stream, that are often overlooked when we talk about diversity based on country-of-origin or ancestry. Recognizing super-diversity in Richmond reveals the multiple groups, communities, and cultures that make it a unique and vibrant city.

Longstanding diversity in Richmond: 1981-1996 to today

- In 1981 there were just over 96,000 people living in Richmond. Roughly ten per cent of the population were born in an Asian country.
- By 1996 the population of Richmond had grown to 148,000 people. Just under half of the population self-identified as a visible minority, and a third of the total population as Chinese-Canadian.
- 1981-1996 was a period of profound demographic change in Richmond. The proportion of almost 90 per cent “white” Canadians became a ratio of roughly 50 per cent, to a respective 50 per cent visible minority population.

Over the past twenty years, demographic change has been more incremental, leading to what is now a ratio of 70 percent visible minority. In terms of the pace of demographic change, the past twenty years has been far less profound than what happened between 1981-1996.

- Today in Richmond, 70 per cent of the population identifies as being “visible minority” and over 60 per cent of the population are immigrants to Canada.
- There are 161 ethnicities represented in Richmond.
- These figures represent a history of immigration to Canada and settlement in the City of Richmond, a testament to national immigration policies, along with a policy of multiculturalism since 1971.
- Since 1980, the largest number of immigrants has arrived through the Economic class, as skilled workers and business class applicants and family members (requiring them to start a business).

The majority of Richmond residents can speak English and use English as a working language.

- About 90 percent of the population can speak English (19,800 cannot).
- 57 per cent of residents speak English ‘most often’ at home.
- 43 per cent of residents speak a different language most of the time.
- Richmond residents are able to speak 77 non-official languages in total.
- 11 per cent of residents work in places where a non-unofficial language is used most of the time.

Media scan and letters to Council

Media reports on the signage issue have been concentrated in three key moments (Figure 2): January-March 2012, March-May 2013 (coinciding with a Petition to Council for Bylaw), and September-November 2014 (coinciding with

the 2014 City Election). These key moments are repeated in the survey of letters to Council (Figure 3).

Overall the signage issue has been reported in a fairly balanced way. Pro-regulation articles (particularly letters to the editor and editorials) are generally expressed with a tone that is more emotive and sometimes antagonistic, compared to other reports. This highlights the emotional nature of the issue – an issue that engages questions of home, belonging, and recognition.

Figure 2: Media scan, January 2012-December 2014

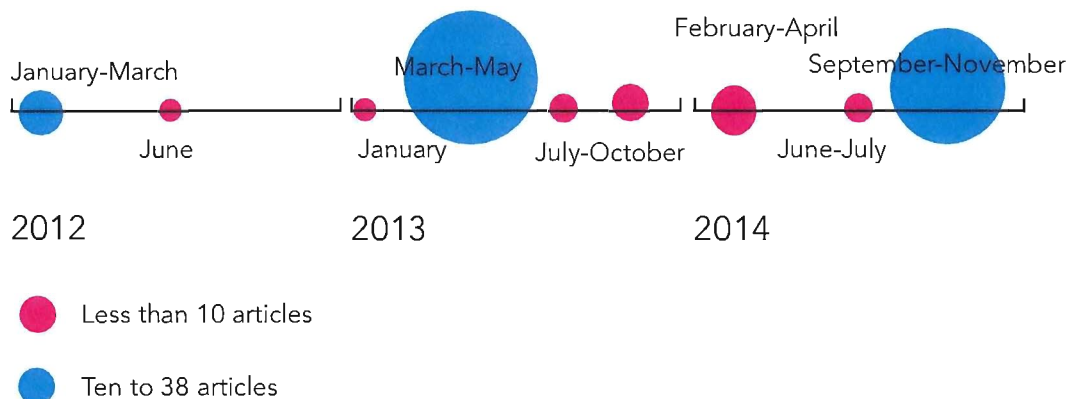
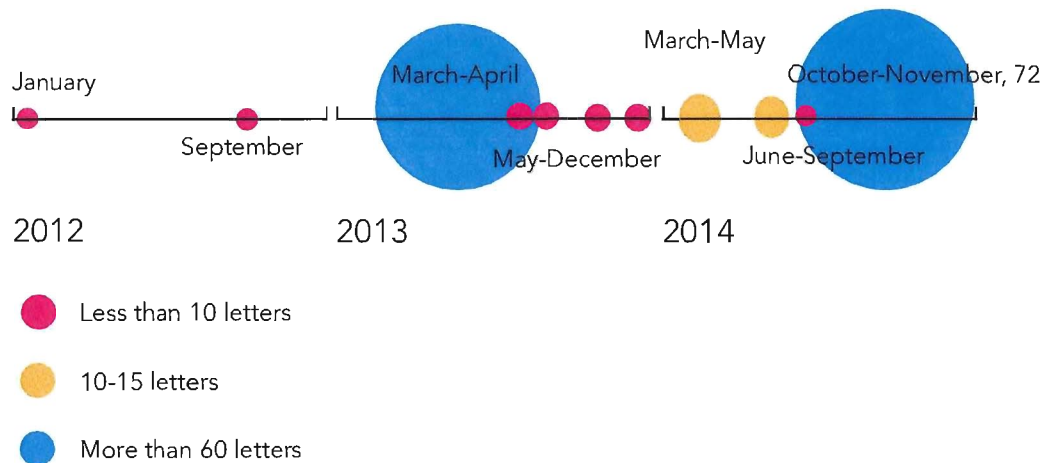


Figure 3: Letters to Council, January 2012-January 2015



The emergent themes across the media reports and letters to Council include:

- Concerns over social inclusion and exclusion
- Market self-regulation of language on signage (i.e. in order to attract a larger market share, merchants will advertise in official language/s)

- Concern over demographic change
- Identity politics, heritage, multiculturalism, and Canadian values
- Health and safety concerns
- Legalistic approach to a by-law
- Federal immigration policy
- Immigrant integration and language

Learning from the research

The concepts of intercultural harmony and social cohesion have not been defined in ways that are universally accepted. We therefore begin by sketching out the origins of these concepts, in light of Canada's policy of multiculturalism, some of the debates over the efficacy of multiculturalism, and a turn toward language such as social cohesion and community harmony.

- Pioneered in Canada in the 1970s, multiculturalism recognizes the great ethnic, cultural, and religious diversity as a defining national characteristic. It outlined, invested in, and regulated diversity through social services, language training, resourcing, and legal infrastructure focused on countering discrimination and through practices supporting the recognition and celebration of difference.
- During the 1990-2000s there has been vigorous debate in Canada and elsewhere over the efficacy of multiculturalism as a policy and as a concept.
- Arguments circulate in academic research and policy discussions over the question of whether multiculturalism has led to polarized societies and citizens living "parallel lives" – communities divided with little contact between ethno-cultural groups.
- This allegation has not 'migrated' to Canada, and multiculturalism continues as an important part of Canadian social policy and national character.
- Social cohesion has been distinguished from multiculturalism largely in the way it focuses on membership to a national community, for instance, membership to a Canadian community of citizens, rather than focusing on difference. Over the past twenty years there have been ongoing debates in the literature over the definition of social cohesion and the best ways to measure it.
- In a super-diverse society, evaluating social cohesion does not always account for the different experiences between immigrant and native-born Canadians, challenges faced in immigrant settlement, and the barriers faced by newcomers to social, political, and civic participation.

- Seen as complimentary to multiculturalism, social cohesion can be interpreted as providing a vision of what social relations under multiculturalism might look like, but ultimately it does not tell the full story of the successes and failures of a super-diverse society.

Much of the research around signage in public space (a.k.a. linguistic landscapes) focuses on super-diverse cities where citizens speak multiple languages.

- Most of the research is on the problem of *under-representation* of immigrant groups and their languages on signage, and the domination of official languages.
- Increasing prevalence of English language has led to the linguistic dominance, worldwide, of English language on signage. In many countries English language is seen as a symbol of modernity, progress and “international panache”.
- Language is encountered in a myriad of ways in the visual landscapes of our everyday lives. Of the various ways (i.e. graffiti, marketplace, consumer goods, street signs, etc.), most are outside the jurisdiction of most City administrations.
- Linguistic landscapes are rarely static; they shift and change over time with flows of migration and other processes of change. What we see today will inevitably be different to what we saw fifty years ago, and what we will see fifty years from now.
- Illegibility, or an inability to read all that is written in the linguistic landscape, can produce feelings of anxiety and alienation. This experience goes both ways – for official and non-official languages.
- Some scholars argue that social inclusion and a sense of belonging, connectedness, and acceptance, are prerequisites for immigrant integration, including official-language proficiency (i.e. inclusion is not exclusively the result of language proficiency). For immigrants in the process of learning official languages, seeing familiar (mother-tongue) language in the linguistic landscape contributes to a sense of recognition, welcome and belonging, which can support integration into the host society.

Learning from cities afar

Each of the cities presented in the report are unique, with specific geographies, social issues, economic contexts, immigration regimes, and more. These case studies do not so much present strategies that can be picked up and dropped into the Richmond context. Rather, they reveal some ways cities around the world are seeing similar challenges of planning for and managing diversity.

#1 *Ashfield, NSW, Australia*

Ashfield had become known as an ethnically “Chinese” city/area. Elderly Anglo-Celtic Australian residents complained to Council that they felt displaced and that there is a lack of inclusion and belonging in the Ashfield landscape. Council’s response was comprehensive, beginning with a research partnership with a local University, and was followed by a series of socially oriented interventions. The issue was effectively resolved in just one year. Interventions included:

- Appointing a Chinese-origin social worker to mediate concerns and encourage merchants to be more ‘welcoming’, ‘inclusive’
- Free translation services for merchants
- Instituting a ‘Welcome Shop Day’ to introduce general public into ‘Chinese’ commercial areas
- Walking tours with visits to restaurants, herbalists, etc.
- Welcome Shop Awards (for ‘de-cluttering’ and signage), with clear suggestions on aesthetics
- Booklet (in Chinese and English) explaining socio-cultural policies/strategic plans of the City

#2 *Box Hill, VIC, Australia*

Box Hill is an Activity Centre in Greater Melbourne, Australia, with a so-called distinctive “Asian character.” It is a site of significant growth, and higher density residential and commercial development. While some complaints have been received by Council that echo those in Richmond BC, they have been successful at developing an approach that has been celebrated as inclusive. This strategy was developed and informed by research commissioned by the City, which drew on examples of “best practice” from the City of Richmond, BC. Interventions have been economically and market-focused, and include:

- Community events to showcase diversity in the area (i.e., acknowledge many groups)
 - Annual 'Harmony Day' with performances, foods, music, etc.
 - Festivals for several of the larger groups
- Shopfront Improvement Program
 - Encouraging de-cluttering of shop-fronts
 - Multi-lingual consultant hired
 - Free consultation offered to merchants on graphic design, and discounted translation services

#3 *Richmond Hill & Markham, ON*

A signage bylaw has regulated language on signs in Richmond Hill since November 1990 (50:50 official:non-official language). However, in the mid-1990s controversy began to develop in Richmond Hill and neighbouring Markham, relating to the rise of so-called "Asian themed malls." Strategies employed by City staff in Richmond Hill and Markham during this time involved a combination approach that included:

- Using municipal powers to diffuse immediate tensions
 - Sign bylaw, 1990 (50%+ English/French required)
 - Encouraged more 'Main Street' commerce
 - Re-zoning land near residential areas from commercial to residential use
 - Pushing malls away from residential areas
- Race Relations Committee established, supported by a *Diversity Action Plan*
 - Includes 3 Council Members
 - Developed procedures to consider complaints
 - Has power to make 'actionable' recommendations

It took 5-6 years de-escalate, and today, the controversial sites have been developed with residential condominiums, which have dissipated tension. Markham is also home to the largest Asian mall in North America, and is slated for further development in coming years, with the addition of the Remington Centre, more North American in style.

Conclusions

As measures of social cohesion cannot tell the full story, neither can linguistic landscapes be used to correlate degrees of integration of immigrant publics, or be seen as indicative of exclusive and anti-social intentions. As such, linguistic landscapes cannot accurately be used as a platform for measuring degrees of community harmony.

In one of the letters to Council, an individual suggested that the proliferation of Chinese language on signage in Richmond was a sign of things to come calling it the proverbial “canary in the coal mine.” The author goes on calling for Richmond to take action and set an example for the rest of Canada.

The author of this complaint presents the canary in the coal mine with an ominous tone. However, we see the signage issue as an opportunity for Richmond. It is an opportunity for the City to demonstrate leadership, to recognize Richmond as a super-diverse city, committed to a vision of multiculturalism and community harmony, with a basis in open dialogue. As the public workshop demonstrated, there is community will to engage in difficult conversations, and with appropriate guidance the City and its citizenry can continue to address more of the important “background issues” that have given rise to calls for a new signage by-law.

We might ask to what degree should the City administration play a proactive role in framing and outlining what it might mean to live in Richmond? How can a shared vision be crafted in collaboration with Richmond’s citizenry? We hope that by providing some context and research on the relationship between signage and the social life of super-diverse cities, the City and its residents will have some new tools and frames of reference to undertake these conversations as they come to choose a best course of action, moving forward.



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: General Purposes Committee
From: Lani Schultz
Corporate Programs Consultant
Re: **Council Term Goals 2014-2018**

Date: May 5, 2015
File: 01-0105-07-01/2015-
Vol 01

Staff Recommendation

That Council consider the information contained in this report from the Corporate Programs Consultant, dated May 5th, 2015, and either adopt the 9 themes and priorities presented herein as their Council Term Goals for the 2014-2018 term of office, or identify and adopt any modifications, deletions or additions to this information for their Council Term Goals for the 2014-2018 term of office.



Lani Schultz
Corporate Programs Consultant (604-276-4129)

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
REVIEWED BY SMT	INITIALS: 	APPROVED BY CAO 

Staff Report

Origin

Council decisions guide and influence the City's social and physical development, the quality of life and lifestyle choices available to residents, the relative safety and protection of residents and businesses, and the role the City plays within the region. To help Council manage this important agenda, a "Term Goal Setting" process is undertaken at the start of each new term of office to determine Council's desired focus and priorities in order to ensure City work programs are appropriately aligned. This process forms an integral part of City operations, and helps to ensure a focused and productive workforce that makes the most effective use of public resources.

The purpose of this report is to facilitate discussion amongst members of Council at a public meeting, in order to determine a set of common priorities and Term Goals for the 2014-2018 term of Council.

Analysis

Council Term Goals are intended to reflect the overarching "themes" Council would like to focus on. A clear, consistent set of goals allows for a visionary agenda as well as the flexibility to be responsive to new issues, opportunities, and challenges as they emerge during the term. Based on analysis of input garnered from members of Council leading to the preparation of this report, a number of common themes and priorities emerged for discussion in the adoption of Council Term Goals for the 2014-2018 term of office. This report presents the results of this analysis, and provides Council a basis for a public discussion on what should form Council's Term Goals for this term. A total of nine broad themes emerged from the collective information, each with a set of priority areas that help capture the interests identified in those themes. In addition, a number of specific "indicators of success" for each of the themes were identified that may be useful in helping to track progress in achieving Council's goals during this term of office. In alphabetical order, the nine themes that materialized include:

1. **A Safe Community:** Maintain emphasis on community safety to ensure Richmond continues to be a safe community.
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.
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.
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 maintain Richmond's position as a leader in sustainable programs, practices and innovations.

5. **Partnerships and Collaboration:** Continue development and utilization of collaborative approaches and partnerships with intergovernmental and other agencies to help meet the needs of the Richmond community.
6. **Quality Infrastructure Networks:** Continue support and diligence towards the development of infrastructure networks that are safe, sustainable, and address the challenges associated with aging systems, population growth, and environmental impacts.
7. **Strong Financial Stewardship:** Maintain the City's strong financial position through effective budget processes, the efficient and effective use of financial resources, and the prudent leveraging of economic and financial opportunities to increase current and long-term financial sustainability.
8. **Supportive Economic Development Environment:** Review, develop and implement plans, policies, programs and practices that enhance business and visitor appeal and promote local economic growth and resiliency.
9. **Well-Informed Citizenry:** Continue to develop and provide programs and services that ensure the Richmond community is well-informed and engaged with regard to City business and decision making.

A more detailed description of the above common themes, along with example indicators of success that were identified, follows. In addition, a number of specific tasks were identified during this process that while not actual "goal" material, helped to determine the above themes. These items are listed in Appendix One, for information.

Theme 1: A Safe Community - *Maintain emphasis on community safety to ensure Richmond continues to be a safe community.*

While Richmond continues to be a safe place to live, work, and play, Council recognizes community safety as fundamental to the City's livability, and views this area as a high priority. Council understands the importance of continuing to enhance the community's sense of safety to ensure Richmond is a healthy and livable community. Council is committed to ensuring that the City's community safety models of operation and services relate to Richmond's specific needs and concerns, and that these services are responsive to the safety needs of our residents and businesses as their primary focus.

Priorities that emerged for A Safe Community

Under the safe community theme, the following priority areas emerged for the 2014-2018 term of office:

- 1.1 *Policy and service models that reflect Richmond-specific needs,*
- 1.2 *Program and service enhancements that improve community safety services in the City,*
- 1.3 *Improved perception of Richmond as a safe community,*
- 1.4 *Effective interagency relationships and partnerships.*

Examples of indicators of success for A Safe Community that emerged from Council input:

To track progress towards achieving a Council goal related to a safe community, the following potential outcomes or “indicators of success” were identified:

1.1 Policy and service models that reflect Richmond-specific needs:

- The City is utilizing the most effective police and emergency service models to meet the community safety needs and priorities Richmond.
- The City is able to affect change in policies and models at the local level, to best serve our community.
- Community safety concerns are considered early in the City’s planning and development processes so emergency responders can provide faster, more effective services.

1.2 Program and service enhancements that improve community safety services in the City:

- Education, awareness, and community-based programs are effective and well-used tools for enhancing safety in the community.

1.3 Improved perception of Richmond as a safe community:

- The community feels safe and individuals’ needs are being met.

1.4 Effective interagency relationships and partnerships:

- Richmond has effective working relationships with its key community safety partners (other levels of government, community organizations, and grassroots community initiatives) in the provisions of Community Safety services and programs in the City.

Theme 2: A Vibrant, Active, and Connected City - *Continue the development and implementation of an excellent and accessible system of programs, service, and public spaces that reflect Richmond’s demographics, rich heritage, diverse needs, and unique opportunities, and that facilitate active, caring, and connected communities.*

Council is committed to weaving together a strong community fabric of programs, services and infrastructure that result in a healthy, vibrant, and sustainable City. To this end, Council seeks to nurture a thriving and engaged citizenry; neighbourhoods where there is a sense of belonging and connectedness; a culture of inclusiveness, diversity and social cohesion; and programs, facilities and services that are accessible and meet the needs of the demographics of the community for today and in the future. Council seeks a City that is full of opportunities for recreation, boasts a variety of outdoor green space, reflects our rich arts and cultural communities, celebrates Richmond’s unique heritage and waterfront roots, and provides meaningful opportunities for volunteerism and engagement. In addition, Council is committed to looking for ways to best address changing social service needs within its limited mandate and resources, while effectively managing the downloading of services and funding from senior levels of government. This goal seeks as an outcome, a balanced system of programs, services and infrastructure that results in an active, caring, connected and engaged community where people belong and thrive.

Council's priorities for A Vibrant, Active and Connected City

Under the vibrant, active and connected city theme, the following priority areas emerged for the 2014-2018 term of office:

- 2.1 *Strong neighbourhoods,*
- 2.2 *Effective social service networks,*
- 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.*

Examples of indicators of success for A Vibrant, Active and Connected City that emerged from Council input

To track progress towards achieving a Council goal related to a vibrant active, and connected city, the following potential outcomes or “indicators of success” were identified:

2.1 Strong neighbourhoods:

- We have neighbourhood plans and programs that protect and enhance the sense of identity, pride and liveability in our communities and neighbourhoods.

2.2 Effective social service networks:

- Continued implementation of the Social Development Strategy, that articulates our role and how we work with our partners in service provision, manages expectations, and targets our limited resources in the delivery of these services.
- Completion and implementation of an updated Older Adults Service Plan that addresses services and facilities needs for active older adults, and that facilitates the development of a volunteer base to service the older adult population, as well as providing opportunities for volunteering for this population.
- Establishment of a clear definition of affordable housing priorities and subsequent utilization of affordable housing funding.
- The development of community volunteer programs and strategies that build a broad, knowledgeable and keen volunteer base, and that provide positive and meaningful opportunities for volunteers to utilize their talents while helping to provide important services to the community.
- Implementation of the Youth Service Plan to address youths' needs and build on the assets of youth in the community, while continuously monitoring to ensure we are effectively reaching and responding to youth.

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

- Implementation of the Garden City Lands Plan.
- Completion of the Memorial Garden Project.

- Richmond's parks, open spaces, and trail system continues to be developed, connected, and activated, with additional focus on waterfront opportunities.
- Creation of new urban environments that support wellness and encourage physical activity, particularly in the City Centre area.
- The City has capitalized on waterfront opportunities – including working with partners and businesses.
- Recreation opportunities continue to expand and adapt to meet the needs of the community.

2.4 Vibrant arts, culture and heritage opportunities:

- Existing heritage sites are activated with more activities and things to do.
- Significant progress in the implementation plans of London Farm and Britannia has been achieved.
- We have created culturally rich public spaces across Richmond through a commitment to strong urban design, investment in public art and place making.
- A variety of innovative models are being effectively utilized to promote and highlight Richmond as a City with rich heritage, diverse cultural opportunities, and an active and vibrant arts community.
- Arts initiatives continue to grow and be supported.

Theme 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.*

Richmond is changing and growing at a rapid rate, inline with the rest of the lower mainland. A significant priority for Council over the next four years is preparing for and managing this change by continuing to implement the Official Community Plan (OCP) and make decisions around growth and development with the community in mind. Council is sensitive to the community's perception of the City's growth rate. To this end, Council would like to ensure communication regarding the OCP and its implementation is clear and ongoing with the community, and that developments, when completed do in fact reflect the intent of the City's policies and bylaws. Land Use Contracts (LUCs) are also an area of concern for many and Council has reiterated their desire to remove existing LUCs as a priority. Council would like to enhance the physical design of Richmond to build an attractive physical landscape, with ample visible green space in the urban core. Transportation affects everyone, and increasing livability by dealing with congestion issues through a transportation plan is a priority for Council. Looking at housing options in Richmond, Council would like to increase the variety of options by diversifying housing stock to increase accessibility for all housing needs. Planning our communities takes careful consideration of current and future needs and is a top priority for Council over this term of office.

Priorities that emerged for A Well-Planned Community

Under the well-planned community theme, the following priority areas emerged for the 2014-2018 term of office:

- 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,*
- 3.4 *Diversity of housing stock.*

Examples of indicators of success for A Well-Planned Community that emerged from Council input

To track progress towards achieving a Council goal related to a well-planned community, the following potential outcomes or “indicators of success” were identified:

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

- Development results accurately reflect the intentions of our zoning, bylaws and policies.

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

- The physical design of the City is enhanced, including attractive development and increased ground-level urban green space, especially in the City Centre area.

3.3 *Effective transportation and mobility networks:*

- Traffic in Richmond is effectively managed with livability and convenient access in mind, especially around newly densified areas.

3.4 *Diversity of housing stock:*

- Creative opportunities to increase accessible housing options are identified and increased through working with other agencies and developers.

Theme 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 sustainable programs, practices and innovations.*

Celebrating and building on leading practices in sustainability, Council continues to view leadership in this area as a high priority. Sustainability is considered an overall approach to business within the City, not just a term goal area. Advancing green and sustainable initiatives is very important to Council, who also has a keen interest in combating and preparing for climate change. Continuing to build on the City’s sustainability framework, Richmond aims to be a climate prepared City with sustainable resource use, a green-built and natural environment, local agriculture and food, and a leader in sustainable businesses and municipal government.

Council's priorities for Leadership in Sustainability

Under the leadership in sustainability theme, the following priority areas emerged for the 2014-2018 term of office:

- 4.1 *Continued implementation of the sustainability framework*
- 4.2 *Innovative projects and initiatives to advance sustainability.*

Examples of indicators of success for Leadership in Sustainability that emerged from Council input

To track progress towards achieving a Council goal related to leadership in sustainability, the following potential outcomes or “indicators of success” were identified:

- 4.1 *Continued implementation of the sustainability framework:*
 - Continued implementation and significant progress towards achieving the City's Sustainability Framework and associated targets.
- 4.2 *Innovative projects and initiatives to advance sustainability:*
 - Richmond's prominence as a leader in sustainability is enhanced through creative initiatives, innovative projects, and new models of business.

Theme 5: Partnerships and Collaboration - *Continue development and utilization of collaborative approaches and partnerships with intergovernmental and other agencies to help meet the needs of the Richmond community.*

Council understands the important role that strategic partnerships and intergovernmental relationships play in delivering effective City services and achieving our goals and aspirations. Issues such as the downloading of services and funding by senior levels of government, a fusion of interests of other intergovernmental agencies and business partners, and changing legislation in general that impacts all layers of City business - from social services to transportation to community safety - make it essential to collaborate and enhance strategic relationships. Richmond believes that working with partners and other organizations helps us to better deliver services, improve our City's livability and raise the economic value most effectively.

Council's priorities for Partnerships and Collaboration

Under the partnerships and collaboration theme, the following priority areas emerged for the 2014-2018 term of office:

- 5.1 *Advancement of City priorities through strong intergovernmental relationships,*
- 5.2 *Strengthened strategic partnerships that help advance City priorities.*

Examples of indicators of success for Partnerships and Collaboration that emerged from Council input

To track progress towards achieving a Council goal relating to partnerships and collaboration, the following potential outcomes or “indicators of success” were identified:

5.1 Advancement of City priorities through strong intergovernmental relationships:

- Strengthened relationships, protocols, and partnerships that promote collaboration and help make effective use of resources.
- Successful securing of joint funding opportunities for community projects and initiatives.

5.2 Strengthened strategic partnerships that help advance City priorities:

- Richmond is nurturing and leveraging productive working relationships with key players in Richmond business and beyond to achieve mutually beneficial goals that improve the City’s livability and enhance the local economy.

Theme 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.*

Municipal infrastructure is essential to the health, safety, mobility, economy, and quality of life of Richmond’s residents, businesses, and visitors. As one of the City’s core responsibilities, ensuring our physical infrastructure is safe, well-maintained and meeting current and future demand is of the utmost importance to Council. The maintenance of road, drain, sewer, and dike networks is essential, and maintaining these networks is increasingly challenging due to growing and changing capacity issues, climate change, and environmental needs. In addition, community facilities and amenity needs are on Council’s mind, as existing community facilities are aging, and a growing and changing community is creating new demands. Balancing the needs of aging infrastructure, with the creation of new needs associated with growth, combined with the infrastructure challenges associated with climate change and new construction standards and practices requires a responsible, prioritized and resourced plan of action to ensure the City’s infrastructure is safe, well maintained, resilient and meeting the needs of our growing and changing community.

Priorities that emerged for Quality Infrastructure Networks

Under the quality infrastructure networks theme, the following priority areas emerged for the 2014-2018 term of office:

- 6.1 *Safe and sustainable infrastructure,*
- 6.2 *Infrastructure is reflective of and keeping pace with, community need.*

Examples of indicators of success for Quality Infrastructure Networks that emerged from Council input

To track progress towards achieving a Council goal related to quality infrastructure networks, the following potential outcomes or “indicators of success” were identified:

6.1 *Safe and sustainable infrastructure:*

- Continued and improved funding for aging infrastructure replacement programs at a pace that matches long-term infrastructure deterioration.
- The City’s infrastructure is well maintained, effective, and resilient to climate change and environmental impacts.
- Continued and improved support of long-term dike master planning to meet the challenges of sea level rise due to climate change.
- Improved drainage network and pump station capacity to meet the challenges of predicted increasing storm intensity due to climate change.

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

- The Richmond Fire-Rescue fire hall upgrade program has been completed.
- We have an updated comprehensive facilities plan.
- Provision of community amenities is keeping pace with growth and demographic changes, particularly in the City Centre area.

Theme 7: Strong Financial Stewardship - *Maintain the City’s strong financial position through effective budget processes, the efficient and effective use of financial resources, and the prudent leveraging of economic and financial opportunities to increase current and long-term financial sustainability.*

The municipal government agenda is dynamic, multifaceted and broad in scope. Balancing the funding requirements associated with this agenda - growth, urbanization, aging infrastructure, increasing service needs and expectations from taxpayers, changing demographics, and rising external costs including senior government downloading - is a complex task. With limited resources, Council is keenly sensitive to the need for effective stewardship of taxpayers’ dollars, and recognizes that ongoing diligence towards the efficient and effective use of these limited resources must be at the core of all City business.

Priorities that emerged for Strong Financial Stewardship

Under the strong financial stewardship theme, the following priority areas emerged for the 2014-2018 term of office:

- 7.1 *Relevant and effective budget processes and policies,*
- 7.2 *Well-informed and sustainable financial decision making,*

- 7.3 *Transparent financial decisions that are appropriately communicated to the public,*
 7.4 *Strategic financial opportunities are optimized.*

Examples of indicators of success for Strong Financial Stewardship that emerged from Council input

To track progress towards achieving a Council goal related to strong financial stewardship, the following potential outcomes or “indicators of success” were identified:

7.1 Relevant and effective budget processes and policies:

- Financial processes are reviewed and streamlined to ensure policies are effective and appropriate

7.2 Well-informed and sustainable financial decision making:

- Council and respective committees are well-informed in a timely fashion throughout budget and financial decision making processes.
- Richmond’s Long Term Financial Management Strategy (LTFMS) is updated to ensure relevancy and representation of needs relative to growth, aging infrastructure, changing demographics, economic realities and opportunities, and other City strategies.

7.3 Transparent financial decisions that are appropriately communicated to the public:

- Public information regarding financial decision making and priorities in the City is timely, accessible, understandable, and communicated through a wide range of media.

7.4 Strategic financial opportunities are optimized:

- The City has seized strategic opportunities to enhance the financial and economic health of the City over the long-term including grants, a strategic land program, and strategic borrowing and investing strategies.

Theme 8: Supportive Economic Development Environment - *Review, develop and implement plans, policies, programs and practices to increase business and visitor appeal and promote local economic growth and resiliency.*

Council is keenly aware of the important role economic development plays in the well-being and financial sustainability of the City. Businesses in Richmond are pivotal to the success of our community and a variety of methods must be employed to support, protect and enhance our business community. Ensuring our businesses have space to grow, determining appropriate taxation levels, protecting our agricultural viability, exploring innovative business models for the future, and ensuring an effective and productive relationship with our business communities are all on Council’s mind. Council is interested in exploring large scale events and creative attractions that bring people to the City and raise the profile of opportunities in the community. Through sport hosting, exploring opportunities in film, large-scale community events, and creative, redefined ways of conducting business, Richmond’s economy will continue to grow and thrive.

Priorities that emerged for a Supportive Economic Development Environment

Under the supportive economic development environment theme, the following priority areas emerged for the 2014-2018 term of office:

- 8.1 *Richmond's policies, programs, and processes are business-friendly*
- 8.2 *Opportunities for economic growth and development are enhanced*

Examples of indicators of success for a Supportive Economic Development Environment that emerged from Council input

To track progress towards achieving a Council goal related to a supportive economic development environment, the following potential outcomes or “indicators of success” were identified:

8.1 *Richmond's policies, programs, and processes are business-friendly:*

- City Hall is open for business through improved services and processes.
- Business taxation and development costs are competitive within the Lower Mainland and are attractive for businesses to locate and stay in Richmond

8.2 *Opportunities for economic development are enhanced:*

- City programs effectively and efficiently link business to economic development opportunities.
- City policies and regulations related to employment lands (agricultural, industrial, commercial and office) ensure businesses in strategic sectors have adequate space to locate and grow.
- The City's land inventory and strategy is being utilized strategically to capture unique economic development opportunities.
- Working cooperatively with Tourism and our community partners, there are expanded visitor attraction efforts enhancing the City's appeal as a destination with attractions for locals, visitors, and tourists.

Theme 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.*

Council views communication and transparency with the public as a top priority. Though a lot is being done already, Council continues to view the need for an open, responsive, accountable and transparent government as essential. Council understands that growth and change can cause anxiety when the public is not well-informed. Council wants to ensure information about growth, plans, financial decisions, and progress towards Council Term Goals is available through many mediums and is easily accessible, understandable and available to citizens. Equally important is

the opportunity for the community to be engaged in various levels of dialogue and decisions with the City. Council would like to see an increase in community engagement for all ages and segments of the community to ensure everyone has a voice and is involved in building a better Richmond together.

Council's priorities for A Well-Informed Citizenry

Under the well-informed citizenry theme, the following priority areas emerged for the 2014-2018 term of office:

- 9.1 *Understandable, timely, easily accessible public communication,*
- 9.2 *Effective engagement strategies and tools.*

Examples of indicators of success for A Well-Informed Citizenry that emerged from Council input

To track progress towards achieving a Council goal related to a well-informed citizenry, the following potential outcomes or “indicators of success” were identified:

9.1 Understandable, timely, easily accessible public communication:

- The public is well-informed through the effective use of various communication tools that reach diverse populations, in a timely and accessible fashion.

9.2 Effective engagement strategies and tools:

- An effective engagement strategy is utilized to ensure opportunity for input and involvement for all ages and segments of the population.

The above information summarizes the goal related input provided from Council members for consideration in determining a set of Council Term Goals for 2014-2018. Based on Council input, and in accordance with appropriate protocol, this report has been prepared to facilitate Council discussion at a public meeting, in order for Council to provide direction to staff in regard to what they wish to adopt as their Council Term Goals for this term of office. While the above information has been presented as “themes” rather than as goals so as to not appear presumptuous before Council has had the opportunity to discuss and debate them, Council may choose to adopt the above themes and related priorities for their goals, or modify them accordingly based on the outcome of their discussions.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact to this report. Any actions requiring funding or resources related to Council Term Goals will be brought forward as part of the normal approval process.

Conclusion

This report seeks Council's direction for the adoption of a set of common Council Term Goals to help guide City work programs during this four-year term of office. Once Council Term Goals

have been established, work programs will be developed to align and focus organizational efforts accordingly.

Council Term Goals will be monitored and reviewed on an ongoing basis to track progress. It is intended that these goals be reviewed with Council at least annually, and adjusted as required to ensure they remain relevant in light of changing community, organizational, and political priorities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Claire Adamson', followed by a period.

Claire Adamson
Program Manager
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CA:ca

Summary of Additional Input Received During the Information Gathering Process for Council Term Goals for 2014-2018

The following items were specific topics identified for during the Council Term Goals information gathering process that helped inform the formation of the nine themes contained in this report.

Items related to theme 1: A Safe Community

- Completion of a strategic review of the City's community policing needs, including community policing needs of the City Centre.
- Completion of a review of the various policing models available to ensure that the best model is in place to meet City needs and priorities.
- Strengthen the working relationship with the RCMP's E-Division.
- Ensure services match changing community demographic needs.
- Improve clarity of roles between Richmond Fire Rescue and the BC Ambulance to ensure response times and services are as efficient as possible.
- Explore new community safety programs with our citizens through programs like Block Watch and Community Policing.
- Investigate expanding the scope of community policing.
- Continue progress in the cultural transformation of the Richmond Fire Department.

Items related to theme 2: A Vibrant, Active, and Connected City

- Develop a new museum strategy, considering new, innovative models for museums and heritage sites. As part of this strategy, revisit the central museum concept as a priority once Britannia and other sites are made more vibrant and interactive.
- Promote existing cultural resources and activities to increase public awareness, enhance quality of place and engage citizens across generations.
- Consider uniting arts groups under one umbrella to promote the arts more effectively.
- Leverage partnerships for program opportunities and marketing/communications.
- Place greater emphasis on the Maritime theme in events.
- Clarify the City's role with respect to providing or facilitating the securing of space for non-profit groups.
- Maintain a continuously updated catalogue of affordable housing projects coming on stream for easy reference.
- Reduce barriers to living a physically active life for vulnerable populations and people living with a disability.
- Investigate, and if appropriate, develop a proper homeless shelter.
- Enhance boating and sailing skill development opportunities.

- Connect Terra Nova Slough to the Fraser River and stock it with Chum Salmon.
- Consider day-lighting more sloughs in the City.
- Dredge and/or fill Lot H for waterfront facility use.
- Explore opportunities to link parks and recreation more closely with economic development by providing services such as an RV park or boat moorage, etc.
- Investigate the feasibility of developing an entertainment zone (nightclubs, lounges, etc.) – places that stay open later that keep young adults here in Richmond.
- Work with the Library on implementation of their Library Strategic and Long Term Plan.

Items related to theme 3: A Well-Planned Community

- Continue to implement the OCP and ensure development is in keeping with this policy.
- Prioritize elimination of Land Use Contracts.
- Focus development primarily on downtown core as is planned, rather than in the neighbourhoods where it might be easier to do.
- Ensure our bylaws, policies, plans and zoning successfully reinforce and result in our intention for neighbourhoods and other areas.
- Consider appointing a work-group to ensure the effective coordination and delivery of the various community improvement projects taking place in Steveston.
- Evaluate policies such as housing options in light of growth and change driven by federal immigration.
- Ensure the City's planning takes into account the potential for changes in circumstances internationally that may create a sudden influx into currently vacant condos.
- Monitor demographic moves and changes to ensure plans accurately reflect assumptions and meet actual needs.
- Influence the physical design of our City where possible to improve overall appearance of built environment.
- Increase ground-level green space in the City Centre.
- Ensure the timely implementation of TransLink's Richmond Area Transit Plan.
- Ensure liveability is not compromised through traffic congestion.
- Develop and implement a transportation plan to address concerns around congestion and densification including exploring LRT down the Railway corridor as an option.
- Review the adequacy of developers' contributions towards affordable housing, public art and public amenities.
- Explore creative ways to address affordable housing options for older adults, first time buyers, and low-income families.
- Encourage rental development of a variety of accessible housing options including small, low-rent units.

Items related to theme 4: Leaders in Sustainability

- Communicate the City's sustainability goals to the public with details on how the City is meeting (or exceeding) these goals and how they support provincial goals.
- Continue to advocate for a coordinated regional approach to enhance local food security for Richmond and the region through policy development and initiatives such as community farms.
- Review opportunities for increasing sustainable development requirements for all new developments, including consideration of increasing requirements for sustainable roof treatments (e.g. rooftop gardens, solar panels, etc.) and energy security (e.g. use of local renewable energy sources, use of district energy systems, etc.).
- Explore more opportunities in the future for special initiatives such as District Energy Utility (DEUs).
- Adapt plans and infrastructure to address issues and prevention related to climate change (e.g. Steveston sea berms).

Items related to theme 5: Partnerships and Collaboration

- Continue to develop collaborative working relationships with our other government and/or economic development partners.
- Strengthen our presence in Victoria and Ottawa, building stronger personal relationships, particularly at the staff level, in order to be a recognizable face and to be ready to seize funding and other opportunities as they arise.
- Continue to vigorously pursue joint funding opportunities between ourselves and federal and provincial governments for capital projects.
- Mitigate effects of government downloading of social services through strategic discussion and ongoing dialogue with the City's MLAs and MPs to ensure better representation of Richmond's needs in Victoria and Ottawa.
- In light of the changing business landscape in Richmond, assess the effectiveness of the City's relationship and working model with the Richmond Chamber of Commerce.
- Explore opportunities for international companies relocating to Canada to move to Richmond. Increase attraction by working with other levels of government.
- Develop an enhanced and more effective working relationship and collaborate on economic initiatives with YVR and Port Metro Vancouver (PMV).
- Through the Mayor's office, develop protocols, role definitions and communication approaches with our Friendship and Sister Cities.
- Utilize Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee (RCSAC) as a greater resource.
- Find ways to have more collaborative working relationships with our other government partners.

Items related to theme 6: Quality Infrastructure Networks

- Explore creative models for facility development by combining amenities such as seniors housing with community centres.
- Continue to develop and implement a strategy for the replacement of the animal shelter.
- Explore partnerships and opportunities for new cultural infrastructure including a new Richmond museum, performance venues, and affordable creation spaces.

Items related to theme 7: Strong Financial Stewardship

- Include Council in the departmental budget process before the budgets go to their respective committees in November.
- Review financial policies to ensure they are working and effective.
- Assess the practice of conducting job position reviews for its effectiveness and function.
- Consider performance-based budgeting.
- Where appropriate, consider borrowing to take advantage of the current low interest rates resulting in significant long term financial benefits for the City.
- Investigate opportunities to maximize investment returns while remaining fiscally responsible.
- Develop and implement an aggressive land strategy that addresses:
 - o replacement land for businesses and industry,
 - o land acquisition for future needs and for strategic purposes,
 - o protection of waterfront land and water lots for public benefit, and
 - o optimizing financial returns on the City's land inventory.

Items related to theme 8: Supportive Economic Development Environment

- Increase the focus on business retention.
- Review current tax incentives, such as Brighthouse Taxation Legislation, as well as joint business licensing with other cities, as tools to attract or retain business.
- Review land use policies and regulations to ensure availability of space for business in strategic sectors, such as agriculture, transportation and logistics, technology and tourism.
- Promote Richmond to businesses we want to attract as a great place to locate.
- Ensure City policies are in alignment with attracting a skilled workforce.
- Review the City's Land Strategy and inventory for economic development opportunities.
- Investigate flexible land use policies that can adapt to new emerging business models.

- Seek and consider input from Richmond Economic Advisory Committee as part of the City's process in working with Tourism Richmond, the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, and the Asian business community.
- Continue to build on and support sub-sectors of the Richmond economy, such as filming, sport hosting and events.
- Develop an integrated strategy for the Steveston Waterfront that blends business and public interests in a manner that allows for continued sustainable development in this area. Specifically, work with the Steveston Harbour Authority and other levels of government to ensure land use, harbour improvements, and other economic development opportunities are integrated and implemented.
- Continue working with Tourism Richmond on the current framework for tourism in Richmond that broadens the City's focus and role, including utilizing the hotel tax to fund major attractions and/or large scale events to help draw people to the City.

Items related to theme 9: Well-informed Citizenry

- Use the City's website and other communication tools to inform, communicate with, and regularly update the community on Council's Term Goals, priorities, progress, and decisions with an opportunity for input and engagement.
- Ensure the public is well-informed on the long-term vision and plan for growth in the City.
- Use social media and effective communications with diverse populations.
- Ensure effective processes to promote civic engagement and input into the plans and decisions being considered by Council.
- Develop a young adult engagement strategy that provides meaningful opportunities for young adults (age 19-29 years) to be involved in the community.