

## **APPENDICES**

### **Appendix A: Public Consultation Detailed Summary**

Consultation summaries are based on the results of two online surveys, input received at the Open Houses, staff insight and discussion with the Advisory Committee and the Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee in the Electoral Areas.

#### **Electoral Area E**

There was a high level of agreement that the supply of parkland for active recreation was adequate at this time with the exception of a gap in neighbourhood parks in the Beachcomber area.

A number of survey and Open House respondents expressed a desire for more water access paths and signage that clearly shows where public access is allowed. Improvements to a specific water access site in Nanoose Harbour received strong support.

The proposed community trail network was well supported; however, trail connections to Red Gap from Fairwinds, Kicking Horse and Madrona were also seen as highly desirable. Pedestrian safety along existing roads with narrow shoulders, such as Dolphin Drive and Powder Point, was a major concern in the survey and Open House sessions.

Short term priorities focused on expanding trails and water access sites either through the land development process and/or in partnership with the province. Some residents expressed an interest in playing an active role in implementation by adopting a water access site or by initiating a playground in the Beachcomber area.

#### **Electoral Area F**

The majority of respondents (60%) agreed that the number and distribution of neighbourhood parkland is “somewhat adequate”; however, adding to the supply of parkland in the future is desirable, provided it is done strategically.

A 25 km network of existing and proposed community trails throughout the Electoral Area was illustrated on the revised plans developed for the Open House and online survey. Over three-quarters (77%) of respondents were “completely satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” that this proposed community trail network was complete; however, a number of suggestions were provided

resulting in an additional 7 km of potential trail. Some residents are looking for roadside trail connections for direct access while others are looking for more natural trail experiences.

The top priority in the short-term is to continue developing additional trails followed by the park improvements at Meadowood Park.

According to the survey, there is also a desire to acquire more natural parkland and to develop recreation amenities at other existing community parks.

### **Electoral Area G**

With regards to the supply and distribution of neighbourhood parkland, only a small majority of survey respondents agree it is “somewhat adequate.” This sentiment is also reflected in the spatial analysis of the Concept Plan which shows gaps in several localized areas. This uneven distribution is partly attributable to the jurisdictional boundary that wraps around the municipal boundaries of Parksville and Qualicum Beach which makes it challenging to develop an even distribution of community parks and trails. These shared boundaries also provide enhanced access to residents living near municipal boundaries – providing access to nearby municipal parks.

With regards to water access, given the small response rate and the high level of community interest, it is recommended that a focused study and public survey of the potential water access sites be undertaken, including an inventory of development opportunities and priorities.

Support for the proposed community trail system was split with half being satisfied with the proposed system and the other half requesting additional community trail connections. Expanding trails as opportunities arise during the development process is well supported.

The short-term priority identified during the process was to provide improvements to existing neighbourhood parks including Dashwood, Columbia Beach, Rivers Edge and San Pareil. Other priorities include expanding water access opportunities and acquiring land or rights of way for expansion of the trail system.

## COMMUNITY PARKS & TRAILS STRATEGIC PLAN

### ELECTORAL AREAS E, F, G, & H

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#### Electoral Area H

With regards to the supply and distribution of neighbourhood parkland, spatial analysis identified a gap in service in the area between Oakdowne and the Big Qualicum River. This area is relatively rural with a low population so there is no immediate need for acquiring additional parkland unless an opportunity arises in this area over the next ten years.

Water access is a high priority for Electoral Area H residents. At present, the RDN manages ten water access sites through permitting with the province. The 2000 RDN inventory and description of water access sites was updated by the POSAC in 2013. This analysis suggests there are another eight sites worthy of consideration and four sites that require further analysis. Many of these potential sites only require minor improvements such as signage and benches, and three sites could potentially be upgraded for car top boat launching.

Developing new community trails that connect pedestrians and bicycle users with community destinations is also a high priority. The proposed community trails network shown on the Concept Plan provides a blueprint for achieving such connections. However, this will take time and can only be achieved incrementally so it is important to view the final Concept Plan as a working document and integrate it into the Official Community Plan.

Electoral Area H residents have access to many existing informal trails, mostly located on forested Crown land. The RDN can play a role either by entering into new management agreements with the province or by educating and supporting community interest groups, who can also enter into agreements with the province. Community-based trail management has been successful in other Electoral Areas in the RDN.