KINGS MILL WALK PARK
MASTER PLAN



city of north vancouver

Consultants:
2022.02.09

PWL partnership

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PART I: INTRODUCTION

PART I: INTRODUCTION

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We respectfully acknowledge that we live and work on the traditional and unceded territories of the xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səl̓ílwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. The City of North Vancouver is committed to reconciliation with these Nations, who have lived on these lands since time immemorial.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Kings Mill Walk Park Master Plan is a guiding document that outlines the collaborative park planning process and improvements to be incorporated within the Harbourside waterfront location, that is Kings Mill Walk Park. Situated on Burrard Inlet between MacKay and Mosquito Creek systems, this destination park will serve the needs of the existing community in addition to the proposed Harbourside complete community.

The development of the plan is based in extensive site analysis and considerations of the natural history of the surrounding area. The plan responds to the issue of climate change, sea level rise and habitat restoration through the re-naturalization of the Burrard Inlet foreshore. Park programming activities are focused on upland areas to protect the foreshore environment and support restoration efforts.

A City Council appointed Task Force, stakeholders and engaged citizens helped to shape the park plan. A vision for the new park and guiding principles were established to focus decision making through the planning process. Key park zones were identified: Fell Street Plaza, All Ages Play, Off-Leash Dog, Open Park and Habitat areas with companion activities. The park balances a variety of programs and amenities while also being sensitive to the potential for an enhanced foreshore habitat of Kings Mill Walk Park. Located on the Spirit Trail, visitors will be able to enjoy a range of activities all connected by pathways throughout the park.

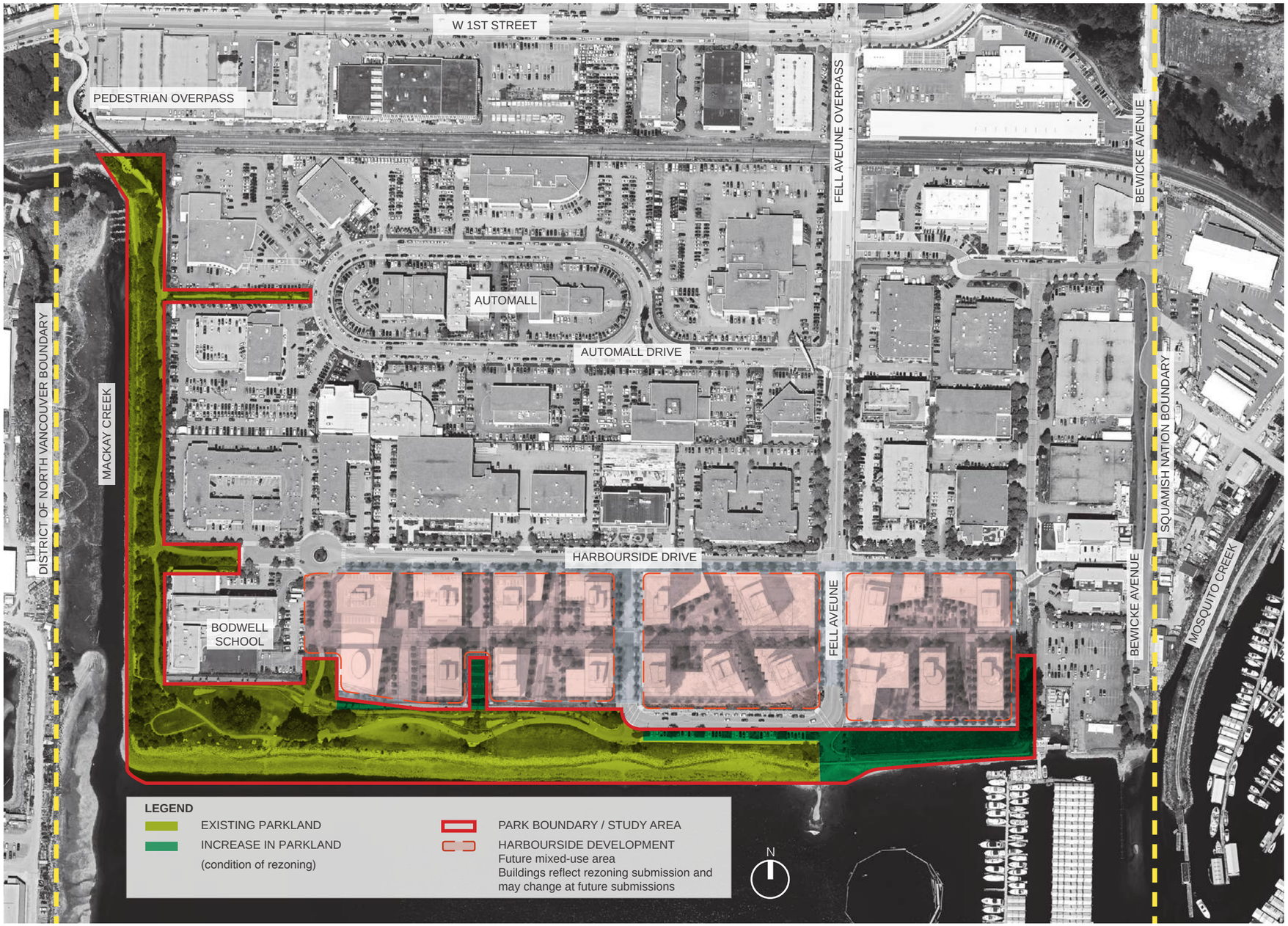
The plan will be implemented over a two year period commencing in the Spring 2023. Schedule and timelines will be contingent on environmental permitting for habitat restoration work and the construction timeline of the adjacent Harbourside neighbourhood development.

INTRODUCTION TO THE MASTER PLAN DOCUMENT

Kings Mill Walk Park occupies 28,727 square metres of highly valuable Burrard Inlet waterfront landscape. The North Shore Spirit Trail runs through the park connecting it to the larger region. Kings Mill Walk Park is classified as a City-wide, natural area park in the City of North Vancouver Parks Master Plan (2010). City-wide parks draw visitors from the entire city and beyond. People may travel to these parks to experience natural features the park provides, which includes environmentally sensitive lands such as creeks and riparian areas. People may also visit the park for the facilities and communal opportunities it provides.

Kings Mill Walk is adjacent to the Harbourside Waterfront development permit area. In 2014, The City of North Vancouver approved a four-phase mixed-use development for this area. As a condition of rezoning, the development is required to make improvements to vehicle access, transit connections, and address sea level rise. The creation and implementation of a new master plan for Kings Mill Walk Park was a rezoning requirement to respond to the significant scale of the proposed development.

The Kings Mill Walk Park Master Plan was created through a collaborative process involving The City of North Vancouver, a consultant team, a City Council appointed Task Force, stakeholders, and engaged citizens. This document outlines site analysis and design considerations, the planning process, public engagement, programming and site elements, and implementation.



Master Plan Study Area and Neighbourhood Context

PART II: SITE ANALYSIS AND DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

PART II: SITE ANALYSIS AND DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS



Kings Mill Walk Park Entrance Sign



Kings Mill Walk Park Waterfront Views



Kings Mill Walk Park Foreshore



Lookout at Mackay Creek Estuary

INTRODUCTION

The planning process for Kings Mill Walk Park involved a detailed analysis of the existing site features and community context, as well as consideration of its historical, cultural, socio-economic, and environmental character. Programming elements are grounded in the findings from the analysis of the site, input from the Task Force, and community feedback.

EXISTING SITE FEATURES AND REGIONAL CONTEXT

The park is 28,727 square metres running along the waterfront and extending northward along Mackay Creek. The south edge of the park interfaces with the rip-rap shoreline of the Burrard Inlet with views out to the City of Vancouver skyline and into the inlet. As the park is relatively flat there are very little obstructions to the waterfront views, which is one of the park's most desired qualities. Existing park elements include, open green space with picnic table and benches, a beach volleyball court, and an off-leash dog area.

The park is situated between two salmon bearing streams, Mackay Creek on the west, and Mosquito Creek on the east.

From its headwaters on the steep slopes of Grouse Mountain, Mackay Creek enters the City of North Vancouver below the Upper Level Highway, and then flows under Marine Drive back into the District of North Vancouver where it continues through the commercial area into Mackay Creek park and under the rail crossing in close proximity to the original creek mouth. The creek then follows a straight channel, bounded by infill land for approximately 400 metres before reaching Burrard Inlet. Mackay Creek has supported populations of Chum, Coho, Pink salmon Cutthroat Trout and Steelhead. The creek and estuary have been the focus of ongoing community stewardship efforts to enhance the riparian and estuary habitat.

Mosquito Creek originates amongst the forested slopes between Grouse and Fromme Mountain and flows through the District and City of North Vancouver, and the Squamish Nation. The creek discharges into the Burrard Inlet at the Squamish Nation's Mosquito Creek Marina, with Bewicke Park and the Burrard Yacht Club to the west. Mosquito Creek has been severely impacted by the urbanization of its surroundings. Riparian removal,

channelization, high effective impermeable areas, fluctuating water quantity, and storm water discharge, are a few examples of how the creek has been degraded over time. The mouth of the stream, historically supported by a large estuary, no longer exists. Although the creek has been depleted, there are still many projects to improve fish habitat, and the overall health of its riparian zones and embankments over the last 20 years. Fish observed in Mosquito Creek include Chum and Coho Salmon, Steelhead, Coastal Cutthroat Trout, and Sculpin species. (Golder Biophysical Report, 2019)



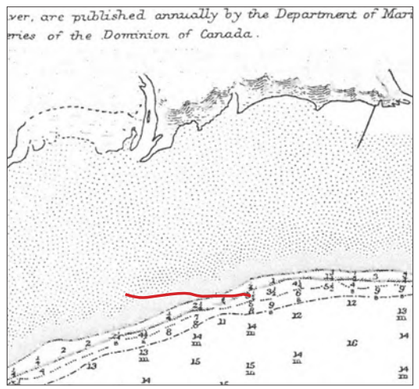
Kings Mill Walk Park in the context of North Vancouver

HISTORY AND CONTEXT

First Nations Presence

Kings Mill Walk is situated within the traditional and unceded territories of the xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Sḷilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations, and is adjacent to Mission 1, Squamish Reserve Land. The North Shore of Burrard Inlet was home to First Nations for thousands of years before European settlers arrived in the mid-19th century. The oldest archaeological site in the territory of the Squamish People is 8,600 years old at Porteau Cove in Howe Sound. There were villages dating back 3,000 years spread across the inlet, including permanent winter villages, and other seasonal encampments, including Eslhá7an, Mission 1, which is adjacent to Mosquito Creek. These First Nations settlements were inherently connected to the inlet and the connecting rivers and creeks. The land and waterways were resource sites, spiritual and ritual places, hunting camps, cedar bark gathering areas, rock quarries, clam processing camps (Canadian Council on Social Development, n.d.). The land uses also focused on, celebrated, and respected the foreshore of the inlet, as well as the mudflats situated between the land and the water.

1860



1926



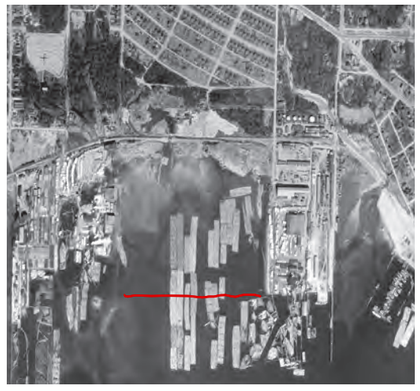
1949



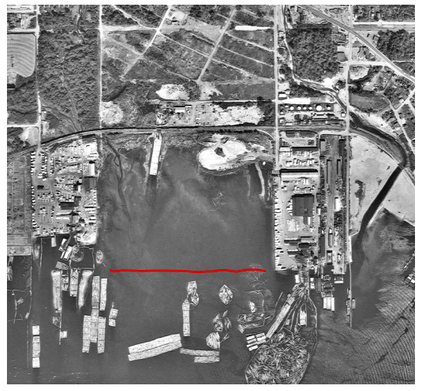
The Mudflat and a Changing Shoreline

Mudflats are areas of mud or sand affected by the rising and falling of tides and are usually composed of marshes. Intertidal mudflats support several ecosystems. Mudflats support a variety of birds and fish, providing habitat, a resting place, and a feeding area. They are also crucial in protecting inland landforms from erosion, acting as a barrier to waves. In the 1970's the shoreline changed dramatically when Fullerton Lumber closed. The company pumped sand and gravel into the mudflat to create viable development land that is now Harbourside.

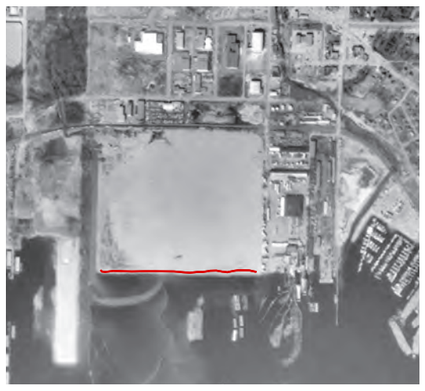
1953



1963



1970



2014



The displayed images capture the changes over time, starting with the Royal Engineers survey from 1860. The red line is a reference to where the park shoreline presently exists. The evolution of the mudflat is also evident through the progression of the photos, with the 1970 photo exhibiting the extents to which Fullerton Lumber had filled in the intertidal mudflat.

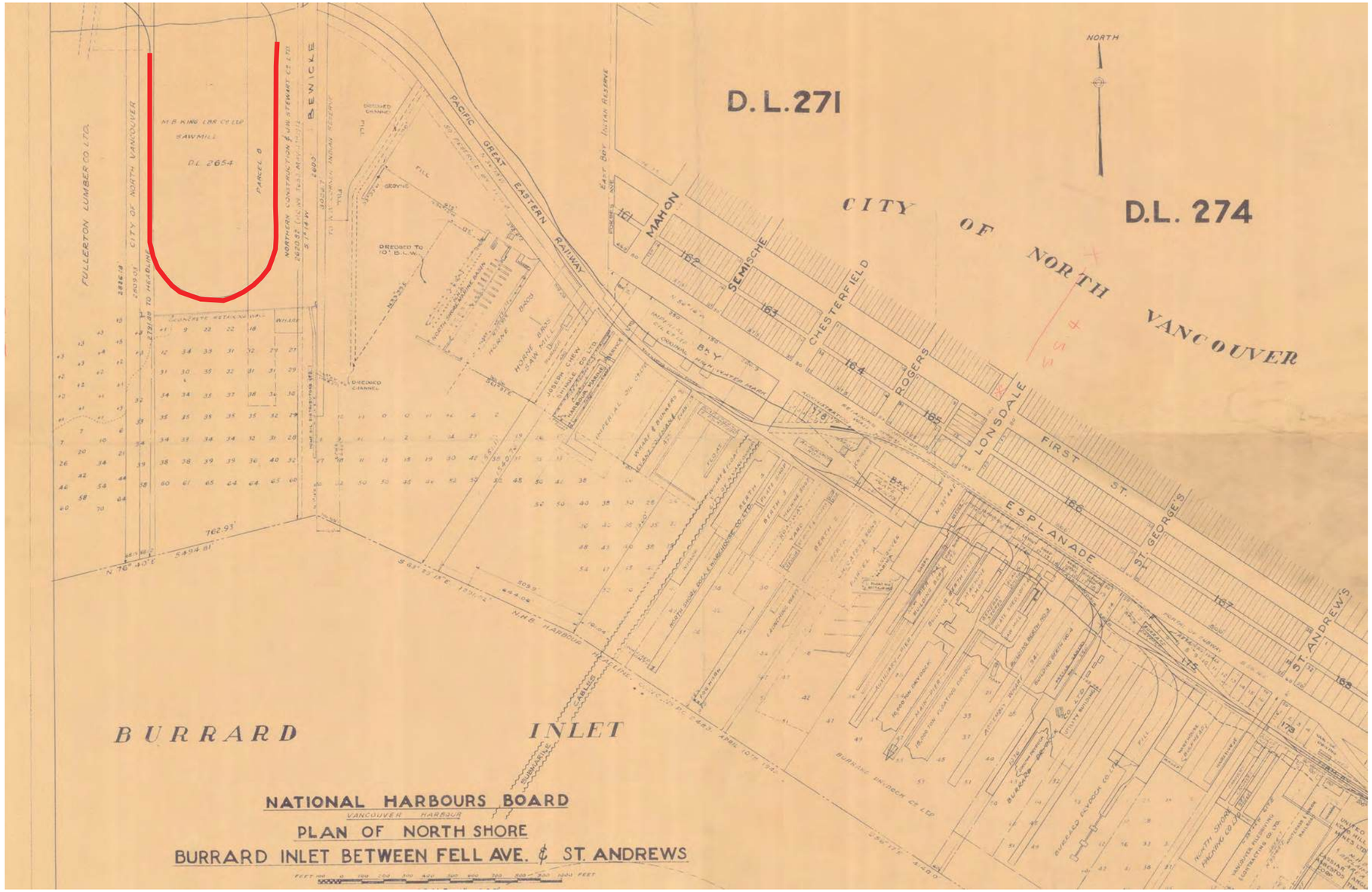
The Rise of the Logging Industry

Throughout the 1860's the logging industry began to rapidly develop along the North Shore. Although the rise of the industry was centered at the Moodyville mill, it would continue to expand throughout the region with mills and log sort areas populating the shores of Burrard Inlet.

The park is named for the site's original industrial user, The M.B. King Lumber Company, and sawmill established by Malcolm King in 1933 at the foot of Fell Avenue. The mill was at its height of success in the 1950's. When Donald King passed away in 1961, the mill and property was sold to Fullerton Lumber, a log sorting and storage area.

Fullerton Lumber closed in 1972 and filled the adjacent water lot for a potential development site. For the next three decades the Fullerton property would sit vacant, until the early 2000's when the Automall opened, and Kings Mill Walk Park was developed, with the name of the park commemorating the M.B. King Lumber Mill.





Archive Plan of North Shore - Burrard Inlet Between Fell Ave & St. Andrews - 1962. The red outline indicates the location of the M.B. King Lumber Sawmill.

HARBOURSIDE NEIGHBOURHOOD

Harbourside Waterfront Planning and Rezoning

When the first Official Community Plan was adopted in 1980, the Harbourside Business Park (formerly the Fullerton Fill) was identified as a "Special Study Area".

In 1996, Concert Properties would acquire the land that is now Harbourside, and rezone the site to commercial, light industrial, and auto mall uses. As a part of the rezoning, on-site community amenities were implemented and included the creation of Kings Mill Walk Park.

In 1998, Concert amended the OCP and rezoned the area to create the Harbourside Business Park. In 2013, City Council approved an application from Concert Properties to rezone their lands at 801, 889 and 925 Harbourside Drive and 18 Fell Avenue to create a new, mixed-use waterfront neighbourhood. Concert Properties would go on to finalize a rezoning proposal for Harbourside Waterfront in 2014, with the overall goal to create a vibrant, mixed use, "complete community."

The Harbourside Waterfront development area is a 12-acre property surrounded by mixed employment, commercial, and industrial land use areas. The proposed development of Harbourside Waterfront is a predominantly low- and mid-rise mixed-use development, with the tallest building being 28 metres in height, or roughly eight storeys.



Harbourside Waterfront Development concept sketch - Harbourside Rezoning Application, November 2013

Built Form Break Down

- 17 Buildings
- 900 residential units within 800,00 sq. ft
- Commercial space within 290,000 sq. ft.

Kings Mill Walk Park Neighbourhood Context

Kings Mill Walk Park is situated in a primarily commercial and industrial area with a mix of three to four story office buildings as well as the Northshore Automall. Park users tend to drive or use the Spirit Trail to visit Kings Mill Walk Park, and the surrounding businesses. Through the collaboration of the City of North Vancouver and the Squamish Nation, the Spirit Trail through Mosquito Creek Marina was completed in 2018 increasing pedestrian and cycling traffic through the park. Bodwell High School sits to the north-west side of the park, and the Burrard Yacht Club and Bewicke Park on the south-eastern corner. The Harbourside mixed use development sites are located along the northern edge of the park.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENGINEERING ASSESSMENT

The Harbourside shoreline is approximately 670 metres in length, constructed of rip rap, cobble, sand, and gravel. It is oriented east to west, and bounded by Mackay Creek on the west and Burrard Yacht Club on the East. Majority of the beach areas, with exception to the area immediately adjacent to Mackay Creek, are sloped at 20%, with larger substrate located at the top of the slope closest to pedestrian walkways. The intertidal zone is comprised of cobble and large angular rock substrate, the mid-intertidal zone is cobble, sand, and gravel substrate, and the low-intertidal zone is primarily cobble, angular rock, and gravel substrate. The mid and low intertidal zone has been colonized by green and brown algae, specifically, sea lettuce, rockweed and sugar kelp.

The shoreline to the east is follows a vertical concrete lock block seawall with primarily silt sand substrate that is exposed at low tide. The riparian zone along 150 metres of the western edge of the shoreline and along the Mackay Creek estuary is populated with various trees and shrubs, but as the shoreline stretches east, the riparian zone vegetation is mostly maintained lawn, or devoid of vegetation at all.

In November of 2012, Golder Associates was engaged by Concert Properties to investigate the impact of sea level rise on the Harbourside area and make recommendations to address the risk. The purpose of the Flood Management Plan was to define the flood construction level and develop companion management approaches that avoid, accommodate, or protect the Harbourside waterfront.

The strategies are based on managing risk, improving the experience of those that use the place, science and engineering knowledge and ecosystem health. Sea level rise adaptation is considered for the short, medium and long term basis. Site water levels take into account topography, tidal levels and surges, wave analysis, wind climate and freeboard allowance, which resulted in a determination to change the local flood level to 4.5 metres, raising the park 1.5 meters, and meeting the City of North Vancouver's Flood Construction Level Standard.

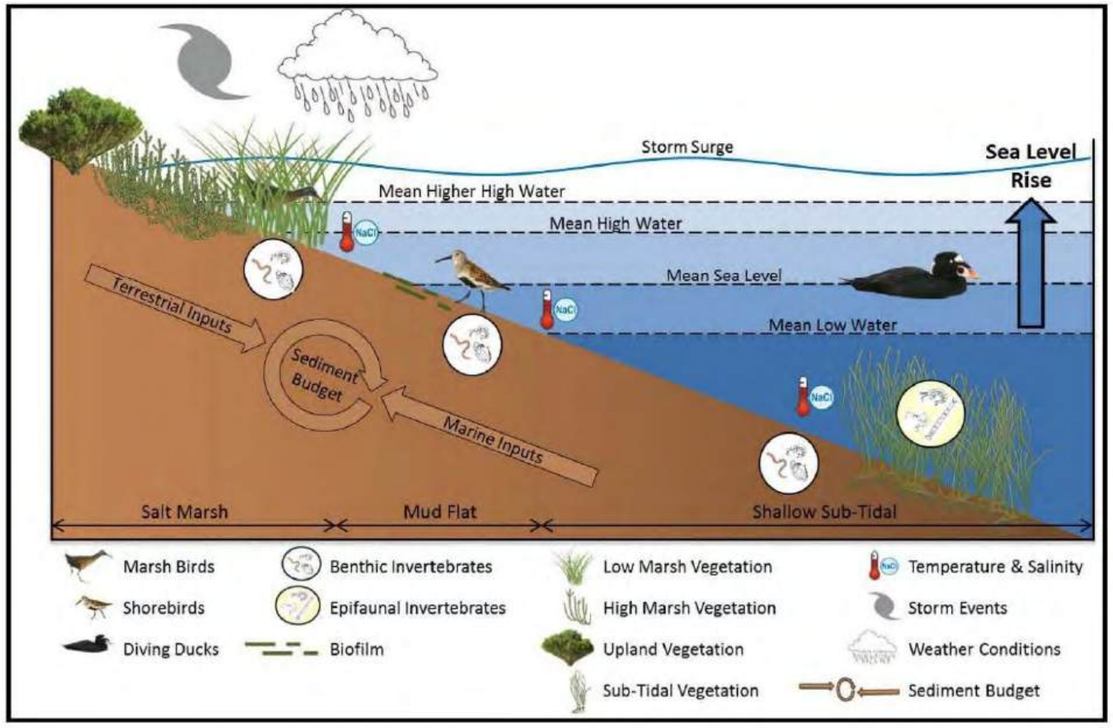
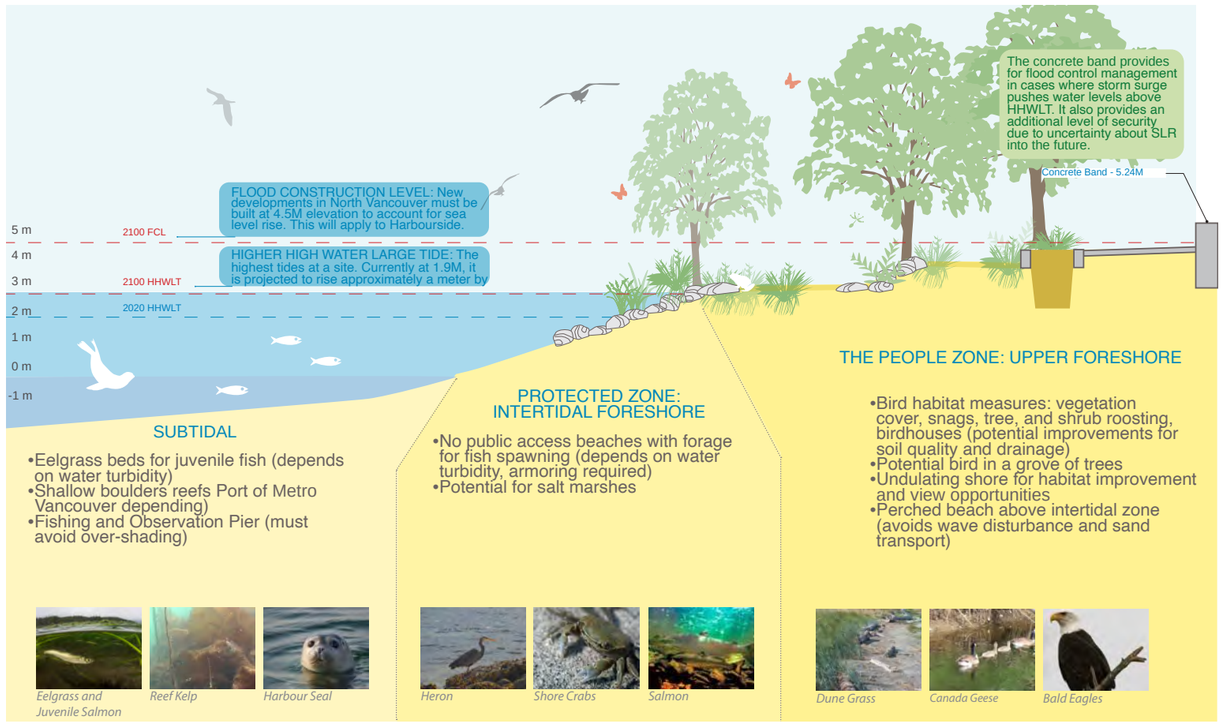


Diagram of ecosystem processes associated with near-shore vegetation from Golder's 2020 'Considerations for Successful Shoreline Restoration Projects' Report, informing foreshore design approaches.



Shoreline habitat and sea level rise section, visualizing high level foreshore design approaches for Harbourside waterfront, updated July 2021

Images from Golder Biophysical Assessment of Kings Mill Walk Park Foreshore in 2019



Metridium senile on log along sub-tidal transect 2



Sugar kelp growing on cobble along sub-tidal transect 3



Mottled sea star on a log along sub-tidal transect 2



Gracilaria ssp. growing along sand and gravel substrate along sub-tidal transect 1



Sugar kelp with 25% to 50% cover and encrusting bryozoan along sub-tidal transect 1



Cobble and angular rock in the mid intertidal zone



Cobble and angular rock in the mid intertidal zone



Quadrat in high intertidal zone



Quadrat in low intertidal zone



Intertidal species observed in low intertidal quadrat



The eagle nest on site has been relocated and will not be disturbed during project construction. Golder Habitat Assessment Diagram, October 2019.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF FORESHORE PLAN

The 2019 Biophysical Assessment Report was prepared for The Port of Vancouver to provide an assessment of species and habitats that will be affected by project activities such as infilling, vegetation removal, and shoreline modification. The project footprint will result in a net gain of backshore vegetation, productive rocky headlands, intertidal beach habitat. Overall the project will provide an overall net benefit to marine habitat and communities in the intertidal and subtidal zones (Biophysical Assessment Report for Foreshore Works (foreshore-1, Golder) Along Kings Mill Walk Park 2019).

The proposed foreshore plan intends to create diverse and healthy backshore, foreshore, and intertidal zones, with a net increase in habitat for marine and terrestrial life. The proposed plan incorporates a series of headlands and intertidal beaches that will allow for diverse ecosystems to flourish, as well as raising the overall height of land to resist flooding and create a buffer that accommodates sea level rise. The existing lock block seawall to the east of Fell Avenue will be replaced and raised to meet the 1.5m elevation increase.

TREE MANAGEMENT

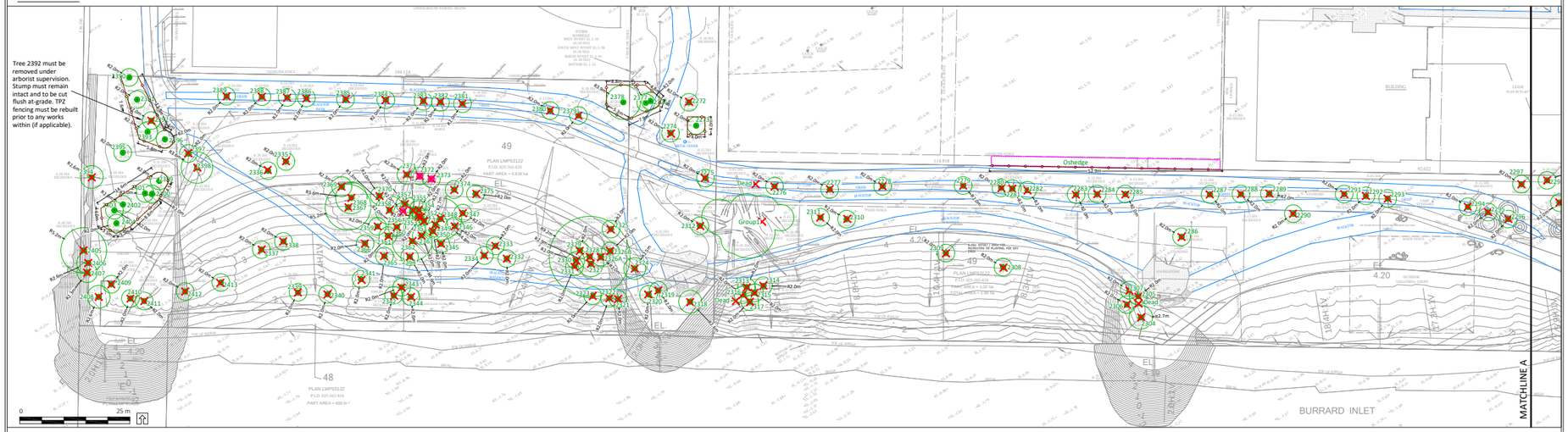
A professional arborist conducted a tree survey in September 2020.

The park will be raised 1.5 meters, which will necessitate the removal of many trees. There are two groups of trees that will preserved near the eastern embankment of Mackay Creek, and protected with tree protection fencing throughout the construction period. The groupings are comprised of five to seven trees each, with the species being Rowan/ Mountain Ash, Sorbus aucuparia, Black Cottonwood, and Populus balsamifera ssp. trichocarpa, Douglas-fir, Pseudotsuga menziesii, with the average tree health being moderate.

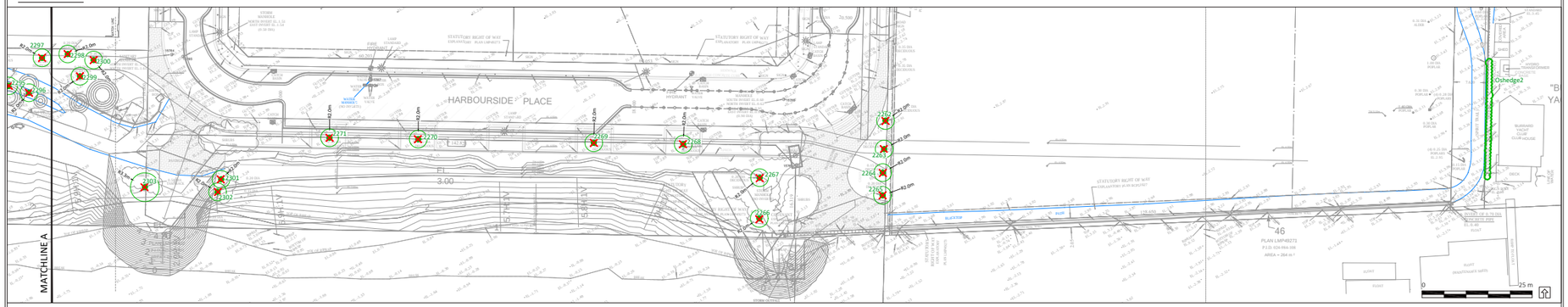
Common existing tree species within the park include:

- Rowan/ Mountain Ash, Sorbus aucuparia
- Black Cottonwood, and Populus balsamifera ssp. trichocarpa,
- Douglas-Fir, Pseudotsuga menziesii
- Silver Maple, Acer Saccharinum
- Honey Locust, Gleditsia triacanthos
- Arbutus, Arbutus menziesii
- Paper Birch, Betula papyrifera

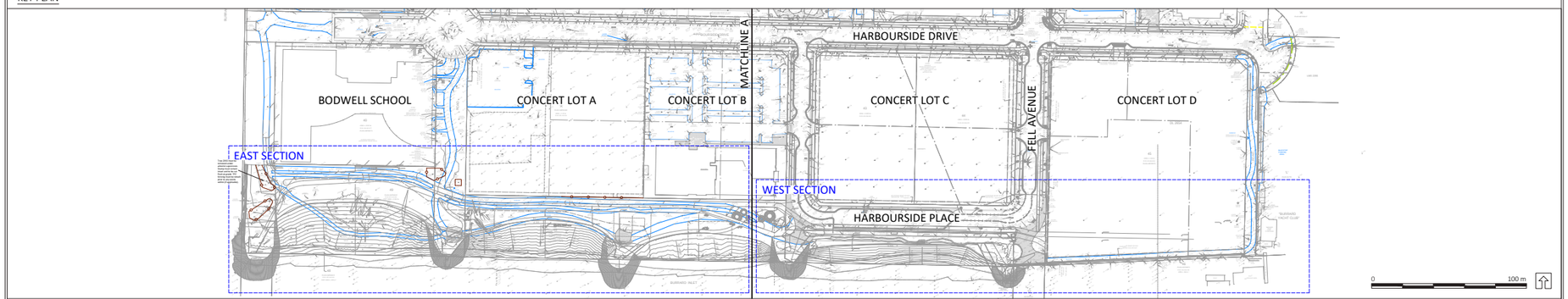
EAST SECTION



WEST SECTION



KEY PLAN



LEGEND

- TREE PROTECTION ZONE
- TREE PROTECTION FENCE
- SURVEYED TREE TO BE RETAINED
- UN-SURVEYED TREE TO BE RETAINED
- TREE TO BE REMOVED

NOTES

1. The location of un-surveyed trees on this plan is approximate. Their location and ownership cannot be confirmed without being surveyed by a Registered BC Land Surveyor.
2. All tree protection fencing must be built to the relevant municipal bylaw specifications.The dimensions shown are from the outer edge of the stem of the tree.
3. The tree protection zone shown is a graphical representation of the critical root zone, measured from the outer edge of the stem of the tree. (6 the trees diameter was added to the graphical tree protection circles to accommodate the survey point being in the center of the tree)
4. Any construction activities or grade changes within the Root Protection Zone must be approved by the project arborist.
5. This plan is based on a topographic and tree location survey provided by the owners' Registered British Columbia Land Surveyor (BCLS) and layout drawings provide by the owners' Engineer (P Eng).
6. This plan is provided for context only, and is not certified as to the accuracy of the location of features or dimensions that are shown on this plan. Please refer to the original survey plan and engineering plans.

REFERENCE DRAWINGS

1. Base Survey by Hobbs, Winter & MacDonald last updated July 23, 2020.
2. Landscape Plan provided by client.

DIAMOND HEAD

3559 COMMERCIAL STREET
VANCOUVER BC | V5N 4E8
T 604.733.4886 | F 604.733.4879

Drawing title: Tree Retention and Removal Plan
Project address: Harbourside Park/Foreshore, City of North Vancouver
Client: PWL

Drawing No: 002
Date: 2020/09/10
Drawn by: CL/DBE
Page Size: ARCH D (24"x36")

Page # 1 of 1

Diamond Head Tree Retention and Removal Plan, September 2020



Open lawn with low rolling hills



Waterfront pathways & seating



Beach character



Urban planting pockets

SITE CHARACTER AND CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS

Contextual Inspirations for the Park Master Plan

As a starting point for developing the site character a collection of precedent images were presented at the Kings Mill Walk Park master plan Task Force meetings. Task Force members, the consultant team, and City staff contributed to the precedent image bank. Task Force members were asked to look through the photo gallery and identify which images fit their perspective of what Kings Mill Walk Park could look and feel like. The images displayed a variety of materials, forms, and artistic expressions. The selected images would allow the team to identify the sites character, as well as help inform the overall vision of the park.

It was important to the Task Force to connect with the early site history and First Nations culture. This connection suggests the use of natural materials like wood and stone, while enhancing park user's relationships to nature through native planting nodes, perched wetlands, and foreshore restoration. Additionally, First Nations culture may be celebrated and recognized through public art and interpretive signage throughout the park and at key entrances and central nodes. The Task Force discussed including educational opportunities to share First Nations values and land rights.

The industrial history of Kings Mill Walk Park will be expressed through material selection, detailing and public art. This will reflect the once present Kings Mill Lumber Company, and the various mills scattered throughout the North Shore that are connected to the regional character.

One of the park's most popular and valued attributes are the views it provides out to the natural waterfront setting of the Burrard Inlet. People enjoy observing wildlife and the shoreline ecosystem. The views will be prioritized, highlighted, and serve as inspiration for the overall design of the park.

The images on this page, and the following were favoured character and programming images amongst Task Force members.



Separated bike path



Parkour



Walking paths



Outdoor fitness area

PARK PROGRAMMING CONSIDERATIONS

Active Programming

Kings Mill Walk Park's active programming prioritizes a healthy lifestyle for all ages. With the Spirit Trail and existing beach volleyball courts in the park, it was important to maintain and continue supporting active programming elements in the master plan. The following images are examples of active programming elements for Kings Mill Walk Park. The images illustrate a range of active programming options that were suggested throughout the consultation process.



Looping accessible paths



Boulder agility area



Water station

Pet Friendly Programming

Kings Mill Walk Park currently encompasses an existing off-leash area, that is a valuable amenity to the surrounding community. To meet both existing and future demand, it was necessary to include this program within the plan. Throughout the consultation process the importance of the off-leash dog area to the public was highlighted. The proposed size and design of this programming zone was thoroughly explored and went through a range of design iterations.

The following images are examples of appropriate pet friendly programming that can be applied to the off-leash area, as well as integrated throughout the entirety of Kings Mill Walk Park. The images illustrate a range of pet friendly programming options that were suggested through the public engagement process.



Bird watching



Parkland habitat



Habitat area trails



Foreshore habitat

Habitat Enhancement and Access to Nature

The Burrard Inlet waterfront and salmon bearing streams Mackay and Mosquito Creek on the east and west borders of the Harbourside area provide unique opportunities for habitat improvements and access to nature in an urban environment.

It was important to the public and Task Force to create a diverse foreshore environment and healthy parkland habitat, that could be seamlessly integrated into other park programming areas and achieve a balance between environmental goals and programming.

The following images are examples of appropriate habitat and nature focused programming that can be integrated throughout the entirety of Kings Mill Walk Park. The images illustrate a range of habitat improvement, nature-based activity or solution options suggested throughout Task Force meetings and the public engagement process.



Public art pieces



Urban interventions



Cultural representation

Public Art Nodes

Kings Mill Walk Park has the potential to be rich with culture and celebrate local history. It is important that this is reflected in programming elements throughout the park. Public art will be integrated throughout the park as a means to express the traditional lands of the First Nations as well as the industrial context.

The following images are examples of public art elements that can be integrated throughout Kings Mill Walk Park. The images illustrate a range of public art options that were suggested by the Task Force.



Park benches



Covered seating



Flexible open space



Plaza seating platform

Gathering Spaces

Kings Mill Walk Park offers a variety of action specific programming opportunities. It was important to the public, Task Force, and stakeholders that in addition to the specific programming zones, that there was also a variety of passive open spaces, that are inclusive, allow for all seasons use, and provide space for small and large gatherings. It was essential to ensure that all areas were mostly flat and accessible.

The following images are examples of gathering spaces for Kings Mill Walk Park. The images illustrate a range of options that were suggested throughout the consultation process.

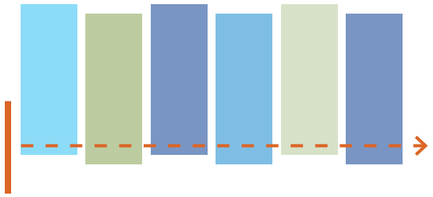
PART III: PARK MASTER PLAN PROCESS AND ENGAGEMENT

PART III: PARK MASTER PLAN PROCESS AND ENGAGEMENT

MASTER PLAN PROCESS

The Kings Mill Walk Master Plan process dates back to 2015, moving through various phases of public consultation, environmental and foreshore analysis, stakeholder meetings, and the creation of a Kings Mill Walk Master Plan Task Force. This extensive process has allowed the master plan to develop into a dynamic and environmentally sensitive park, to serve the needs of a diverse community.

MASTER PLAN PROCESS KEY MAP:



The vertical orange line indicates which part of the process the section is referring to.

PRELIMINARY PLANNING AND DESIGN + PUBLIC CONSULTATION 2015

Open House

- Project is shared with the public for the first time
- Participants learn about the project and design, comment, share ideas, and thoughts.

Stakeholder meeting

- Feedback from Open House is synthesized and shared.
- Participants focus on park programming and develop three park program and design themes.

WINTER & SPRING 2015

APPLICATION TO PORT OF VANCOUVER

Foreshore Design Work

- Concert Properties (developer) submits application on behalf of the City of North Vancouver, to the Port to adjust a portion of the current shoreline.
- The resulting plan addresses climate change impacts and improves shoreline habitat. Access to water is limited as required by the Port.

LATE 2015 - 2019

PUBLIC CONSULTATION WINTER 2020 - SUMMER 2021

Council Appointed Task Force

- The Kings Mill Walk Task Force appointed by City Council to work on the development of the master plan.

Stakeholder Meetings (including Squamish Nation) and Public Engagement

- Spring and Summer 2021, the City shares the concept plan for feedback through the Let's Talk engagement platform

Pop-Up Events & Public Engagement

- A revised plan is shared in the park and Civic Plaza

WINTER 2020 - SUMMER 2021

REFINEMENT AND SUBMITTAL TO COUNCIL WINTER 2022

Final Concept Plan & Written Document Submitted to City Council for Review

- Adjustments are made to the park concept based on feedback received through the 2021 engagement process.

Refinements to Plan and Costing

FALL 2021- WINTER 2022

NEXT STEPS

Detailed Design Phase Winter- Fall 2022

- Development of construction document
- Construction tendering in late Fall

Park Construction Start Spring 2023

WINTER 2022 - SPRING 2023

PARK COMPLETION 2025

SPRING 2023 - SPRING 2025



Open House



Open House



Stakeholder Meeting

PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

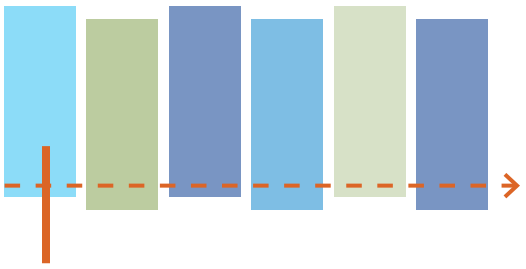
Public Consultation 2015 – Open House and Stakeholder Workshop #1

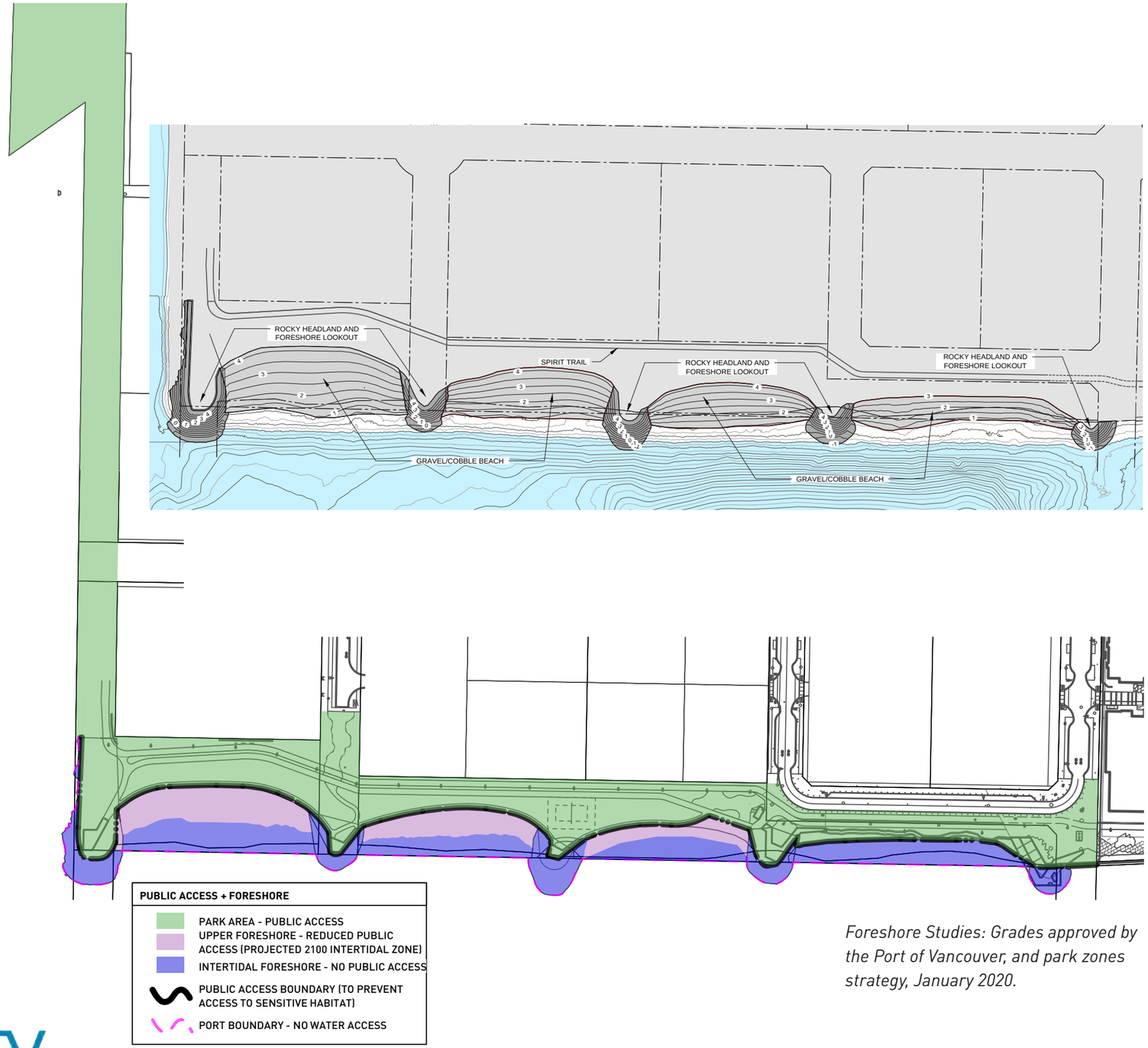
In 2015 the Kings Mill Walk Master Plan Process was executed through two phases that included a public open house and a stakeholder workshop.

The Open House took place in February 2015 and the feedback that was received was overall positive. The feedback provided gave a picture of what residents value about Kings Mill Walk Park. It was found that users visit the park daily to once a week and popular activities include, walking, dog walking, viewing nature, socializing, and cycling the Spirit Trail.

In March 2015, stakeholders representing a wide range of organizations participated in a design workshop. The participants were presented with the findings from open house and three optional concepts were developed.

These emerging park concepts would provide a rational for the application to the Port and inspiration for the 2020-2021 master plan development.





Foreshore Studies: Grades approved by the Port of Vancouver, and park zones strategy, January 2020.

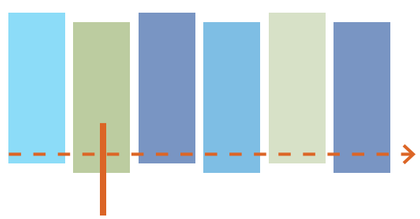
Application to the Port of Vancouver 2016-2019

The Port of Vancouver has jurisdiction over the water and rip-rap shoreline along the southern edge of the park. These water lots are zoned "Port Terminal" which limits public access and does not allow for recreational use of the area. Therefore, engaging with the Port was a critical step in creating a new plan for the park.

Following the 2015 consultation and stakeholder workshop, Concert Properties (developer) applied to the Port of Vancouver on behalf of the City of North Vancouver to adjust a portion of the shoreline to respond to future climate change impacts and improve habitat.

The priorities during this stage were to determine the flood construction level to accommodate projected sea level rise and create a foreshore habitat which would contribute to the Port of Vancouver's goal to limit access to the water and improve habitat. An environmental analysis would determine a new park elevation of 4.5m which meets the City's flood construction level standard. The new elevation together with a series of beaches and headlands would influence the size and layout of park programming elements.

The application process with the Port of Vancouver, the City of North Vancouver, Concert Properties (developer), and consultants took approximately three years to complete. The process resulted in habitat enhancements, which include an increase in backshore vegetation, productive rocky headlands, and intertidal beach habitat, with the goal to increase the overall net benefit to marine habitat and communities in the intertidal and sub-tidal zones. The resulting plan will provide long term benefits for juvenile salmon and other fish species that utilize Burrard Inlet.





Public Engagement and Consultation 2020-2021

Kings Mill Walk Park Master Plan Task Force was appointed by City Council In November 2020, establishing a participatory design approach in the creation of the overall vision for the park. The Task Force would meet many times over the next year and participants helped to create the concept plan presented in the Spring 2021 engagement period.

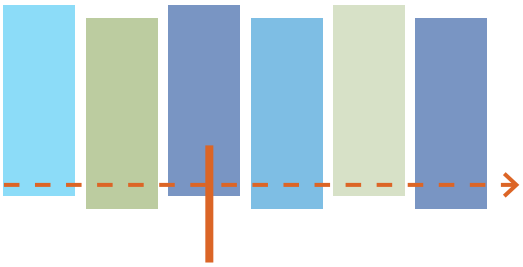
Following the May 2021 public consultation, the Task Force would meet two times in June 2021 to review the public feedback and discuss options for the next phase of public engagement. The Task Force had their final meeting in October to provide feedback on the draft master plan document.

The Spring public consultation session utilized the City's online engagement tool, Let's Talk. The draft concept plan was presented and a survey helped to gather feedback on the proposed vision, programming, and attributes. Proceeding the feedback period, the City organized the data and reported back what they heard. The feedback from the public helped to guide revisions to the plan.

A revised plan was presented online and through a pop-up session in Kings Mill Walk Park in July 2021. The City collected feedback on the revised master plan and reported back what they heard once again. Overall there was good public support for the revised park concept plan.

There will be additional refinements to the final concept as the plan moves through the detailed design phase.



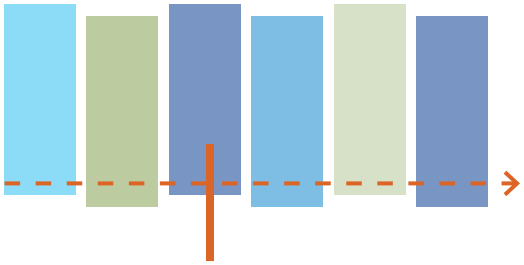


Stakeholder Engagement

The stakeholder meeting for the 2020-2021 public consultation period took place virtually in February 2021. There were 12 stakeholder representatives in attendance, and three City of North Vancouver Staff facilitating the meeting. The participants included representatives from local Harbourside businesses and organizations such as Bodwell High School, Burrard Yacht Club, North Shore Automall, and Vancouver Neurophysiology. Representatives from the Task Force also participated.

City of North Vancouver staff reviewed the project context, outlining public engagement, approvals, and design exercises that had taken place thus far, including the preliminary vision statement and park planning principles. The presentation was then followed by an open conversation in which stakeholder representatives asked questions and commented on the work at this stage. Emerging topics are listed below.

- Bodwell students are frequent users of the park and would appreciate the proposed amenities.
- Students are passionate about nature, there is potential opportunities for stewardship programs.
- Concern that the proposed elevation would affect the High School's artificial turf sports field, followed by requests that the elevation change not be so abrupt next to Bodwell High School playground, as it could obstruct fire escape routes.
- Positive feedback about the plan for public art throughout the park, and excited about the park in relation to Harbourside Development.
- Concern that the dog park was taking up a substantial area of prime waterfront real estate.
- Discussions regarding the size ratios of the different programming areas and if the dog park size could be minimized or shifted northward away from the waterfront.
- Concerns over what type of parking provisions will be provided once the park is constructed, as many people currently drive to the park.



Engagement with Squamish Nation Representatives

In March 2021, City Staff presented the overall project to the Squamish Nation - Community Operations Committee. Squamish Nation representatives expressed interest and support for shoreline changes and habitat improvements. The second meeting was with Squamish Nation staff and an Indigenous artist and ethnobotanist, from the Squamish Nation. The key pieces of feedback focused on the inclusion of edible plants and other indigenous cultural plants with educational signage. City Staff would meet with Squamish Nation staff for a third time in July 2021 and presented the draft concept plan and, to confirm Squamish Nation interests in the Kings Mill Walk Park master plan. Interest in the plan was consistent and key topics of discussion included:

- Interest and support, specifically for the foreshore habitat enhancements
- Include edible berries and other indigenous cultural plants with educational signage
- Interest in cultural expression opportunities and Indigenous art
- Look at possible Squamish Nation place names

The input and advice that Squamish Nation representatives provided throughout the 2021 engagement process is valued, and integrated into the planning the park programming as well as for specific design elements. Task Force members prioritized respectfully integrating elements of language, art and culture.



May 2021 outreach statistics.

Public Engagement Spring 2021

The first round of community outreach within the 2021 public consultation process took place online as a survey launched on the City of North Vancouver's online engagement platform, Let's Talk.

Residents were asked to provide feedback on:

- Draft vision and guiding principles
- Draft concept design for the park
- Emerging design directions for the 'Trails and Movement'
- The emerging design direction for the 'Shoreline and Parkland Habitat'
- Emerging design directions for 'Activities and Facilities'

A total of 531 survey responses were received.

The survey provided qualitative results that pertained to five major programming themes and elements.

***Shoreline and Parkland**:*

- Balance habitat enhancements with park activities like walking, passive open space, places to sit, and picnic areas.

Off-Leash Dog Area:

- Positive feedback was received in relation to specific design elements proposed within the area. The major concern was the proposed size and its relocation away from the water.

Quiet and Flexible Space:

- Too many activities included in the plan. The responses suggested the desire for more flexible space.

Play and Activities:

- Create more space dedicated to active use, and include opportunities for adults. The responses suggested the desire to incorporate nature into the plaza area, ensure all washrooms are accessible, and respondents wanted to see the volleyball courts included in the master plan.

Trails for All:

- Keep trails inclusive and accessible. The responses also suggested that the existing trails and pathways are congested. There was support for separating cyclists and pedestrians.

Note: A link to the May 2021 public consultation report can be found in the appendices.



July 2021 outreach statistics.

Public Engagement Summer 2021

The second round of community outreach included an online community forum, survey and Pop-Up engagements in person at Kings Mill Walk Park and the Civic Plaza.

The Pop-Up events were opportunities to share the revised plan and project information boards with the public. Postcards were distributed with information on how to provide online feedback. The City asked for feedback on the revised draft concept for Kings Mill Walk Park, and proposed amenity features in the new Off-Leash area, and the 'All-Ages' activity zone.

In response to the feedback received in the Spring, the following changes were presented to the public:

Shoreline and Parkland Habitat

- Created clearly defined habitat protected zones and people zones.
- Providing compatible park activities adjacent to habitat areas.

Off-Leash Dog Area

- Increased the proposed size of the off-leash dog area to 1,600 square metres from 750 square metres.
- Adding more trees and buffers to create natural feeling space.
- Providing temporary parking near the proposed off-leash dog area.

Quiet and Flexible Space

- Adding covered seating and picnic shelters.
- Creating lawn areas at the top of the bank.

Play and Activities

- Integrating one volleyball court into the west side of the park.
- Adding fitness equipment to create an 'All Ages Play Zone'
- Increasing the buffer between the children's play area and the off-leash dog area with plants, pathways, and the washroom building.

Trails for All

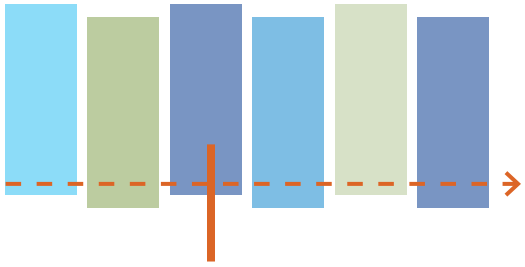
- Ensuring all trails and pathways are accessible.
- Implementing speed control and way-finding measures on east and west ends of the site to reduce conflict and congestion on the Spirit Trail.
- Separating cyclists from pedestrians on all pathways.



July 2021 pop-up event



July 2021 pop-up event



Qualitative Results from Let's Talk

The qualitative survey results were generated from the optional open-ended questions that related to specific park amenities. Key themes from the survey include:

- The desire for adventure play because it is oriented towards family and children, and for educational benefits.
- The inclusion of fitness equipment because it provides play for all ages and supports a healthy lifestyle.
- Rain and shade covers are extremely valuable to the public in order to provide all weather park use, as well as to create inclusive and accessible park spaces.
- The 'dog run and fetch space' was seen as a critical feature for any park, and is a good way to release a dog's energy.
- It is important to include a 'small or shy dog area' because there is a concern that small or shy dogs may be bullied by larger dogs.

Qualitative Results From Pop-up Events

Overall, there was support for the revised Kings Mill Walk Park Concept Master Plan and amenities proposed for the off-leash dog area as well as for the all-ages play zone. There was also positive feedback about the goals and objectives for the Kings Mill Walk Park Master Plan.

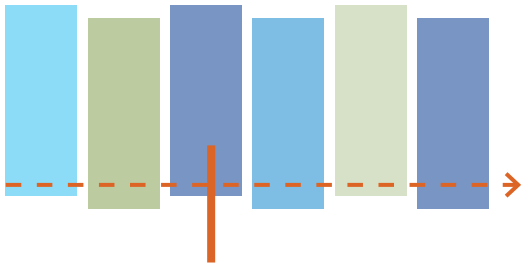
There were some questions during the Pop-Up events related to the proposed adjacent Harbourside development regarding the size, scale, and timeline of the development and how the plan responds to climate change.

Some concerns were related to parking and traffic implications with regards to the adjacent Harbourside development.

Overall, the feedback received reinforced that the updated concept plan presented was supported by the public and there were no major revisions for the plan.

Note: A link to the July 2021 public consultation report can be found in the appendices.





KINGS MILL WALK TASK FORCE

The Kings Mill Walk Task Force was appointed by City Council in Fall 2020 to work on the development of the park master plan. The Task Force also included City of North Vancouver staff, a consultant team, and North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission staff.

TASK FORCE INVOLVEMENT IN THE PARK MASTER PLAN

The first Task Force meeting took place in December 2020 as a project overview followed by a self-directed site visit. In the wake of the Covid-19 Pandemic, meetings and engagement activities during this time were held online using a digital whiteboard software, which made it easy to collaborate and iterate on design ideas as a group.

The meetings provided a forum for sharing between community stakeholders and encouraged positive engagement in the planning and design of the park master plan. The combined effort was a highly iterative process. Each meeting focused on continuously refining the direction and vision of the future Kings Mill Walk Park to help develop preliminary concept plans to be presented to the public for further consultation.

The activities and action items for Task Force meetings evolved as the design process progressed. For each meeting there was a set of exercises and tasks related to which stage of the design process the park had reached at that time.

Task Force Meetings: Focuses, Themes, Topics

Park Activities and Character + Feedback from Task Force

- Workshop 1 – Site Visit and Key Findings
- Workshop 2 – Vision and Guiding Principles
- Workshop 3 – Defining Park Activities and Character
- Defining Park Activities and Character

Initial Concept Options + Feedback from Task Force

- Workshop 4 – Park Layout and Emerging Design Directions

Preferred Plan – Considerations + Feedback from Task Force

- Workshop 5 – Preferred Plan and Layout Discussions
- Trails and Circulation Preferred Plan Strategy
- Foreshore and Parkland Habitat Preferred Plan Strategy
- Activities and Infrastructure Preferred Plan Strategy



Word cloud generated with the Task Force from their observations on site - January 2021

Task Force Input on the Off-Leash Dog Area and Subsequent Response

There was debate amongst the Task Force members about where an off-leash area should be situated, how large it should be, and whether or not off-leash dogs should continue to be accommodated in the park. Despite the strong feedback from the community in support of an off-leash area in Kings Mill Walk Park, there was continued concerns raised by some members of the Task Force. These concerns focused on an off-leash area reducing the amount of space for people, and reducing the effectiveness of efforts to enhance the habitat in the foreshore and upland portions of the park.

To help address these concerns, staff have provided additional information (below) to include in the master plan to help clarify the rationale for including an off-leash area, examples of other successful areas where such amenities have been implemented, and strategies for designing the park to prevent negative impacts to environmentally sensitive areas.

The dog off-leash area in Kings Mill Walk *should be positioned and designed to prevent negative environmental impacts on the adjacent environmentally sensitive area. In addition, the City shall pursue the establishment of additional off-leash areas in other parts of the City or the District to help reduce the demand.*

- The proposed off-leash area will be fully-enclosed by fencing, and separated from both the foreshore and riparian habitat areas. Stormwater run-off from the off-leash area will be managed on-site through infiltration (bioswales or other techniques) to prevent the direct discharge of any contaminants into the surrounding environmentally sensitive areas.
- The City will be initiating the development of a Dog Strategy that will help determine the conditions for successful dog spaces, the appropriate supply and types of spaces provided in the community, as well as policies and regulations for dog related services, and the need for responsible dog ownership. However, the timeline for creating additional dog facilities is unknown at this time, and KMW Master Plan needs to be completed this fall in order to ensure

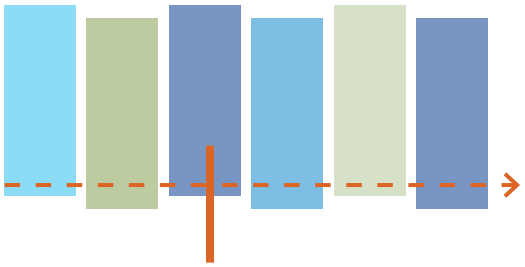


detailed design can be ready for implementation in conjunction with the shoreline reconstruction in Spring 2023.

- Kings Mill Walk Park has been a very popular place for people and their dogs for decades, and was formalized by Council in 2012 following a lengthy public consultation process. The significance of this dog friendly space has been reinforced by the feedback received during the consultation process for this plan.
- The City's recent experience has been that the addition of properly-designed, well distributed, and fully fenced off-leash areas in parks has helped reduce user conflict and regulatory compliance as people understand the clear delineation of a dog area. Recent examples include Mahon Park, Lynnmouth Park, and Waterfront Park where dog areas were created and now generally dogs stay within designated fenced areas.
- The City recognizes that the number of dogs in the community has continued to increase and that dog owners (and their pets) should be considered as part of the planning process for new public spaces in growth neighbourhoods. For example, the new neighbourhood park that will be constructed at 1600 Eastern Avenue will include a small area for dogs, and the new community scale park that will be constructed on the Harry Jerome Neighourhood Lands will likely also have some dedicated space for dogs.

There are spatial constraints at Kings Mill Walk and the addition of new residents as the neighbourhood develops will increase demand for public open space. Without proper planning, this increased demand could lead to increased conflict between user groups.

- As the Harbourside neighbourhood and the Marine Drive corridor evolves so will the demographics of park users in Kings Mill Walk. New development will likely bring more dog owners, increasing the potential for conflicts unless they are appropriately accommodated in the plan. Over time, the amount of easily-accessible surface park parking will be reduced, access to the water controlled, and new amenities added in the community, which are expected to shift the current patterns of use, making Kings Mill Walk off-leash area more of neighbourhood dog park and less of a destination. The proposed smaller, and relocated dog area will thereby offer more space for other activities, and habitat restoration. The proposed plan considers this future demand and provides a solution to mitigate possible conflicts.



Dogs are currently able to access the shoreline and other sensitive habitats adjacent to Kings Mill Walk Park. The park plan will ensure that environmentally sensitive areas are protected and enhanced and that off-leash dog activity is contained within the designated area.

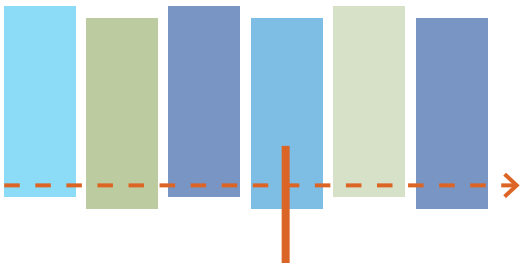
- The proposed off-leash area would be fully-fenced and separated from environmentally sensitive areas to reduce impacts from dogs. The off-leash area will also be surrounded by other uses, pedestrian and bike paths beyond the fence to further reinforce boundaries of the space.
- Currently, dogs (and people) have full access to the water and the existing fencing only keeps off-leash dogs from conflicting with the Spirit Trail users. By contrast, the proposed conceptual plan will physically contain dogs away from sensitive habitat, the shore and all other park users.
- It is not feasible to have Bylaw Enforcement staff in every location, all the time, so there are always practical limitations to ensuring regulatory compliance. However, the City's experience is that by providing appropriately designed, fully-fenced facilities in key locations, bylaw complaints and user conflicts are reduced and compliance is improved.

While Kings Mill Walk is currently dominated by a destination off-leash area, the proposed plan envisions a neighbourhood scale off-leash area as one component of a larger scale destination park for people.

- With park closures during the 2-year anticipated construction schedule and neighbourhood changes through the implementation of Concert's multi-phased new residential development, there will be disruptions to the park's current use patterns. While the existing park currently has limited programming, the new design will offer more for non-dog owners and park visitors will change over time. As the amount of easily accessible, surface parking decreases, it is anticipated that park use will gradually shift over time to those accessing the site via the Spirit Trail or from the surrounding neighbourhood. People will continue to visit KMW with dogs as it is a popular location and the plan provides a specific space for this type of visitor. All these factors; the smaller dog area and location will help shift the dog area from being a destination dog place to more of a neighbourhood scale facility.

PART IV: KINGS MILL WALK PARK MASTER PLAN

PART IV: PARK MASTER PLAN



INTRODUCTION TO PARK MASTER PLAN

The Kings Mill Walk Master Plan document recounts the directions for the park that have resulted from the planning process, led by City staff in partnership with the design team consultants and the Council appointed Task Force.

Following the results of Task Force, public, and stakeholder engagement, the park master plan is prepared to be reviewed by Council for approval. Once approved, the Kings Mill Walk Park Master Plan document will transition into the detailed design phase.

The following sections outline programming, park zones, and design elements that contribute to the overall Kings Mill Walk Park Master Plan.

VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Task Force created the Vision Statement and Guiding Principles to help shape the development of the plan. These statements were well received by the community and reflect the possibility for an engaging park for all where nature is nurtured and protected.



Aerial view of intertidal perched wetlands and gravel waterfront path

VISION STATEMENT

Kings Mill Walk is a vibrant and engaging community park where nature is nurtured and protected. It is a welcoming place for all people to recreate, relax, and connect with the beauty of the North Shore.

PLANNING PRINCIPLES

- Robust and adaptable park infrastructure provides safety and accessibility to park users in artful and environmentally sensitive ways.
- An ecologically rich foreshore and connection to the Mackay Creek habitat contributes to the park's resiliency and natural beauty.
- Kings Mill Walk supports active healthy lifestyles by providing a variety of play and recreational opportunities for all seasons.
- Ecological and cultural history is integrated into the park character through the thoughtful consideration of materials, artwork and programming.



FINAL CONCEPT DESIGN

The concept plan presented to the public in July 2021 included the following revisions in response to early feedback:

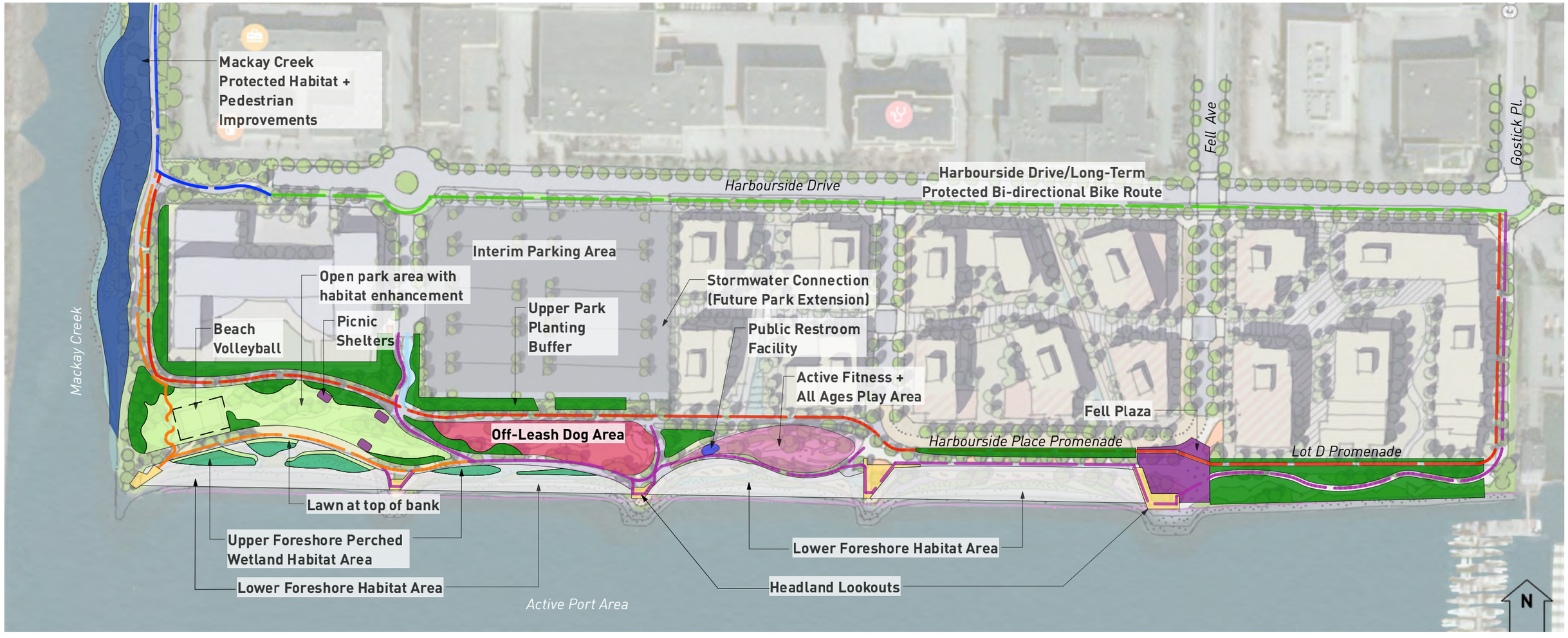
- Expanding the off-leash dog area from the originally proposed size of 750 square metres to 1,600 square metres
- Updating previously proposed "Play Area" to an "All Ages Play Zone" with parkour and adult fitness stations
- Relocating washroom facilities to a central location between dog off-leash and play areas
- Adding a planted buffer and more space between dog off-leash and play area
- Suggesting a number of amenities for the dog area such as dog run and fetch space, agility elements, looping pathways, lighting, small dog area, and seating areas
- Adding more open lawn space and covered picnic shelters at the top of the bank
- Adding a volleyball court to the western side of park



Aerial view of All Ages Play zone



Final concept plan



Final concept plan programming

ZONES, SITE CHARACTER, AND MATERIALS

As the concept plan was developed through Task Force meetings, stakeholder group workshops, and public consultation, Kings Mill Walk Park would evolve into emerging park zones, with each zone prescribing to specific programming and character, as well as with a 'gradient' design intent, having a more natural character to the west border of the park and becoming more urban as the park stretches east to the Fell Avenue Plaza.

The zones provide a detailed view of specific design elements throughout the overall park. Kings Mill Walk Park can be divided into the following zones: Fell Avenue Plaza Zone, All Ages Play Zone, Off-Leash Area, Open Park Zone, and Shoreline Habitat Zone.



Lively space at Fell Plaza



Gathering spaces



Event plaza



Public art

Fell Avenue Plaza Zone

Fell Avenue Plaza will be a destination and rest stop along the regional Spirit Trail and provides a logical point of separation between the bike path portion of Spirit Trail and pedestrian path portion of Spirit Trail. It will also serve as the primary park entrance for the Harbourside Community.

Fell Avenue Plaza is envisioned as a place with a range of seating, a planting palette suitable for the adjacent urban environment, and interesting feature paving. Overall, the Plaza is viewed as the gateway into Kings Mill Walk Park, that accommodates both pedestrians and bikers. It is a unique gathering space with opportunity to exhibit Kings Mill Walk Park's rich cultural context through the use public art.

A view deck will be located to the south of the Fell Plaza. The deck will provide opportunities for intimate gatherings, as well as views to the City of Vancouver and the water. The view deck and Fell Plaza are situated at the foot of Fell Avenue and provide a visual connection into the park and out to the water from the Harbourside Community.



All Ages Play Zone

The All Ages Play Zone is comprised of a children's play area, a fitness station that is suitable for many ages, and a public washroom.

The importance of nature and adventure-based play became evident through the planning process. Nature play is envisioned with the use of natural materials, abstract forms, and diverse equipment that allows children to move in a range of ways. The proposed water play heightens the connection to the adjacent waterfront, and a play system that invites people of all ages to play and creates an opportunity for families to play together. The placement of children's play area is buffered from the off-leash dog zone by planting, public washrooms, and the fitness station.

The fitness station will include various outdoor structures or equipment. The equipment will provide exercise opportunities for a range of users. It is strategically located adjacent to the children's play to also allow for adults to partake in physical activity, while being able to oversee children playing.

During public consultation, the public washroom being accessible and in close proximity to the children's play area was expressed as essential.



Nature play



Adventure play



Parkour



Accessible washroom facility

Legend

1. Picnic Area
2. Accessible Washroom
3. Fitness Area
4. Perched Beach
5. Parkour
6. Children's Playground
7. Outdoor Gathering



Water play



Fitness station



All Ages Play Zone Plan



The Off-Leash Area

Through the public consultation, many comments were shared that reflected value of the existing off-leash area and the demand for these types of community amenities. Throughout the consultation process and task force meetings, the Dog Area was a high focus topic, and went through iterations that varied in size, and design elements. The size of the dog park was the concern most frequently voiced, which led to an increase in size from the proposed area of 750 square metres in May to 1600 square metres in the final plan. Dogs on leash will be welcomed on park pathways and other areas with exception to the playground area.

The Off-Leash Area has looping and accessible paths, encompasses a small + shy dog area, access to water, dog run and fetch space. The dog area also has seating and shade, and lighting for comfort and use all year.

The small + shy dog area is physically separated from the larger off-leash area by a fence and gate. This area will provide a comfortable place for small and shy dogs, and their owners, to play, exercise, and be outdoors, while not worrying about interacting with larger or more energetic dogs.

The dog run and fetch space will be a long area clear of obstruction. This was a valuable design element to the public and was thought of as an ideal way to expend a dog's energy. The surface material will be determined at the detailed design phase and will include an accessible and durable surface such as artificial turf, gravel or engineered wood fibre.

The pedestrian scaled lighting within the dog park will allow for dogs and their owners to go to the park at night or early in the morning. This will provide a sense of safety and comfort to the park users.

Overall, the dog park provides a variety of design elements for diverse play, as well as areas to relax and watch over one's dog.



Aerial view of Off-leash Dog area and headland lookout



Accessible looping paths



Seating and shade



Lighting



Dog run + Fetch space

Legend

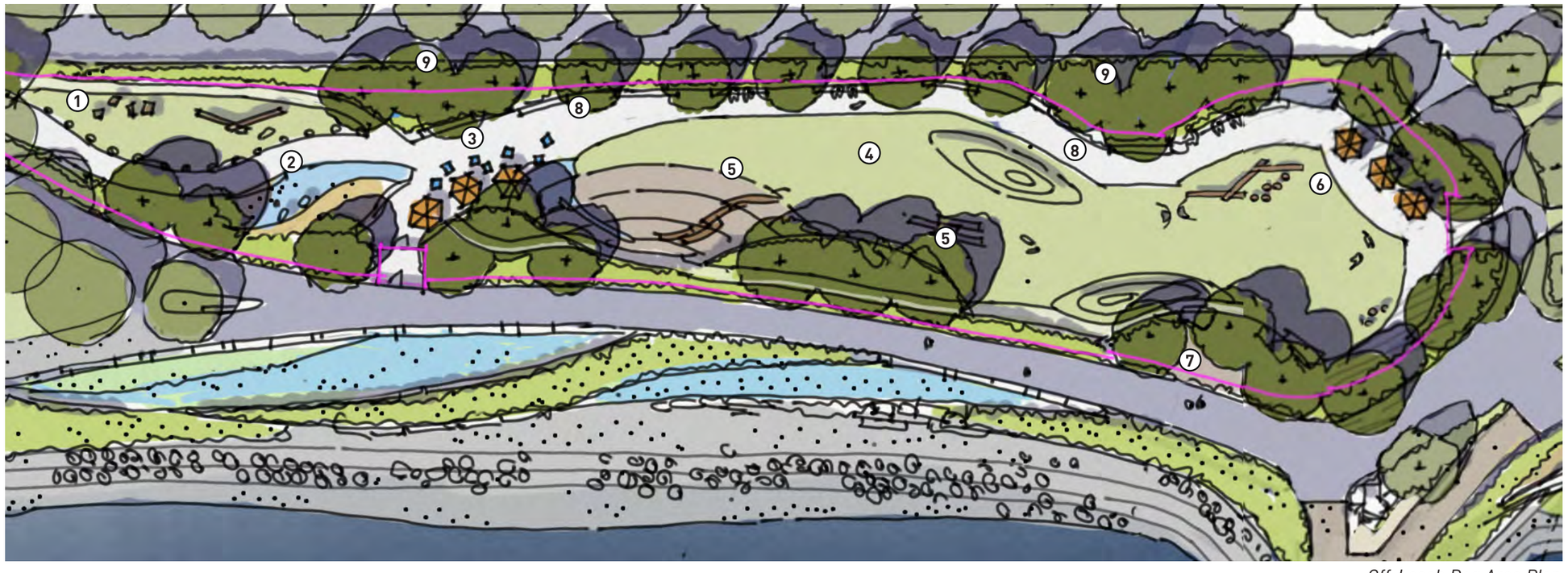
1. Quiet Dog Area
2. Water Access
3. Seating and Shelter
4. Dog Run + Fetch Space
5. Agility Area
6. Seating Node
7. Perimeter Fence
8. Off-Leash Looping Paved Walking Path
9. Perimeter Habitat Zone



Agility elements



Shy + Small dog area



Off-Leash Dog Area Plan

Open Park Zone

The open park zone encompasses a lawn area with large berms, picnic shelters, covered seating areas, benches, large shade trees, and a beach volleyball court. During the public consultation process participants and task force members expressed the importance of flexible open space. The feedback revealed the importance of balancing both specific and flexible programming.

It was indicated through public engagement the volleyball courts were an important amenity to integrate into the final plan. The existing beach volleyball court are situated in the center of the park, whereas the proposed location of the beach volleyball court is on the western side of the park. The new location of the court allows for the Off-Leash area and All Ages Play zone to be centrally located.





Flexible open lawn



Covered seating areas



Accessible pedestrian paths

Legend

1. Beach Volleyball
2. Spirit Trail Separated Bike and Pedestrian Path
3. Open Lawn with Low Berms
4. Picnic Shelter + Covered Seating Areas
5. Perched Intertidal Wetlands
6. Headland Lookout
7. Gravel Pedestrian Path



Headland Lookout



Picnic shelter



Open Space and Beach Volleyball Court Plan

Shoreline, Foreshore, and Habitat Zone

A significant step in the Kings Mill Walk Park Master Plan process, was determining the final enhanced shoreline design with the Port of Vancouver. This would include the final elevation for sea level rise and foreshore conditions along the Burrard Inlet waterfront. In addition to foreshore habitat enhancements, the park master plan addresses future phases of restoration along the Mackay Creek east embankment.

Habitat improvements for Mackay Creek will involve delineating the western edge of Kings Mill Walk Park, along Mackay Creek as an urban habitat for birds and fish, specifically salmon. This will restrict public access to the vulnerable creek embankment. There will be more defined pedestrian trails connecting to the existing lookouts and elevated pedestrian path. There will also be opportunities to expand and enhance the riparian habitat along the eastern embankment of Mackay Creek with native trees and shrubs.

The waterfront setting of Kings Mill Walk Park is one of the most desirable qualities for park users. The water lot along the shoreline falls within Port authority and access to water from the park is not permitted. The Shoreline, Foreshore, and Habitat Zone acts as a buffer between the park and the water. The design of these areas allow for people to connect with water through views, habitat areas, and an informal gravel path close to the shoreline.

The Shoreline, Foreshore, and Habitat Zone is comprised of two sub-zones: The People Zone, and the Protected Zone. The People Zone is comprised of upper foreshore habitat with defined public access points, and a gravel pathway. The Protected Zone has restricted public access and encompasses perched wetlands, foreshore habitat, and rocky headlands.

Although the public is restricted from accessing the water, the People Zone, still allows for opportunities to learn with, explore, view, and play within the diverse foreshore environment. The headland lookouts along the foreshore allows for unobstructed views to the Burrard Inlet.



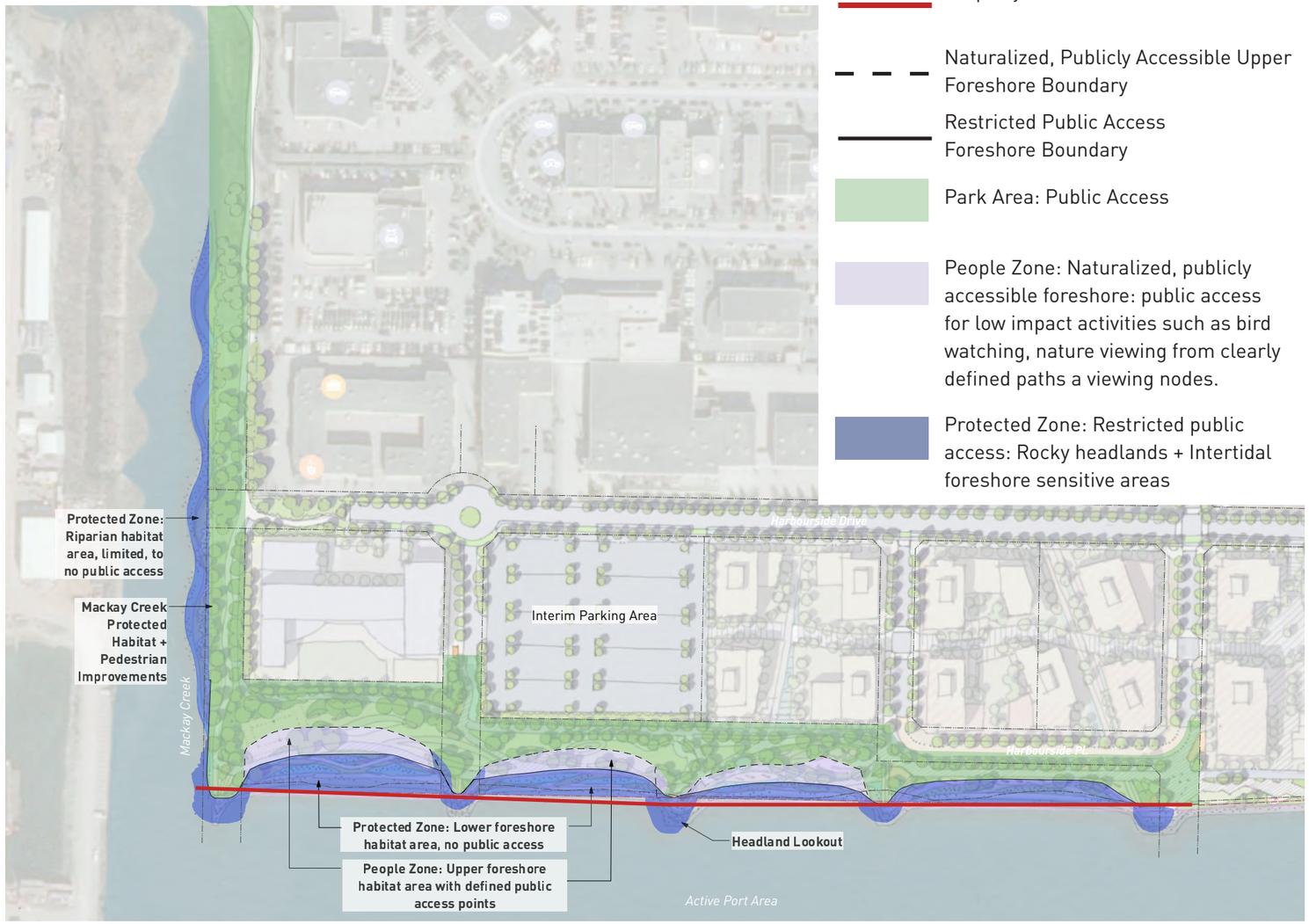
Upper foreshore area habitat explorer paths



Beach character



Accessible paths and seating in habitat area - trail set in upper foreshore area



Map of Habitat and People Zones



HABITAT RESTORATION

Existing park users cherish the parks natural setting and enjoy the nature viewing opportunities. This was also something that was valued throughout the public consultation process, implying the importance of habitat enhancements and conservation throughout the park.

With the requirements for raising the grades for flood protection measures, construction of the park will involve removing a substantial amount of existing vegetation. Any tree or plant being removed will be replaced with a recommended species that will contribute to creating diverse and healthy habitats within the park, as well as contribute to and enhance the overall park aesthetic.

Recommended Species for Future Habitat Restoration Along Mackay Creek Embankment:

- Salmonberry, *Rubus spectabilis*
- Red elderberry, *Sambucus racemosa*
- Red osier dogwood, *Cornus sericea*
- Douglas fir, *Pseudotsuga menziesii*
- Trembling aspen, *Populus temuloides*
- Shore pine, *Pinus contorta*
- Snowberry, *Symphoricarpos*
- Native arbutus, *Arbutus menziesii*

A significant part of the habitat restoration included in the Kings Mill Walk Master Plan is focused on shoreline and foreshore restoration along the Burrard Inlet Waterfront, and the Mackay Creek riparian zone. This area will be protected habitat zones, and will take the form of perched wetlands, foreshore and embankment habitat, and rocky headlands.



Intertidal Habitat

Recommended Species for Future Habitat Restoration Along the Foreshore of the Burrard Inlet:

Backshore Plant Species:

- Nootka Rose, *Rosa Nutkana*
- Hooker's willow, *Salix hookeriana*
- Pacific crab apple, *Malus fusca*

Transition Area, Above Active Wrack Zone, Plant Species:

- Dunegrass, *Leymus mollis*
- Beachpea, *Cathyrus spp.*
- *Silver burweed, Ambrosia chamissonis*

In addition to habitat restoration along Burrard Inlet, and Mackay Creek, parkland habitat will be integrated throughout Kings Mill Walk Park, as native planting nodes and urban forestry strategies.



PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLIST CIRCULATION

The Kings Mill Walk Park Master Plan prioritizes active and accessible transportation through a hierarchy of pathway routes, types, and connections. Kings Mill Walk Park will be connected to the future Harbourside Community through bike lanes, pedestrian focused streets, and multi-use paths. The park will be connected to the North Shore region through the North Shore Spirit Trail. Bikes will be separated from pedestrians from the east side of the park (near Gostick Place) through to Mackay Creek. In addition to the range of active transportation routes, there will be infrastructure that support walkers and cyclists, such as bike racks, water fountains, and spaces that may act as rest stops along the way.



Harbourside Drive two way bike lane, asphalt, standard 2m wide bike path

Harbourside Drive Bi-directional Bike Lane

With the implementation of the Harbourside Community development, active transportation improvements are being made to Harbourside Drive. The improvements include a bi-directional bike lane that will connect to the Spirit Trail on both the west and east end of the Harbourside Community and Kings Mill Walk Park. The bi-directional, on street bike lane will be 2m wide.

This bike lane, will allow for clear separation between cyclists and pedestrians and serves as an alternative direct bike route to the Spirit Trail through Kings Mill Walk Park. The route will also allow cyclists to move through Harbourside Community and connect to a bike path on the south and north side of the development, which will enhance circulation flexibility and minimize congestion.



Spirit Trail crossing

Spirit Trail Connections - Pedestrian and Cyclist Path

Kings Mill Walk Park Master Plan includes an east west Spirit Trail connection. The trail will be separated into a pedestrian designated path along the waterfront, and a 2 metre wide cyclist's designated path along Harbourside Place, for safety and congestion purposes. The pedestrian and cyclist path will join together at the north west corner of the park and transition into a shared, multi-use pathway. The path will allow dogs on leash.



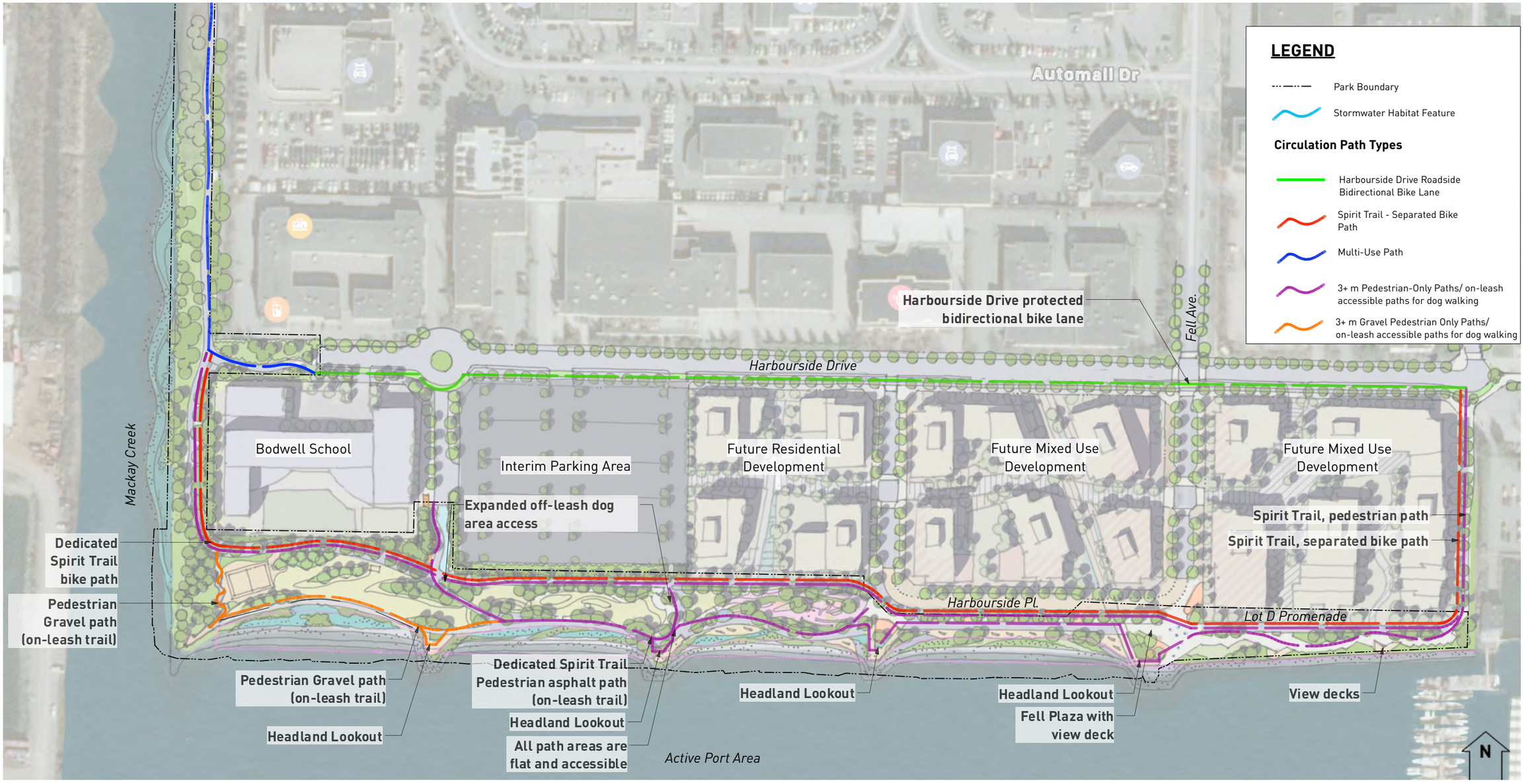
Spirit Trail pedestrian bridge

Pedestrian Connections at Headland Lookouts

The headland lookouts will serve as points of interest and connection along pedestrian pathways throughout the park.

Pedestrian Path Loops

In addition to the Pedestrian Spirit Trail, there will be pedestrian path loops that travel around the perimeter of the Dog Park. This path route will allow dog owners to walk their dogs in close proximity to the dog park. There will also be a gravel pathway will along the western edge of the foreshore.

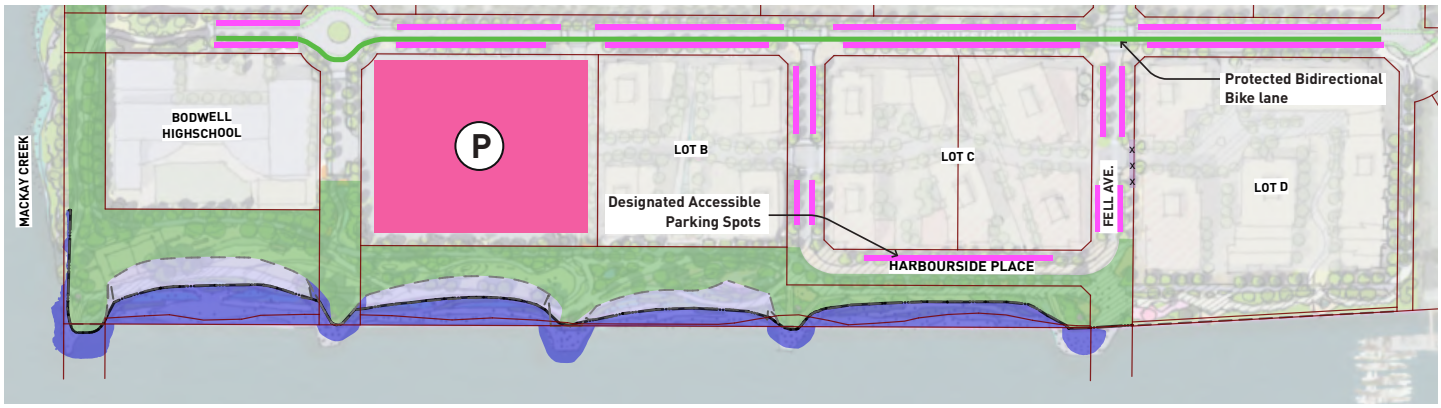


Circulation plan

VEHICULAR ACCESS AND PARKING

Kings Mill Walk Park serves the larger North Vancouver community, and many park users today travel to the site by car. There will be various parking options within close proximity to the park in the future as the adjacent development is completed. These options include street parking along Harbourside Drive and Harbourside Place, underground parking in new developments, and an interim parking lot adjacent to Bodwell High School that will be available for approximately ten years.

Vehicular access in the park is limited with exception to emergency and maintenance vehicles.



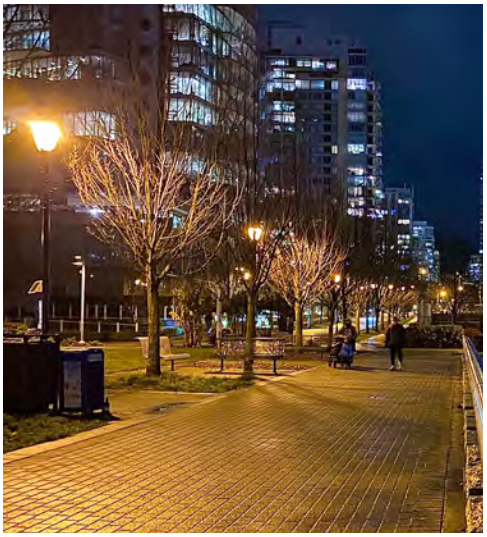
Vehicular circulation and parking diagram

Interim Parking Lot
(Approximately 10 yrs)

Street parking will change during construction.

FEATURES AND SITE FURNISHING

Kings Mill Walk Park will have a range of site furnishings and landscape features throughout the park that will be aligned with the overall identity and character that was established through Task Force meetings, stakeholder workshops, and public consultation. The furnishings and landscape features will be an expression of the cultural and natural heritage of First Nations, the industrial history, and the waterfront environment. Materials such as wood, stone, and metal palette, as well as native and environmentally appropriate planting palettes will contribute to the character expression of Kings Mill Walk Park.





Lighting precedent images

LIGHTING

Kings Mill Walk Park will include a range of lighting types. All major pedestrian and bike paths will have lighting to meet Spirit Trail standards. Lighting will also be provided at the washroom, the dog park, Fell Avenue Plaza.

PART V: IMPLEMENTATION AND PHASING

PART V: PHASING AND IMPLEMENTATION

STEPS FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND PHASING

Due to the nature of the park, implementation will be phased over several seasons and is contingent on the environmental permit process and allowable construction windows. The time available for improvements within sensitive ecosystems is limited and may affect the timeline of other park improvement works.

Upon approval by Council, the Master Plan will enter the following stages in sequential order: detailed design phase, contract tender, construction and operations maintenance.

COST ESTIMATE

The final concept plan will continue to be refined to meet the budget that has been determined as a condition of rezoning. Examples of revisions to the overall design, are changing the predominate pathway material from concrete to asphalt, and adjusting the headland view decks to be lookouts without the timber.

CONTRACTING AND CONSTRUCTION

Mobilization for park construction is planned for Spring 2023 and is contingent on timing of approvals, completion of detailed design and overall construction phasing in the surrounding Harbourside area.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Kings Mill Walk Park will continue to be operated as a part of the City of North Vancouver park system. It is anticipated that all lighting types throughout the park will be on timers, having the light levels dim in the later evening hours, and in some instances completely turn off. Planting will be irrigated and maintained by City parks and operations staff using horticulture best practices. If additional soil is required for flood protection reasons throughout the park in the future, the situation will be assessed by appropriate professionals and a plan will be formulated that is sensitive to new planting and park infrastructure. The City parks and operations staff will be consulted to review of the park design standards throughout the detailed design and contract tender phases.



STEWARDSHIP AND RESTORATION

Stewardship and restoration are embedded in the overall design of the Kings Mill Walk Park Master Plan, and it is a part of the site as it exists today.

Restoration efforts have already taken place, building on past Mackay Creek efforts, with the rehabilitation of the west side embankment. There will be more opportunities for volunteer groups and City Park Stewards to be involved in the restoration and maintenance of environmentally sensitive habitat areas on the site, such as the east embankment of Mackay Creek, as well as the diverse foreshore area.

Kings Mill Walk Park provides opportunities to build relationships with surrounding community groups, such as Bodwell High School, through restoration and stewardship volunteer programs. These programs may involve planting, invasive species removal, and educational nature walks.

CONSIDERATIONS DURING CONSTRUCTION

Effects to wildlife and habitat are expected to be limited to the project area. Clearing will result in the selective removal of invasive vegetation, and noise and dust from construction may indirectly effect adjacent habitat areas. These effects have been assessed and will be mitigated throughout the construction process.

PART VI: ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

PART VI: ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



The City of North Vancouver gratefully acknowledges the participation, collaboration, and advice of all the people who attended the public open houses, stakeholder workshops, Task Force meetings, or gave feedback online, and the involvement of:

KINGS MILL WALK TASK FORCE

- Dolores Altin
- Ella Anderson
- Ella Burrows
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- Keegan Casidy
- Laurie van der Pas
- Michael Okun
- Nobutoshi Yoshimitsu
- Rory Wimberley
- Rory Sykes

COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS - 2015 & 2021

- Seaspan
- North Shore Stream Keepers
- BCIT Rivers Institute and Ecological Restoration Program -School of Construction and Environment
- North Shore Automall
- Harbourside Businesses
- Bodwell High School
- Burrard Yacht Club
- HUB - North Shore Committee
- Silver Harbour Seniors' Activity Centre
- Squamish Nation - Canoe Club (racing and pulling)
- Rasmussen Bindery and Centennial Bookbinding
- Concert Properties

CITY STAFF

- Adam Vasilevich, Park Planner II
- Chandra Lesmeister, Park Planner
- Hayley Reiss, Committee Clerk
- Mike Hunter, Manager of Park and Environment

city of north vancouver

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- Jenna Buchko, Associate
- Michele Cloghesy, Senior Urban Planner
- Amanda Passero, Landscape Designer
- Brittany Shalagan, Landscape Designer
- Chris Walker, Landscape Designer

SQUAMISH NATION

- Lesley Campbell, Planning Manager
- Community Operations Committee
- Cease Wyse, Consulting Indigenous Artist and Enthnobotanist

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Summary of Online Public Open House | May 2021

https://letstalk.cnv.org/15812/widgets/91685/documents/62783

Appendix 2: Summary of Online + In Person Public Open House | July 2021

https://letstalk.cnv.org/15812/widgets/91685/documents/67022

Appendix 3: Task Force Meeting Minutes | December 2, 2020 - June 29, 2021

https://www.cnv.org/Get-Involved/Committees/Kings-Mill-Walk-Park-Master-Plan-Task-Force/Task-Force-Minutes

Appendix 4: Summary Task Force Workshops

BACKGROUND AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

For additional information and supporting documents for the Harbourside development, please visit:

https://www.cnv.org/Property-and-Development/Projects-and-Developments/Major-Studies-and-Projects/Harbourside-Waterfront-Development-Application

http://www.ccsd.ca/factsheets/health/index.htm

APPENDIX 4: TASK FORCE WORKSHOPS SUMMARY

Park Activities and Character + Feedback from Task Force

Workshop 1, January 2021 – Site Visit and Key Findings

Workshop 1 began with an introduction and background on the earlier phases of the project. Following the background presentation, the Task Force embarked on a self-directed park walk. A series of questions and prompts guided task force members to key areas around the park and asked them to record their observations. Some questions in the tour included:

- What are your observations of the Spirit Trail?
- How does it feel to be a pedestrian using this pathway?
- Are there some sections of the trail that work better than others do?
- Walk into the dog area and note paths and seating - how are people using this space?

The word cloud below shows a summary of the comments from the collective observations, with larger font words occurring more frequently in the notes of the task force members. The text was also analyzed based on the tone/type of comments from Task Force members, with key words emerging based on notes that related to observations about specific park users (purple), important connections throughout the park (yellow), conflicts (red), and the types of activities users were observed engaging in (blue).



Word cloud generated with the Kings Mill Walk Park Task Force - January 2021

Workshop 2, February 2021 – Vision and Guiding Principles

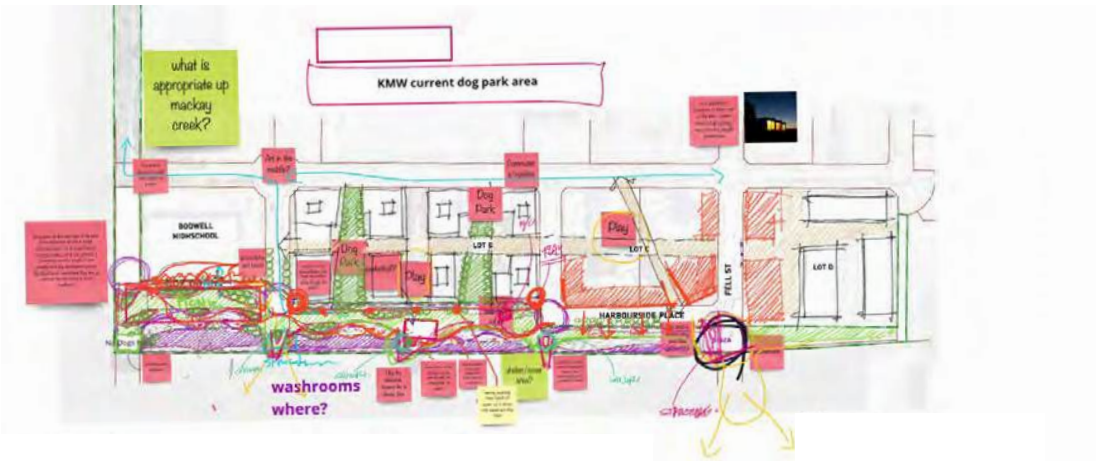
Workshop 2 focused on developing a cohesive vision statement and set of guiding principles for the future of the park. Drawing from the individual observations of the Task Force members during their site visit, the group came together to identify and distill the collective themes, observations, opportunities, and constraints of the existing park. Three distinct layers of park priorities began to emerge from the activity: Infrastructure Priorities (such as Spirit Trail Pathway upgrades to reduce congestion, and covered park shelters), Ecological Priorities (such as foreshore habitat enhancements), and Socio-Cultural Priorities (such as the need to design a park that is inclusive for all park users, and the desire to showcase and celebrate local arts, culture and history). The diagram below shows the organizational themes that emerged from this breakout group activity, with Group 1 notes recorded on pink stickies, and Group 2 notes recorded on blue stickies. The resulting themes clusters, supplemented by a round-table discussion, helped to develop the Park Vision Statement and Guiding Principles, shown left.



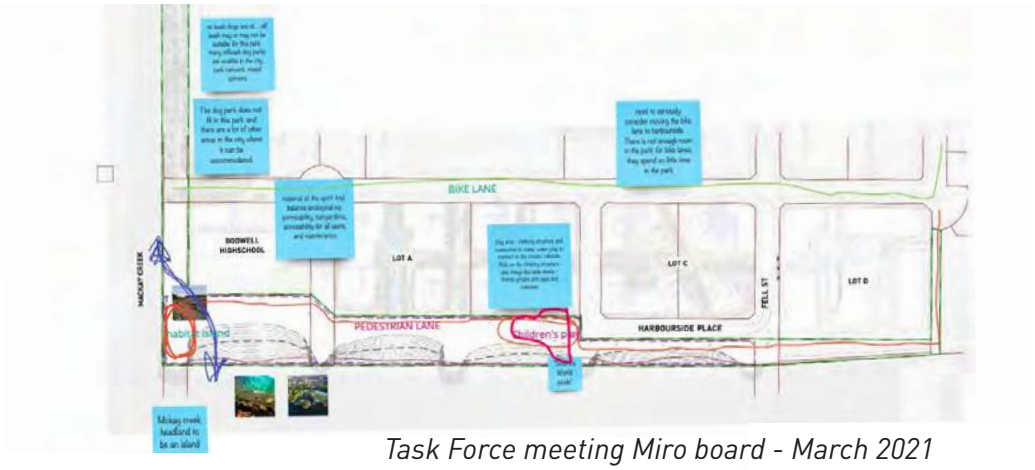
Miro board from Task Force meeting focusing on the vision statement - February 2021

Workshop 3, March 2021 – Defining Park Activities and Character

Workshop 3 discussed activities and character that will define the future identity of the park. It was important to ensure the park activities aligned with the agreed upon vision and principles developed in Workshop 2, and where necessary, allow for reworking of the vision statement and principles to ensure a cohesive voice and identity were achieved. The outcome used a variety of imagery and bubble diagramming to develop two activity/character-based strategies for the park. Group 1 focusing on delivering a park for a variety of users with a variety of active programming opportunities for all ages and abilities, while Group 2 developed a more passive activity-based scheme, focusing instead on larger environmental and infrastructure goals like storm water management and foreshore restoration.



Task Force meeting Miro board



Task Force meeting Miro board - March 2021

Workshop 3, March 2021 Continued – Defining Park Activities and Character

Precedent images, borrowed from an earlier Image Board Exercise, and notes reflecting the types of activities and character were also used by the Task Force groups members to communicate ideas, shown below.



Park Circulation Character Notes



Park Activities + Character Notes



Park Materials + Overall Character Notes



Park Activities + Character Notes



Master Plan Concept Option 1: Promenade/ Activity Room



Master Plan Concept Option 2: Biophila/ Urban Watershed

Initial Concept Options + Feedback from Task Force

Workshop 4 , April 2021 – Park Layout and Emerging Design Directions

In an effort to synthesize efforts from Workshop 3, the design consultants further developed the notes and diagramming sketches into two draft concept plans for the Task force to provide feedback on. In order to isolate areas of feedback, the design consultants asked the Task Force to consider the park options in three layers of emerging design directions: (1) Trails and Circulation, (2) Foreshore and Upland Habitat, and (3) Activities and Infrastructure. Isolating each of these layers allowed the group to develop a clear strategy for each of the emerging design directions to be reflected in the overall Masterplan. The two initial concepts showing the actively programmed Urban Promenade/ Activity Room Concept, inspired by Group 1's discussion in Workshop 3, and Group 2's more passive Biohilia/Urban Watershed Concept that is organized by a more rigorous environmental and infrastructural approach.



Revised Concept Plan: Task Force Meeting Miro Board

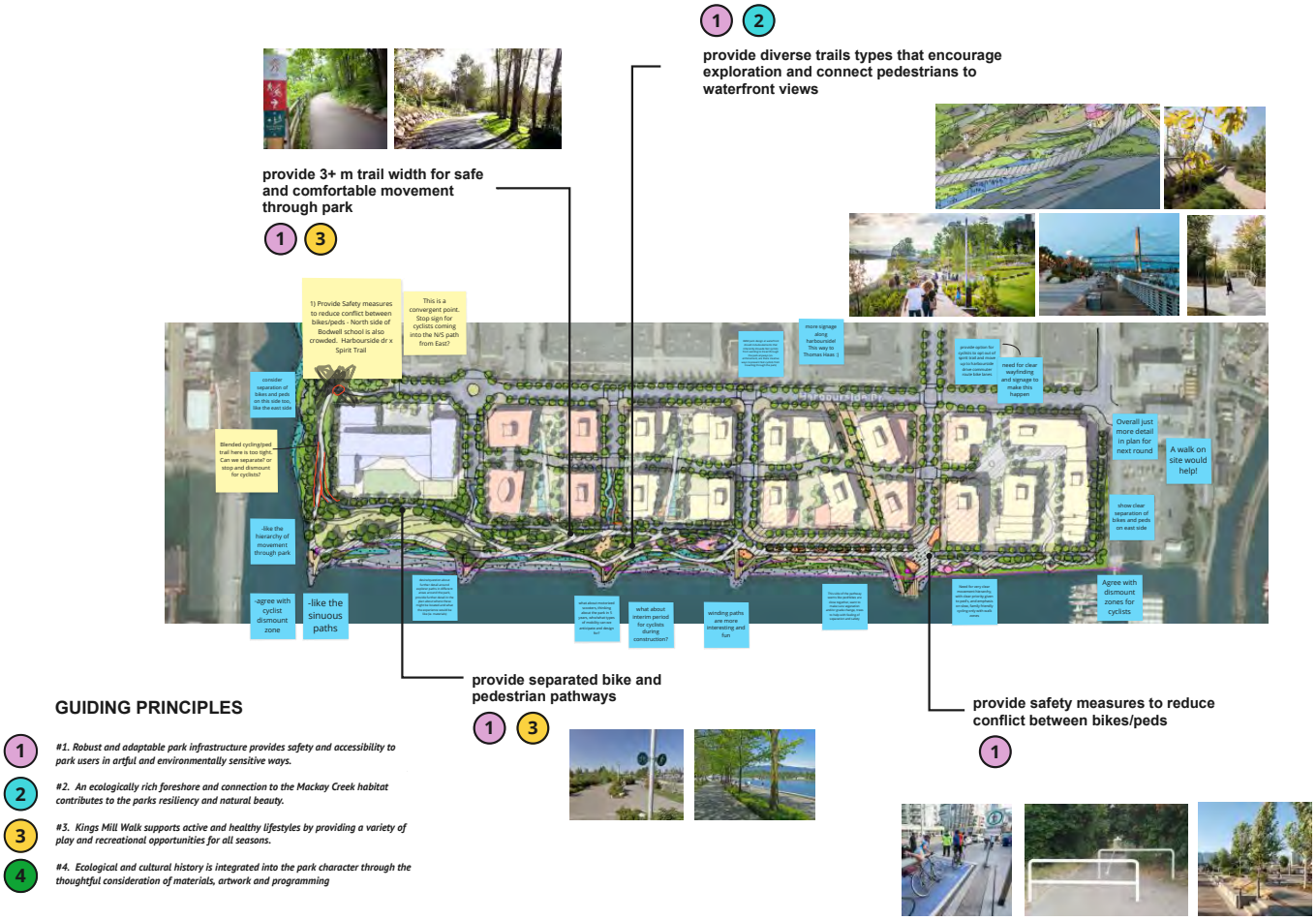
Preferred Plan – Considerations + Feedback from Task Force

Workshop 5, May 2021 – Preferred Plan and Layout Discussions

After workshopping the emerging design directions for the three layers in Workshop 4, the Preferred Plan was developed by the design consultants for the Task Force to review. Employing a similar strategy to the one used in the previous workshop the preferred plan was reviewed by the task force in park layers (Trails and Circulation, Foreshore and Upland Habitat, Activities, and Infrastructure), followed by an overall plan review. The discussion for each layer and suggestions are highlighted in the pages to follow. The preferred plan was then revised to incorporate the comments from the task force and then presented to the public for feedback.

Trails and Circulation Preferred Plan Strategy:

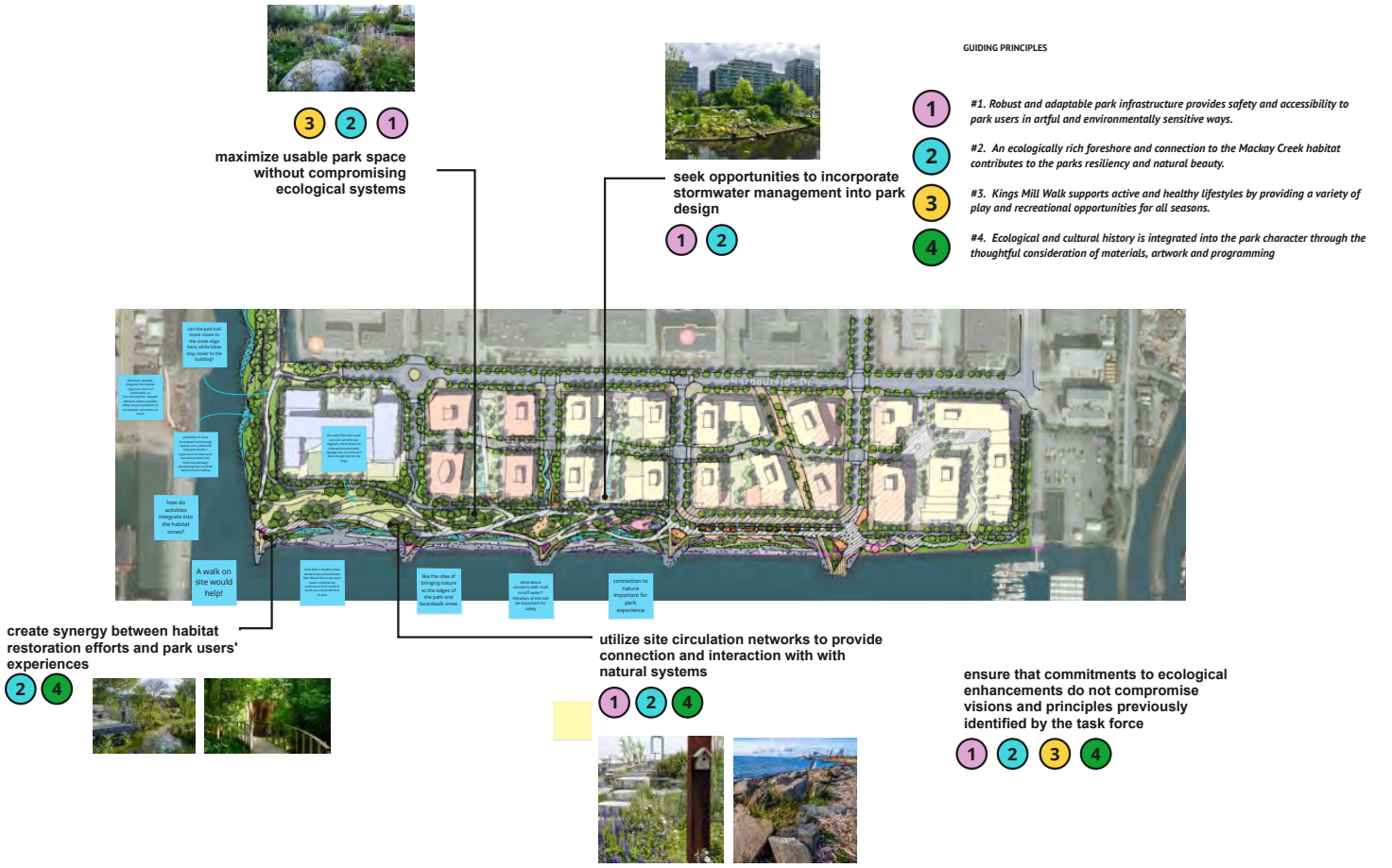
Following a round of feedback by the Task Force on the Trails and Circulation strategy for each of the two concept plans developed in Workshop 4, a set of Emerging Design Directions were developed and implemented into a final version of the preferred plan, shown in bold text on the diagram below. A final round of feedback from the task force on the preferred circulation strategy is shown on the post-it notes below, with comments around the need for more safety measures for cyclist and pedestrian conflict zones at the entrances of the park, and the need for clear signage and movement hierarchy.



Task Force meeting Miro board

F*oreshore and Parkland Habitat Preferred Plan Strategy:*

Following feedback by the Task Force on the Foreshore and Upland Habitat strategy for each of the two concept plans developed in Workshop 4, Emerging Design Directions were developed and implemented into a final version of the preferred plan, shown in bold text on the diagram below. A final round of Task Force feedback on the plan below is shown in blue post-it notes. Comments included requests for more detail on how the urban wetland, filtration and runoff will function in terms of health and safety from urban runoff, a desire for more celebration of water on site, and suggestions around developing more formalized paths that allow access to the natural edges without disrupting sensitive ecosystems.



Task Force meeting Miro board

Activities and Infrastructure Preferred Plan Strategy:

Following feedback from the Task Force on the Activities and Infrastructure strategy for each of the two concept plans developed in Workshop 4, a set of Emerging Design Directions were also developed and implemented onto a final version of the preferred plan, shown in bold text on the diagram below. Feedback on the plan below is shown in blue post-it notes, with comments requesting the addition of a volleyball court to the passive lawn area, and concerns over the integration of a storm water feature with the off-leash dog area. *A large part of the discussion centered around the off-leash dog area, with some task force members noting the proposed dog area would be too small to be useful, and non-dog owners, who feel the dog park should be relocated to a nearby park instead and developed to a reasonable size.* It was also noted that there was some concern that allowing dogs in the park could potentially damage the sensitive habitat areas.



Task Force meeting Miro board