

APPENDIX A
TO OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN BYLAW 1150, 2011



Millennium Park Master Plan

A New Vision for Millennium (Twin Rivers) Park

August 2011

City of Castlegar
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Acknowledgements

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- Castlegar Mountain Bike Society (www.castlegar-mtb.com/)
- Castlegar Communities in Bloom (www.bccommunitiesinbloom.ca)
- Castlegar Rotary Club
- Kootenay Food Strategy Society (KFSS) (www.kootenayfood.ca)
- Friends of Parks and Trails (www.friendsoftrails.org)
- Kootenay Family Place (www.kootenayfamilyplace.org/)
- Castlegar Sculpture Walk (www.sculpturewalkcastlegar.com/)

Thank-you to residents who took their time to participate in the planning process by attending the community design charrette review, public open house session, and reviewed and provided input on draft plans via the website. Their commitment, passion and ideas for the future of the park are the foundation of this plan.

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1.0 Overview

1.1 Impetus for Planning

Millennium (Twin Rivers) Park has all the makings of a great city park. It is situated at a distinct reference point, the intersection of the Columbia and Kootenay Rivers. The park contains beautiful views south towards Selkirk College, east to Brilliant and north to Centennial Mountain. The land area is directly adjacent and accessible to the water. On a city-wide scale, the park is within walking or cycling distance of the downtown core and to the south is a significant historical site (Zuckerberg Island). The land area encompasses 23 hectares and there are quality sports fields to the north and significant forest stands and trails throughout. Future city plans envision the park connected north and south to destination points throughout the City and region.

At the same time, Millennium Park is also a neighbourhood park. It is surrounded by an established neighbourhood with dedicated residents who frequently use the park on a daily basis. These residents know the park intimately and enjoy the quiet and natural areas it offers.

Created in early 2000, the Millennium Trail Walkway brought focus to the Twin Rivers Park area and solidified the park as one of the City's major attractions. As a result of its popularity, the City of Castlegar has received a number of requests from residents and groups to initiate projects and improvements within the park area. Submissions varied greatly with some competing ideas as to the parks role in the City, both in the short and long term.

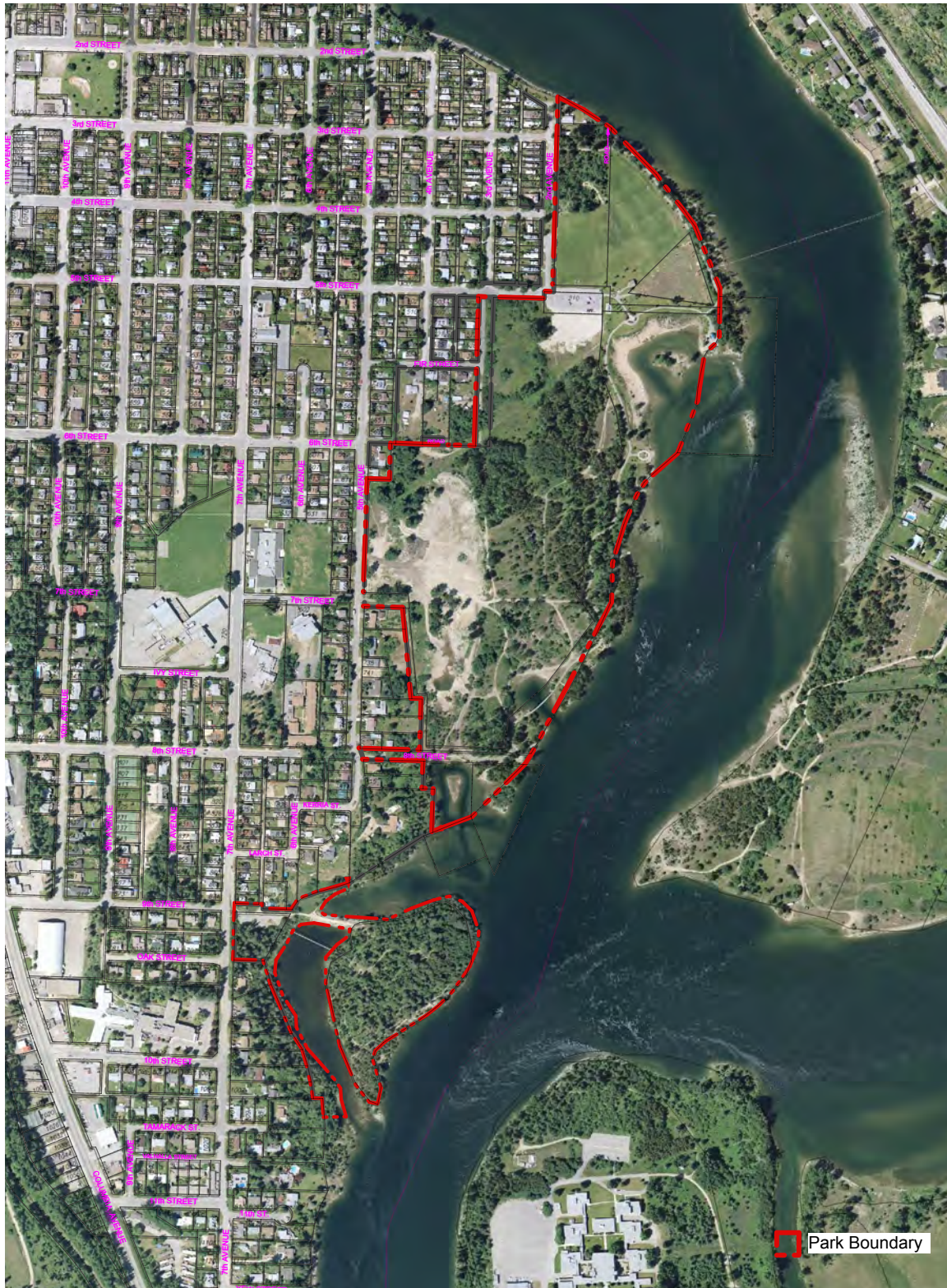
Recognizing the great opportunities and potential for this park as a major destination, but also understanding and seeing the need to balance this with it's role for residents, the City of Castlegar initiated the process of creating a master plan to act as a guide and overall vision for the parks future development.

1.1 Park Context

Twin Rivers/Millennium Park is located directly along the riverfront north from 3rd street, south to 8th street. The park includes playing fields, viewing shelters, a small children's playground, picnic tables, interpretive signs, washrooms, a steep, but sandy beach area, large grass lawns and a small informal swimming area in the south side of the park adjacent to the bridge.

Constructed as a Millennium Project by the City of Castlegar, the Millennium Walkway was officially opened on June 1, 2001 and extended in 2003. It is a 1.8km paved walkway with an entry gateway, a kiosk, an arched bridge, and landscaped viewpoints with interpretive signs. Interpretive signs were designed and constructed in partnership with a local artist/historian that explain the ecosystem and history of the area. On the south end of the Millennium Walkway, connected by an informal short dirt path through privately owned land, is the historic point and hiking trails on Zuckerberg Island.

Millennium (Twin Rivers) Park



1.3 Planning Framework and Purpose of the Plan

The following planning documents provide the framework or relate to future park development.

The Castlegar Community Plan Update (2011)

The recently updated Castlegar Community Plan is a general statement of the broad objectives and policies of the City of Castlegar with regard to the form and character of existing and proposed land uses, and servicing requirements. Throughout the OCP consultation process, Twin Rivers park was identified as a key area and popular destination for residents City-wide.

Key principals/policy found within the Community Plan that are considered within this master plan include:

- Invest in new parks, trails and open-spaces in priority areas, as identified by the community.
- Seek to enhance special parks and open-spaces, specifically the waterfront.
- Maintain a strong commitment to the upkeep of municipal parks.
- Develop and maintain municipal parks with the least possible impact on the natural environment.
- Offer park facilities and programs that can be utilized by residents of all ages.
- Develop and manage parks with a strong consideration for year round functionality and use.
- Reflect the needs of the community in parks programming.

Key action items relevant to the Millennium (Twin Rivers) Park Master Plan include:

- Identify private lands with park and open space potential and develop a real-estate acquisition strategy for said lands.
- Explore funding options for the acquisition and development of new, or enhancement of existing parks, open spaces and trails within the City.
- Where funding permits, make investments in parks, open spaces and trails in accordance with the real-estate acquisition strategy, the Parks Plan and the existing Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan.

Pedestrian Cycling and Master Plan

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan builds on trail planning already undertaken by the City of Castlegar and Selkirk College, expanding on this work to identify all types of pedestrian and bicycle facilities that the City may wish to develop, such as walkways, bicycle lanes, and multi-use trails.

Key corridors identified in this plan relevant to the park include:

- the identification of 3rd Street (alternatively 5th Street) and 8th street to provide connectivity to and from Millennium Park for pedestrians
- bicycle routes along 5th Street connecting to the main park entrance and at the riverfront along the Millennium Walkway
- identifying the continued trail extension from the Millennium Walkway to Zuckerberg Island

Castlegar Visitor/Tourism Assessment

The tourism assessment looked at the whole community of Castlegar but identified several key aspects with respect to the park and surrounding area, these include:

- signage to the park makes wayfinding difficult for visitors, and is deficient within the park with respect to trail length, connections, etc.
- interpretive signage in the park and along the Millennium Trail is good
- a visitor centre (seasonal or otherwise) in the park would add to it as an ‘attraction’
- overall, the city needs to focus on key destination points that offer visitors an ‘experience’ to create a regional draw

Castlegar Parks Plan (1990) and Open Space Study (date)

The City Parks Plan and Open Space Study are generally outdated, but serve to identify and assess whether the City is meeting standards and serving residents with adequate recreational and greenspace opportunities. The parks plan identifies Millennium/Twin Rivers Park as a community park.

Twin Rivers Park Master Plan (1992)

The previous park master plan focused much on passive recreational opportunities for the park and determined options for future park development.

Purpose of the New Park Master Plan (2011)

This Millennium (Twin Rivers) park master plan:

- replaces the most recent park master plan was created in 1992
- follows through on the recent OCP consultation process that identified the park as a key destination and in need of future planning
- intends to meet the needs of the community now and into the future, extending over the next 10 years
- addresses increased demands on the park and resulting conflicts
- considers community members ideas and outlines options for continued and increasing involvement in park development

This master plan contains both a site plan and corresponding narrative that outline appropriate park uses and their approximate location within specific park sites.

This new master plan outlines a long-range vision for future development of facilities and recreational activities in the park. It is intended to serve as an overall guide for decisions about park improvements and new recreational activities in the next few years and into the future.

The following sections specifically address:

- overview of park uses and design (Section 2)
- types of amenities, structures and/or facilities required to support those uses (Section 3)
- locations of amenities and uses or specific projects within the park (section 2.0-3.0)
- natural and cultural resource management (section 4.0)
- Park Circulation & Access (section 5.0)

- Community Driven Projects & Stewardship Involvement in the Park (section 6.0)
- High level strategy for implementation (section 7.0)

The plan is conceptual in nature and not intended to address detailed issues related to engineered site design or park operations, although it sets up the framework for which it will occur.

1.4 Planning Process & Community Involvement

An important component of creating the master plan was to obtain community input. To this regard, the Millennium (Twin Rivers) Park master plan involved public involvement with participation from City of Castlegar staff, residents, community user groups and other stakeholders in the community carried out over a period of six months. The City maintained a website that posted the results of the public workshops and solicited feedback from the community. Meeting notices were published in the local papers.

The planning team conducted a community design workshop with public review, follow up community group interviews, review of community partnership proposals, a draft plan open house and City staff and stakeholder input in order to determine the draft and final site plan and plan elements.

The following is a review of each step in the planning process.

Phase 1: Inventory & Environmental Review

Phase 1 began with a tour of the park and an inventory of opportunities and constraints. The opportunities and constraints were mapped and provided an analysis for further work and basis for future design rationale. The final opportunities and constraints were compiled into one map and presented to residents at the design charrette workshop for review. Residents were asked for additions, feedback and recommendations (see Phase 2).

A brief environmental review was also conducted to identify key issues and potential for sensitive areas in the park with recommendations for further study. Due to a limited amount of detailed site-specific information available about the study area's natural assets, this study was high level.

The outcome and action items of the environmental review have been incorporated into this master plan's implementation strategy.

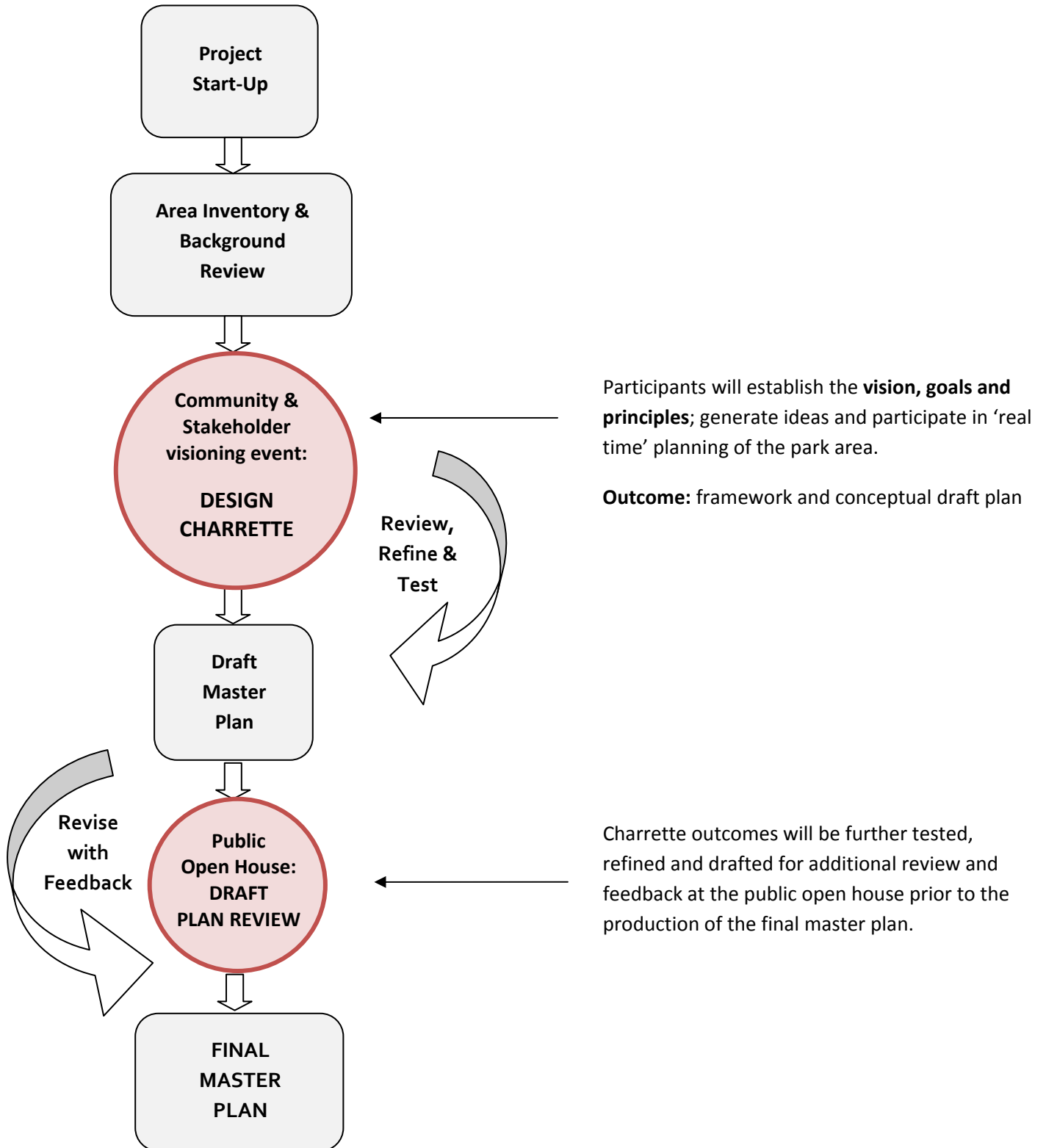
Phase 2: Community Design Charrette & Visioning

The Millennium (Twin Rivers) Park community design charrette was held on April 13th and 14th at the Community Forum.

The objectives of the charrette were to:

1. Gather input and ideas from a wide selection of Castlegar residents including adjacent landowners,

Master Plan Process Diagram for Millennium (Twin Rivers) Park



- community groups and the general public.
2. Gain specific knowledge of the site and the surrounding community
 3. Generate overall community excitement and imagination for the creation of a park master planning concept
 4. Identify key catalyst projects and any existing proposals for the park area



Image: Public review session at the community design charrette workshop.

This event marked the beginning of an inspiring planning process that established Millennium/Twin Rivers Park as a premier destination for the community and region and positioned at the forefront of innovative design and park development.

Approximately 40-45 community members attended and participated in the workshop exercises. Approximately the same number of residents returned the following evening to review and provide comment on the outcomes.

A number of community groups were represented at the meeting, these included:

- Castlegar Mountain Bike Society
- Castlegar Communities in Bloom
- Castlegar Rotary Club
- Kootenay Food Strategy Society
- Friends of Parks and Trails
- Kootenay Family Place
- Castlegar Sculpture Walk
- Selkirk College

As well, several draft proposals and/

or absentee input were received (via email) from individuals who weren't able to attend.

Charrette participants were facilitated through three exercises regarding their vision for the park, activities and uses in the park and locating these activities and uses. This resulted in a draft vision statement for the park and draft site plan.

Overall there was general support and praise for the directions outlined in the draft park master plan concept proposed on day 2 of the design charrette.

Initial feedback provided by community members was outlined within the following three headings:

1. Access, Circulation and Connections:

A number of comments received outlined a need to further detail, test and identify park access points for all forms of mobility and within this, to address key needs of

Initial Site Plan Resulting from the Community Design Charrette Workshop



SUMMARY OF CHARRETTE OUTCOMES

KEY PRIORITIES FOR RESIDENTS

Charrett participants identified some of their key priorities for new park development, these included (but not limited to):

1. Beach area
2. Preservation and emphasis on natural areas/trails (butterfly habitat, teaching)
3. Mountain bike skills park, outdoor gym, and additional soccer field
4. Expanded community gardens
5. Off-leash dog area
6. Arboretum, hospice society memorial wall

THE LAZY RIVER

The Lazy River emerged as a 'big idea' to incorporate a beach area and water activities into one active recreational site.

The lazy river was envisioned as a series of connected pools supplied by natural groundwater sources, circulated through each pool, releasing eventually into the river. The pools would start out shallow and gradually grow larger and deeper as they meandered towards the actual river. This large water feature would act as an extension of the river itself, integrated with a sandy beach with high quality turf aprons, and natural shoreline vegetation. Residents and visitors could swim, splash and relax on the beach.



certain groups, including, seniors, families, dogs, etc. by foot, car, bike, etc. There was also a desire to ensure the park plan reflects and is connected to larger City-wide plans for transportation connections (Bike and Pedestrian Plan).

2. Need for Additional Detail on Park Activities and/or Ideas for Inclusion of more Park Uses: There were a number of suggestions for additional activities to be included in the park plan and/or an expressed need to provide further detail on proposed activities

3. Maintenance: There were a number of expressed concerns for maintenance within the park activities proposed.

Community Group Consultation & Online Feedback

Following the community design charrette, discussions with key community groups who'd expressed interest in pursuing programs or activities within the park (in the short term) were contacted and opportunities for online feedback was provided for a period of 2 months.

In total, the City received:

- 22 additional submissions via online or email from residents, and;
- 6 formal expressions of interest and/or proposals for community partnership in park programming were reviewed and discussed with groups directly.

Phase 3: Draft Master Plan, Open House & Online Feedback

Community feedback was incorporated into a revised draft site plan and posted for review at a draft public open house on June 28th, 2011. Approximately 30-40 residents attended the open house, presentation and question and discussion period. Some concern was expressed regarding adequate space for festivals and other events and one resident feared additional activity in the park would negatively affect a strong value for the parks natural, quiet and peaceful character.

In summary, the majority of the feedback was positive and in support of the overall plan direction, specific activities and programming proposed.

Following the open house, online feedback for the draft plan was accepted for a period of 1 month.

In total, the City received:

- 4 additional follow up submissions of feedback via email.

All feedback received, both at the open house and via email were used to make final revisions to the site plan and considered within the content of this master plan.

Phase 4: Final Master Plan

All input from phase 3 was considered in the final revisions for the site plan and implementation strategy for future park development.

1.5 Summary of Planning Issues

Through the initial phases of project work, key issues, opportunities and constraints were identified. These provided a basis for the planning framework, high level park design and informed the implementation strategy. The following section summarizes these findings.

Preliminary Discussions

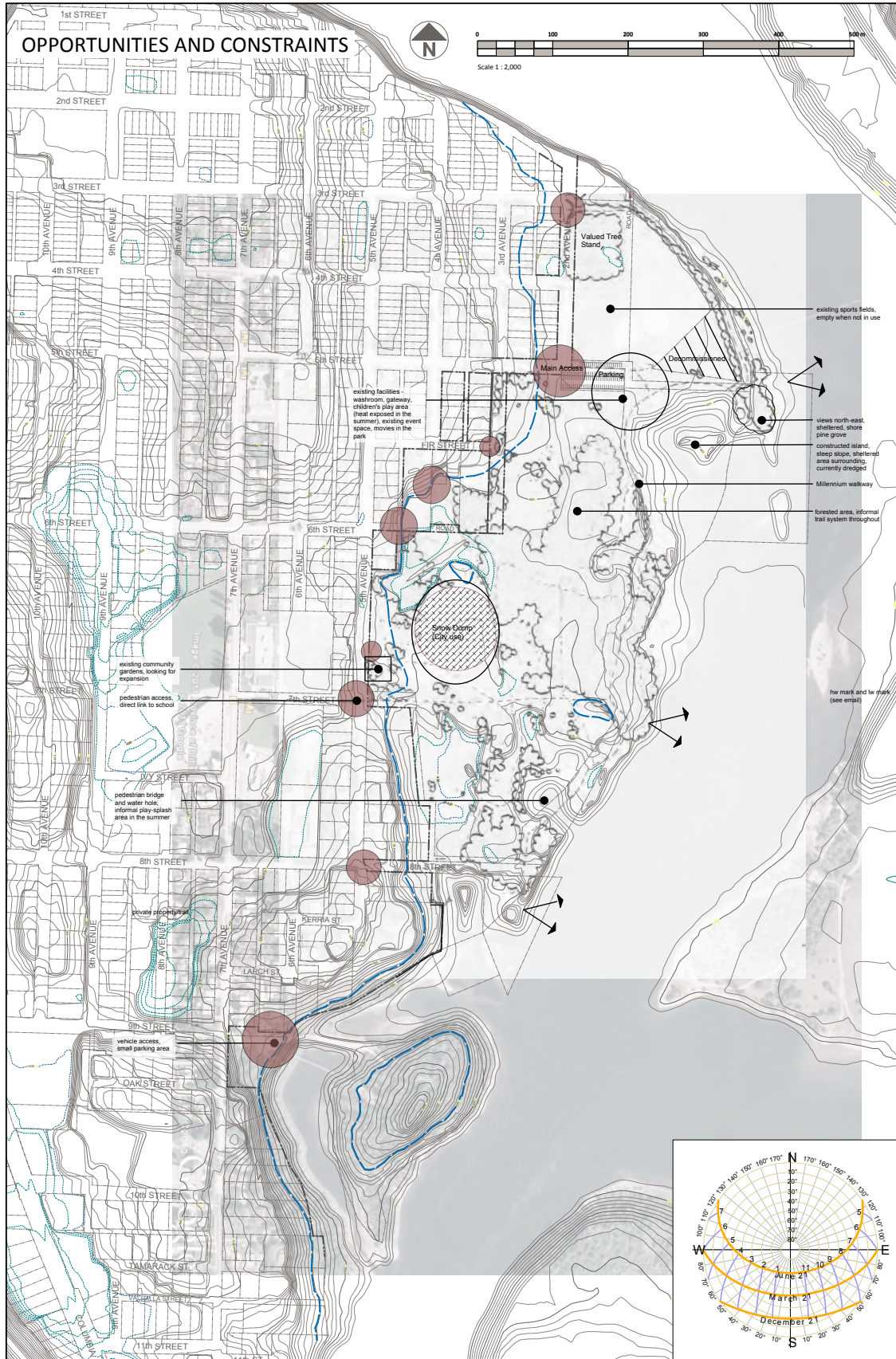
Preliminary discussions with Development Services staff defined many key issues and desires in the park. These were aspects that came from, in part, residents and also from an operational and future vision perspective. These included (in summary):

- the need to build on opportunities in the success of the Millennium Trail Walkway
- the park was not strongly connected to the riverfront or water activities even though its situated at the confluence of the rivers
- the many community interests and ideas could result in a mixture of poorly coordinated projects in the park and there was no framework for how to implement, assess or partner with communities in this process
- planning needed to be flexible to accommodate changing opportunities and interests over the years
- a lack of funding and identification for park development overall
- private property inhibited a proper public trail connection to Zuckerberg Island, yet this has been desired and identified in previous work as well as other plans
- an alternative location for the snow dump was considered, but not possible at this time

Site Analysis

The analysis produced the following overview of park specific opportunities and constraints.

- shoreline views are a major highlight in the park
- the majority of the park is currently dedicated to passive recreational activities
- terasen gas site in progress for decommission
- wildlife patch on the north site is important for butterflies
- some issues with vandalism, late night activities at specific locations in the park
- snow dump is troublesome for adjacent residents
- access into the park is not direct and somewhat confusing for visitors
- interest in expanding community gardens
- pedestrian access is informal but well used
- the Millennium Trail walkway is popular and well used
- current beach area is too steep and not well used
- past shoreline work has been only moderately successful, including eco-initiatives at specific locations in the park
- picnic sites are not well defined
- children's play area is not well located and not shaded for summer sun protection
- private property to the south inhibits formal pedestrian access to



An overview of the site opportunities and constraints map that was subsequently revised and added to by community members at the design charrette workshop.

Zuckerberg Island

- bears are a problem in the old orchard area
- the inlet and arched bridge on the south side is a popular destination point for children/families
- internal park spaces are forested and valued for their beauty and ‘quiet’

Environmental Study

The environmental study reviewed and outlined action items for the following park aspects:

- key City-wide policies that speak to environmental values and objectives for the City and it’s residents to be considered in the master planning process
- environmental setting and active processes that occur within or adjacent to the park which may affect park uses and/or require caution
- past shoreline restoration and enhancement activities and future work required or advantageous for park uses and/or future shoreline activities
- considerations for ecological sensitivities in the park related to potential future park uses, and;
- environmental regulatory agencies and reviews that may be required with respect to future park development of uses and programming

Through discussion with other



The riverfront offers beautiful views and existing natural vegetation. Additional water based activities and ‘nodes’ along the waterfront could add vibrancy and attract visitors to the river.

groups and citizens during the planning process, a more complete understanding of these issues—along with potential solutions—began to emerge into a new vision for the park.



The entrance gate on the north side of the park. This gateway could be incorporated into a larger central key focal point of the park.



The many excellent viewpoints out across the riverfront and to surrounding areas. A key highlight of the park area.

2.0 A New Vision for Millennium Park



Millennium (Twin Rivers) Park is envisioned to be a premier, regional destination park with a strong connection to the water.

2.1 Vision

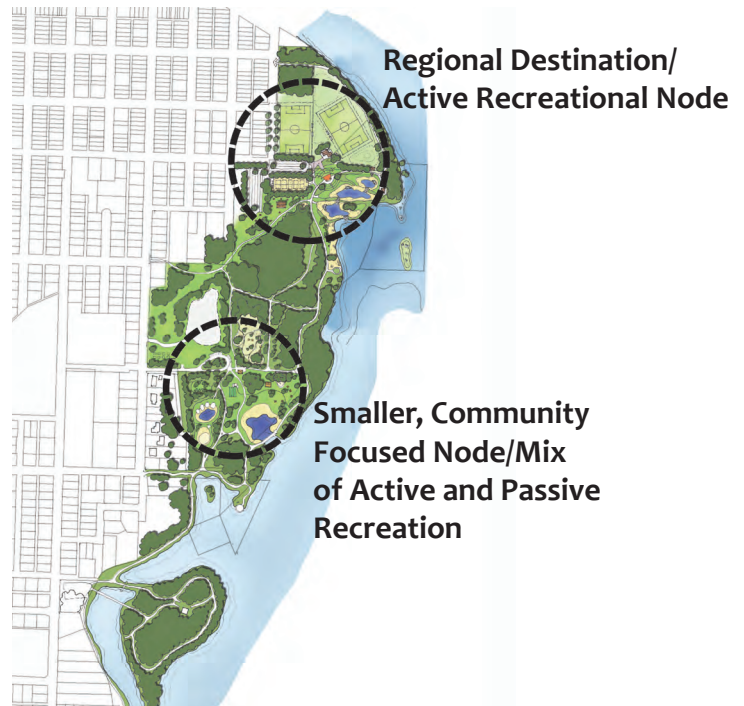
New park spaces will provide active and passive recreational opportunities and introduce new places for special events programming, expansion of sports, and major connections to the river and shoreline as a major highlight and destination within the park.

The new concept identified two major nodes, an active, regional attraction area and smaller scale, community focused park uses and amenities in the south.

A Regional Destination Node:

The north area of the park is considered the key highlight and regional destination point within the park. The major attraction of this node is the Lazy River and picnic area located at the riverfront. A series of connected pools, this major water feature offers water based recreational area for residents and visitors with a beach, splash zone and swimming. This area is considered the center and heart of the park.

North and north west of the lazy river is an expanded sports area with volleyball/basketball courts, community green gym, and an additional regulation soccer field, warm up areas, change room with washrooms and seasonal concession. This area is intended to attract and host City-wide and large regional sports tournaments.



Directly behind and overlooking the lazy river is an amphitheater, terraced turf seating and outdoor performance stage situated towards the riverfront and shoreline. The orientation takes advantage of the beautiful views and provide opportunities for arts and performance works within the City at a memorable and spectacular location. These facilities may host annual music festivals, 'theatre by the river', outdoor movies in the park, and other related events. A smaller picnic area and shelter provide additional events spaces for smaller activities, such as markets, family events and other festivals.

Expanded parking areas, including flex 'green' parking for special events and



drop-off area builds on the existing entrance.

A Community Focused Node:

The south end of the park is envisioned to meet daily recreational needs of residents and to incorporate many of the community proposed new activities. A key feature of this area is the proposed bike skills park. A major development, this area would cater to recreational needs and programming with youth focused activities and skill building activities. This area also includes an expanded community gardens, proposed arboretum, lawn bowling/bocce and a smaller picnic area and beach with splash zone for families. West of this area includes a dog park with inland pond area for swimming and loops and trails for off-leash dog walking.

Natural Areas:

The plan maintains pockets and contiguous tree cover currently existing in the park within the central areas of the park. The new concept recognizes the additional activities and uses will impact these areas by adjacency. As such, the general approach for management and maintenance will be to:

- maintain existing tree cover
- enhance the quality of existing tree cover through environmental stewardship projects
- integrate (primarily native) vegetation into park development projects within other more active park areas

This future park vision will require substantial funding and partnerships to be implemented to achieve what is outlined in the site plan.

Availability of funding from a range of sources and partnerships with community groups will largely control the extent and content of each phase of implementation and park development.

Implementation of the Plan vision could take over 25 years to complete. In that time, many of the ideas, desires and interests of residents may also change. Additionally, opportunities for funding may become available at different times. Therefore, it is essential this Master Plan has flexibility in its phasing to shift with community desires and take advantage of funding opportunities when they present themselves.

Finally, within the vision and site plan there are many implications for operations and management of the park overall. These have been included within each section and summarized at the end of this plan as a helpful tool for implementation in the short term. For best use, this list should be updated every 2-5 years.

Overview of Park Zones



3.0 Park Zones & Uses

A key organizing principle of the park are defined in zones. These zones provide the framework for the types of uses and activities within the park and can guide future proposals for park development. These zones are linked together by the network of pedestrian and cyclist routes from major connections through to minor pathways. This section of the plan outlines each zone, it's recommended overall use (active or passive) and details the activities that have been proposed within this master planning process as appropriate new types of uses desired by the community to be implemented in the park.

destinations at the riverfront along the pathway activate the trail and delineate active and passive points along it (see diagram on the following page).

Proposed Activities & Uses:

Riverfront uses and activities are water focused. The look and feel both refined and natural, providing opportunities for environmental enhancement and both quiet and

3.1 Riverfront

Definition:

The Riverfront Zone includes the area along the shoreline/riverfront and viewpoints, beach areas, natural shoreline areas and inlets. This area also contains the Millennium Trail Walkway. The Riverfront Zone is envisioned as one of the key highlights of the park with dynamic environments, viewpoints and destinations along it.

Intent:

The intent of this zone is to place the riverfront as the 'spine' of the park, enhance the waterfront area and bring people close to the river to engage with shoreline and water activities (see programming chart on the following page).

The Riverfront Zone can be a combination of active and passive areas defined somewhat as nodes at the riverfront as they intersect with the north and south area nodes. These

Millennium Park Riverfront Zone



Riverfront Zone - Summary of Uses and Activities Proposed

	Existing	Proposed (2011 Master Plan)
Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • focus on Millennium Trail Walkway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regional destination, dynamic experiences, engage with the river
Permitted Uses and Programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • primarily passive uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mix of active and passive uses, key catalyst project (lazy river) • water focused
Catalyst Projects Identified		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lazy river
Recreational Facilities, Buildings and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shoreline enhancement and beach area • Millennium Trail Walkway & viewpoints 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lazy river shoreline feature and swimming areas • beach • integrated native vegetation enhancement zones • shoreline family picnic site and splash zone
Interpretive Elements and Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interpretive signage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • existing signage, wayfinding benches
Vegetation & Natural Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • existing vegetation and previous shoreline enhancement project areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • integrated (trail) native vegetation • additional enhancement areas
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regular 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • intensive (trail and viewpoints)
Community Partnerships		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not yet identified

3.2 North Site - Active Recreation Zone



active spots.

Definition:

The North Site Zone is the active recreational node of the park. This zone includes facilities for sports and recreation including tournaments, an area to house annual festivals, theatrical events, outdoor movies and other performance arts, as well as informal picnics, and other events (markets, etc.) and commercial services.

Intent:

The North Site area supports the

Riverfront. The vision is to ensure this area is vibrant and incorporates year round attractions and activities all within one cohesive area. This is the 'park within the park'.

The North Site Area will support active recreation and activities. Decorative pedestrian-scaled paving, public art, connections to adjacent buildings, water features, comfortable seating, lighting, and other site furnishings will define the physical character of these spaces.

	Existing	Proposed (2011 Master Plan)
Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> main access and front end facilities active recreation trail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> active recreation node regional destination point
Permitted Uses and Programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mix of active and passive uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mix of active and passive uses, but increasing focus on active recreational uses, events and key catalyst features and projects water focused
Catalyst Projects Identified		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lazy river shoreline project
Recreational Facilities, Buildings and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> soccer field washroom childrens play area shoreline beach enhancement area Millennium Trail and viewpoint park entrance and parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 additional full size soccer field renovated washroom with additional change room, seasonal concession childrens play area relocated lazy river and beach area integrated native vegetation areas renovated entrance and expanded parking facilities including overflow flex event parking flex courts (beach volleyball or basketball) earthworks - practice area and festival site locations amphitheatre/bandshell memorial wall (integrated into the amphitheatre structure) expanded front end trail system, upgrades and replacement of pathways with tree root damage day use picnic areas (shoreline viewpoint site and internal park site with picnic shelter) green gym
Interpretive Elements and Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> interpretive signage entry gate/archway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> relocate entry/gateway (if required)
Vegetation & Natural Areas		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> integrated native vegetation tree wildlife path at the north end
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> regular 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> intensive
Community Partnerships		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rotary club (green gym)

Activities & Uses:

These places will focus on programmed activities (markets, festivals, and music concerts) but will also function outside of these times as places for a variety of self-initiated activities such as strolling, sitting, reading, skating and family events.

The Lazy River

The big feature at the Riverfront

is the ‘lazy river’. Envisioned as a catalyst project for the park, the ‘lazy river’ is envisioned as a series of connected pools, separate from, but visually connected to the river. Designed with a ‘natural’ aesthetic, this series of graduated pools would blend into the shoreline and offer a broad user demographic with active water access and play opportunities, views out across the river, and passive beach areas for picnics and leisure, integrated with native vegetation and

‘natural zones’ at the shoreline edge.

Feasibility and Recommendations for Future Work:

The “Lazy River” concept, as an important catalyst project for park development, has several key factors to be considered for project feasibility prior to undertaking a more detailed design development stage.

1. Water supply:

The “Lazy River” is envisioned to utilize non-treated water from either the Columbia River or shallow well immediately adjacent that will discharge into the Columbia River at a determined rate. The discharge rate will be such that coliform bacteria counts will not exceed public health standards. Preliminary discussions with Golder Associates technical experts has suggested that through past experience in the area, a properly sized well will likely have ample capacity due to good water quality and porous substrates adjacent to the river. The concept also anticipates a dual system that will enable switching of supply for early morning landscape and sports field irrigation in summer months. This will have the benefit of terminating, or drastically reducing, park irrigation demand on the municipal potable water supply, which is a more sustainable approach to irrigation supply. Irrigation demand will need to be calculated based on a water supply of perhaps 1.5 to 2 inches per week. The plan will need to be developed sufficient to establish hydrozones, or planting zones that have different watering requirements, to enable the volume and scheduling of irrigation. These calculations will

determine pump sizes, zones/rotors and distribution patterns, controller requirements, etc.

2. Water temperature:

Water temperature from a well will initially be cold (approximately 7 degrees C) and depending on the turnover rate, may require some warming prior to entering the public ponds. Maintaining a comfortable temperature range in the “Lazy River” will be necessary to provide a refreshing experience, while not being too cold for prolonged exposure. Maintaining cooler water temperatures will have the advantage of suppressing coliform bacteria populations, which will influence the turnover rate. There are several ways pre-warming could be done, either through a solar thermal loop through a field, solar panels, beneath a paved surface, etc. Alternately, the uppermost pool could be constructed as a shallow small children’s pool that would naturally warm the water through solar exposure, and discharge into the lower ponds.

3. Water recycling:

The Lazy River experience might be enhanced by stronger flows, which would be achieved by an internal pumping recirculation system separate from the water supply and discharge system. While water quality would likely be improved through the introduction of a water recirculation system, the desire for higher volume of flows will need to be balanced by energy costs to power the pumps, the capital and maintenance costs of the recirculation system, potential issues of turbidity, public safety, etc.

Overview of the Lazy River



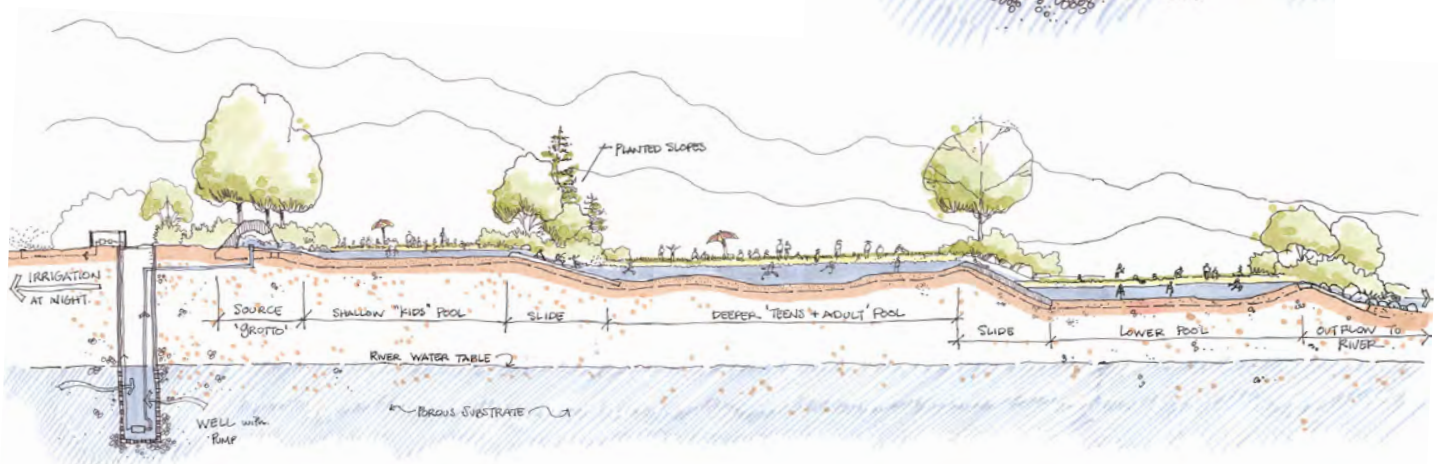
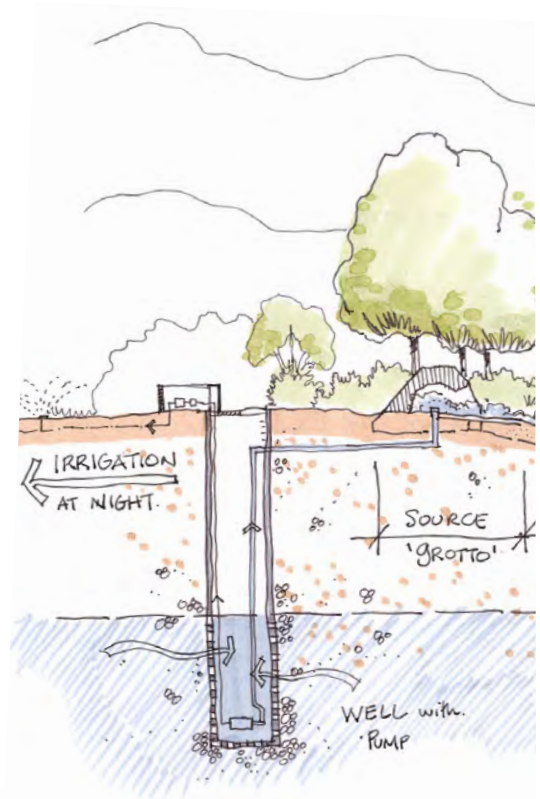
SERIES OF CONNECTED POOLS INCREASE IN DEPTH CLOSER TO THE RIVER

BEACH AND TURF AREAS SURROUND EACH POOL INTEGRATED WITH NATURALIZED BUFFERS

OUTFALL INTO THE RIVER

EXTENDED BEACH FRONT AND PICNIC AREA SOUTH

A series of pools for swimming and water play. A major park destination point.



4. Regulatory Approvals:

The Lazy River location in the Concept plan will require Fisheries and Oceans Canada approval as the area under consideration falls within the riparian zone. Initial discussions with Golder and Kistritz suggests that Fisheries and Oceans Canada would likely support the construction in the area as the present condition presents occasional fish traps when river water recedes. There may need to be some compensation required to offset the loss of riparian habitat, but it is anticipated that the loss is relatively minor. A habitat inventory and compensation strategy for the area affected by the Lazy River would have to be completed in the next phase of design development.

5. Fill and sealing of the Lazy River:

The Lazy River area as contemplated in the concept plan would need to be filled as a series of ponds that step in elevation. Each pond would be controlled by a weir/chute device. Some method for containing water in the ponds, whether by impervious fill or by impervious membrane, or a combination of both, will need to be investigated to prevent loss of pond water into the porous substrates below. The method will depend on material availability, cost, performance and durability. Several membranes are available, commonly used in the waste management industry. Ideally, the membrane consists of a fabric impregnated with bentonite clay that expands and self-seals when in contact with moisture. Alternatively, neoprene or synthetic membranes will work, although “welding” strips of these materials and membrane repairs can be problematic. Some investigation

into the cost benefit of each of the materials would be necessary at the design development stage. Other factors to consider at this stage would be waterstop techniques for the weir/chute locations and any recirculation structures, the slope and depth of sand cover, anchoring details, etc.

3.3 Forested 'Natural' Mid Zone



	Existing	Proposed (2011 Master Plan)
Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trail system and natural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trail system/natural areas • enhanced habitat areas • stewardship initiatives
Permitted Uses and Programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • passive uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • passive use
Catalyst Projects Identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tree root problems - heaving trail surface 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trail improvements and habitat enhancement
Recreational Facilities, Buildings and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trail network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improved trail hierarchy and definition • pathway amenities, benches, garbage cans, dog stations
Interpretive Elements and Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trail signage - history 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain existing, wayfinding
Vegetation & Natural Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • existing tree cover and vegetation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • invasive species management • additional enhancement areas • successional planting strategies
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regular 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • emphasis on stewardship of trails and community group enhancement initiatives
Community Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends of Parks and Trails

Definition:

This area is located in the mid park area where the majority of the existing tree cover exists. This provides a distinct contiguous vegetated cover area.

Intent:

To provide contiguous treed park areas, quiet spaces, dark/night areas of the park, areas for habitat and related passive recreational activities.

Activities and Uses:

The mid-zone is designated for passive recreational opportunities. A major focus of this area will be to engage stewardship and environmental enhancement opportunities within these areas. Some additional amenities may be beneficial for trails, including ‘rest areas’ and wayfinding

3.2 South Site - Community Node



signage.

Definition:

This zone is a secondary node to the north site area.

Intent:

This zone serves the park and recreational needs of the immediate residents and provides opportunities for community groups to build/serve/offer programming beneficial to the community within park areas.

Activities and Uses:

The South Site park area includes the bike skills park, community gardens, arboretum, lawn bowling/bocce area and family day use picnic area and splash zone. It also includes the dog off-leash runs and water hole as well as the network of trails including the proposed future link to Zuckerberg Island.



	Existing	Proposed (2011 Master Plan)
Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trail system and natural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • active community node • trail system and integrated natural areas
Permitted Uses and Programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • passive uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mix of active and passive uses
Catalyst Projects Identified		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bike skills park
Recreational Facilities, Buildings and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trail network & bridge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bike skills park • expanded community garden • dog off-leash area/trails • day use picnic area/beach splash zone • arboretum • lawn bowling/bocce
Interpretive Elements and Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trail signage - history 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain existing
Vegetation & Natural Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • existing tree cover and vegetation • shoreline enhancement project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • integrated active zones • wildlife patches
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regular 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • emphasis on stewardship initiatives • regular maintenance
Community Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Garden Society • Castlegar Mountain Bike Society • Friends of Parks and Trails • Selkirk College • White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative



Natural and habitat focused area

Active urban landscape areas

Natural and habitat focused area

Integrated green spaces

Natural and habitat focused area

4.0 Vegetation & Integration of Natural Elements

A key priority identified within community consultation was to ensure existing natural areas be maintained and the beauty and ‘quiet’ spaces in the park preserved. This section of the plan reviews where the key ‘natural’ areas are to be maintained within the park, but also how this goal for a natural element be integrated and managed throughout the park, in particular, how it can help provide a balance to the many new uses and activities proposed elsewhere in this plan.

4.1 Vegetation Typologies

The consolidation of the main active spaces, parking, road/entrance, and snow dump to the northern and north west portion of the park, and the community node as a cluster of activities with only a drop off and pedestrian entrance in the south area achieves the following aspects:

- the mid zone maintained as vegetated tree cover
- the southern portion is primarily pedestrian and linked by new integrated green spaces

As a result, a diversity of park spaces and associated uses are created, including habitat-focused spaces, as well as active, more ‘urban’ park spaces consisting of grassed areas, ornamental and community gardens, sports fields, and plaza spaces, trails and viewpoints and spaces in between with both natural and refined elements.

As such, park spaces have been divided into three different ‘green’ typologies with an aim to manage

and guide the purpose and intent for vegetation to be maintained, or enhanced, and potential for habitat and quiet natural spaces in the park:

1. Natural-focused spaces
2. Integrated spaces
3. Active urban spaces with native, non-native and ornamental vegetation

The following table summarizes each typology, area and it’s goal and management intent for future park development.

Natural & Habitat Focused:

Habitat park spaces, such as the mid-zone, north site forest patch, and southern shoreline areas will be targeted for rehabilitation and enhancement projects with a focus on ecological function and the development of a diversity of habitat for wildlife (birds, small mammals, butterflies, etc.). The management of these landscapes will focus on stewardship group participation for monitoring and key aspects such as invasive species removal, tree replacement and general care. Major park maintenance will be minimal and allow natural succession is to shape these landscapes. Activities within these zones are passive and disturbance minimal.

Integrated:

This landscape typology will consist of a diverse range of landscapes that are shaped by human need for recreation, leisure, culture, education, organized programming and trail system but have opportunities for integration of

Park Typology	Goal	Activities/Uses
Natural Focused	creation of habitat, maintain and enhance vegetation and species diversity	passive, minimal disturbance, quiet, no lighting or permanent structures
Integrated	integrate vegetation, primarily native species, introduce a natural aesthetic	mixture of passive with low impact active uses
Active-urban	refined landscape	high intensity active uses, demonstration projects

native vegetation or other elements that support wildlife (native bee boxes, tree snags, etc.). New park development and management of these landscapes will focus on balance and enhancement where opportunities occur.

Active - Urban:

Active-urban spaces are primarily located in the north site area and at points along the waterfront. These are high use areas for events and programs that will be designed for significant levels of foot traffic and activity. Landscaped areas within this typology will be designed more specific for the use (e.g. shade, spatial definition, habitat values, etc.) with more consideration on aesthetic qualities. The exception is the opportunity for demonstration projects or interpretive areas that educate and may explain the importance of the more natural areas within the park.



High water tie up for a small number of boats permissible. Subject to Fisheries approvals and HADD.

Kayaking entry/ beach area

Existing view-point

Existing view-point

PUBLIC CONNECTION TO ZUCKERBERG ISLAND

5.0 Circulation & Access

Improved connections city-wide, at a neighbourhood level and within the park are key objectives of the Master Plan. Several identified City bike and pedestrian routes interface with Millennium Park. These play a major role in improving recreational access, supporting alternative transportation and connecting the park externally to downtown and south to Zuckerberg Island or future potential Columbia trail extensions (along the riverfront) City-wide (see Columbia Riverfront Trails Plan (2007)). This section of the plan outlines these networks and seeks to organize and set standards for their future design and use.

5.1 Park Access, Pedestrian and Bicycle Connections:

The main park entrance remains at 5th street. An expanded parking lot with green flex areas (for seasonal or event parking) is proposed to accommodate new uses.

4th street is shown as secondary connection to the downtown and as a loop entry with additional parking into the park. It is recommended that a future more detailed design be developed for the park entrance.

A new secondary vehicle entrance for temporary stopping, drop off and loading is proposed at 7th street. This serves to provide access and ease for the community node (gardens, bike skills park, and family picnic areas). Minimal parking will be provided here for limited times.

A new pedestrian connection is proposed at 8th street, connecting to the existing pedestrian route identified in the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan. Additional pedestrian routes into the park include 3rd street and 5th street and a more informal but maintained residential connection at 6th street.

Bicycle routes into the park are envisioned at 5th street (main entrance) as outlined in the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan.

Service route to the snow dump remains unchanged.

5.2 Trail Network:

The Master Plan outlines a hierarchical circulation system of pathways within the park defined by three major trail types, these include:

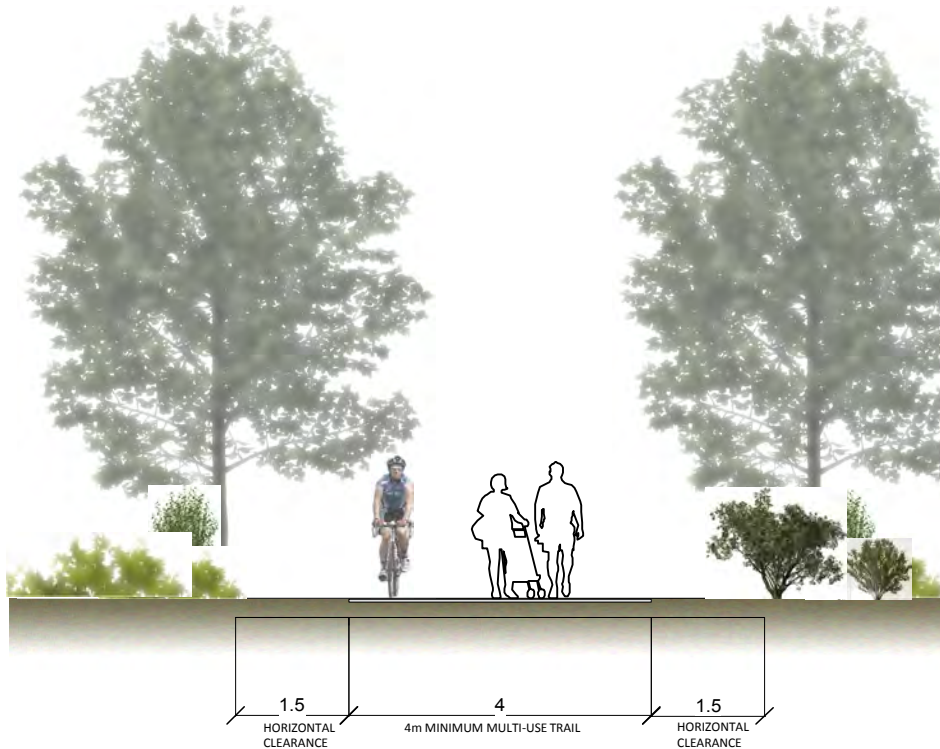
- Riverfront Multi-Use Trail
- Standard Multi-Use Trail
- Nature Trail

The siting, design, and construction of a trail greatly impacts its long-term success and maintenance requirements of a trail. As park components are developed over time, a comprehensive trail system should continue to be planned and maintained.

Summary Table of Proposed Hierarchy for Trail Networks within the Park

Trail Type	Level of Use	Type of Use/Accessibility	Surface	Width	Vegetation
Riverfront Multi-Use (Millennium Trail Walkway)	Very High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accessible • walking, jogging, stroller, rollerblading, cycling • riverfront views & access points to the water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concrete or asphalt • decorative pavers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimum 4m 	
Standard Multi-Use	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accessible where possible • walking, jogging, cycling, stroller 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hard surface/ asphalt or crushed gravel • Soft surface / crushed gravel and/or 50/50 hog fuel/road mulch for jogging 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimum 3m • 3m (moderate to low use areas or pedestrian only areas may be 2m and very high use areas 4m if connecting to park access points) 	
Nature Trail	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • generally in a woodland or riparian setting • not universally accessible • walking, mountain bikes, jogging • wildlife viewing/ birdwatching • off-leash dogs only where appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • soft surface / crushed gravel and/or 50/50 hog fuel/road mulch for jogging routes • or native soil with crush at higher use points only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimum 1.5m 	

Vegetation Clearance	Level of Maintenance	Design Quality
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.5m horizontal clearance minimum on either side • 3m vertical clearance • Sightlines to water and throughpark also need to be considered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • moderate to high • tree roots and heaving should be managed and trail improvements made 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • well furnished with benches and garbage cans • well lit • public art, interpretive signage, etc. • mixture of ornamental and native plantings where landscaped • all sections hard surfaced, materials should vary • in areas where uses conflict, extra width should be accommodated
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1m preferred horizontal clearance on either side of trail • 2.5m minimum vertical clearance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • moderate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited street furnishings, plantings and lights • Amenities (doggy stations, signage, garbage, benches) • public art, heritage, other where appropriate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.5m minimum horizontal clearance • 2m minimum vertical clearance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • moderate to low 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some boardwalks • limited amenities but some garbage cans, benches and signage • benches and rest areas at trailheads and at special feature (i.e.) viewpoints



and access to the riverfront.

Riverfront Multi-Use/Millennium Walkway

Objective:

This includes the Millennium Trail Walkway and viewpoints. This is a multi-use pedestrian/bicycle trail in a landscaped corridor located at the perimeter of the park riverfront that creates an active welcoming edge and access to the waterfront. The intent is that the walkway evolve to include 'nodes' along it. This will add vibrancy and activated variety of destination points.

Design Quality:

Pathway is hard-surfaced — using concrete or asphalt. Minimum desired width for a multi-use pathway is 4.0 m (Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan). Lighting, wayfinding and interpretive signage, and park furniture along the Millennium Walkway should reinforce park identity and enhance usability, comfort and provide multiple views

Standard Multi-Use Trail

Objective:

The standard multi-use trails provide an east-west pedestrian/bicycle connection in and out of the park as well as through other areas of the park.

Design Quality:

Pathway is hard or soft surfaced - using asphalt or crushed gravel or mulch materials. Minimum desired width for a standard multi-use pathway is 3m. Lighting, wayfinding signage and furniture along the

walkway is required.

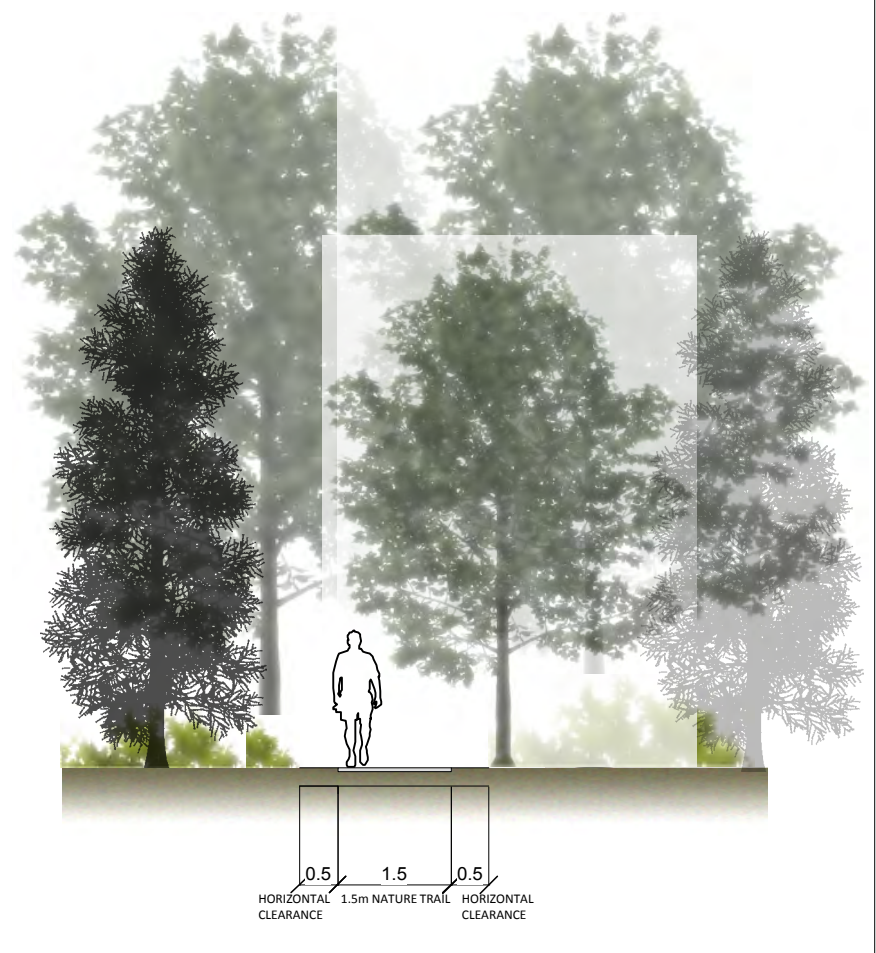
Nature Trail

Objective:

Nature trails offer more informal experiences through the parks forested areas and along the riverfront.

Design Quality:

Nature trails run throughout the wooded and riverfront riparian areas. Existing informal trails throughout the park should be evaluated and formalized as nature trails with appropriate width, maintenance, etc. These are soft surfaced trails, primarily for walking, jogging and leisure activities (bird watching, photography, etc.) . Cycling and dogs should be regulated to designated trails where appropriate.





Pennyann Creek Dairy
Abbotsford B.C.
Organic Goat Cheese & Dairy Products

Organic Goat Cheese
Abbotsford B.C.

\$1.75/oz Cube
\$1.50/oz Cube
\$1.00/Cub

\$1.75/oz Cube
\$1.50/oz Cube
\$1.00/Cub

Ab

6.0 Community Partnerships & Public Events

Residents expressed a strong desire and interest to expand on public events and engage directly in the development of park areas as well as steward these sites and projects in the long term. The City welcomes this community involvement.

However, to date, the process for implementing community projects has been informal and somewhat random with respect to evaluation of community wide benefit, location and future planning. This section of the plan seeks to coordinate how this process can be managed. With this goal are recommendations to improve the overall fit of community proposed activities within the park and to establish a model for the long-term management.

6.1 Community Events

The amphitheater, north site picnic area and soccer fields (including warm up areas and change room/concession) are green spaces suited to a variety of more formal and larger event spaces in the park, be it, the Sun Festival, outdoor theatre, symphony in the park, movies in the park (echoing the old drive in within the park), sports tournaments, etc. However, it is envisioned these spaces and areas surrounding will also offer other smaller active programming opportunities throughout the year, be it a farmers' or art market, or cultural celebrations – creating year round activity and destination events at the Park.

The lazy river is intended to be a central and cultural hub. A place to sit in the sun or shade, splash and swim in the water, enjoy eating outside and/

or people-watching. This is a place to cool off in the summer and in the winter a potential outdoor skating rink. This area's setting, views and landscaped zones would also lend itself as an area for family gatherings and more informal local events.

The Natural mid zone offer opportunities to enjoy natural and horticultural landscapes; a variety of routes and paths are available on which to move through and around the forested area. This is envisioned as a quiet area, less utilized and peaceful. This area would likely host events related to horticulture, education or stewardship initiatives, exception being roving theatre or other increasingly popular non-impact artistic initiatives.

The south site community node is envisioned to host more community and local neighbourhood based events. Given appropriate design of the family picnic area, these areas could host family gatherings, weddings or smaller festivals. These areas are considered primarily open public sites for community use.

6.2 Community Projects and Stewardship Opportunities

Community involvement in the park can provide added life and vibrancy to park spaces throughout the seasons. Community projects and activities in the park may include (but not limited to):

- volunteer based environmental focused stewardship initiatives
- educational-based programming

- community gardens & related free educational workshops or programming offered to the wider community
- non-private recreational clubs
- demonstration projects with community based outreach and relevance
- art and/or historical and heritage focused initiatives

Initiatives may include short and long term durations. Each project will be evaluated in the same way and contractual agreements negotiated separately accompanied by applicable policies, guidelines or requirements for aspects such as, insurance, location, design, etc.

6.3 Community Proposed Park Development Process & Policy Recommendations

The process by which community groups or residents may propose to initiate park development projects or programs whereby public park space is occupied and developed, is as follows.

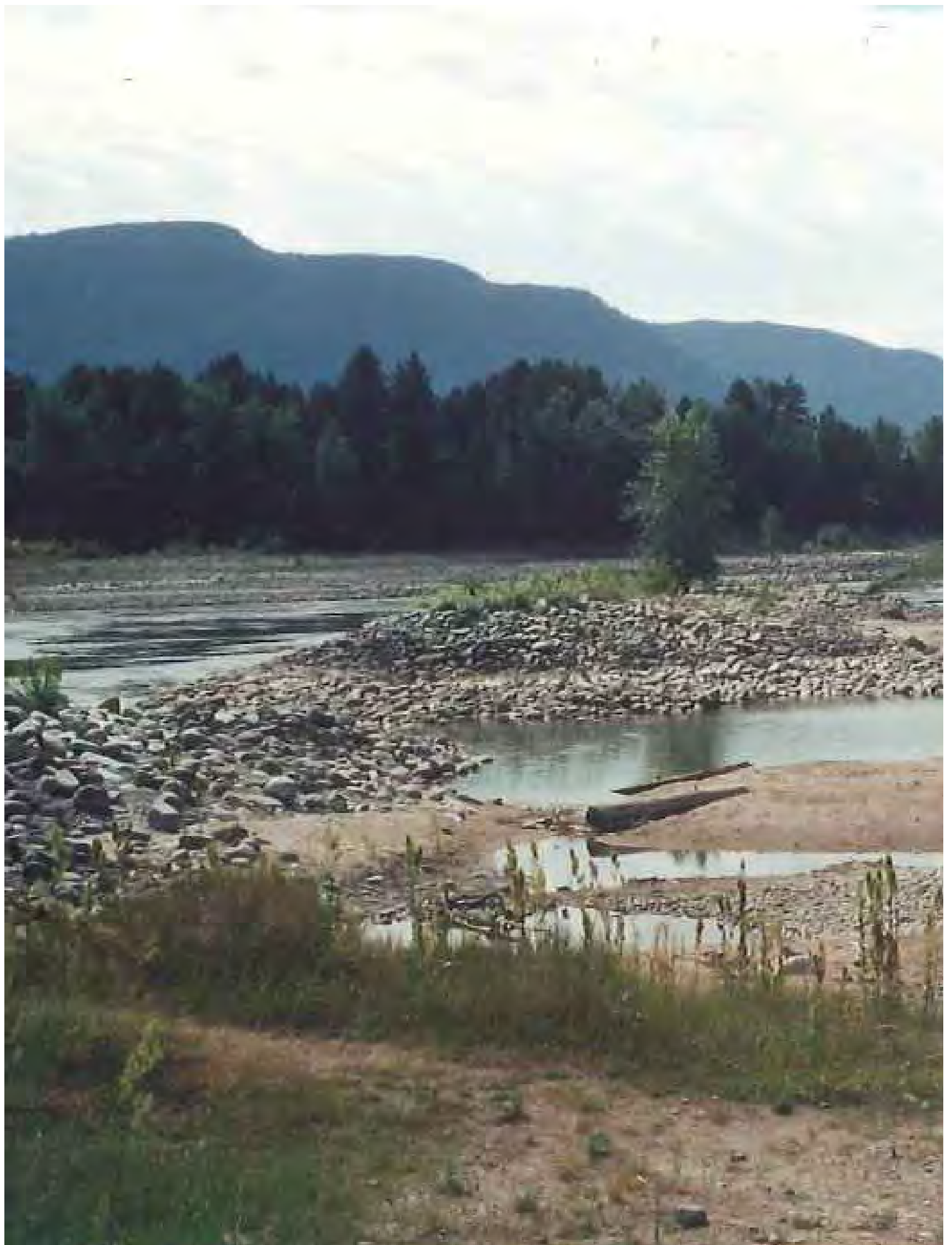
1. The Community Group/Resident/Organization or Educational Institution must fill out a project/program evaluation sheet and submit to the City of Castlegar Development Services Department.
2. The City will review the application/evaluation form and circulate internally to the appropriate operations. The submitter may be asked to provide additional information,

where requested by City staff.

3. When the review is complete, and if approved, a representative must meet with City staff to review a site location, project/program details and at this time, will negotiate an outline of the contractual agreement by which their approved project will be carried out.
4. Once an agreement has been reached, responsible representatives must sign the contractual agreement. Any additional agreements, policies or guidelines determined by the City and/or negotiated fees (this can be \$1/annum and higher depending on project specifics) will be attached to the agreement.
5. Community driven project/program work can begin and random or agreed upon monitoring of work or milestones may occur throughout the duration of the work or program.

A recommended format and project/program evaluation sheet for community groups and residents is located in [appendix x].

Recommended policies or guidelines for community projects in public parks is located in [appendix x].



7.0 Implementation Strategy

The park master plan represents a long term vision and is a snapshot of the community's interests and goals at this point in time. This vision outlines the park's role within the City as a major destination and attraction and includes the many possible activities and uses that residents would like to have within their community and park.

The future vision will require substantial funding and partnerships to be implemented as outlined in the site plan contained herein. Availability of funding from a range of sources and partnerships with community groups will largely control the extent and content of each phase of implementation and park development.

Implementation of the Plan vision could take many years to complete. In that time, many of the ideas, desires and interests of residents may also change. Additionally, opportunities for funding may become available at different times. Therefore, it is essential the Master Plan has flexibility in its phasing to take advantage of funding opportunities when they present themselves. This section reviews the overall implementation strategy and provides a list of potential funding sources to support this.

7.1 Priorities for Park Development:

Initial phases will likely include relatively lower cost items and interim, seasonal or temporary elements. Community partnerships with existing funding or ability to coordinate, fund and implement projects will also be

included in early phasing.

Items with higher costs that require substantial capital plan funds will be subject to longer range capital planning and the availability of larger, perhaps corporate or other government partnerships.

High priority park developments are as follows:

- Lazy River and Performance Area: as a key catalyst project, including supporting infrastructure for water supply, and potential habitat compensation
- Partner and set up agreements with Rotary Club for the green gym, community gardens to expand, and Castlegar Mountain Bike Society to move to design a phase 1 of the bike skills park
- Address maintenance issues identified in the consultation process, including:
 - trail improvements/upgrades to take care of tree root damage, and;
 - outline a plan for future consolidation of the snow dump.
- New regulation soccer field, change room and warm up areas
- Day use picnic area/family picnic shelter
- Childrens play area in the south side

The following table outlines proposed park development, additional priorities, potential partners, funding sources, timeframe and scale of cost.

Implementation Strategy Summary Table

		Programming/Uses	Priority
Catalyst Projects			
	1	Lazy River & associated water/shoreline recreation	H
City Capital Projects / Upgrades			
	1	Day Use Picnic Areas and Family Picnic Shelter	M
	2	Off-Leash Dog Area (open space only) with future constructed pond area	H
	3	South Side Enhanced Beach and Picnic Area	M
	4	New Park Access & Expanded Parking with Overflow Event Parking	L
	5	Outdoor Amphitheatre / Performance Space and Shelter. Memorial wall, Donor recognition incorporated with amphitheatre earth works and retaining	L
	6	New Regulation Soccer Field	M
	7	Expanded Washrooms, Concession & Change Rooms	H
	9	Courts with seating (volleyball or basketball)	M
Community Partner Projects			
	1	Expanded Community Gardens	H
	2	Green Gym	H
	3	Bike Skills Park	H
	4	Trail Improvements & Habitat Enhancement	M
	5	Arboretum	L
Maintenance Improvements and Management Commitments			
		Consolidated Snow Dump	H
		Millennium Trail Walkway, Tree Root Pruning and Trail maintenance	H

Partners	Additional Funding Sources	Timeframe
Private Partnerships Borderline Boaters Club	Corporate Partners, Senior Government Funding	1-3yrs Feasibility Study, Detailed Design, Construction
	Memorial Opportunities (similar to benches)	2-3 yrs
		2-5 yrs Signage, Facilities
		5-10 yrs Possible need to acquire properties (depending on option) Planning, Detailed Design, Construction
Local Arts/Theatre Groups, Hospice Society (memorial wall), Castlegar Sculpture Walk	Corporate, Memorial donors	5-10yrs Planning, Detailed Design, Construction
Soccer Association		2-5yrs
Sports Organizations		2-5 yrs Planning, Detailed Design, Construction
Sports Organizations		Phased as demand increases
Community Garden Society, Kootney Food Strategy	In-kind and volunteer	1-2 yrs MOU/License or Lease agreement & Conditions of Site
Castlegar Rotary Club	Rotary Club has identified external funding in place	1-2 yrs MOU/License or Lease agreement & Conditions of Site
Castlegar Mountain Bike Society	Mnt. Bike Society has identified in-kind donation and external grant funding in place	1-2 yrs MOU/License or Lease agreement & Conditions of Site for a defined space (determined through Master Plan)
Friends of Parks & Trails Society, White Sturgeon Recovery	Columbia White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative Program	
Communities in Bloom, Selkirk College, other botanical organizations		
Friends of Parks and Trails Society		

7.2 Phasing

Using this table as a guide, park master plan phasing would look like the following.

[insert graphic: phasing]

Other Considerations:

As a regional destination, the City will need to consider improved wayfinding and connections to the park to and from the downtown area. This may include street and public realm upgrades and/or banners and other design elements to create a larger ‘entrance’ and direct connection to the park. Reconfiguring the park entrance to ensure a rewarding and welcoming entrance is also a key consideration.

Once key park developments are in place, promotion of the park uses and highlights will be essential to attracting regional visitors.

7.3 Lazy River Project Cost Estimate:

[to be determined]

7.4 Potential Funding Sources Include:

[list here only and include in an appendix instead?]

A number of funding sources may be available to apply to park developments outlined in this plan. They are as follows.

• **Taxation:** Property tax is a principal source of revenue for delivery of community services. Recent consultation (OCP) survey indicated strong community support for parks and trails within Castlegar. An increased investment in parks and recreation through taxation may be a future option.

• **Park Reserve Fund:** The Parks and Recreation Funds should be separated from General Revenue and each other to track what is available for parks, recreation and facilities. Invest any residual parks or recreation capital funding in the Reserve Funds if not used in the year’s budget. Allocate monies to key catalyst projects as a priority.

Columbia Basin Trust: [Chris/Shannon to add]

• **Senior Government and Agency Funding:** The Province of BC, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Government of Canada and other government and non-government organizations regularly offer grants that provide capital or planning money. Parks and recreation projects can secure funds related to non-vehicular transportation, public infrastructure, the environment, sustainability initiatives and parks and recreation improvements. The city should aggressively pursue grants that could be used to develop priority projects identified in the plan.

• **Private - Public Partnerships:** Successful P3s can ease pressure on local government spending while ensuring a particular service

is provided to the community. Partnerships can take many forms and P3s have had many recorded successes and failures. A successful P3 occurs when a project has a clearly identified public need and a well-defined private interest. Possible partners may include:

- [insert]

- **Donations and Fundraising:**

Corporations, organizations and individuals who use and care for parks and recreation facilities are often willing to contribute. An organized, efficient and productive donation program helps provide opportunities and ensures the community sees results. Commemorative giving and donations need not be overly standardized or regulated. A successful program should be adaptable to unique opportunities. Examples of popular giving opportunities include:

- *Recreation infrastructure:* Money for recreation, arts and culture facilities can be raised through major fundraising programs that encourage and recognize corporate and individual donations.
- *Parks amenities:* Benches, picnic tables, vegetation or playground equipment are common commemorative or donated amenities.
- *Donations:* Providing a register of projects requiring fundraising. This allows public or large corporate sponsors to contribute to projects that are meaningful to them.
- *In-Kind Donation:* Opportunities exist for organizations and individuals to donate time, materials and services to parks and

recreation projects.

Community Partnerships: Community partnerships provide opportunities to work with neighbouring landowners or local organizations where overlap in interests exist. Some of these organizations may have their own access to funding project work. Key possible partnerships that currently have expressed an interest or proposal include:

- Castlegar Mountain Bike Society
- Rotary Club
- Community Gardeners Association
- Parks & Trails Society

Other potential partners may include:

- School District
- Selkirk College
- Arts Groups
- Sports Organizations

Other Considerations:

Coordination with related infrastructure projects:

Major infrastructure improvements such as street or utility upgrades, public building development or stormwater projects often overlap with trail connections or other parks and recreation projects. Opportunities may exist to develop trail connections, public open space or recreation facility space when other capital projects are undertaken.

Parcel Tax:

A parcel tax levies a fixed charge per property within a community. This tax allows funds for a specific purpose to be raised, without increasing general property taxes. The use of a parcel tax can all alleviate public fears that funds raised through general property may

not be directed to this specific project and provides a fixed timeframe for the implementation of the levy. A parcel tax is appropriate for capital improvement projects because it spreads the tax load evenly among large and small properties, without regard to assessed value. Parcel taxes avoid placing heavy burdens on industrial properties with high assessed values.

- **Recovery/User Fees:** User fees provide funding to assist with the costs of operating and maintaining parks and recreation facilities and programs. Where there are options for user fees or cost recovery within leased park areas, this should be considered. However, the chief goal of municipal recreation is to provide public use, which means full-cost pricing is typically not employed. A careful balance is required between the provision of affordable recreation and revenue recovery to ensure that recreation can continue to be effectively provided.

Decommission Existing Underused Park Areas (if applicable):

Many local park systems have parcels that are undeveloped and constrained by size, location, topography, access, character or configuration. Where or if this exists, the City may consider it an option for funding trail extensions and/or acquiring land to connect Millennium Park to Zuckerberg Island. Decommissioning of parkland is subject to regulation by the Local Government Act. Section 941.1 of the Act specifies that proceeds from the sale of municipal parkland must be preserved in a reserve fund established for the purpose of

acquiring parks or trails. A bylaw must be developed and requires approval of electors. The Local Government Act requires that all profits from the sale of existing parks be directed to the acquisition of new parkland.

Development Cost Charges:

DCCs are a means of collecting fees from development projects for infrastructure improvements necessitated by community growth. The Local Government Act sections 932 to 937 enable municipalities to collect DCCs for parkland acquisition and minor parkland improvements. Parkland improvements are limited to: fencing, landscaping, drainage and irrigation, trails, restrooms, changing rooms, playground equipment and/or playing field equipment. It should be noted that interest earned on money in a parkland DCC reserve fund may be used for any park improvements. DCCs should be used to supplement major parks and recreation projects that benefit the entire community. Where DCCs are used, the cost of these parks must be allocated proportionately between existing and future residents; where existing residents benefit from a park acquired or developed using DCC funds, the proportion of that benefit must come from taxes or other revenue.

Community Amenity Contributions:

Amenity contributions through rezoning provide amenities or capital funding that support growth and densification. Examples of typical projects that are funded through amenity contributions include waterfront walkways, open spaces and plazas, community centres, heritage and cultural amenities,

landscaping, stream preservation and sensitive ecosystem protection. Section 904 of the Local Government Act enables municipalities to obtain phased amenities through zoning regulations.

Appendix A

Summary of Action Items

Summary of Action Items (Short Term Implementation Priorities)

Priority	Key Action Items	Involvement	Additional Comments
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proceed with a feasibility study for the Lazy River 	Development Services to initiate Input from Civic Works	<i>Refer to overview and general cost estimate outlined in Section 3.1.</i>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt community proposed project evaluation sheet and process for future partnerships with community groups. Priority projects for partnership include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotary Club: install the Green Gym Community Garden Society: expanded gardens (ongoing) Mountain Bike Society: Design Bike Skills Park, Phase 1 Parks and Trails: conduct a review and evaluation of all informal and formal trails within the park using these classifications to establish a hierarchial trail system 	Development Services - Planning Mayor/Council Approval Input from Civic Works (project implementation)	<i>Project evaluation sheet, process/policy may be integrated into a City-wide parks plan. Applicable to all City parks.</i>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule and implement trail repair where heaving has occurred due to tree roots (high priority) Determine a long term strategy for vegetation/trees along pathways to prevent root damage (see clearance requirements in section 4.0) 	Civic Works with input from Development Services	<i>Refer to recommended trail classifications outlined in Section 4.0 for vegetation clearance along pathways.</i>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a real-estate acquisition strategy, negotiate easement or identify alternate design options for public access trail connection to Zuckerberg Island 	Development Services - and Mayor/Council	<i>Alternate design options may include a floating boardwalk that circumvents private property.</i>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider a detailed design for park entry and direct link to downtown (public realm upgrades along the street that leads to the park entrance) 	Development Services to initiate with input from Civic Works and Tourist Groups	<i>Refer to Bicycle and Pedestrian Masterplan.</i>
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a vegetation management plan for typologies identified in the master plan 	Development Services and Civic Works, potential to involve and partner with Community Groups and/or academic institutions	<i>Refer to recommendations outlined in Section 4.0 for high level objectives.</i>

Appendix B

Community Project/Programming Application Form & Policy