

4.2. Community Gathering and Placemaking in Parks

Intent:

Enhance parks as public gathering places for the neighbourhood with a variety of features for diverse ages and activities

4.2.1. Engage the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations to determine interest and appropriate recognition of sites of interest in parks and open space.

4.2.2. Continue to work with recreation service providers to offer programming in neighbourhood parks.

4.2.3. Improve access and create more enjoyable walking and cycling experience to Fairfield parks and the waterfront through the addition of new crossings and public realm improvements such as street trees, seating, bike racks, lighting and wayfinding.

4.2.4. Design and refresh amenities in neighbourhood parks and open spaces to meet the needs of a range of ages, abilities and activities.

4.2.5. Look for opportunities through park upgrades to add features to encourage neighbourhood gathering. Through engagement, residents suggested clusters of benches to encourage conversation, interactive public art and features aimed at older adults.

4.2.6. Use interpretive signage in parks for educational opportunities, and to connect people to the human and natural history of Fairfield.

4.2.7. Explore the opportunity for limited commercial activities in parks, such as food trucks and markets.

4.2.8. Encourage the animation of parks through public art and placemaking, and use of parks for community special events such as festivals and concerts.

4.3. Waterfront Parks

Intent:

Enhance access, amenities, wayfinding and facilities along the waterfront

Through community engagement, the Fairfield community identified a number of suggested improvements for the waterfront parks. These included new or improved pathways to enhance accessibility and connectivity; wayfinding and regulatory signage; recognition and interpretation of First Nations uses and sites that reinforce the culturally-significant landscape on the waterfront; natural areas restoration and invasive species management; management strategies for shoreline and bluff stability; enhanced visitor facilities, such as washrooms and increased bicycle parking; improved pedestrian safety and comfort across Dallas Road; pedestrian enhancements at Clover Point; consideration for public art or other design features; and interpretation of natural and human history.

4.3.1. Engage residents and stakeholders of Fairfield in a city-wide process to develop a long-term plan to guide future improvements to waterfront park areas from Clover Point Park to Holland Point Park in James Bay to improve the visitor experience, restore the coastal bluff ecosystem, protect wildlife habitat, and respect the culturally-significant landscape, consistent with the direction of the Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan.



Beacon Hill Park



Courthouse Playground



Dallas Road Waterfront Trail

Parks, Open Space and Urban Forest

Neighbourhood Parks, cont'd.

4.4. Beacon Hill Park

Intent:

Celebrate and enhance visitor experiences in Beacon Hill Park

The Fairfield community identified a number of suggested future improvements to Beacon Hill Park through community engagement. These suggestions included recognition and interpretation of First Nations history; pathway improvements for accessibility and safety; wayfinding and regulatory signage; natural areas restoration; interpretation of natural history and native ecosystem; other features that reinforce the human history along the waterfront; adding features to encourage people to gather, such as picnic tables and clustered seating near popular view points.

4.4.1. Engage residents and stakeholders of Fairfield in a city-wide process to develop a long-term plan to guide improvements for Beacon Hill Park to further animate the park and encourage broader use while protecting the park's natural and horticultural areas, consistent with the direction of the Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan.

4.5. Ross Bay Waterfront

4.5.1. Consider additional seating and improved access to the beach and causeway for people with mobility issues or carrying watercraft.

4.6. Moss Rocks Parks

4.6.1. Assess the feasibility of creating new trail connections through the park to connect Masters Road and May Street as per the City's Greenways Plan.

4.6.2. Protect, improve and restore natural areas of the park, including invasive species management.

4.6.3. Encourage adjacent property owners to protect natural areas and use landscape management practices that support the park's ecological value.

4.7. Robert J. Porter

4.7.1. Develop a park improvement plan to address playground upgrades, improved pathway connections, and to help further the goals and objectives identified in the Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan.

4.8. Chapman Park and Bushby Park

4.8.1. Explore opportunity for future allotment gardens or other food features, where residents and community organizations express an interest.

4.9. Pioneer Square

4.9.1. Complete the implementation of remaining recommendations identified in the Pioneer Square Management Plan.



Moss Rocks Park



Robert J. Porter Park



Pioneer Square

Parks, Open Space and Urban Forest

Coastal Ecosystems

4.10. Management Strategies

Intent:

Protect coastal ecosystems.

4.10.1. Develop and implement future management strategies for the restoration of coastal bluff ecosystems which are found west of Clover Point, considering climate change and future sea level rise

a. Update and assess erosion control and shoreline protection measures for shoreline between Ogden Point and Gonzales Beach.

4.10.2. When undertaking development (e.g. trails and public facilities) adjacent to the waterfront, consider impacts on habitat and impacts of future impacts of sea level rise. Integrate provincial Guidance on Planning for Sea Level Rise, and Green Shores principles, into the design.



Dallas Road waterfront