



NORTH VANCOUVER  
DISTRICT

# The District of North Vancouver

## Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan

Adopted by District Council November 19, 2012

transform



DNV  
2030

identity

Inspired by nature, enriched by people

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## District of North Vancouver Council

### Committees of Council

Parks and Natural Environment Advisory Committee  
North Shore Advisory Committee on Disability Issues  
North Vancouver Community Sport & Recreation Advisory Council

*We would like to thank the many parks and recreation stakeholder groups and members of the public who attended workshops and open houses and provided comments*

## District of North Vancouver Parks, Planning, Environment and Engineering Staff

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HB Lanarc, a Member of the Golder Group of Companies



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# 1.0 Introduction

The District of North Vancouver is made up of 16,000 hectares of land with a population of approximately 85,000. Of those 16,000 hectares, approximately 3,159 hectares is District managed parkland. The District has a significant supply of parks and open space and recreation facilities. With an increasing population and a growing focus on recreational, environmental and leisure activities, maintaining a healthy and active parks and open space system is highly valued by district residents.

The previous Parks and Recreation Master Plan was undertaken in 1991. Parks and recreation have grown and changed in 20 years with evolving interests to include environment, trails and greenways, sports fields, as well as effective management of existing park infrastructure to address growing community needs. To address these interests, a new Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan (POSSP) process was initiated. The first step towards creating the Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan was the research and preparation of the **POSSP Background Document (2009)**, which reviewed the status of the parks since 1991 when the previous parks master plan was undertaken.

Consultation with the community played an important role in the planning process of the POSSP. A steering committee, the Parks and Environment Advisory Committee, composed of community representatives, participated and provided dialogue throughout the process. In addition there were public workshops, open houses, focus groups, user surveys, Council workshops, and other mechanisms to solicit public input and comment.



# 1.1 Purpose of Project



The Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan is a parks umbrella document to provide direction for the development, maintenance and renewal of the District's parks and open spaces for the next 10 years. The strategic document addresses the following key goals:

- Provide a 10 year vision, goals and direction for the District Parks
- Identify park and outdoor recreational needs, trends and gaps, and develop recommendations to address those needs
- Integrate park planning projects & initiatives into a centralized umbrella document
- Provide analysis of existing park inventory
- Identify opportunities and deficiencies in the present parks systems to ensure community needs are being met
- Identify new facilities, parks and open spaces with associated policies to address short and long term community needs.
- Identify future capital projects, priorities within a ten year financial framework
- Identify operational pressure points and service levels
- Identify projects with a strong environmental direction to guide a park sustainability framework

## 1.2 Relationship to the Official Community Plan

The District of North Vancouver's Official Community Plan (OCP) Bylaw 7900, 2011 was approved by Council on June 27, 2011. This OCP provides overarching community goals, objectives and policies to guide the District towards positive change and realizing the community's vision to 2030. With respect to parks and open space, a key objective of the OCP is to maintain a diverse, high quality parks and open space system that serves a range of community needs and protects the environment. The Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan was developed concurrently with the OCP and was both guided by and contributed to the parks and environment related sections of the OCP. While the OCP represents an overarching and high level policy document guiding a broad range of community issues to 2030, the Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan is a strategic action plan or implementation strategy that identifies feasible, cost effective programs and actions that further implement OCP policies related to parks and open space.

The Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan also brings the long range vision into focus by reviewing the 1991 draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan, incorporating, where relevant, key recommendations from the District's Local Area Plans, while also introducing new initiatives to address current issues and opportunities identified through the planning process.



## 1.3 Relevant Documents and Initiatives

This section identifies key documents that analyze and provide direction and recommendations related to the POSSP:

### POSSP Background Document – September 2009

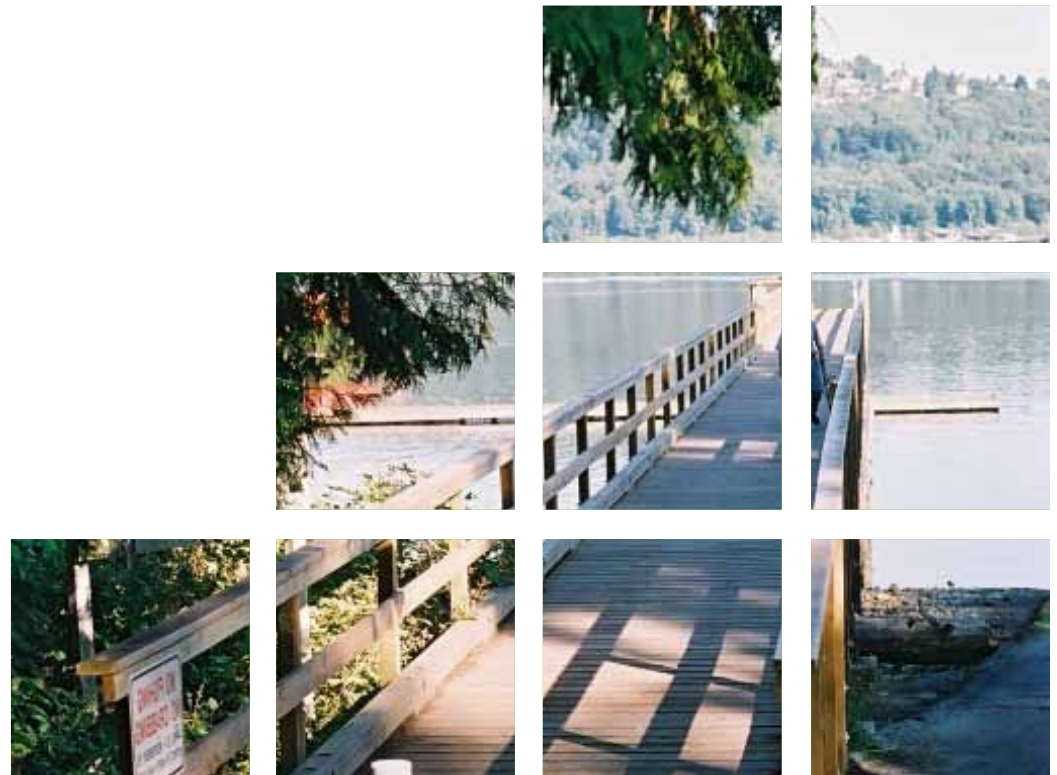
The first step towards creating the Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan was the research and preparation of the **POSSP Background Document** which reviews the status of the parks since 1991 when the previous parks master plan was undertaken. The background report included trend analysis, review of trends, user survey analysis, and analysis of issues and opportunities. It documents key initiatives and relevant studies that have informed the development of the Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan. Since 1991, the focus has been directed to trails and greenways, forest and natural parkland management, and asset management of existing park inventory. In preparation for the Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan, the Parks Department undertook a number of detailed studies, including the **Sports Field Needs Assessment Report**, the **Fromme Mountain Sustainable Trail Use and Classification Plan**, the **Alpine Recreation Strategic Study**, the **Park Building Condition Assessment Report**, the **Street Tree Master Plan**, the **Street Tree Inventory** and the **Forest Ecosystem Mapping** and a **Framework for Ecosystem-Based Management** report. These documents inform many of the recommendations described in this report.





# 1.4 How This Document Works

Section 2.0 of this plan outlines the process involved in developing the Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan, and includes consultation with the public, staff, Council and the Parks and Natural Environment Advisory Committee. Section 3.0 describes park and demographic trends, including the results of public surveys. Section 4.0 outlines a vision and goals for the future. Sections 5.0 further describes goals and objectives, and include analysis and recommendations regarding parkland, park users, managing assets and infrastructure, trails, ecological integrity, community partnerships and education, and funding challenges.



# Funding Challenges

The State of North Carolina is exploring various funding strategies in order to maintain a healthy and vibrant park and recreation system. Encouraging public-private partnerships (P3's) through various funding models within the recreation. Encouraging user-fee programs, such as a fee-for-service model. Other strategies and P3's that will allow local governments to explore the P3's model and will help build relationships with local groups and business. Working with various user-fee programs and various recreational services, including recreational parks, recreation and support for programs and facilities. The goal is to maintain a balance of types of funding options to meet the park and recreation needs.

## Challenges

- Limited funding sources
- Finding a balance of public-private funding models
- Encouraging user-fee programs and support
- Encouraging strategic partnerships (e.g. user-fee programs, fee-for-service, etc.)
- Encouraging user-fee programs
- Encouraging public-private partnerships
- Encouraging user-fee programs
- Encouraging user-fee programs



Did we miss anything?  
Do you have any comments?



# Get Creative!

Give us your ideas on how to solve the funding issues.

A large green poster titled 'Get Creative!' with the subtitle 'Give us your ideas on how to solve the funding issues.' The poster is covered with numerous colorful sticky notes (yellow, pink, purple) containing handwritten ideas and suggestions. The notes are scattered across the green background, which features a faint image of a person's profile.



## 2.0 Planning Process & Consultation

The District has been active in obtaining public input regarding parks, open spaces and trails throughout the years through processes which include community planning initiatives, the Futures Conference in 2004, parks trends and issues surveys from 2004 to 2006, and the Recreation Needs Assessment Report in 2007. The following chart illustrates the POSSP planning and consultation process. The Parks Department hosted a number of events that included a public workshop, public open houses, focus group meetings, Council workshops, and workshops with the Parks and Natural Environment Advisory Committee. All information that emerged through this process was accessible on the District Website, [www.dnv.org](http://www.dnv.org) under the project title, Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan.



## 2.1 FutureQuest Open House and Workshop #1

The Parks Department hosted an open house and workshop with the community to check in and continue the dialogue initiated in previous studies and surveys. FutureQuest, the September 28, 2009 event for the Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan, was a great success. Over eighty people attended the public workshop and contributed to the discussion of issues, and the formulation of goals and a vision for parks and open spaces.



## 2.2 Challenges & POSSP Goals

Through a process of public discussion and analysis, 6 key challenge areas emerged with the following themes. These themes formed the focus from which a series of POSSP Goals were formulated. They provide an over arching framework for the recommendations and actions.

1. Meeting Changing Needs and Demands
2. Managing Assets and Infrastructure
3. Trails and Greenway Systems
4. Ecological Integrity and Stewardship
5. Community Partnerships and Education
6. Funding Challenges



## 2.3 FutureQuest Open House and Workshop #2

The Parks Department hosted a second FutureQuest Open House on May 20, 2010. Attendees provided valuable input into key strategies to guide the District of North Vancouver's parks into the future. The purpose of the open house was to check back in with the public regarding the draft vision, guiding principles, goals, objectives and key recommendations that had been developed in response to the first FutureQuest Open House and workshops with the Parks and Natural Environment Advisory Commission and Council.



## 2.4 Children and Youth

Interactive posters and handouts were displayed at the Ecology Centre and Maplewood Farm, in order to gather input from children and families about what they valued most about their parks. Natural beauty, playgrounds, trails, the farm, water parks, trees, plants, creeks, wildlife and sports fields were popular with many.

As part of the OCP activities to capture input from youth, feedback was received regarding what they valued about the parks system, what needed improvement, and what their top priorities were. They shared a strong desire for our community to become more sustainable, and to provide places for young people to hang out together. Lighting of parks was seen as important, and the plaza adjacent to the Lynn Valley Library was cited as being 'great for festivals and gatherings'. They suggested quality cycling, walking and rollerblading opportunities, community gardens and more multi-purpose fields. They valued conserving forests, removing invasive species and providing more environmental volunteer opportunities for youth.







## 3.0 Demographic & Park Trends

This section summarizes the demographic profile of the district, as well as demographic projections. It also describes some of the issues and trends in parks and open space at the district, regional and provincial level. More detailed information on public surveys and trends is located in the **POSSP Background Document (2009)**. This document can be reviewed on the District website at <http://www.dnv.org/article.asp?c=1096>.



# 3.1 Demographic Trends

## District of North Vancouver Demographics Snap Shot and Profile

The population of the District of North Vancouver is approximately 85,000. From 2001 to 2006, the District of North Vancouver was one of the slowest growing municipalities in the Metro Vancouver region, adding approximately 50 people per year. The number of seniors living in the District has increased dramatically over the past 30 years and is expected to keep growing, bringing new demands for services and infrastructure. At the same time the percent of young adults aged 20 to 40 has decreased significantly, resulting in fewer residents to drive the economy and start families. The percent of children and teens has also decreased since 1976 resulting in several school closures. These historical demographic trends, as well as new growth projections in the OCP under the Network of Centres, have informed the development of this Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan, and recommendations for meeting changing needs and demands in the community.

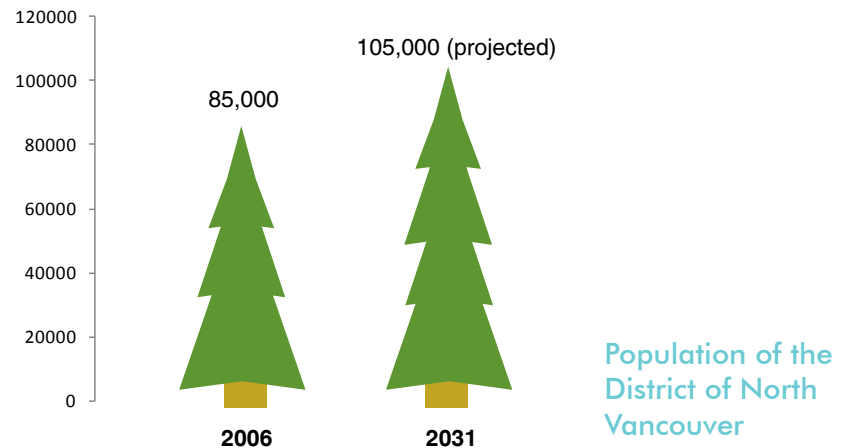
The median income for households within the District increased from \$70,228 in 2000 to \$77,032 in 2005, compared with \$55,231 for Metro Vancouver.

North Vancouver is a multi-cultural community, where over 50% of the population identify with a British or Canadian ancestry, and 22% identify as a visible minority. Nearly one-quarter of the visible minority populations are Canadian born (2nd generation). The most prevalent languages spoken at home are English, Farsi, Korean and Cantonese.

Population growth in other areas of the Metro Vancouver region, including the neighbouring City of North Vancouver, has increased the use of District parks and demand for facilities such as trails, dog off leash areas, playing fields, tennis courts and lacrosse boxes.

In the District about 63% of daily trips are made by driving, 17% as a car passenger, 9% by transit, 9% by walking, and 2% by cycling (Translink Trip Diary, 2008). The transportation sector is a large contributor of greenhouse gas emissions, contributing over 36% of the District's total greenhouse gas emissions. This may have implications in the development and need for a system of well designed and safe trails that link key community nodes and neighbourhoods.

Looking to the future, the population of the District of North Vancouver is estimated to be approximately 105,000 in 2031.



## 3.2 Park Trends

The District of North Vancouver has tracked key park and open space trends and issues through a combination of public surveys, workshops, user group discussions, and industry trend analysis reports, including the following:

- Futures Conference (March 2004)
- North Shore wide Phone Survey (June 2004)
- Ipsos-Reid Survey (February 2005) - Resident and Stakeholder satisfaction with North Vancouver Parks & Recreation
- BCRPA Trends in Parks and Recreation (2006) and BCRPA Benchmarking
- North Vancouver Recreation Commission Recreation Needs Assessment Report (2007)
- District of North Vancouver Biannual Community Surveys
- Discussions with committees such as the Parks & Natural Environment Advisory Committee (PNEAC), the North Vancouver Sport Council, and the Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee (ORAC)

Collectively, these reports provide an overview of recreational trends at the provincial and regional level, as well as drilling down to specific park and recreation issues specific to the District of North Vancouver.

### District of North Vancouver Trends and Issues

The analysis of trends and their impacts guides the development and prioritisation of recommendations through the strategic planning processes. The following are some of the key issues and trends facing District Parks:

#### Concerns (in order of priority)

- parking availability (i.e. recreation centres, Lynn Canyon Park, Cates Park and Deep Cove/Panorama Park )
- increasing number of dogs in parks
- condition of parks and sports fields
- need for more interconnecting trails
- overall condition of parks and the costs of services
- accessibility for the disabled (i.e. handicap parking stalls at recreation centres)

#### Common Park Uses (in order of priority)

- walking
- hiking
- soccer
- dog walking, cycling, running, playground use and baseball



### Shifting Demographics and Diversity

A growing, aging and more culturally diverse population suggests increased pressures on parks, the need to provide accessible and affordable park facilities for all age groups, and to provide programs and services that accommodates a cultural diversity. A growing interest in walking, hiking and enjoying the outdoors brings a demand for expanded greenways, trails and bikeways to support personal and environmental health. At the same time, continued interest in team sports is a high priority on the North Shore.

### Recreational Activity Choices

With busy and flexible schedules, there is a trend towards unstructured activities that fit into changing routines. With an interest in pursuing a greater diversity of activities and integrating wellness into daily routines, leisure activities such as walking, hiking, biking, gardening and volunteering are becoming increasingly popular. Pedestrian trails and cycling routes to provide alternate recreation and transportation opportunities remain a high priority.

### Environmental Awareness and Stewardship

As concern for the environment heightens and climate change becomes a reality, there is increased support for the protection of green space through parks and trails. Public stewardship is gaining momentum, with growth in outdoor activities such as birding, wilderness hiking, volunteerism, environmental education, eco tourism and community gardening.

## Park Infrastructure Trends

With aging parks and infrastructure, it is important to be receptive to changing trends in renovating and retrofitting parks, including shifting from stand alone to multi-use facilities and implementing partnerships to influence life cycle management plans.

## Technology and Partnering

Parks have embraced a greater use of technologies, including web based programs, communication and marketing, public maps, and computerized maintenance management systems. With a history of partnering and working closely with sport, culture and recreation organizations, partnerships now extend to the health, police, education, social services and the corporate sectors.

## Satisfaction with Park Services

The overwhelming majority of North Vancouver residents are satisfied with the quality of services and amenities at parks. Notably, a majority (61%) is 'very satisfied', with just 4% expressing dissatisfaction. Strong satisfaction is driven by accessibility and inexpensive cost of parks services, followed by the overall quality of parks services, and general cleanliness. Residents are also pleased with the wide range of services available.

The quality of facilities (maintenance) is the most significant driver of less than strong satisfaction. Washroom availability, access issues and dog concerns are also drivers of lower satisfaction levels.



**92%** of residents are satisfied to very satisfied with the quality of services and amenities at parks.

### Satisfaction with Specific Park Attributes

At the top of the list, with ‘very satisfied’ ratings from almost half of residents (49%), was the condition of trails. The amount of park space designated as ‘environmentally sensitive’ receives very satisfied ratings from 39% of residents, followed closely by safety from crime, condition of playgrounds and condition of sports fields.

### Satisfaction with Special Events

Those who have participated in special events at North Vancouver parks or recreation facilities are generally satisfied with the experience, with 35% of residents being very satisfied. A majority of North Vancouver residents feel that currently North Vancouver hosts ‘about the right number’ of special events.

### Community Involvement

On average, North Vancouver residents are involved in community volunteer activities 33 times a year, with the average age of volunteers being above the age of 34.

### Parks Funding Priorities

North Vancouver residents place the highest priority on maintaining greenways, trails and bike paths. Habitat restoration and preservation and sports fields follow quite closely. Improvements to parks buildings and washrooms are, according to the survey results, a less significant priority; although we know from statistical analysis that washroom availability and cleanliness are an important factor in overall satisfaction and therefore, dissatisfaction. Among field stakeholders, sports fields are the most important priority, along with greenways, trails and bike paths.

### Usage of Active versus Passive Parks

North Vancouver residents estimate they spend about 60% of their park time at passive parks and 40% at active parks. A growing trend is a Sports User Fee for sports groups who contribute through fees to operating costs and capital improvements for fields and related infrastructure.



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## Futures Conference (2004)

The Futures Conference, held in March 2004, involved a diverse group of residents, stakeholders and advisory committees involved in parks and recreation on the north shore. The following 16 trends were identified, and remain as valid considerations in 2011.

1. Safety and security in the public realm
2. Dog issues in parks
3. Youth inactivity and obesity on the rise
4. Declining public resources / tax \$\$
5. More people with disabilities
6. Smaller families with fewer kids
7. Increasing conflicts between user groups
8. More interest in health/health lifestyle
9. Sustainability and overuse of resources and natural environment
10. Aging infrastructure of facilities
11. Increasing costs and reduced access
12. Increased emphasis on vehicles
13. Increased popularity of trails
14. Increased expectation (quality) of parks and recreation facilities and services
15. Obesity
16. Increased frustration and anger

## North Vancouver Recreation Commission

The North Vancouver Recreation Commission is funded in part by the District and the City of North Vancouver. Their mission is to build healthy individuals, families and communities by providing and facilitating diverse, accessible recreation opportunities. They collaborate with District Parks on park and recreation planning projects (i.e. the **Recreation Needs Assessment Report** and the **Sports Field Needs Assessment Report**). They manage the booking of sports fields, sports tournaments, sports courts, picnics and weddings. Their Community Events staff work collaboratively with District Parks to plan, manage and promote special events in parks, concerts and outdoor trail and mountain bike events.

## Recreation Needs Assessment Report

In 2007, the North Vancouver Recreation Commission initiated a study to identify through public discussion and analysis, recreational demands and needs, and to prioritize the needs based upon social values and technical criteria. While the focus of the study was largely indoor facilities, outdoor recreational demands emerged as some of the top priorities from a list of 34 identified demands and needs:

- Increased recreational use of the North Shore mountains
- Greater use of urban trails and connectors
- More outdoor sports tournaments
- More and better outdoor sports field experiences
- More track and field training and competitions

## Provincial Trends in Parks and Recreation

The following are some of the key trends and implications for park management which were identified by the BC Recreation and Parks Association in 2006:

### Demographic Trends

- Aging Population (baby boom: 40-59)
- Increasing diversity in ethno-cultures
- Growing gap between haves and have-nots
- Continuing population growth in BC



### Implications for Parks

- Population growth places increased pressure on demand for services
- Shift to less strenuous physical activities
- Elementary school closures may result in loss of access to facilities
- Cultural diversity needs to be reflected in programs, policies and services
- Ethno-cultural groups place a premium on large gatherings. Provision for large group areas, picnic shelters and washrooms

### Infrastructure Trends

- Aging infrastructure and deterioration of BC recreation and park facilities
- Shift from stand alone to multi-use facilities
- Expanded facility roles with more partnering in facilities between parks, recreation and community services



### Implications for Parks

- Analysis of aging facilities to provide a repair/retrofit program
- Life cycle management plans
- LEED principles applied to buildings to reduce operational costs
- Partnering with Canada/BC infrastructure
- Programs for financial support
- Partnering with other sectors providing recreational opportunities

### Behavioural Trends

- Towards informal and individual activities
- Shift to activities that are experiential, offer challenge and learning
- Drop-off in volunteerism
- Health and wellness for all ages
- Youth inactivity
- Flex time
- Growing leisure activities
- Partnering with planning, engineering, police, etc.



### Implications for Parks

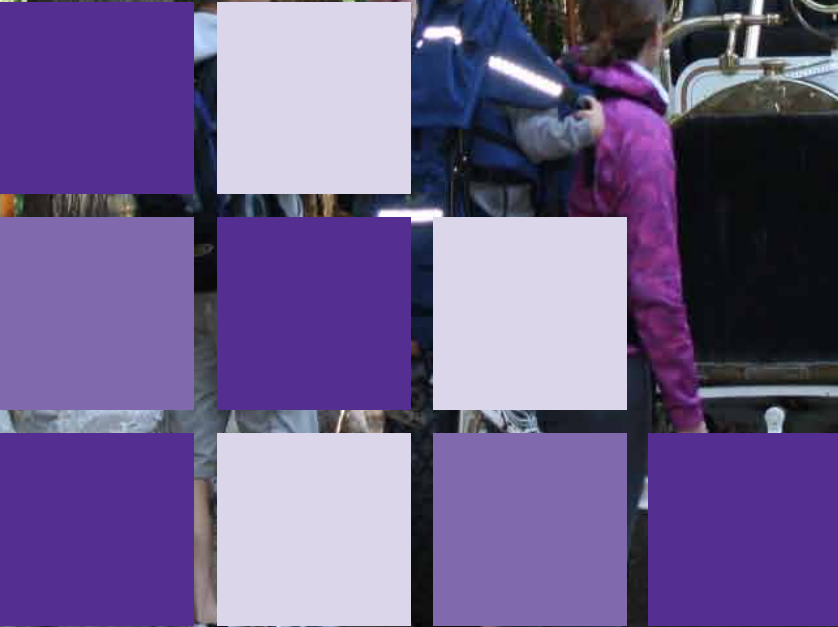
- Informal, self scheduled and casual participation
- Development of greenways, trails and bikeways for personal and environmental health
- More experiential programs such as outdoor adventure programs, cultural learning, and special events such as races and cultural festivals
- Volunteer recruitment programs
- Personal growth and learning – ecotourism interest, lifestyle skills
- Economic development and tourism
- Community gardens, outdoor markets and stewardship programs
- Facilities to support youth and senior participation
- Partnering with groups to manage resources more effectively

Table 1: Provincial Trends and Implications for Park Management





Saturday  
September 15th  
10am-Noon  
Celebrating 100 Years  
Lynn Canyon Suspension Bridge & Park



PARKS DEPARTMENT  
WWW.DNV.ORG



## 4.0 Vision, Guiding Principles & Goals for the Future

Through FutureQuest open houses, workshops and discussions, a 10 year vision was created, as well as principles to guide decision-making towards that vision, and the specific goals to make it happen.



## 4.1 Vision

The District of North Vancouver will provide a diverse and interconnected parks and trail system which protects and enhances the ecological integrity and beauty of our natural environment, promotes sustainability, active living and accessibility, and fosters the development of community stewardship, identity, spirit and culture for current and future generations.



## 4.2 Guiding Principles

The Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan is guided by the following principles. Collectively these principles provide a decision-making framework to support the realization of the Plan's Vision and the implementation of the Plan's goals.

### Healthy Community

Create a parks and open space system that promotes healthy, active lifestyles, and engages citizens of all ages, cultures, and ethnic groups.

### Innovation, Beauty and Creativity

Through innovative planning, design and maintenance provide 'places and experiences' that are beautiful, contribute to the identity of the community, and provide a variety of experiences, from quiet relaxation and appreciation of nature to active recreation.

### Build Diversity and Balance Needs

Build a diverse and varied parks system that balances all of the community's recreational, social, and environmental needs; and continue to monitor recreational trends through discussions with the public.

### Civic Involvement and Building Partnerships

Build and maintain awareness, education and strong communication with the public in the planning, development and programming of parks and natural resources through leadership, co-operation, partnerships, and volunteerism.

### Environmental Vitality and Stewardship

Ensure that biodiversity and ecosystems within our parks that the public value and care about are preserved in the parks and open spaces, fostered by responsible stewardship at all levels, from individuals to community and stakeholder groups.

### Future Community Needs

Review the current and future park and recreation trends as they relate to shifting demographics and diverse needs, and look for creative ways to meet the capacity to fulfill future needs.

### Financial Sustainability

Recognize that the success of the plan depends upon reliable and sustainable funding strategies within the context of long term financial plans, priority setting and cost/benefit considerations and possible innovative partnerships.

### Adaptive Management

Adopt an approach to managing growth and changing trends in park activities that is innovative, adaptable, and responsive to evolving social and environmental expectations.

## 4.3 Goals

Together with the Vision and Guiding Principles, these Goals provide an over arching framework for more detailed objectives and recommended actions.

### **Goal 1: Meeting Changing Needs & Demands**

Actively support and integrate a diverse, accessible and sustainable range of outdoor experiences and activities to meet the interests of all citizens.

### **Goal 2: Managing Assets & Infrastructure**

Proactively manage park assets and infrastructure to support active living and healthy environments for future generations.

### **Goal 3: Trails & Greenway Systems**

Maintain and expand an accessible, safe and diverse ‘trail and greenway system’ to link north shore amenities, encourage alternative modes of transportation, conserve ecological integrity and support an active lifestyle.

### **Goal 4: Ecological Integrity & Stewardship**

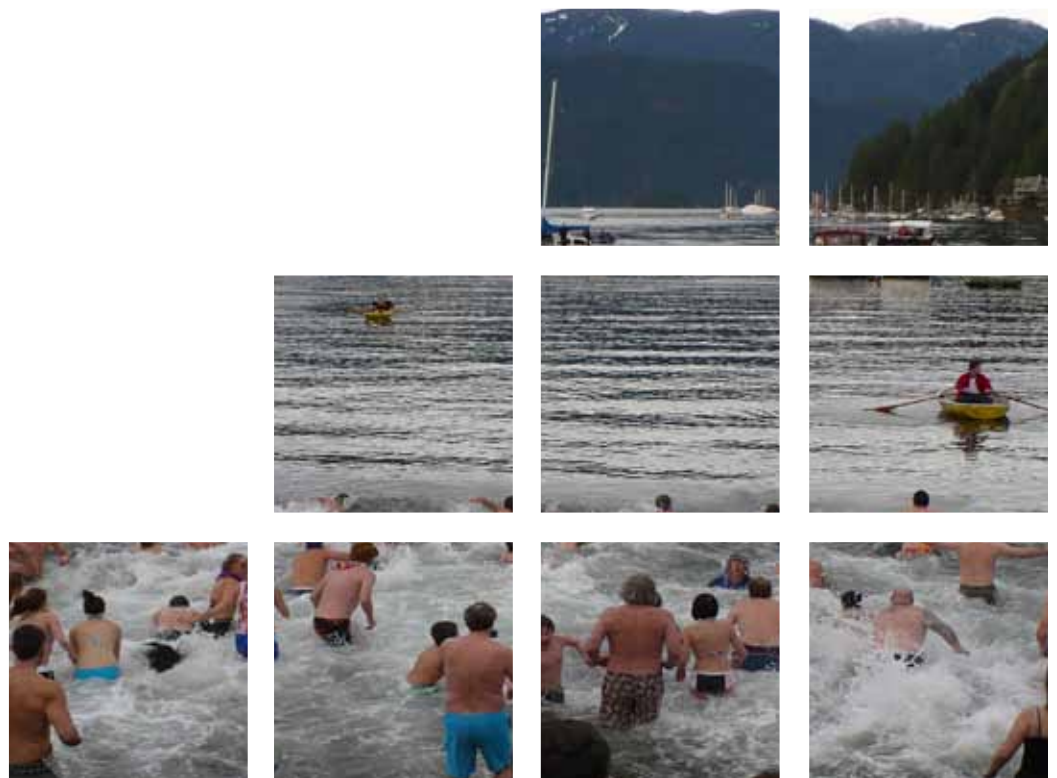
Promote and support broad community stewardship of parks and open spaces to effectively conserve, protect and enhance ecological integrity and biodiversity.

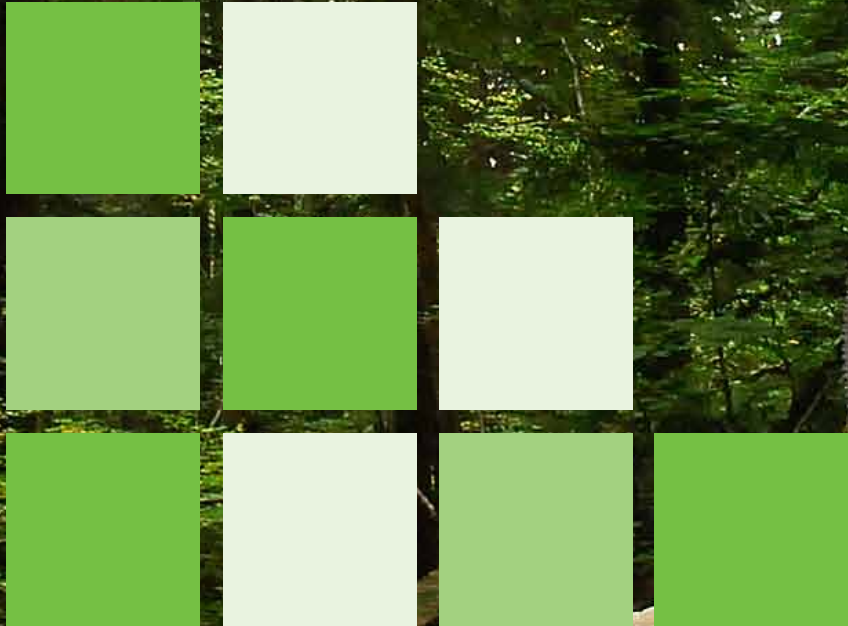
### **Goal 5: Community Partnerships & Education**

Enhance, create and monitor sustainable opportunities for inter-agency partnerships, community education and events, and eco-tourism initiatives.

### **Goal 6: Funding Challenges**

Define and implement funding strategies that will support a 10 year ‘community vision’ for parks and open space in the District. Define and implement funding strategies that will support a 10 year ‘community vision’ for parks and open space in the District.







## 5.0 Emerging Directions for the Future

In consultation with the public, Council, the Parks and Natural Environment Committee and staff, goals were further refined into more detailed objectives and recommended actions. The following sections are organised by goal areas, and provide analysis and descriptions of these key directions for the future of our parks and open spaces.



## 5.1 Meeting Changing Needs & Demands

The demographic characteristics of a community can help predict recreational interests and participation. Factors such as age, income, employment, education and ethnicity affect recreation patterns and activities. For example, the District of North Vancouver is home to both an aging and an increasingly diverse population engaged in an ever-broadening spectrum of activities. Therefore, parks and open spaces, and the facilities and services provided need to be current and accessible to those of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds.

### 5.1.1 Parks and Open Space Classification, Standards, Supply, Analysis and Planning

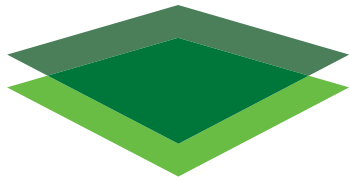
**Review the current and future supply of parks and open space throughout the District by category (i.e. district, community, neighbourhood, and natural parkland), by population and by geographical distribution.**

#### Parks and Open Space Classification System

The District of North Vancouver parks and open space system has been divided into categories based on the various functions of each type of park and open space. These categories are similar to those used by other municipalities to measure and analyse parkland supply. POSSP maps and parkland analysis are based on categories as defined in Table 2 on the following page. Recommended minimum park sizes are provided for community and neighbourhood level parks as guidelines for accommodating park programming opportunities.

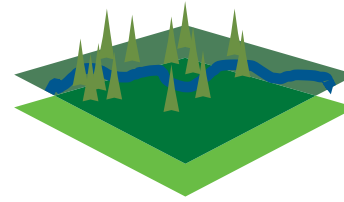
**Goal: Actively support and integrate a diverse, accessible and sustainable range of outdoor experiences and activities to meet the interests of all citizens**





**District Parkland**  
(Size varies)

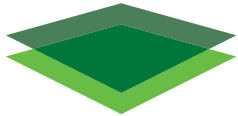
Park areas with specialized features and facilities that serve the entire District. A park that, depending on size and character, addresses one or more recreational needs such as large sportsfield complex, unique open space, trails, etc. and/or includes an ecologically sensitive area.



**Natural Parkland**  
(Size varies)

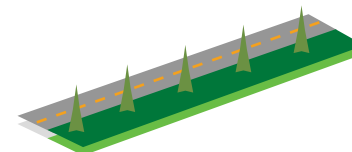
Greenway areas in natural state primarily set aside to separate various urban uses, protect environmentally sensitive land, habitats and wildlife, and to provide a visual and/ecosystem link between District parks and open spaces lands. May serve as trail linkages to open space corridors and greenways. Natural parkland is further divided into:

- **Natural Parkland** – Urban (within the urban area)
- **Natural Parkland** – Alpine (Fromme Mountain, Mountain Forest, Cove Forest)



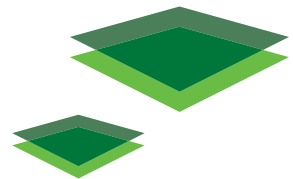
**Community Parkland**  
(Recommended minimum 8 Ha; Size varies)

Serve a number of neighbourhoods. Parks tend to be larger-scale with more organized recreational opportunities that include competitive sports such as baseball, soccer, tennis, skateboarding, etc. May also include a local watercourse, natural area, trails or sites of local heritage significance.



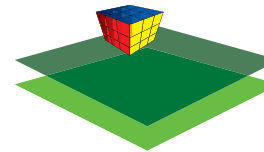
**Right-of Ways, Road Allowances, Easements, Medians, Laneways, Boulevards**  
(No standard)

Serves the public with interconnecting trails, bikeways, and linkages, and provides opportunities for ornamental, street tree planting and seating nodes.



**Neighbourhood Parkland**  
(Recommended minimum 2 Ha; Size varies)

A localized park providing limited active and passive recreational opportunities and intended to serve primarily the residents within safe walking distance (10 minutes). Could include playgrounds, sportsfields, tennis courts, trails, waterfront access, sport courts. May also contain a local watercourse, greenbelts, trails and significant natural areas.



**Schools**  
(No standard)

Outdoor school recreation facilities serve some of the community organized sport needs and neighbourhood use of playgrounds.

Table 2: District of North Vancouver Parks and Open Space Categories

## District of North Vancouver Parkland Standards and Supply

The District has established standards for assessing parkland supply. Parkland standards and supply are typically measured in area per 1,000 population. Standards are useful for measuring supply over time and for comparison with other communities. Standards are guidelines rather than being definitive, and should be applied with flexibility to ensure that the full range of park types is represented. The first column of Table 3 illustrates the current standards of supply for the different categories of parkland for the District of North Vancouver.

The second column of Table 3 illustrates the current supply of parkland (in hectares) in the District of North Vancouver by category. Natural parkland is included in this analysis, since it provides significant recreational opportunities (i.e. trail use) and environmental benefits. Natural parkland has been divided into natural parkland within the urban area and natural parkland in the alpine area (the area north of the urban area). A subtotal has been calculated which does not include natural parkland.

Category	Parkland Standard (ha/1000 population)	Current Parkland Supply (ha)	Current Parkland Supply (ha/1000 - 2010 Population)
District Parkland	2	457.1	<b>5.38</b>
Community Parkland	1	188.3	<b>2.22</b>
Neighbourhood Parkland (includes mini-parks)	1	126.9	<b>1.49</b>
<i>Subtotal</i> (not including Natural Parkland)		<u>772.3</u>	<b><u>9.09</u></b>
Natural Parkland Urban (within urban area)	no standard	193.8	<b>2.28</b>
Natural Parkland Alpine (Fromme Mountain, Mountain Forest, Cove Forest)	no standard	2,192.7	<b>25.80</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>3,158.8</u></b>	<b><u>37.17</u></b>

Table 3: District of North Vancouver Parkland Standards, Current Parkland Supply, and Current Population-based Parkland Supply

Table 3 above does not include school or North Vancouver Recreation Commission properties which function in varying degrees as neighbourhood and community use and include fields, playgrounds and other facilities jointly developed with the district; nor the significant amount of parks and open space provided through other jurisdictions including those shown in Table 4 on the following page.

Metro Vancouver - Capilano Regional Park	126 ha
Metro Vancouver - Lower Seymour Conservation Area	3905 ha
Metro Vancouver - Lynn Headwaters Park	1673 ha
BC Parks - Seymour Provincial Park	2327 ha
Grouse Mountain Resorts (private)	468 ha
<b>Total</b>	<b>8499 ha</b>

Table 4: Parks and Open Space Provided Through Other Jurisdictions within the District of North Vancouver

### Regional and Provincial Parks

Table 4 above shows that regional and provincial parks play an important role in the District of North Vancouver parks and recreation system, including active areas that serve the District of North Vancouver residents as well as the larger regional population throughout the year. Some provide major interconnecting trail corridors, skiing, mountain biking, hiking, equestrian, interpretive and education facilities, while others protect representative and sensitive natural systems. As examples, Lower Seymour Conservation Area, Seymour Provincial Park, Lynn Headwaters Regional Park and Capilano Regional Park serve as destination parks for regional users and are used locally by north shore residents.

### Analysis of Parkland Supply

The following analyses were undertaken to evaluate the current and projected supply of parks and open space in the District, provide a comparison with other municipalities, and identify potential gaps in the parks and open space system. Municipalities typically measure supply of parkland using three different methods. The first is population-based, with parkland supply measured in hectares per 1,000 population. The second is area-based, with parkland measured in relation to the municipal land area. The third is spatial, with parkland supply analysed in relation to the walking distances to parks. The following analyses incorporate these three methods, and provide useful tools for comparing the supply of parkland with other communities, and determining potential gaps in the parkland system.

The following analyses demonstrate that, in comparison to other municipalities, the District is very well served by well distributed municipal parks in all categories (district, community, neighbourhood and natural level parks), with the exception of some areas where there is a shortage of neighbourhood level parks within close proximity. The District park system is complemented at the neighbourhood and community level by park amenities and open space at school and recreation sites. Significant District, regional and provincial parks provide diverse and unique recreation opportunities amid spectacular natural environments. Together, the parks and open space system provides significant recreational and environmental benefits and attracts local, regional and international visitors.

## Population-Based Parkland Supply

Population-based parkland supply is measured in hectares per 1,000 population. Table 3 provides figures for the analysis of current parkland supply in relation to District standards. Table 5 provides figures for the analysis of parkland supply in comparison to other communities.

Parkland supply is measured in relation to the current population in Table 3. The third column of Table 3 illustrates the current parkland supply in hectares per 1,000 current population (85,000) for the year 2010. These figures demonstrate that the current population-based supply of parkland in all categories exceeds district standards.

Table 5 illustrates the current supply of District parkland in comparison to other municipalities and the provincial average. For many years, the Canadian standard for parkland supply was 4 hectares per 1,000 population. Variation in what communities include in the different park calculations with respect to school grounds, greenway corridors, natural areas, etc. has led to varying Provincial average figures with different analyses. In a survey conducted in 2006, the BCRPA found the provincial average of parkland supply to be 2.51 hectares per 1,000 population. A 2010 inventory by LEES+Associates Landscape Architects (figures shown in italics) found the provincial average of municipal parkland supply to be 2.94 hectares per 1,000 population without natural open space, and 4.98 hectares per 1,000 populations with natural open space.

**In all categories, the District of North Vancouver scores highest in comparison to other communities and the provincial average. The total current population-based supply of 9.09 ha of parkland per 1,000 population (or 37.17 ha of parkland per 1,000 population if natural parkland is included) far exceeds the provincial average of 4.98 ha of parkland per 1,000 population.**

The OCP 2030 target for parks and open space is to increase park, open space and/or trails in growth centres and to continue to exceed the minimum standard of 2 hectares of community and neighbourhood parkland (combined) per 1,000 population District-wide.



Category*	City/District Parkland	Community Parkland	Neighbourhood Parkland	Natural Parkland	Total Parkland
District of North Vancouver	5.38	2.22	1.49	28.08	<b>9.09</b> Without Natural Parkland <b>37.17</b> With Natural Parkland
City of North Vancouver	0.74	0.47	0.25	1.68	<b>1.45</b> Without Natural Areas <b>3.14</b> With Natural Areas
Vancouver	1.17	0.00	1.05	--	<b>2.22</b>
West Vancouver (Supply 2005)	3.20	1.40	0.40	--	<b>5.00</b>
Victoria (Supply 2008)	1.49	0.54	0.27	--	<b>2.30</b>
Provincial Average**	1.04-1.59	0.80-0.98	0.45-0.67	2.04	<b>2.51 - 2.94</b> Without Natural Areas <b>4.98</b> With Natural Areas

Table 5: Population-based Parkland Supply Compared to Other Communities

All numbers are in ha/1000 population

\*Numbers for other municipalities and provincial averages are approximate and may be outdated.

\*\*Provincial average numbers in italics are courtesy of LEES+Associates, Landscape Architects 2010.



## Area-Based Parkland Supply

Some municipalities have standards such that 10% or 12% of their total land area should be occupied by parks and protected areas, consistent with provincial standards. This measure would typically include natural areas and parks managed by other jurisdictions. Table 6 below illustrates that the District exceeds those standards with 19% of the total land area occupied by District parks and open space (or 72% of the total land area if parks and open space provided through other jurisdictions is included).

Category	Area (ha)	% Area
District of North Vancouver Parks and Open Space	3,159	19%
Parks and Open Space Provided Through Other Jurisdictions as per Table 4	8,499	52%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,658</b>	<b>72%</b>
District of North Vancouver Municipal Area	16,243	

Table 6: Area-based Parks and Open Space Supply

## Spatial Analysis for Parkland Supply

Table 7 below outlines guidelines for the distance of parkland from residents. Map 3: Park Spatial Analysis (page 100) illustrates the distribution of parkland with the guideline distances shown as a radius from district, community and neighbourhood level parks. Although there is not a guideline for the distance from residents of district level parks, they are shown on the map with the same radius as community level parks, since district level parks often perform many of the functions of community level parks.

Category	Park Guideline - Distance from residents (km)	Park Guideline - Distance from residents (average walking time)
<b>District Parkland</b>	no guideline	no guideline
<b>Community Parkland</b>	1.0	20 minutes
<b>Neighbourhood Parkland</b> (includes mini-parks)	0.5	10 minutes
<b>Natural Parkland</b>	no guideline	no guideline

Table 7: Parkland Spatial Analysis - Guidelines

This analysis is typically conducted to determine a resident's ability to walk to a park that meets local needs. Since the distances are measured as a radius they do not always reflect walking times, due to real and perceived barriers including creeks, steep slopes, circuitous routes and major roads.

Map 3: Park Spatial Analysis (page 100) illustrates that, in general, the District has good coverage for community level parks. Although there are some gaps in neighbourhood level park coverage in some areas, most of the neighbourhood level park needs are currently being met by school sites, community level parks and district level parks. On page 46, the bullet 'Undertake park planning and parkland improvement reviews' outlines the exploration of additional neighbourhood park amenities such as playgrounds in some of these areas. As illustrated in Map 4: Park and School Spatial Analysis (page 101), school sites fulfill a very important role in providing park opportunities throughout the District,



including all of the areas which are short in neighbourhood level park coverage. Should additional schools be closed in these areas, it would be important to retain for public use assets such as playgrounds, sports courts, playing fields and trail linkages, which are often developed and maintained in partnerships with the District of North Vancouver.

### Park Planning

As identified in the above analyses, the District is very well served by a broad range of well distributed parks and open spaces. In some areas neighbourhood level park coverage is short.

The District's OCP identifies a network of centres concept to accommodate the majority of growth in key centres (Lynn Valley Town Centre, Lower Lynn Town Centre, Lower Capilano - Marine Village Centre and Maplewood Village Centre) with minimal change to neighbourhoods and leaving natural areas intact. Opportunities to incorporate new and enhance existing parks and open space will be considered as part of detailed planning and implementation of these Town and Village Centre plans. Such opportunities may include the innovative use of unopened road right-of-ways, and neighbourhood amenities in the form of linear parks with rain gardens, greenways, community gardens, landscaped urban plazas and accessible green roofs.



## Key Recommendations

- Recognize the important role played by existing public school sites in providing parks and open space for community users and work with the School District to retain playgrounds, sports courts, playing fields and trail linkages for public use
- Explore opportunities for incorporating additional neighbourhood level park amenities (i.e. playgrounds) in areas where the park spatial analysis identified gaps in neighbourhood level park coverage
- Work with District Planning to develop more detailed park and open space plans for the four projected growth areas (Lynn Valley Town Centre, Lower Lynn Town Centre, Lower Capilano - Marine Village Centre and Maplewood Village Centre). See Schedule A of the OCP for preliminary park and open space recommendations:
  - Analyse the park and open space needs of each of the four projected growth areas, taking into consideration existing park amenities and parkland spatial analysis
  - Review the current programming and design of existing parks in growth areas, and consider redesigning to accommodate recreational, social, community and environmental needs and benefits
  - Ensure that significant natural areas (i.e. riparian areas, wetlands and mature trees) are protected and ecosystem integrity is preserved
  - Ensure that streetscapes, plazas, interior courtyards, green roofs, laneways and other open spaces incorporate trees and other natural elements and opportunities for gathering, play and community gardening
  - Encourage the provision of usable open space, including play and urban gardening opportunities, on multi-family development sites
- Provide greenways, traffic calming, etc. in order to provide safe and enjoyable pedestrian and bicycle connections to existing and proposed parks and open spaces, across busy streets and major arterials, and to increase trail connectivity
- Prepare a Park Acquisition Strategy to secure sufficient parkland to serve future population growth and to maintain neighbourhood liveability. Address neighbourhood level park needs in the four projected growth areas and in neighbourhood park deficient areas, through the analysis of system-wide needs and opportunities, and the establishment of parkland acquisition and park development criteria and priorities that include:
  - Neighbourhood level park potential:
    - ▷ Consider properties that possess site conditions (i.e. solar orientation and topography) that would accommodate active and passive neighbourhood recreational amenities such as, playgrounds, accessible play areas (including open turf), youth opportunities (i.e. hard courts) seating areas for relaxation, etc.
    - ▷ Provide larger (recommended minimum size of 0.3 hectares), square or rectangular shaped, contiguous parks and public open spaces, where possible, as they allow for more comprehensive park programming to accommodate the needs of children, youth, adults and seniors
    - ▷ Neighbourhood level parks should ideally be located within a reasonable walking distance (approximately 0.2km - 0.5km). of residents They should be accessible throughout the area by way of interconnecting greenways and trails, where feasible

- Consider acquiring parkland adjacent to existing public parks and open space where the purchase of properties would provide added recreational value to the existing parkland area
- Connectivity and linear trail access - Purchase properties that may improve connectivity and trail linkages, within the context of a larger recreational open space and trail system. These sites should be accessible by a wide range of users by foot, bike, and wheeled mobility devices
- Acquire additional waterfront property, where feasible, to expand public shoreline access
- Ecosystem integrity - Purchase properties that may be important in terms of preserving the integrity of an ecosystem (i.e. creek area)
- Viable property costs and availability - With finite financial resources, purchase properties that are for sale at relatively attractive prices, and within current market norms where there is a willingness of the property owner to negotiate. Include in the evaluation future maintenance and operational costs for the park
- Equitable geographic distribution
- Compatibility with parks vision and goals
- Applicants may be required to pay the municipality 5% of the market value of the land in lieu of a 5% dedication of parkland at the time of subdivision, as per the Local Government Act

### 5.1.2 Park Zoning and Dedication

**Support current park zoning designations (Park, Recreation and Open Space, Special Purpose, Community, Neighbourhood and Natural Parkland) and the Parkland Dedication Bylaw.**

#### Park Zoning

In 2002, the District created new park zones (in addition to the Park, Recreation and Open Space designation) to reflect the multi-faceted role of the parks system, to provide more refined controls over permitted uses and development within parks and open space in urban areas, and to support protection of valuable ecosystems and conservation lands. Each zone includes an intent statement, permitted principal and accessory uses, and development regulations for buildings and structures, reflecting the hierarchy of the different types of parkland and open space in the District. The Natural Parkland zone is a new zone that acknowledges the inherent ecological and natural resource value of many greenbelts across the District.

Zoning	Area (ha)	% Area
Special District Park	136.7	4%
Community Park	133.5	4%
Neighbourhood Park	33.4	1%
Natural Parkland	599.9	19%
Park, Recreation and Open Space	2,064	65%
<b>Total District of North Vancouver Park Area</b>	<b>3,158.8</b>	

Table 8: Approximate Zoning Distribution

## Parkland Dedication Bylaw

District parkland is protected under a number of bylaws that include park zoning and parkland dedication bylaws. The dedication bylaw was considered the highest form of protection under the Community Charter, and between the years of 1990 and 2002, 42 parks were dedicated by referendum for ‘parks and recreation purposes’. In accordance with the Community Charter, if a park is dedicated for parks and recreation purposes, the land cannot be used for purposes other than park and recreation unless the dedication is rescinded, or amended by the Council and the electorate. In that sense, it is considered a high form of protection. Specific park sites were identified as priority sites if they met criteria that included:

- Parks with regional significance
- Waterfront
- Unique environmental significance
- Heritage importance
- Community Parks with a high recreational value

The following Table 9 indicates that approximately 65% of District Parks are dedicated by bylaw.

Category	Area (ha)	% Area
Dedicated District of North Vancouver Parks	2,047.1	65%
Total District of North Vancouver Parks	3,158.8	

Table 9: Approximate Tenure Distribution

## Key Recommendations

- Continue to implement zoning designations to provide guidance and direction on the range of acceptable park development, and to support the conservation of valuable ecosystems
  - Work with District Planning to determine and implement appropriate zoning designations for recent parkland additions
- Continue to review District parkland to determine candidates for dedication for ‘parks and recreation purposes’
  - Review recent parkland additions to consider dedication for ‘parks and recreation purposes’

### 5.1.3 Aging and Culturally Diverse Population

**Research the recreational, physical, social and cultural needs of an aging and culturally diverse population to better predict and identify future park infrastructure needs.**

## Key Recommendations

- Where feasible, incorporate amenities in parks and trails to encourage active living for seniors and enhance their experience, i.e.
  - Provide more seating and washrooms in parks
  - Where possible, provide pathway connections which are gently sloping, paved and lit
  - Assess the seniors fitness circuit at Parkgate Park, and integrate similar equipment at other parks in close proximity to senior housing areas and transportation networks

- Support cultural, social and recreational opportunities (i.e. spaces for large family groups to picnic) to accommodate and celebrate prominent cultural groups in the District of North Vancouver
- Continue to monitor demographic trends and their implications with regards to park planning and design
- Communicate park information in multiple languages

#### 5.1.4 Families and Young Adults

**Research current and emerging park and open space trends to attract families and young adults.**

##### Key Recommendations

- Retain, upgrade and incorporate park, open space and trail amenities that attract and support families and young adults



## 5.2 Managing Assets & Infrastructure

Managing existing park assets and infrastructure well is key to the success of a dynamic and vital parks system. Designing new parks and retrofitting older parks can create new opportunities for local residents of all ages and interests. Restoration of aging infrastructure can breathe new life into a park or facility, supporting recreational opportunities for a new generation of users. The District also faces the challenge of increasing park usage and new recreational demands that include additional sports fields, community gardens and increased waterfront access, to name a few. Balancing these demands is key to the success of the District's parks.

### 5.2.1 Sustainable Park Restoration and Development

**Maintain, retrofit and revitalise aging park infrastructure (i.e. buildings, playgrounds, sports fields) within a life cycle framework.**

Many District park facilities were constructed between the 1960s and the 1980s and will be in need of replacement and retrofitting in upcoming years. This provides an opportunity to include new facilities to better reflect evolving park trends and needs. Retrofitting existing park sites can also attract positive uses and create a variety of opportunities for local residents. With new sustainability practises and materials, maintenance and operational considerations will form a key role in park renovation planning and design.

**Goal: Proactively manage park assets and infrastructure to support active living and healthy environments for future generations**



## Key Recommendations

- Implement the District Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) Asset Management Program to manage park capital assets:
  - Implement the life cycle-based park asset management plan to ensure improvements, retrofitting and park updates are undertaken when required
  - Undertake a review of resource allocation for park operation programs, and review maintenance levels in accordance with park service levels for different parks
  - Review operations budgets to ensure appropriate resources are allocated to maintenance of all park capital assets as well as landscape improvements, trails and natural areas
  - Identify increasing costs to maintain parks, and prioritize assets and landscape improvements based upon condition, risk and life expectancy
- Develop and implement Sustainable Best Management Practices to build and care for parks and natural resources
- Support district sustainability goals and continue to incorporate green building elements into park improvement projects; implement innovative storm water management practices and promote energy conservation and low impact development in the design of facilities within parks; increase opportunities for water filling and recycling in parks; and reduce the carbon footprint of parks by providing more opportunities to access them by walking or cycling
- Continue to review new technologies, methods and materials that will maintain or reduce Parks operational costs while maintaining or improving conditions of assets, reducing risk and extending asset and landscape improvement life expectancies
- Continue to base Parks operational budgets on well defined service levels, stakeholder needs, customer satisfaction ratings and performance based work activities
- Explore opportunities to increase recycling within parks
- Continue to develop and enhance Best Management Practices program for Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and turf management
- Develop park standards for construction and apply CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles to all park planning and design projects



## 5.2.2 New Innovative Park Facilities

Explore new innovative facilities in the context of District park planning studies and current park and recreation trends.

### Key Recommendations

#### Lynn Canyon Park Central Area Improvement Plan

- Implement recommendations from the Lynn Canyon Park Central Area Improvement Plan, specifically:
  - Parking and circulation improvements
  - Ecology Centre pedestrian plaza
  - Forest management, habitat and restoration strategy
  - Stormwater management improvements
  - Accessibility improvements, including accessible viewpoint
  - East Lynn Creek staging and parking area

#### Cates Park/Whey-ah-Wichen Park Master Plan and Cultural Resource Interpretive Management Plan (2006)

- In collaboration with the Tsleil-Waututh Nation, and in the context of the Cates Park/Whey-ah-Wichen Protocol/Cultural Agreement, implement recommendations from the Cates Park/Whey-ah-Wichen Management Plan, specifically:
  - Foreshore engineering study, stabilization and remediation
  - Environmental protection, invasive vegetation and habitat management
  - Trail completion, upgrading and signage program

- Design and construction of new facilities:
  - ▷ Feasthouse, with concession and washrooms
  - ▷ Long house
  - ▷ New park roadway design
  - ▷ Washrooms and storage at boat launch
- Cultural and heritage resources implementation
- Ecotourism, economic development, special event and education opportunities

#### Panorama Park and Deep Cove Park Planning Study (2011)

- Implement recommendations from the Panorama Park and Deep Cove Park Planning Study, specifically:
  - Integrate the three Panorama Drive lots into Panorama Park and provide trail connections and passive open areas
  - Integrate parking and traffic management strategies during high use times
  - Improve facilities for boating and water recreation in the park, to include a review of the Deep Cove Canoe and Kayak Centre and Deep Cove Rowing Club



## **Town and Village Centre Planning and Design**

- Collaborate with District Planning to develop new and innovative parks and public spaces as part of the design and development of the four new growth areas:
  - **Lynn Valley Town Centre:**
    - ▷ Improve connections to existing parks and open space within and adjacent to the Town Centre through pedestrian walkways and trails
    - ▷ Create a Town Centre Green/Park south of the library square to connect with the High Street, and provide an urban plaza at a central location along the High Street
    - ▷ Create a new park and greenway connections south of East 27th Street to provide additional park space for residents, a community level playground, and to improve linkages between neighbourhoods within the Town Centre and Kirkstone Park
    - ▷ Protect natural parkland including forests and seek to rehabilitate Hastings Creek at Lynn Valley Road
    - ▷ Investigate wayfinding and signage in the Town Centre to mark major trail connections
  - **Lower Lynn Town Centre:**
    - ▷ Review and upgrade Seylynn Park and Bridgeman Park to address local recreational needs
    - ▷ Expand and upgrade Marie Place Park as a locally serving neighbourhood park
    - ▷ Facilitate the creation of a new neighbourhood park south of Crown Street and east of Mountain Highway
  - ▷ Create a new town centre square
  - ▷ Undertake trail improvements to enhance connections to the Lynn Creek trails system
  - ▷ Facilitate the creation of greenways along Crown Street and Orwell Street
- **Maplewood Village Centre:**
  - ▷ Create pedestrian and bicycle linkages to connect Maplewood Village with surrounding neighbourhoods, key destinations, parks, waterways and trails, including the Dollarton Highway greenway, the proposed Spirit Trail, Seymour Greenway Trail, Seymour Heritage Park, Maplewood Farm and Windridge Park
  - ▷ Investigate the feasibility of establishing a playground on the Maplewood School site or within the village heart
  - ▷ Conduct an environmental review of the lands east of Riverside Drive to facilitate the protection of environmentally sensitive and significant areas and features (i.e. stands of mature healthy trees and wetlands)
  - ▷ Explore the provision of open spaces and play opportunities on new development sites
  - ▷ Explore the potential for an urban agricultural pilot project/community garden at Maplewood Farm and Seymour Heritage Park

- **Lower Capilano - Marine Village Centre:**
  - ▷ Increase the total land area dedicated to parks, trails and public open spaces such as plazas throughout the village centre
  - ▷ Design new open spaces, playgrounds and plazas with a focus on providing new park amenities
  - ▷ Establish new park spaces and enhance connectivity by creating new trails and greenways
  - ▷ Explore opportunities in partnership with District of West Vancouver and Metro Vancouver to enhance access and park facilities at Capilano River Regional Park and Klahanee Park
- Undertake park planning and parkland improvement reviews as identified:
  - **Seymour Alpine Area:**
    - ▷ Undertake environmental studies, consultation and design to identify and establish trail routes and potential staging areas, including parking and amenities such as washrooms and change rooms
  - **Central Delbrook Area:**
    - ▷ Explore the possibility of creating a playground in the Central Delbrook Area
  - **Braemar Area:**
    - ▷ Consider, in the future, the provision of neighbourhood park facilities in Braemar Park, with an emphasis on informal play opportunities in a natural setting
  - **Inter River Area:**
    - ▷ Design and develop a neighbourhood park at Lillooet Park, to include a playground
  - **Maplewood Area:**
    - ▷ Explore the possibility of creating a playground in the Riverside East neighbourhood
    - ▷ Explore the development of a universally accessible ecological learning circuit at Maplewood Creek Park
  - **St. Alban's Park:**
    - ▷ Consider improvements to St. Alban's Park to enable the public's enjoyment of views and the appreciation of the natural features of the park, and incorporate active amenities such as play equipment

### 5.2.3 Park Buildings

**Strengthen a parks building program to incorporate a life cycle maintenance program, and evaluate the need for replacement and new building infrastructure, where justified and cost effective.**

There are currently 37 park field houses, washrooms, change rooms and other miscellaneous buildings located at parks across the District. The majority of these buildings are over 35 years old, dating back to the 1970's. With that consideration, the District initiated a Parks Building Condition Assessment Report in 2008. This provided a comprehensive evaluation of exterior and interior finishings, plumbing and electrical systems and fixtures, seismic stability, hazardous materials and building code standards. Many facilities are still functioning, but many older buildings require significant upgrades in upcoming years, and the District will need to develop a strategy and funding goals to ensure the safety and continued use of these buildings. The health and safety issues at the following three buildings are so significant that it is recommended that they be demolished and rebuilt: Delbrook Fieldhouse, Norgate Fieldhouse and Kirkstone Washroom.

#### Key Recommendations

- Maintain and retrofit aging park buildings
  - Implement the Parks Building Condition Assessment Report (2008) which includes recommendations on maintenance, retrofitting and replacement of buildings, specifically:
    - ▷ Undertake significant upgrades to existing park buildings to meet current building code, and health and safety standards
    - ▷ Explore funding opportunities to provide replacement buildings for the following park buildings: Delbrook Fieldhouse, Norgate Fieldhouse, Kirkstone Washroom and Murdo Frazer Washroom

- ▷ To meet sports user needs replace porta potties and explore installing small washrooms at Sowden Park, Blueridge Park, Roche Point Park, Parkgate Park and William Griffin Park
- ▷ To optimise Inter River Park as a sports field tournament centre, construct a field house and washroom
- ▷ Use capital renewal projects as opportunities to develop green buildings



#### 5.2.4 Sports Fields

**Develop strategies to address the demand for high quality, well maintained sports fields and amenities which maximize recreational play opportunities for the community.**

The District currently has 40 fields to serve primarily soccer, football, rugby, track, cricket and field hockey uses. In 2009 a **Sports Field Needs Assessment Report** was undertaken by Lamorna Enterprises Ltd. to support and develop recommendations for the Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan. The study included a comprehensive review of field inventory, analysis of demographic user data and trends, and field capacity-demand analysis. All field sports were reviewed including soccer, baseball, football, field hockey, field lacrosse, cricket, rugby, ultimate and other casual sports.

Recommendations from the study were first initiated in 2010. Windsor Secondary School, in partnership with the District, opened a new multi-use artificial turf field with a six lane asphalt track, and a washroom. In addition the North Shore Girls Soccer Club (NSGSC), in partnership with School District #44, opened an indoor artificial turf training facility at Windsor Secondary School.

**Key issues identified through the analysis of the 2009 Sports Field Needs Assessment Report include:**

- Address the need for a multi-day tournament centre with track
- Ensure consistent field quality and size
- Provide lighting for fields to support practice times
- Address the short fall of fields for ultimate, field lacrosse, field hockey, rugby and cricket

- Address the lack of fields for informal community sports use
- Address the extended season for soccer and the development of sports such as ultimate

**Key recommendations from the 2009 Sports Field Needs Assessment Report include:**

- Address the current and future shortfall of sports fields, and establish additional capacity in the region by installing a minimum of two additional artificial turf fields in North Vancouver (City, School and District). The phasing of field construction will be determined by appropriate site selection and development of an acceptable funding mechanism. In addressing the regional nature of user demand, the development of these fields will require a cooperative decision making process between the District, the City of North Vancouver and School District #44. This addition would provide the equivalent of approximately 12 additional grass fields, and would significantly impact annual capacity, and generate flexibility in the allocation of fields for other competing sports such as field hockey
- Undertake a site and agronomic analysis to determine priorities for individual field renovation and/or replacement as the basis for developing a 10 year capital renovation plan. The primary focus on this plan would be to look at upgrading selected Class B fields to Class A in order to improve capacity, and to determine the feasibility and costs of installing lighting to expand the supply of lighted all weather practise fields
- Provide more lit all-weather fields in strategic locations for practice purposes

- Investigate the potential to develop second tier ‘casual use’ field areas that are more flexible in size and topographic constraints, and that do not require (or receive) the maintenance inputs demanded for the established sports field inventory. This evaluation would also require determination of user guidelines and the availability of these fields through central booking
- Support the evolution of Inter River Park into a multi day tournament facility, and add a new fieldhouse to include washroom, change and concession facilities, as well as additional infrastructure such as lighting and bleachers
- Undertake a review of current field allocation, scheduling procedures, management and use of the District, City of North Vancouver and School District #44 fields
- Review feasibility for collaborative and joint funding strategies between the District, School District #44, the City of North Vancouver and sports user groups for field maintenance, equipment purchases and use, lighting and renovation planning.
- In the broader context, field upgrading may also address associated infrastructure such as parking, bleachers, backstops, and washrooms



### 5.2.5 Urban Beautification and Horticulture

**Support and strengthen a sustainable horticultural program that provides aesthetic, environmental and educational value to the community.**

Parks operations has assumed many new areas of maintenance responsibility since the 1990's. Horticultural maintenance is no longer restricted to 'stand alone parks', but encompasses ornamental streetscapes, median plantings, mini parks, public plazas, and greenways. With a movement towards green initiatives, the Parks Department has incorporated best management practices that include an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program.

#### Key Recommendations

- Continue to renovate and renew landscape areas to incorporate plant selection for reduced maintenance, drought tolerance, and to meet changing climatic conditions
- Continue to review and initiate opportunities to convert manicured areas to naturalized areas, where appropriate
- Expand program to address water conservation in horticulture that includes conversion to modern, water efficient irrigation systems, linked to the District Park's 'Central Irrigation System'
- Expand a program of rain gardens, bioswales and other innovative storm water management practices
- Continue to advance sustainable approaches to maintenance practises (i.e. sustainable products, recycling leaf mulch and naturalization)
- Continue to propagate, grow, divide and store plants at the horticultural nursery site to optimise cost reductions and quality of plant materials

### 5.2.6 Urban Agriculture and Community Gardens

**Within the context of a policy framework for urban agriculture, explore urban agriculture opportunities in parkland and other District owned land.**

In 2010, the District supported the first community garden in the in the Inter River neighbourhood. Communal gardening is recognized as a popular recreational activity that promotes education, builds community, helps seniors stay active, produces food, and improves social interaction.

#### Key Recommendations

- Collaborate with District Planning to enhance the existing policy framework, including the addition of protocols, delivery models and criteria to assess potential urban agriculture and community garden sites
- Consider opportunities to incorporate community gardens and other forms of urban agriculture in parkland, laneways and street right-of-ways, following bear aware guidelines and encouraging educational and learning opportunities



### 5.2.7 Managing Parking and Access

**Develop strategies to address congested traffic and parking pressures in high use parks, and during peak seasons and special events.**

Special events, sporting tournaments and festivals can generate high volumes of traffic during peak times. Parking can overflow from designated park parking lots onto neighbourhood streets.

#### Key Recommendations

- Work in partnership with Transportation Planning to manage parking and access and minimize impacts on surrounding neighbourhoods:
  - Encourage the use of nearby parking lots (i.e. schools and recreation centres) for overflow parking. Provide public information on overflow parking areas (i.e. way finding signage program, web information, map of parking restrictions)
  - Encourage carpooling, more transit and shuttles to support special park and community events
  - Require on site parking and traffic management during larger events, through the use of volunteers, event organizers, bylaw and auxiliary police
  - Consider designating shorter term parking (i.e. 2 hrs) in high use parks to encourage turn over
  - Consider pay parking in high use parks during the summer season.
  - Where feasible and effective, consider expanding existing parking lots in parks to meet demand

### 5.2.8 Safety, Security and Vandalism

**Develop strategies to improve public safety and risk management, and minimize opportunities for vandalism of parks, trails and facilities.**

Parks and trails should provide a sense of safety, security and well being for users. Considering these issues when designing and programming parks and trails can help to limit unwanted activity and vandalism. Vandalism and graffiti in parks continues to grow, with limited resources to address all the damage.

#### Key Recommendations

- Evaluate the safety of parks and facilities, using available data and records, and implement principles from Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), where appropriate
- Expand the Park Ranger Program to patrol parks and trails during high use periods, help regulate unwanted activities and increase park safety
- Develop graffiti prevention strategies and work with Community Police, District Bylaw, schools, non profit organizations, community associations and Block Watch to implement creative strategies to deter vandalism and graffiti of parks, trails and facilities
- Ensure that proper maintenance, renovation and replacement of parks, trails and park equipment prevents and corrects hazardous conditions
- Manage public safety, liability and environmental concerns regarding the building of unauthorized play structures

## 5.2.9 Universal Accessibility

**Improve the accessibility of parks and trails for park users of all abilities.**

Park users include a wide variety of people with different needs and abilities. With an aging population, more people live with mobility restrictions, yet wish to continue to enjoy outdoor recreation in parks. It is estimated that 16% of BC residents have some form of disability, and most people experience some form of mobility limitation during their lifetime. In 2009, a Park Accessibility Review Report was initiated in the City and District to undertake a park access review of our park facilities.

### Key Recommendations

- Implement the directions from the **Park Accessibility Review Report (2009)**:
  - Bring current park facilities up to minimum accessibility standards as described in the Park Accessibility Review Report (2009)
  - Apply universal design principles in the design of park facilities, services, programs and products
  - Adopt the existing park accessibility check list to be used in project management
  - Provide the public, staff and policy makers with training and awareness in disability issues
  - Provide public information (i.e. pamphlets, web page) relating to accessible opportunities in parks, as they become available
  - Consult with the North Shore Advisory Committee on Disability Issues in the planning of accessibility improvements in District parks





### 5.2.10 Playgrounds

**Provide a playground program to ensure that playgrounds are creative, accessible and safe for children and youth.**

The District is currently well served with playgrounds, with 49 playgrounds distributed across the District in district, community and neighbourhood level parks. The playgrounds range from small tot lots in smaller neighbourhood level parks to larger, more complex playgrounds in larger district level parks. Over the years, the District has also made financial contributions to playgrounds on some School District lands, for shared use during non school hours, in areas where there is a playground deficiency in parks. Elementary school playgrounds in the District contribute to the distribution of playgrounds throughout the District. The District has an annual program for playground replacement to ensure that equipment in parks remains current and meets all safety guidelines.

#### Key Recommendations

- Continue to replace and upgrade playgrounds with new equipment, as required by the District Asset Management Program, that meet or exceed CSA playground standards
- Incorporate accessible, barrier free play equipment, site designs, play elements and play opportunities to foster and integrate play for all children, especially those with physical and developmental disabilities
- Evaluate the need for additional playgrounds in District growth areas (Lynn Valley Town Centre, Lower Lynn Town Centre, Lower Capilano - Marine Village Centre and Maplewood Village Centre) that fit the demographics of the neighbourhood, and incorporate age appropriate equipment

- Explore the possibility of creating playgrounds in the Central Delbrook area, in Lillooet Park, and in the Riverside East area
- Where appropriate, consider integrating adult and senior fitness components, plantings and natural elements



### 5.2.11 Water Parks

**Redesign, renovate and revitalise existing water parks to offer a high level of creative play value.**

The District currently has 4 small water parks which are neighbourhood based at Eldon, Viewlynn, Kilmer and Myrtle Parks, rather than centralized as one larger District-level water park. These popular water parks were constructed in the mid 1990's, and are in need of renovation to meet current safety standards and play value objectives. Eldon water park was revitalised in 2008 and Viewlynn water park was fully renovated in 2011.

#### Key Recommendations

- Renovate water parks at Myrtle and Kilmer Parks, in that order of priority as per the financial life cycle plan
- Ensure the use of technology and water conservation methods to minimize water use

### 5.2.12 Tennis Courts

**Provide a comprehensive park court program to meet the needs for tennis, basket ball, lacrosse, and roller hockey.**

There are 43 outdoor, hard surfaced tennis courts distributed across the District within neighbourhood and community parks. The amount of tennis played on the courts varies and is influenced by weather, court conditions and surface types. The park courts cater primarily to the casual recreational player, although North Vancouver Recreation Commission does book exclusive times for tennis clubs or lessons at Murdo Frazer Park, Cates Park/Whey-ah-Wichen, Myrtle Park and Delbrook Recreation Centre. A number of District tennis courts require complete renovation, while others require repaving and painting

to bring the courts up to a playable standard. In some cases, older tennis courts are used for informal roller hockey and basketball, and some have been converted to sports courts.

Tennis trends suggest that the demand for tennis facilities has increased again after a drop in interest a number of years ago. There is a trend toward the provision of more popular multi-court complexes, which accommodate clubs and lessons. While there are private and indoor courts on the North Shore at Grant Connell and Capilano Tennis Club, the need for unscheduled, free public courts, remains a desire for residents. If there were concerns regarding costs to maintain and upgrade, a user fee model might be considered.

A preliminary review of the supply of District tennis courts in comparison to Lower Mainland municipalities, the provincial and the national average, demonstrates that the District is currently well-served with regards to the number of outdoor tennis courts in parks. The District would also be comparatively well-served with projected population growth. Tennis courts are well-distributed throughout the District, with the exception of the Inter River Park neighbourhood.

#### Key Recommendations

- Undertake a tennis court assessment, to evaluate the existing condition and future needs for tennis
  - Determine which tennis courts are underused, and consider conversion to multi-purpose sports courts, etc.
  - Evaluate the request to light specific tennis courts for night play. Consider pay for use and sustainable lighting options

- Include practise backboards at tennis courts
- Continue to work with the North Vancouver Recreation Commission to program the District Parks tennis courts and sports courts, where appropriate
- Initiate preliminary discussions with the North Vancouver Tennis Association (a member organization of the North Vancouver Sport Council) to evaluate the condition of tennis courts and the need for future tennis infrastructure
- Explore the possibility of integrating pickleball into existing tennis courts

### 5.2.13 Outdoor Sports Courts

**Provide a comprehensive outdoor sports court program to meet the needs for basketball, lacrosse, roller hockey and other casual uses.**

The District currently has one community level multi-purpose court at Kirkstone Park that includes a half size basketball court and enclosed multi-purpose sports court. These are hard surfaced courts, usually surrounded by fences, which are fitted with basketball hoops and provide space for roller hockey nets. Viewlynn, Draycott and Garibaldi Parks also provide smaller, neighbourhood level multi-purpose court areas that permit a combination of basketball, ball hockey and biking. The flexibility of these facilities can support temporary locations for entry level portable bike skill jumps and other casual uses. Larger outdoor and interior basketball courts are primarily provided through the schools and North Vancouver recreation centres. In neighbourhoods with a large youth population, multi-use sports courts provide the flexibility to accommodate a variety of casual uses.

The District also has three lacrosse boxes located at Myrtle Park (lit), Inter River Park (lit) and William Griffin Park. Lacrosse is also played

at the Kirkstone multi-purpose court. Typically the season for lacrosse is mid-March to September, and Inter River and Myrtle Parks are booked in the evening for adult ball hockey games. Weekends are sometimes booked for children's birthday parties, and other casual uses. The ratio between lacrosse and ball hockey use is approximately 65% for minor lacrosse and 35% for ball hockey and casual use. The larger lacrosse boxes are booked by North Shore Minor Lacrosse, Capilano Youth (ball hockey), roller hockey and adult ball hockey. The City of North Vancouver does not have a lacrosse box, so they access the District facilities.

In comparison to Lower Mainland municipalities and the national average, the District is currently well-served with regards to the number of outdoor sports courts. The addition or conversion to multi-purpose courts should be considered in projected growth areas to accommodate increased population.

### Key Recommendations

- Undertake an outdoor sports court program assessment to evaluate the existing condition and future needs for basketball, roller hockey, lacrosse, pickleball and other emerging hard court sports
- Explore the possibility of providing modular skateboard/long board facilities in community and neighbourhood parks
- Consider the conversion of low use tennis courts and basketball courts to multi-purpose courts
- Consider requests for lighting of courts and explore pay for use and sustainable lighting options

### 5.2.14 Youth Parks, Skate Parks, Bike Skills Parks, BMX Parks, Dirt Jump Parks

**Explore delivery models to manage and support the evolving recreational trends for youth parks, skate parks, bike skill parks, BMX parks and dirt jump parks.**

The District has four skate parks located at Seylynn Park, William Griffin Park, Kirkstone Park, and Parkgate Recreation Centre. These facilities range from beginner to intermediate and provide a range of experiences from retro bowl skate parks to street style skate boarding with replica rails, embankments, curbs, walls and ramps. Youth have recently expressed interest in long boarding. In 2008, the Inter River Park Bike Skills Park was established to provide BMX, dirt jumps and beginner level mountain bike structures for youth to train on before attempting more challenging mountain bike trails on Fromme Mountain. Myrtle Park also offers an informal skills bike area which has been accessed by youth through the Dirt Bike Club. To compliment the District, the City of North Vancouver has one skateboard park at Harry Jerome complex and has recently supported a bike skills park at Loutet Park. Many of these youth oriented parks are best located adjacent to other recreation facilities which include washrooms and spectator areas.

Over the years, the District has observed multiple unauthorized ‘neighbourhood’ bike jump parks under construction by local youth. These parks can create environmental damage and raise public liability concerns. Creating a formal partnership with the biking community and residents to find supportable locations for bike skill parks is an ongoing discussion.

#### Key Recommendations

- Assess the benefits and management of the Inter River Bike Skills Park and the Myrtle Bike Skills Park, and partner with youth and biking community to consider a third bike skills park within the District. Ensure these skill areas are not located in environmentally sensitive areas
- Undertake a skate park assessment to evaluate the existing condition and future needs for skateboarders and other skate park users
- Design youth parks in areas adjacent to existing recreational facilities such as trails, recreation centre, community centres and schools
- Work in partnership with Transportation Planning to assess the implications of the emerging interest in long boarding



### 5.2.15 Boot Camps, Adventure and Extreme Sports

**Address and manage a growing interest in emerging trends in boot camps, adventure and extreme sports, while protecting the environment.**

#### Key Recommendations

- Research emerging trends and park management strategies in relation to adventure and extreme sports
- Develop a strategy for addressing requests for emerging adventure and extreme sports (i.e. outdoor courses, rope courses, paintball)
- Work with North Vancouver Recreation Commission on policies relating to park programming to determine the suitability of new outdoor recreation programs as they arise (i.e. boot camps)

### 5.2.16 Picnic Shelters and Special Event Facilities

**Evaluate the need for replacement and addition of new shelters to better accommodate a range of special events.**

Picnic shelters are popular park facilities and the District currently has five shelters located at Cates Park/Whey-ah-Wichen, Princess Park, Deep Cove Park, Panorama Park, and Lynn Canyon Park. The waterfront picnic shelters are particularly popular, enabling use during rainy weather and extreme heat. The shelters are typically permitted for organized public and private events such as parties, weddings and special events, although informal use also occurs. Picnic shelters are best located at community or district level parks and are typically located near washrooms, drinking water, playgrounds and other park facilities.

#### Key Recommendations

- Review park shelters for upgrading and restoration to retain their attractiveness
- Review replacement of picnic shelters at Deep Cove Park and Princess Park with larger, accessible shelters that integrate water taps and barbecue opportunities

### 5.2.17 Public Art

**In collaboration with the public, explore opportunities to integrate public art into parks, park development projects and streetscapes in the context of the District Public Art Policy and the Public Art Program for the District of North Vancouver**

In 2000, the District Public Art Policy and the Public Art Program were developed to integrate public art into streets, parks, open spaces and development projects within the community. In consultation with the public, a number of art projects have been integrated into park projects such as the Lynn Canyon Park Cafe and the Inter River Park backstops. Creative ideas are integrated into a range of park elements including signage, sculptures, backstops, fences, architectural elements and lighting.

#### Key Recommendation

- Continue to collaborate with the Public Art program and the public to integrate art pieces into park design and park elements, where appropriate (signage, fountains, fencing, benches, paving etc.)

## 5.2.18 Dog Management in Parks

### **Develop a Dog Management Program with Best Management Practices for dogs that would address and manage dog related issues in parks and trails, within the context of protecting park resources from environmental impacts.**

Dog management remains an important discussion in the community and can generate many opinions and concerns, from impacts of dogs in ecologically sensitive areas to public health and safety issues. Pet ownership is increasing with greater use of trails and parks by pet owners.

The District Dog Tax and Regulation Bylaw 5981 governs dog regulations, and identifies where dogs are currently permitted and excluded. In all parks, dogs are not permitted by bylaw on playgrounds, picnic areas, sports fields, beaches, fitness circuits, golf courses, or tennis courts. The Bylaw identifies:

- Parks where dogs are prohibited (35)
- Parks where dogs are permitted on leash (61)
- Parks where dogs are permitted off leash, but under control (14)
- Locations where commercial dog walkers are permitted (4): Baden Powell Trail, sections of BC Hydro ROW, sections of Lower Lynn Canyon Park and Inter River Park (Dyke Road)

Regulating the dog bylaw for over 100 parks and greenbelts is an enormous challenge, and is currently managed through a combination of bylaw officers, park rangers and District animal welfare services. Key concerns relate to overuse of park areas, deterioration of natural habitat areas, dog waste management, conflicts between users, and public safety. Regulation signage is installed in most parks; however voluntary compliance by the public is stressed. The public have expressed interest

in increasing opportunities for off leash trails within parks, and additional off leash trails have been provided in recent years at Cates Park/Whey-ah-Wichen and Myrtle Park. The addition of maps and signage supports public guidelines and codes of conduct.

A preliminary review of the supply of District dog off leash areas in comparison to other Lower Mainland municipalities and the provincial average, demonstrates that the District is comparatively very well served with regards to the number of dog off leash areas. District dog off leash areas are popular destinations, serving both local and regional populations.

### **Key Recommendations**

- Implement a Dog Management Program with Best Management Practices to include the following:
  - Review options to establish fenced dog off leash areas or dog parks
  - Review the existing Dog and Tax Regulation Bylaw 5981, in consultation with the public, to identify modifications to dog use in parks
  - Evaluate options to minimize environmental impacts of dogs in parks, including the benefits and costs of providing habitat protection fencing. Engage park users and stakeholders in developing solutions which seeks to balance dog activities with conservation goals
  - Develop a Dog Education Program to promote responsible dog etiquette, with regulatory and advisory signage, pamphlets, updated maps and other communication tools
  - Develop operational and design guidelines for dedicated dog park areas and off leash trail areas that include park design criteria to reduce user and dog conflict

- Where required, enforce dog bylaw regulations and include bylaw phone numbers on signage
- Consider the increase of dog license fees to offset costs associated with managing dogs in parks
- Review fees and licensing for commercial dog walker companies
- Review options for a sustainable dog waste disposal program (i.e. doggy bags, pick up areas)



### 5.2.19 Waterfront Access, Water Based Recreation and Shoreline Management

**Improve and strengthen public access to the waterfront at strategic locations along the District waterfront.**

Public waterfront access continues to be highly valued for outdoor recreation and environmental and historical appreciation. District waterfront access takes the form of viewpoints (i.e. Harbourview Park), beach pathways and larger destination parks that provide boat launches, concessions and boathouses for marine based recreation, such as Cates/Whey-ah-Wichen and Deep Cove/Panorama Parks.

#### Key Recommendations

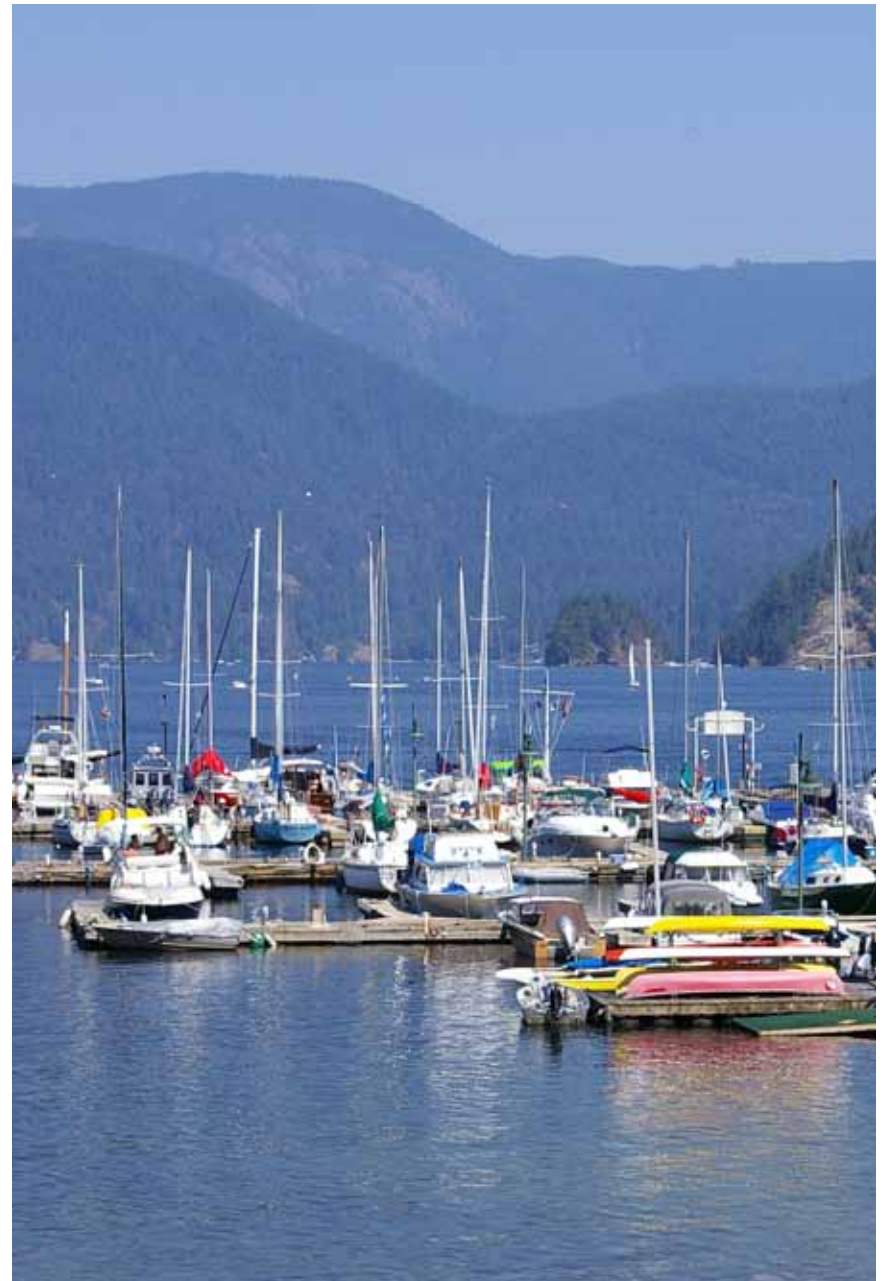
- Through community planning processes, continue to pursue opportunities to provide improved waterfront access to strengthen the current system of parks, walkways, street-ends, viewpoints, public wharves and boat launches:
  - where land is available
  - where recreational access will not jeopardize the environmental sustainability of the foreshore
- Continue to implement the Waterfront Street End Strategy and review remaining unopened street ends to provide public access to the waterfront, where feasible:
  - Provide viewpoints with sitting areas where shorelines are too steep to safely permit access to the foreshore
  - Sign all open waterfront access points
  - Work with private property owners to eliminate encroachment on unopened road allowances identified as waterfront access pathways

- Acquire additional waterfront property, where feasible, to expand public shoreline access
- Improve waterfront access opportunities at District waterfront parks
  - Continue to implement **Panorama Park / Deep Cove Park Planning Study (2011)** recommendations that include:
    - ▷ The potential for expanded opportunities for rowing, kayaking and boating





- ▷ The addition of 3 lots on Panorama to be integrated into Panorama Park
- ▷ Review use and management of parking
- Continue to implement **Cates Park/Whey-ah-Wichen Management Plan** recommendations that include a review of use and management of boat launch facility and parking
- Upgrade the existing Strathcona public wharf facility for improved recreational access to the water
- Review the requirements and management of water based recreation, including kayaking, canoeing, rowing and scuba diving:
  - Continue to improve parking, storage and boat launching opportunities, where appropriate
  - Monitor and manage lessons, practices, commercial activity and special events to avoid congestion and conflicts with other users at launching areas
- Continue to support the Maplewood Conservation Area goals to protect and manage the last remaining waterfront wetland ecosystem on the North Shore
- Continue to work with community volunteers to promote the conservation and stewardship of the waterfront and foreshore of North Vancouver
- Research infrastructure and locations to support boating routes from Burrard Inlet up Indian Arm, taking into consideration areas such as Thwaytes Landing as emergency exit routes



## 5.3 Trails & Greenway Systems

The District is well served by a wide range and supply of trails, ranging from rustic, natural trails (Baden Powell Trail) to more urban, hard-surfaced and lit trails (Spirit Trail Western Section). More and more frequently, trails are used for recreational, commuter and transportation purposes. The challenge is to provide and maintain a network of trails and greenways that link neighbourhoods, green spaces, waterways, schools, and other community amenities, creating a comprehensive trail/greenway system across the District.

### 5.3.1 Regional Trail Linkages

**Continue to collaborate on interconnected, regional trail linkages with North Shore partners that include municipal, regional, provincial, First Nations, and private land managers.**

#### Key Recommendations

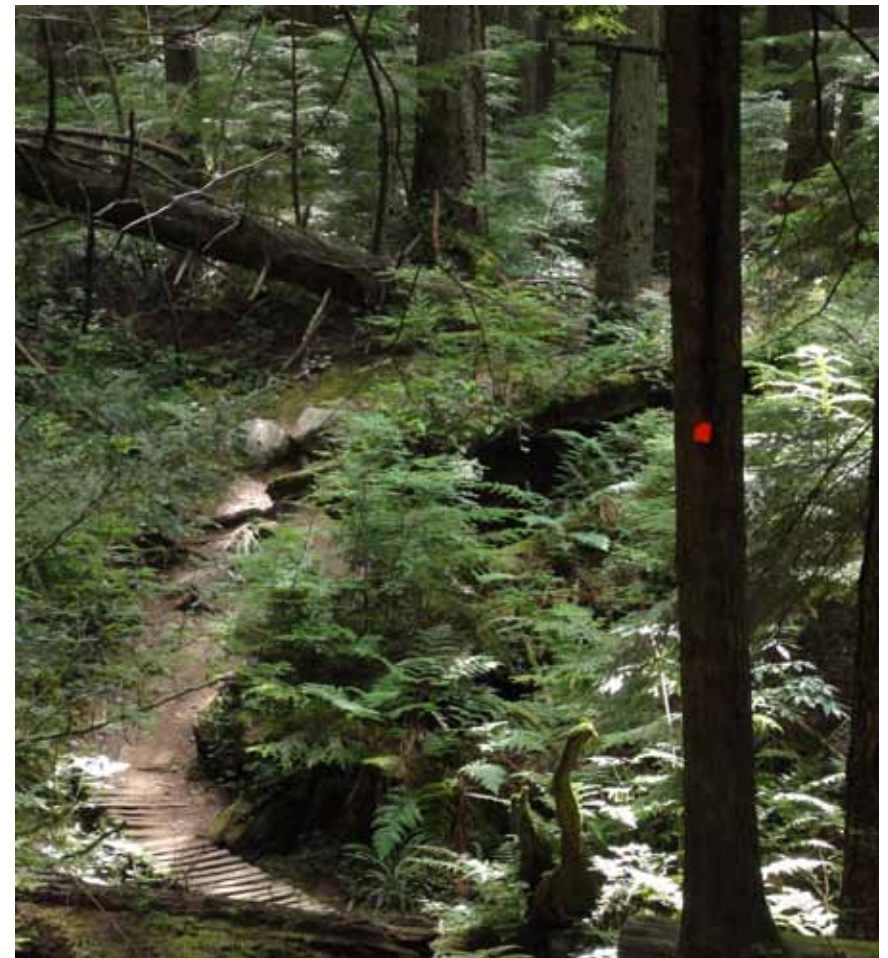
- Prioritise the completion and upgrading of key trails linkages in and through the District, as identified in Map 2: Key Trails Map (page 99):
  - Spirit Trail: Initiate recommendations from the **Spirit Trail Route Planning Report** and advance the Spirit Trail to provide a multi-use trail linking Deep Cove to Horseshoe Bay, in consultation and collaboration with the North Shore governments, the Province and other potential partners
  - Seymour Greenway Trail: Complete recommendations from the **Seymour Greenway Trail Planning Study** (a partnership with Metro Vancouver and Capilano University) to provide a multi-use trail between the Lower Seymour Conservation Area and the Maplewood waterfront area

**Maintain and expand an accessible, safe and diverse 'trail and greenway system' to link north shore amenities, encourage active modes of transportation, conserve ecological integrity and support an active lifestyle**



- Strengthen a Lower Capilano north-south connection
- Provide a connection between the Baden Powell Trail and the Powerline Trail
- Provide a trail connection from Braemar Road to Mill Street
- Provide connections between the Hastings Creek trail, Lynn Valley Town Centre, the Powerline Trail and City of North Vancouver trails
- Provide a connection between the Powerline Trail, Hastings Creek trails and the Sea to Sky Trail
- Provide a trail connection from Mountain Highway to Mount Seymour Parkway north of Highway #1
- Upgrade the underpasses at the Keith Road and Highway #1 bridges to improve safety and to connect Seylynn Park to Inter River Park
- Construct a bridge across Lynn Creek at Crown Street to connect Seylynn Park with the City of North Vancouver's Lynnmouth Park
- Complete the trail on east side of Lynn Creek, between Harbourview Park and the District Operations Centre with Main Street underpass, if feasible
- Provide a crossing over Highway #1 near Crown Street to connect the Seylynn and Seymour Creek neighbourhoods
- Create a crossing over the Seymour River to connect the Seymour Creek and Maplewood neighbourhoods
- Provide an upper level trail connection in the Mountain Forest area to connect the Blueridge neighbourhood to the Indian River neighbourhood

- Continue to partner with the City of North Vancouver, Metro Vancouver, Grouse Mountain Resorts and BC Parks to complete and manage important trail linkages and green corridors
- Support the use of utility corridors and other right-of-ways as trail opportunities



### 5.3.2 Urban Trails and Greenways

**Continue to expand and improve the urban trail network, greenways, blueways and amenities, providing opportunities for the diversity of recreational and commuter users.**

#### Key Recommendations

- Update the existing District Parks Major Community Trails and Routes Document (2002):
  - Identify and prioritize opportunities and missing linkages for future park, trail or open space development, while respecting environmental issues and regulations
  - Assess the needs of different trail users (i.e. people with disabilities, commuters, hikers, equestrians, mountain bikers, dog walkers) and plan to minimise conflicting uses, provide appropriate amenities and protect the surrounding neighbourhoods
    - ▷ Plan for the continuum of user ages and abilities
  - Establish trail classifications and standards that reflect the variety and complexity of trails
  - Implement Trail Best Management Practices in the construction and maintenance of trails, taking into account ecosystem integrity
  - Assess the demand for and impact of special outdoor sporting events on trails
  - Develop staging areas with mapping and signage at key trail intersections
    - ▷ Explore the provision of change facilities
  - Explore parking management strategies which encourage the use of existing parking lots (i.e. schools)
    - ▷ Explore synergies with commercial parking lots (i.e. Superstore)
- Improve recreational access for trail users, while protecting and minimizing impacts on sensitive ecosystem functions and integrity
  - ▷ Assess existing trail networks in sensitive areas, and identify trails for decommissioning and/or restoration of trails and structures with significant environmental impact or risk
  - ▷ Redirect trail access and egress points away from sensitive areas
- Create and market recreational walking loops to promote healthy living
- Implement trail recommendations from the Official Community Plan and detailed Town and Village Centre Plans that identify neighbourhood trail linkages
- Develop a Trails Maintenance and Management Plan to inventory and assess trails condition, with the goal to establish an annual program for trail maintenance and operations

### 5.3.3 Active Transportation Linkages

**Continue to collaborate with the Engineering and Planning Departments to enhance linkages and strengthen an active mobility network between neighbourhoods, parks, schools and community nodes.**

## Key Recommendations

- Where feasible and appropriate, link parks with the local and regional bicycle network to provide recreational, commuter and transportation connections between communities and amenities
- Provide wider, lit trails, where feasible and in the context of the bicycle transportation plan, to accommodate off-street bicycle commuting
- Work with private property owners to eliminate encroachments on unopened road allowances identified as potential trail connections

### 5.3.4 Alpine Areas: Alpine Recreational Strategic Framework – Balancing environmental protection with recreational management

**Supported by an eco-based framework, balance environmental protection with sustainable recreational management in the District alpine areas.**

The North Shore public consistently rates trails as the most highly used of all park facilities. The District is blessed with many kilometres of trails, both in the alpine areas as well as in the urban and residential areas. Since the 1990's, the District has witnessed a dramatic interest in recreational access to the mountain trails, particularly for mountain biking. At the same time, residents place a high value on protecting the ecological health of the forests and natural systems. The Alpine Recreational Strategic Study was undertaken in 2004 to develop a common public vision and commitment to create an environmentally sustainable framework to balance environmental protection with recreational management of mountain biking and hiking trails.

*“The vision was one of sustainability to respect the natural systems and manage uses of the mountains in a way that does not diminish the ability of future generations to enjoy this wonderful endowment. By adopting an approach that protects the mountain’s ecology while providing recreational, social and economic benefits, the north shore will become a model of sustainable recreational management.”*

In 2008, a more detailed trail planning study, the **Fromme Mountain Sustainable Trail Use and Classification Plan**, provided further guidance and detail for achieving a balance between environmental and trail management. This plan included a final recommended trail network, strengthened by Best Management Practices and Trail Guidelines, to minimize the environmental impact of trails, and maximize trail sustainability.

## Key Recommendations

- Implement recommendations from the **Alpine Recreational Strategic Study** which includes sustainable management strategies to protect the integrity of the mountain’s ecosystems, while providing recreational and social benefits. The eco-based model reviews the ecological characteristics of the alpine area, and helps to establish a ranking system of ecological sensitivity to help guide planning decisions. The plan identifies management zones to define permissible recreational uses, identifies conservation areas, management standards, and trail classifications within specific geographical areas
- Supported by an eco-based and adaptive management framework, implement the **Fromme Mountain Sustainable Trail Use and Classification Plan**, that includes recommendations on trail and ecosystem management:

- Formalize a sustainable trail network through recommendations from the Trail Network Management Map, which identifies within an ecosystem analysis framework, and trails to manage, consolidate, add, re-route or decommission
- Where feasible, integrate evolving trends in mountain biking and other trail uses
- Identify ecologically important features and develop ecological management strategies to protect and enhance ecological features, in conjunction with a forest management plan
- To protect sensitive ecological areas, implement the Best Management Practises for environmentally sensitive areas, vegetation, habitat restoration, trail construction, use of native materials, water flow, etc. Undertake regular environmental monitoring of trails, and, within an adaptive management framework, apply modifications to trails and the environment, as required



- Implement the Trail Guidelines which identify the different Trail Management Categories, Trail Types, and Trail Difficulty Levels. These guidelines will assist in the effective long term management of trails for multiple use, mountain biking, hiking, etc.
- Ensure regular monitoring and inspection of trails to minimize risk and liability for users
- Develop parking and staging areas to access trails in upland mountain areas
- Install regulatory and directional trail signage with maps at trail intersections and staging areas
- Develop user code of conduct information regarding trail etiquette
- Train District staff and volunteers in principles and practices of sustainable trail design
- Work collaboratively with adjacent land managers in the alpine trail areas, and formalize land access agreements and management protocols, where appropriate
- Continue to work proactively with trail volunteers on the long term maintenance of the mountain trails
- Work proactively with the North Shore Mountain Bike Association and other organized trail stakeholder groups to maintain the vision for the alpine recreational areas
- Develop a website with maps and information on alpine trails, to include current conditions, closures, upcoming trail projects, etc.

## Baden Powell Trail

The Baden Powell Trail is a 41.7 km multi jurisdictional North Shore wide mountain trail that connects Horseshoe Bay in West Vancouver to Deep Cove in the District of North Vancouver. In an effort to standardize the signage and trails, a Baden Powell Trail Management review was developed in the 1990's to set common standards for the trail throughout the five jurisdictions.

### Key Recommendation

- Implement recommendations from the Baden Powell Trail Guidelines to upgrade trails and signage
  - Improve the trail from Panorama Drive to the Quarry Rock lookout

## Seymour District Parkland

In recent years, a series of unauthorized trails and bike jumps have developed in the Mountain Forest/Cove Forest/Mount Seymour Provincial Park areas. Mount Seymour Provincial Park collected data on the unauthorized activity in their lands and those adjoining Mountain Forest Park, Cove Forest Park, and District natural parkland in the Woodlands area. A more detailed environmental and recreational review is needed to guide the long term management of these parks and recreational lands.

### Key Recommendations

- Inventory and map the unauthorized trail network on District lands in the Seymour area (Mountain Forest Park, Cove Forest and natural parkland in the Woodlands area), and prepare a background report to summarize issues and concerns
- Identify and map ecologically important features and develop an ecological management strategy to protect these features

- Collaborate with BC Parks, the North Shore Mountain Bike Association, and trail users to develop short and long term strategies to guide management of this area
- Co-operate with BC Parks in the development of their Compliance Action Plan for Mount Seymour Provincial Park and Indian Arm Provincial Park

## 5.3.5 Communication and Signage

**Improve communication, wayfinding, maps and signage for parks and trails.**

### Key Recommendations

- Implement directional and regulatory signage, trail maps, wayfinding, trail etiquette, code of conduct and interpretive signage
- Update trail communication through the development of park trail pamphlets, available on the District Parks website
- Develop interpretive signage, where appropriate, to further the appreciation and stewardship of significant heritage and cultural resources
- Develop hiking/biking maps with the District GIS Department which could be purchased on the Geoweb section of the District website
- Work in partnership with Transportation Planning to develop a map of urban trails and linkages to the on-street bicycle and pedestrian network

## 5.4 Ecological Integrity & Stewardship

The natural beauty of the District park system is unparalleled. Blessed with significant and ecologically sensitive natural landscapes, the District's ocean, rivers, forests, and mountains form an interconnected system that supports a wide range of habitat for animals and fish. However, the impacts of human use, the effects of climate change, and natural disturbances such as wind and disease are slowly degrading some habitat and the important functions provided by these ecosystems. Fragmentation of habitat, the introduction of invasive species, encroachment, and increasing access to natural parkland areas contribute to a number of park management challenges. The parks diverse ecosystems must be managed carefully in order to maintain their ecological integrity and biodiversity. Public involvement through environmental stewardship plays an important role in the protection of our natural resources. The Parks Department is responsible for managing natural areas within active and passive oriented parks, which each have different management and maintenance needs.

### 5.4.1 Environmental Planning and Management

**Articulate the Parks Department's role and responsibilities with regards to environmental planning and management within the OCP, relevant bylaws and department policies and procedures, and integrate the value of ecosystem services into park decision making.**

#### Key Recommendations

- Adopt an ecosystem-based approach to park planning and management that enhances and protects the natural resources, while supporting sustainable recreational use and stewardship

**Goal: Promote and support broad community stewardship of parks and open spaces to effectively conserve, protect and enhance ecological integrity and biodiversity**





- Ensure trails are designed, constructed and maintained to minimize the impact to sensitive ecosystems and to enhance user safety
- Encourage access to parks by walking and cycling
- Adopt an adaptive management process in park planning and management that is innovative, adaptable and responsive to evolving social, cultural and environmental expectations
- Develop Parks Environmental Guidelines, and include recommendations on the management of vegetation, wildlife, tree hazards, fire, coarse woody debris, yard waste and refuse (i.e. Surrey Parks Dept)
- Explore opportunities to expand the recycling program in parks
- Review and improve water conservation practices in parks

#### 5.4.2 Regional Ecological Context

**Collaborate with Metro Vancouver and integrate, where feasible, Metro Vancouver’s regional park, recreation and ecological initiatives into park planning and management processes**

#### Key Recommendations

- Build on the existing regional park and Conservation/Recreation Zone network to protect valuable habitats and important species
- Work within Metro Vancouver’s Biodiversity Conservation Strategy Partnerships Program which outlines the following recommendations:
  - Incorporate biodiversity conservation priorities into plans and policies
  - Build on Metro Vancouver’s Green Zone network, and secure lands to ensure the protection of habitats and corridors

- Develop protected area management initiatives to manage, enhance and restore sensitive habitats
- Map, monitor and research biophysical information to help in decision making processes
- Develop stewardship, education and communication to promote better understanding of biodiversity

#### 5.4.3 Management of Public Forest Ecosystems

**Proactively manage District of North Vancouver parkland forests, ecosystems and habitats within an ecosystem based framework which enhances biodiversity.**

The preservation and enhancement of existing parkland forests and ecological systems are priorities for the District. These goals are addressed through a variety of policies, bylaws and guidelines. In 2009, an overview of the District’s forest lands was undertaken to provide baseline ecological data for the planning and management of these lands. The Forest Ecosystem Mapping and a Framework for Eco-system-based Management study inventoried trees, creeks, soils and other natural features. There is a need for an adaptive management regime to mitigate hazards while preserving overall ecosystem integrity.

#### Key Recommendations

- Continue to support the Community Wildfire Protection Planning process to reduce natural hazard risks associated with wildfire and slope failure

- Implement recommendations from the **Forest Ecosystem Mapping and a Framework for Ecosystem-based Management report (2009)**, which establishes a pro-active forest stewardship program. Manage the urban forest interface to improve the species mix and mitigate risk of disease or hazards such as wildfire and windfall. This includes GIS based ecological data that provides information relevant to key urban forest management issues, such as:
  - Identification and protection of sensitive ecosystems
  - Restoration of modified and degraded ecosystems, i.e.
    - ▷ Focus treatments upon restoring ecosystems with high ecological and biodiversity values by controlling access, controlling invasive species and initiating tree species shifts to species mixes that reflect pre-logging stand conditions, including:
      - The use of fencing and boardwalks to control access and minimize soil compaction and root damage
      - Strategic placement of coarse woody debris to reduce accessibility in sensitive habitats
      - Assess trails in riparian areas for erosion potential and implement mitigation measures to reduce sediment runoff
  - Management of invasive plant species, i.e.
    - ▷ plant site appropriate species such as Western Red Cedar and Sitka Spruce to create less favourable light conditions for invasive species
  - Mitigation of tree hazards (tree failure, wind throw, and wildfire),
    - i.e.
      - ▷ Shift species profile of the District from its current state, dominated by western hemlock to one with a greater percentage of Douglas Fir and Western Red Cedar, and Sitka Spruce as a minor species on moist rich sites
      - ▷ Remove hazardous trees due to disease or structural faults to reduce windthrow hazard
      - ▷ Consider forest health concerns to ensure that propagation of forest health agents does not occur and lead to future stand instability
      - ▷ Design treatments to have positive impacts on biodiversity (i.e. snag and coarse woody debris retention for habitat)
      - ▷ Consider stand edge feathering and spiral pruning for reducing windthrow
      - ▷ Control water inputs to forest sites (i.e. to reduce the risk profile and restore natural ecological processes)
      - ▷ Consider fuel reduction and planting of areas affected by windthrow disturbance (i.e. Roche Point forest)
- Ecosystem Integrity Risk Assessment to identify areas where risk level indicates that treatments should be considered
- Guidance for the selection of tree species based upon specific site conditions
- Support strategic planning initiatives such as climate change adaptation and carbon accounting
- Promote the protection of remaining old growth trees both in urban and upland, alpine areas



#### 5.4.4 Urban Street Tree Program

**Support a comprehensive street tree program that promotes a healthy urban environment and contributes to the District identity.**

Street trees form a significant part of the urban forest resource, provide a sense of community identity, aid in the reduction of air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, mitigate climate change impacts, and reduce storm water runoff. The District has developed a **Street Tree Master Plan** and a **Street Tree Inventory** to provide a 10 year capital and maintenance framework.

#### Key Recommendations

- Implement the key recommendations from the Street Tree Master Plan and the Street Tree Inventory (2007) that provides a framework for the provision, design, planting, funding and maintenance of District street trees:
  - Determine tree replacement needs based on existing tree condition
  - Explore and support new tree planting opportunities
  - Manage pest management issues
  - Continue to develop and implement pruning and maintenance cycles
  - Research delivery models for additional financial support for the continued maintenance and care of existing street trees
  - Manage tree/infrastructure conflicts such as sidewalk and power line issues

- Support a GIS based mapping of the tree inventory to provide spatial awareness, and to increase the transfer and availability of information to multiple departments and the public
- Support GIS based database as the platform for tree canopy analysis and calculation of widespread environmental benefits of trees
- Develop terms of reference to conduct a heritage tree inventory
- Implement street tree related recommendations and guidelines developed in the Marine Drive Design Guidelines, Lynn Valley Design Guidelines, and Maplewood Industrial Park Design Guidelines
- Research carbon sequestration and calculate the environmental benefits of the existing urban forest canopy. Develop environmental measurements such as carbon sequestration and storm water containment for trees and ecosystems
- Continue events such as Arbor Day to advance public education and outreach programs and promote sustainable urban forest management.

#### 5.4.5 Protection of Sensitive Ecosystems and Core Habitat Areas in Parks

**Protect and conserve biological diversity and develop special management strategies for rare, threatened and endangered species and habitat.**

##### Key Recommendations

- Identify and develop strategies to conserve sensitive ecosystems from the impacts of recreational use

- Identify strategies to protect old growth forests in Mosquito Creek and the Roche Point forest
- Develop Best Management Practices to protect unique ecosystems and habitats
- Protect and enhance Maplewood’s environmental assets with emphasis on watercourse and shore lands

#### 5.4.6 Wildlife Program

**Support the protection, management, restoration and enhancement of wildlife and habitat areas, essential to the health of fish, wildlife and fauna.**

##### Key Recommendations

- Continue to support initiatives to strengthen a bear smart community, liaising with groups such as the North Shore Black Bear Society
- Identify priority ecosystem components, habitat and biodiversity ‘hot spots’
- Restore and enhance aquatic habitat in partnership with Streamkeepers and other stakeholders
- Work with federal and provincial government to support wildlife in parks
- Develop habitat and ecosystem criteria that seeks to manage and minimize the impact of domestic animals (i.e. dogs) on wildlife

#### 5.4.7 Riparian and Storm Water Management

Adopt an ecosystem based approach to stormwater management in parks and streetscapes, and work within the provincial guidelines on water resource management to enhance storm water measures, and to protect riparian and wetland areas in park planning and operations.

##### Key Recommendations

- Protect and preserve wetlands, stream banks and streams, and provide public education regarding fish bearing streams, invasive species, etc.
- Implement storm water best management practices (i.e. strategic design measures to control the sources of runoff, rain gardens, and natural storm water management)
- Work to implement the Streamside Protection Guidelines to protect sensitive riparian areas
- Daylight streams in parks, where appropriate



#### 5.4.8 Invasive Species Management

Develop an Invasive Species Program to manage invasive plant species that may threaten the long term viability of ecosystems and species of significant conservation value.

The District has experienced an increase of invasive species within parkland, in particular hogweed, Japanese knotweed, English ivy and Himalayan blackberry. For many years, the District Parks Department has been implementing an annual program to focus on specific park sites, partnering with volunteers including Streamkeepers, the Evergreen Foundation and the Greater Vancouver Invasive Plant Council.

##### Key Recommendations

- Inventory and map invasive plant sites in District Parks, and identify priority sites for invasive species removal and restoration with native species. Promote centralised data collection (i.e. Greater Vancouver Invasive Plant Council website) enabling volunteers to aid with early detection and response
- Liaise with the Greater Vancouver Invasive Plant Council of BC to develop a comprehensive Invasive Species Program for the North Shore
- Support and manage public education, workshops, invasive plant pulls, restoration planting, provision of lists of alternative native species, annual funding, inventory of invasive plant sites, continued participation in the programs and workshops, continuation of annual program, and monitoring of illegal dumping of garden waste and grass clippings in greenbelt parks

### 5.4.9 Environmental Stewardship

**Promote an environmental stewardship program that builds upon a high level of public and stakeholder interest and involvement in parks.**

#### Key Recommendations

- Work with other agencies, organizations and community groups to evaluate and manage the natural environment and maintain the biodiversity of the North Shore, such as:
  - Work with Lower Capilano community to restore the Bowser Creek greenbelt and habitat
- Develop an outreach communications strategy that educates and promotes responsible environmental stewardship (i.e. to reduce littering, illegal waste disposal in parks, etc.)
- Establish a stewardship program that involves volunteers in a program that monitors baseline and changing ecosystem conditions

### 5.4.10 Encroachment and Enforcement Management

**Provide education and enforcement to minimise the impact of encroachment within parks.**

Encroachment within parks takes many forms, and includes unauthorized trails and uses, private waste disposal on park property, unauthorized planting and structures, and storm water run-off into parkland. Collectively, the impacts of encroachment can contribute to the degradation of habitat and ecological integrity.

#### Key Recommendations

- Broaden the responsibilities of the Park Ranger Program to provide support for encroachment and enforcement management

- Provide a continuum of bylaw compliance methods from education to enforcement
- Post rules and regulations at major points to reinforce regulations
- Explore strategies to proactively monitor encroachment and illegal activities throughout the parks and open space system
- Where encroachment occurs, identify and educate ‘offenders’ through educational campaigns, and require residents to remove unauthorized encroachments on parkland



## 5.5 Community Partnerships & Education

In recent years there has been a growing interest in partnerships and special events, tourism, and education in District Parks. Volunteer programs are one way to engage residents in park upkeep, leading to increased public environmental awareness and education. Additionally, eco-tourism is becoming a popular business on the North Shore, appealing to tourists attracted to world-class mountain biking, hiking, and other park events. Other challenges include enhancing existing District attractions such as the Maplewood Farm and the Ecology Centre, and creating community partnerships with other North Shore municipalities, the region and the province.

### 5.5.1 Public Education, Public Engagement, Stewardship, Advocacy

**Improve and expand public education, public engagement, stewardship and advocacy opportunities.**

#### Key Recommendations

- Public Education
  - Continue and expand public education and outreach programs to motivate users to respect and protect environmental resources, i.e.
    - ▷ campaigns to manage dog waste and invasive species
    - ▷ interpretive programs
  - Coordinate environmental education efforts with other agencies, and focus on reaching out to schools

**Goal: Enhance, create and monitor sustainable opportunities for inter-agency partnerships, community education and events, and eco-tourism initiatives**

- Implement recommendations of the District Parks Signage Manual (2007) , and continue to explore the use of friendly and humorous signage to communicate important messages
- Develop a series of public education pamphlets to support initiatives
- Public Engagement, Stewardship, and Advocacy
  - Consult with local residents, stakeholders and park users in the future planning of parks, trails and open space
  - Expand scope of programs and opportunities to engage and support stakeholders and volunteers (i.e. communication, joint planning, adopt-a-trail programs, park partners programs, park patrols)
  - Expand park advocacy opportunities for the Parks and Natural Environment Advisory Committee and other community groups

## 5.5.2 Volunteerism

### **Improve, expand, support and formalize volunteer opportunities in parks.**

Volunteerism within Parks continues to expand, encompassing such activities as trail maintenance, tree planting, invasive plant removal, and stream monitoring. Volunteer groups include school and community groups, mountain biking and hiking associations, Streamkeepers, business and community associations. The sports user groups also contribute to sports field maintenance, as well as fundraising to add inventory such as batting cages, scorekeeper boxes and concession areas to parks. Samplings of the kinds of partnerships that are already underway include wildlife habitat management, education programs, park watch, beach and park clean-ups, and community art projects. The Adopt-a-Park Program, Adopt-a-Trail Program and Park Partners have been successful programs in other municipalities, by helping to address community concerns about park cleanliness and crime prevention and by supporting community celebrations and events. Safety is on everyone's mind these days, and this is one of the issues that Park Partners could help to address, by creating volunteer park patrols. Over many years, partnerships between parks staff and the public have increased the number of volunteer projects, and additional staff resources will be required to keep the program growing, healthy and proactive.

### **Key Recommendations**

- Volunteer Program Coordination
  - Consider additional staff resources to increase capacity and efficacy, encourage, develop, support, manage and supervise volunteerism
- Explore practical supports to existing clubs and organizations in cooperation with the Recreation Commission
- Develop volunteer orientation and/or training programs to be implemented prior to volunteer activity
- Expand the effectiveness of volunteerism by developing an organized system of volunteer programs for people and organizations wishing to share time, energy and resources to improve the parks. Programs advertised on the Parks website could include:
  - Adopt-a-Park and Adopt-a-Trail
  - Park Partners, Park Watch and Park Wardens
  - Naturalists
  - Special Project Volunteers
  - Work Experience Volunteers
  - Facility and Trail Volunteers
  - Sports Field Volunteers
- Explore opportunities for local businesses to provide stewardship and volunteers in parks
- Explore using social networking and the Parks website to highlight stewardship events
- Continue to develop a database to organize and update volunteer contact information
- Explore ideas for mentoring (i.e. mentoring of youth in mountain biking, District staff as mentors)
- Allocate resources to recognize volunteer efforts in the parks through tools such as a Volunteer Awards program that identifies significant volunteer contributions, and events (i.e. Sport Awards) that celebrate volunteer input and provide communication between volunteer organizations



### 5.5.3 Marketing and Communications

**Develop a Marketing and Communications Strategy to effectively communicate park services.**

#### Key Recommendations

- Work with the District of North Vancouver Communications group to develop a parks communications plan
- Focus on linkages and synergies between the North Vancouver Recreation Commission, libraries, schools, and other community oriented organizations
- Continue to create a user friendly, interactive and inclusive Parks website
  - provide communication on topics such as stewardship opportunities, and status updates on capital and operational projects
  - explore new e-business and online booking opportunities for the Parks website

### 5.5.4 Public Partnerships in Parks

**Develop and enhance effective and dynamic interagency partnerships (i.e. North Shore municipalities/Metro Vancouver/First Nations/School Board/Capilano University/BC Parks/Federal Government/North Vancouver Recreation Commission).**

#### Key Recommendations

- Continue to collaborate and formalize joint use agreements, where it is beneficial to the goals of the District, and maximizes park and outdoor recreation opportunities

- Manage partnerships consistently to determine the level of success by measuring effectiveness, benefits and outcomes to users and the District organization
- Explore, foster and support consultative, contributory, operational and collaborative partnerships, where it furthers and benefits the mandate of all partners
- Continue to implement the recommendations from the Cates Park/Whey-ah-Wichen Master Plan and Cultural Resource Interpretive Management Plan, in partnership with the Tsleil-Waututh First Nation, and as funds are available



### 5.5.5 Public/Private Partnerships

**Explore, manage and monitor the integration of limited public/private partnerships in parks which further the vision and goals of the District of North Vancouver Parks.**

#### Key Recommendations

- Research successful examples of public/private partnerships (i.e. Maplewood Conservation Area partnership with the Wild Bird Trust)
- Research options for mountain biking partnerships within the North Vancouver context (i.e. Whistler, Rossland, Idaho)
- Develop a process for the review and management of public/private partnerships in parks

### 5.5.6 Private Commercial Users of Park Facilities

**Develop a process for the review and management of commercial users of park facilities.**

Certain low impact commercial activities such as ecotourism, guided environmental walks, cycling, hiking, rowing and kayak training may enhance the visitor experience of our parks, and provide valuable environmental education opportunities. With applications and proposals coming forward from private companies, it is essential to establish a process and criteria to assess, permit and manage requests.

### Key Recommendations

- Develop criteria such as the following to assess requests for access to parks for commercial uses:
  - Consistency with parks zoning and permitted park uses
  - Adherence to applicable guidelines and regulations
  - Public safety and liability impacts
  - Potential impacts on park ecosystems
  - Potential impacts on park users and operational activities
  - Potential impacts on surrounding neighbourhoods
  - Benefits to the park user experience
  - Opportunities for environmental education and stewardship
  - Service cannot be effectively conducted outside the park
  - Business has demonstrated a successful operation and has a proven track record and necessary credentials
  - Professional standards, public risk, insurance and WCB compliance
  - Long term sustainability of park resources

### 5.5.7 Park Visitor Special Attractions

**Enhance sustainable, educational, vibrant and unique park visitor attractions to engage the community.**

## Key Recommendations

- Maplewood Farm
  - Update and implement recommendations from the 2008 Maplewood Farm Business Plan (i.e. move towards financially sustainable model, reducing subsidies and increasing revenues)
  - Explore opportunities to expand the role of the farm (i.e. urban agriculture and sustainability education)
    - ▷ Develop farmers market and agriculture and food (i.e. fruit, vegetable, and honey) production education (i.e. value added programs, informational signage and displays)
    - ▷ Explore urban agriculture partnerships
    - ▷ Enhance the new website and provide e-business opportunities
- Ecology Centre
  - Broaden the role of the Ecology Centre as the 'Lynn Canyon Park and Ecology Centre – Main Office' to coordinate the Ranger Program, the Lynn Canyon Cafe and all programs, activities and maintenance within Lynn Canyon Park, and provide a park interpretive display area for people of all ages.
- Maplewood Farm and Ecology Centre
  - Explore opportunities to partner, brand and link these centres together and with other organizations (i.e. Metro Vancouver Parks, North Shore Museum and Archives, Lynn Valley Library, North Shore Recycling, North Shore Tourism, Tourism Vancouver, First Nations) for programming (i.e. learning center/ network, seasonal events), marketing, etc.
  - Explore sponsorship and fundraising options for buildings and amenities
  - Focus on sustainability
- Review options for provision of concession facilities in parks (i.e. mobile concessions, arts and crafts, and fresh farm produce)



### 5.5.8 Filming and Special Events

#### Continue to support and manage filming and special events in parks.

Special events are an important and popular service co-ordinated by the Parks Department and the North Vancouver Recreation Commission. Park event permits are issued for a wide variety of events from large cultural and musical festivals, sporting events, trail races, beer gardens, weddings and filming. Community events such as Lynn Valley Days, Penguin Plunge, and Concerts in Parks are well established and provide opportunities for community building. The majority of large public events take place in Panorama Park/Deep Cove Park, Cates Park/Wheeah-Wichen, and Lynn Valley Park. Demand is increasing for sporting events in parks (i.e. mountain bike races, triathlons, rowing and dragon boat regattas, canoe and kayak races, etc.). Challenges include traffic and parking management (see Section 5.2.7), minimising impacts on the environment and park resources, and ‘event fatigue’ for surrounding residents.

#### Key Recommendations

- Filming
  - Continue to work with the Film Industry and the District Film Liaison to permit filming in parks, in accordance with the District Filming Policy and Guidelines
  - Review filming revenue in relation to industry standards
  - Continue to negotiate conditions of filming to minimize the disruption of public use, damage to the parks, and to protect wildlife and ecosystem integrity during periods of film activities

- Special Events
  - Continue to collaborate with the North Vancouver Recreation Commission and implement recommendations from their Community Events Management Review to provide support, park infrastructure and locations for community events that have been successful and well supported by the public
  - Monitor the number of large events in District parks to prevent public event fatigue, and ensure provision of event free weekends to support casual use of parks by the public
  - Manage parking and traffic during high volume special park events to minimize impacts on surrounding neighbourhoods
  - Consider additional auxiliary staff resources to coordinate and manage the increased demand for events in parks



## 5.6 Emerging Funding Strategies

The District of North Vancouver is exploring creative funding strategies in order to maintain a healthy and current parks and recreation system. Declining public resources have led the District to explore outside traditional funding circles for assistance. Partnerships with other agencies such as school boards, Metro Vancouver and BC Parks, and with other local governments might allow the District to share costs. Working with volunteers can support park programs and increase environmental stewardship, leading to increased public education and support for programs and policies. The District is committed to exploring all types of funding options to keep the park and trail system flourishing.

### 5.6.1 Funding Strategies

**Develop fiscally efficient strategies to address declining public resources.**

The District is a public agency supported largely through taxation. In recent years opportunities have been explored for additional resourcing. It is key to advocate for sustained public funding for core park facilities to safeguard service delivery.

**Goal: Define and implement funding strategies that will support a 10 year 'community vision' for parks and open space in the District**



## Key Recommendations

- Explore Private Public Partnerships (PPP's) as a strategy to further leverage public finances
- Explore options to increase park and trails funding, i.e.
  - Increase proportional share of taxes in line with the popularity and volume of park and trail use
    - ▷ Evaluate the benefits and extent of park and trail use and compare funding of parks and trails to the funding of indoor recreational facilities
  - Direct revenues collected from Parks fees and leases to help support park maintenance, i.e.
    - ▷ filming revenues
    - ▷ revenues from leases (Deep Cove Canoe and Kayak Center and Lynn Canyon Cafe )
- Continue to pursue future park and trail development opportunities, funded in part through:
  - Development Cost Charges - Authorized under the Local Government Act, development cost charges (DCCs) are monetary charges that a local government can place on new development to assist in providing certain services for the future residents of the new development. The provision of parks is one of the services for which DCCs can be charged
  - Community Amenity Contributions to park projects
  - Development Permit Planning processes
- Proactively pursue grants and funding from senior levels of government, corporations and foundations, service clubs and sports groups
- Expand the Park Donation and Commemorative Gift Program to support infrastructure and facilities in parks. Donations could be in the form of cash for equipment or facilities, or as land donated for recreational use or environmental protection

- Research opportunities to expand a program of permits and fees to help recover operating costs associated with facilities for organized and special interest groups (i.e. sports groups)
- Examine the feasibility of creating a Parks Endowment Fund to support high profile parks and facilities
- Establish standards and practices for cost sharing operations and capital costs with associations and other joint operating partners

## 5.6.2 Sponsorships and Advertising

**Explore sponsorship and advertising opportunities to advance the District's vision and goals for parks. Recognize that the purpose of sponsorship is to increase the District's ability to deliver services and provide enhanced levels of service beyond the core levels funded from District funds.**

## Key Recommendations

- Research successful examples of sponsorships and advertising in parks
- Develop a sponsorship policy that would identify criteria for determining potential sponsorship and advertising in parks:
  - Identify the kinds of park assets that could be sponsored
    - ▷ Explore naming rights, adopt a park sponsorship program, vendor agreements, and sponsorship signage
  - Develop criteria to identify the types of businesses and companies that would be eligible to advertise in parks
  - Determine how private companies could be recognized for their contribution to projects
    - ▷ Include signage to recognize contributors (e.g. Canexus)
    - ▷ Tax initiatives for sponsorship packages

- Consider the inclusion of advertising in park pamphlets and other publications to offset costs

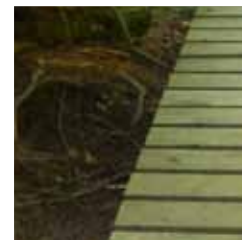
### 5.6.3 User Fees

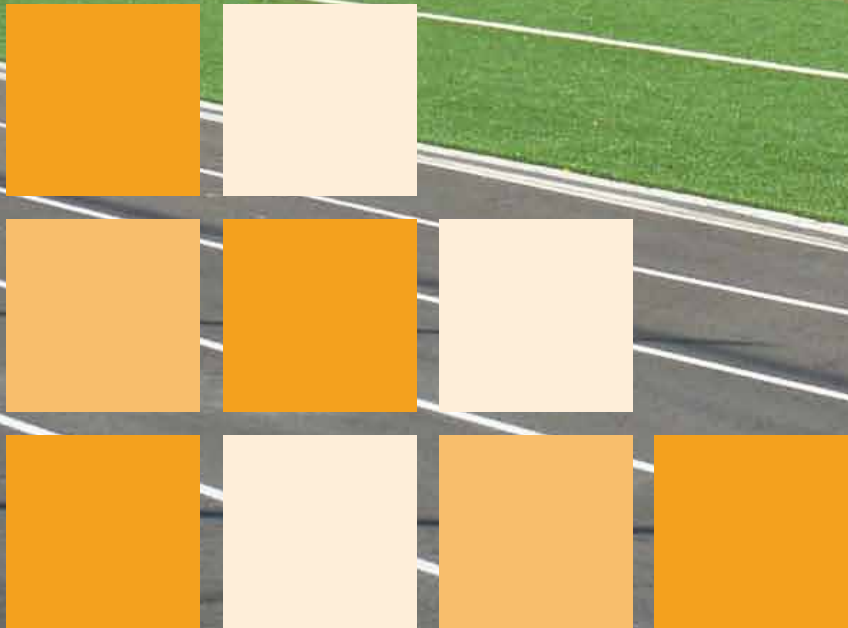
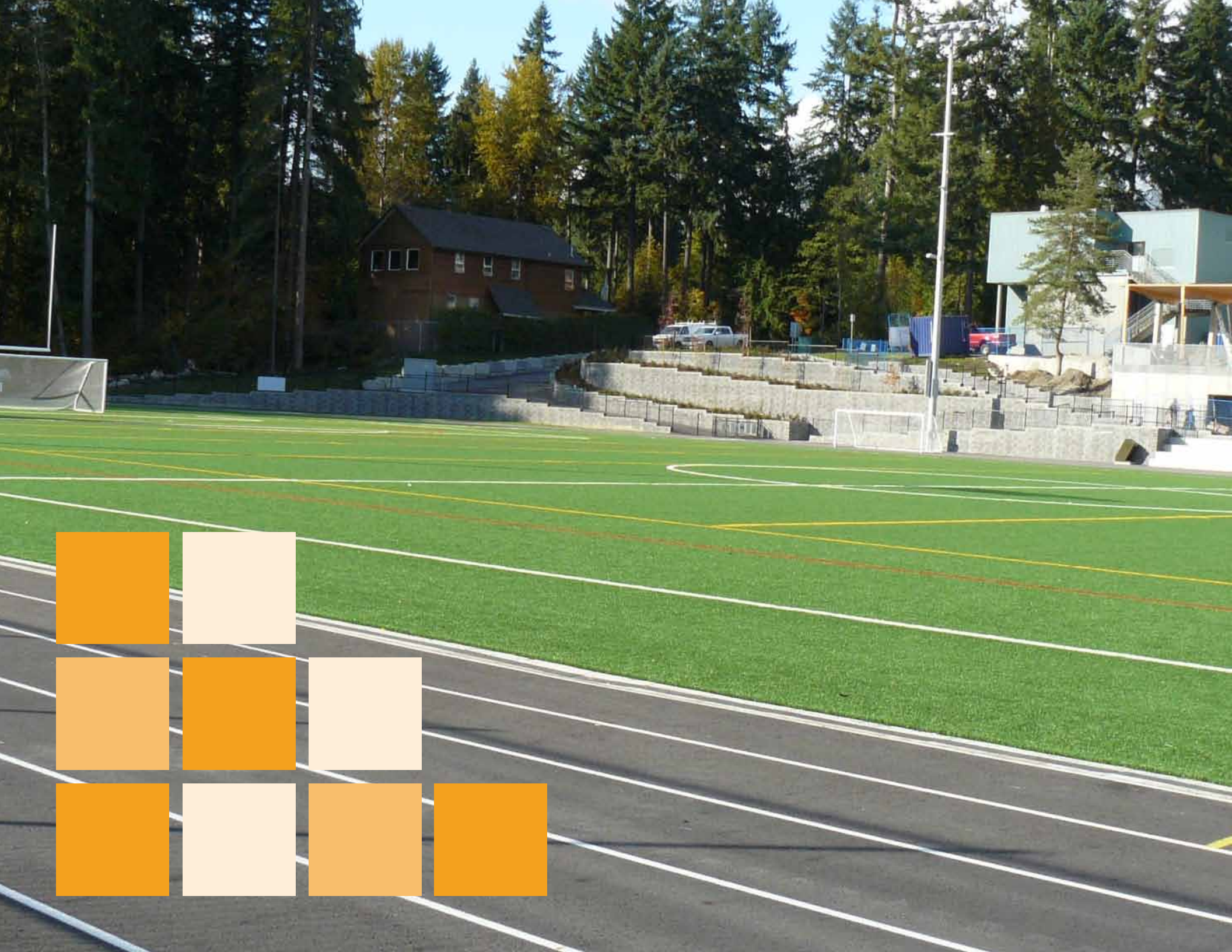
**Explore user fees, pay parking and other cost recovery options.**

Currently the District collects user fees through different mechanisms including sports fields, special events, park permits, boat launches, and bus parking, to name a few. User fees can help to offset costs without compromising the services offered to the public.

#### Key Recommendations

- Research successful user fees examples in parks (e.g. Calgary) and continue to expand the user fee program, where appropriate
- Consider fees for specific services on an at cost operational basis to assist in offsetting associated capital costs for park infrastructure
- Explore opportunities to increase fees for special commercial events (e.g. races) and tourism operators (e.g. buses)
- Review the feasibility of pay parking options, with exemptions for residents







# 6.0 Summary of Implementation

## 6.1 Relationship to the OCP

The District OCP framework lists a number of detailed Municipal Strategic Action Plans which focus on identifying feasible, cost effective programs or actions that implement OCP goals and objectives. These action plans include the Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan, the Transportation Plan, the Climate Action Plan and the Ecological Management Strategy, to name a few. Since the Parks and Open Space Strategic Plan (POSSP) was developed concurrently with the District OCP (2011), the POSSP recommendations are consistent with OCP policies. The POSSP implementation plan serves as a reference point for decision making over the next ten years, and provides guidance on a wide range of issues related to the delivery of parks.

## 6.2 A Guide to Financial Strategies

### Sustainment Capital for Parks

The District maintains an asset inventory with condition and life cycle information for short and long range planning purposes. A capital funding gap was identified in 2005 and the 2012 budget continues to build on a now seven year effort to close that gap.

### Capital Funding Gap Policy

1% of the previous year's tax levy will be added each year until the funding gap is closed (tax levy funding is currently \$10.2 million).

### Financial Impact of the POSSP

Finance has analyzed the strategic priorities of the POSSP as it relates to the OCP's overall focus on town centres. As articulated during the OCP process, the Network of Centres concept results in an economical use of financial resources and a positive revenue contribution. The POSSP is a candidate for funding from development servicing, DCCs, CACs, the tax levy, as well as funding from partners and senior levels of government. Further information on financial implications of the POSSP and other key priorities of OCP implementation (i.e. servicing, transportation, amenities) will be provided through ongoing analyses and updates on the financial framework being developed as part of the OCP implementation. It is acknowledged that implementing the range of recommendations within the POSSP will require the commitment of resources, which will be considered in the context of other municipal priorities.

### Time Line and Phasing

Projects are phased into Short (0-5 years ), Medium (5-10 years) and/or Long term (10-20 years) time lines.

### Funding Sources and Strategies

It is recognized that significant funds will need to be accessed in order to implement the various recommendations outlined in this plan. The District can maximize its ability to implement the recommendations by leveraging external funding and actively



seeking partnership opportunities. A menu of approaches is forwarded for consideration:

#### **Development Cost Charges (DCCs)**

DCC funds are funds levied upon subdivision or development application approval and set by the DCC bylaw. DCCs are specifically for parkland acquisition and park development.

#### **Community Amenity Policy**

The District has a Community Amenity Policy that supports the provision of community benefits (i.e. provision of parkland, park improvements and trails) achieved through development.

#### **Five Percent Parkland Dedication**

Upon subdivision, provincial legislation requires that parkland dedication be made to the District of either 5% of the total site area, or money in lieu equal to 5% of the market value of the land.

#### **Developer Cost**

Acquire parkland and park amenities through new developments, particularly in the Growth Centres. Negotiate with developers to obtain parkland and/or have developers pay for park construction, where feasible. Consider using tools such as density transfer and density bonusing to obtain parkland and park amenities.

#### **User Fees**

Review user fees and charges for park facilities. Consider new fees for the rental of park facilities other than sports fields.

#### **Property Sale or Transfer**

Sell or transfer park properties unsuitable as parkland to enable the purchase of desirable parkland.

### **Parkland Bequest Program**

Develop a program to encourage the bequest of parkland in desirable locations, in accordance with the parkland acquisition guidelines.

### **Referendum**

Identify one-time special projects for the funding of larger capital projects.

### **Partnerships**

Pursue partnerships including co-operative ventures with service clubs, sports clubs, environmental groups, School District #44 and others.

### **Grants from Senior Governments**

Apply for relevant grant programs from federal, provincial, and regional levels of government to support the cost of park and recreation infrastructure.

### **Donations from Clubs, Associations, and Foundations**

Pursue donations of funds for specific projects and volunteer time from foundations, community/ratepayer associations, parent associations, and clubs.

### **Coordination with Engineering and other Departments**

Combine synergistic projects between Parks and Engineering and other departments where savings may be achieved through economies of scale and shared costs.

### **Corporate Sponsorships**

Pursue funds donated from corporations for specific initiatives and new facilities.

## **6.3 Decision Making Framework**

With a broad diversity of projects and recommendations, specific criteria were identified to assist in reviewing and assigning priorities. Evaluation criteria included:

- Alignment with OCP goals
- Risk management and public safety
- High intensity use
- Addressing a gap in supply
- Environmentally sustainability
- Improvement of operational efficiencies
- Cost effectiveness
- Partnering opportunities

In upcoming years additional projects and priorities may take precedence over the current recommendations. This may arise as a result of a shift in forecasted population growth, continued development opportunities or other reasons. Any major amendments to the POSSP should be documented as an appendix to the final report.

## 6.4 Capital Development

Table 10 below is a summary of key capital development initiatives which are addressed by recommendations in this plan. Phasing and relative cost are identified for each key initiative.

Table 10: Capital Project	Phasing				Relative Cost			
	Current	Short Term 0–5 yrs	Medium Term 5–10 yrs	Long Term 10–20 yrs	Low under \$200K	Medium \$200K - \$600K	High \$600K - \$1Million	Special Project over \$1Million
<b>Lynn Canyon Park</b>								
Parking and Circulation Improvements		✓					✓	
Forest Management, Habitat and Restoration Strategy			✓		✓			
Stormwater Management Improvements		✓				✓		
Accessibility Improvements including Accessible Viewpoint			✓		✓			
Lynn Canyon Park - East Lynn Creek Staging and Parking Area			✓				✓	
<b>Cates Park/Whey-ah-Wichen</b>								
Foreshore Stabilization and Remediation		✓				✓		
Environmental protection, invasive vegetation and habitat management	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Trail completion, upgrading and signage program	✓	✓				✓		
Design and Construction of new facilities:								
Feast House with concession and washrooms			✓					✓
Long House			✓			✓		
Roadway /Parking			✓			✓		
Washrooms and Storage at Boat Launch			✓		✓			
Cultural Resource Program			✓		✓			
<b>Growth Centre Parks and Open Spaces</b>								
Lynn Valley Town Centre		✓	✓	✓				✓
Lower Lynn Town Centre		✓	✓	✓				✓
Maplewood Village Centre		✓	✓	✓				✓
Lower Capilano Marine Village Centre		✓	✓	✓				✓

<b>Table 10: Capital Project</b>	<b>Phasing</b>				<b>Relative Cost</b>			
	<b>Current</b>	<b>Short Term</b> 0–5 yrs	<b>Medium Term</b> 5–10 yrs	<b>Long Term</b> 10–20 yrs	<b>Low</b> under \$200K	<b>Medium</b> \$200K - \$600K	<b>High</b> \$600K - \$1Million	<b>Special Project</b> over \$1Million
<b>Central Delbrook area - new playground</b>		✓			✓			
<b>Braemar Park - new neighbourhood park facilities</b>				✓			✓	
<b>Lillooet Park - new neighbourhood park with playground</b>				✓			✓	
<b>Riverside East neighbourhood - new playground</b>			✓			✓		
<b>St. Albans Park - new park improvements</b>				✓	✓			
<b>Park Buildings</b>								
Replace Delbrook Fieldhouse			✓				✓	
Replace Norgate Fieldhouse		✓					✓	
Replace Kirkstone Washroom			✓			✓		
Small Pre Fab Washrooms - Sowden, Blueridge, Roche Point		✓				✓		
Parkgate Park Fieldhouse (replace trailer)				✓		✓		
William Griffin ATF Washroom		✓				✓		
Inter River Park Tournament Facility Fieldhouse, including washroom, change and concession facilities		✓						✓
<b>Sports Fields</b>								
2 new ATF fields (1 in DNV, 1 in CNV)			✓					✓
10 year capital renovation plan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Light all weather fields (Kirkstone, Argyle & Maplewood)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
<b>Urban Beautification and Horticulture</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
<b>Urban Agriculture and Community Gardens</b>	✓	✓			✓			
<b>Upgrade park facilities as per Park Accessibility Review Report</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
<b>Playground Restoration</b>								
Provide playgrounds that are creative, accessible and safe	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	

Table 10: Capital Project	Phasing				Relative Cost			
	Current	Short Term 0-5 yrs	Medium Term 5-10 yrs	Long Term 10-20 yrs	Low under \$200K	Medium \$200K - \$600K	High \$600K - \$1Million	Special Project over \$1Million
<b>Water Park Restoration</b>								
Myrtle Park Water Park		✓				✓		
Kilmer Park Water Park			✓			✓		
<b>Youth Parks, Skate Parks, Bike Skills Parks, BMX Parks, Dirt Jump Parks</b>								
1 additional bike skills park	✓	✓			✓			
<b>Picnic Shelters and Special Event Facilities</b>								
Replacement of picnic shelters at Deep Cove Park and Princess Park		✓			✓			
<b>Dog Management in Parks</b>								
Fenced dog off leash areas or dog parks		✓			✓			
Habitat protection fencing		✓			✓			
Dog Education Program (signage, pamphlets, maps, communication)		✓			✓			
<b>Waterfront Access, Water Based Recreation and Shoreline Management</b>								
Waterfront Street Ends	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Regional Trail Linkages</b> (* denotes inclusion in Transportation Plan)								
Spirit Trail - Central Section *								
Spirit Trail - Eastern Section *								
Seymour Greenway Trail (south of Mt Seymour Parkway)		✓	✓					✓
Lower Capilano north-south connection *								
Connection between Baden Powell Trail and Powerline Trail		✓	✓				✓	
Braemar Road to Mill Street (Fromme Mountain)	✓						✓	
Upgrade Powerline Trail *								
N-S Connections between Hastings Creek Trail, LVTC, Powerline Trail and CNV trails		✓	✓					✓
E-W Connection between Powerline Trail, Hastings Creek Trail and Sea to Sky Trail			✓				✓	
Connection from Mountain Highway to MSP north of Highway 1 *								

Table 10: Capital Project	Phasing				Relative Cost			
	Current	Short Term 0–5 yrs	Medium Term 5–10 yrs	Long Term 10–20 yrs	Low under \$200K	Medium \$200K - \$600K	High \$600K - \$1Million	Special Project over \$1Million
Upgrade underpasses at Keith Road and Highway 1 bridges *								
Bridge across Lynn Creek at Crown Street *								
Inter River Trails		✓				✓		
Crossing over Highway 1 near Crown Street *								
Upper level trail in Mountain Forest area *								
<b>New Urban (Local) Trails and Greenway Linkages</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Alpine Areas: Hiking and Mountain Biking Trail Management</b>								
Fromme Mountain Trail System	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Consolidate, add, re-route and decommission trails	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
New trail from Braemar		✓			✓			
Fromme Mountain Trail Parking and Staging Areas - Mtn. Hwy. & Braemar		✓	✓	✓		✓		
Baden Powell Trail - upgrade trails and signage	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Seymour Alpine Trail System		✓	✓	✓	✓			
<b>Communication and Signage</b>								
Directional, regulatory, wayfinding, etiquette and interpretive signage	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Park and trail pamphlets and maps	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
<b>Environmental Planning and Management</b>								
Expand recycling program in parks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
<b>Forest Management and Ecosystem Restoration</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
<b>Urban Street Tree Program</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
<b>Inventory, Map and Manage Invasive Species</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
<b>Park Visitor Special Attractions</b>								
Maplewood Farm - improvements and restoration	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

## 6.5 Policy, Guidelines, Planning and Management

Table 11 below is a summary of key policy, guidelines, planning and management initiatives which are addressed by recommendations in this plan. Phasing is identified for each key initiative, many of which will require implementation on an ongoing basis.

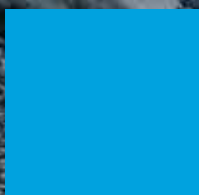
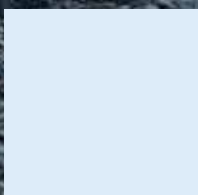
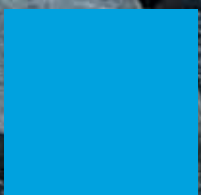
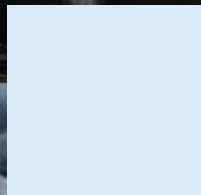
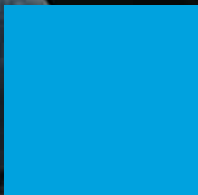
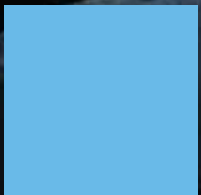
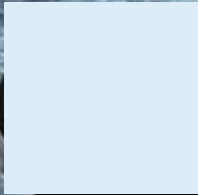
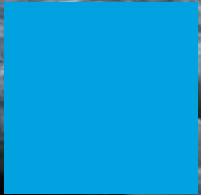
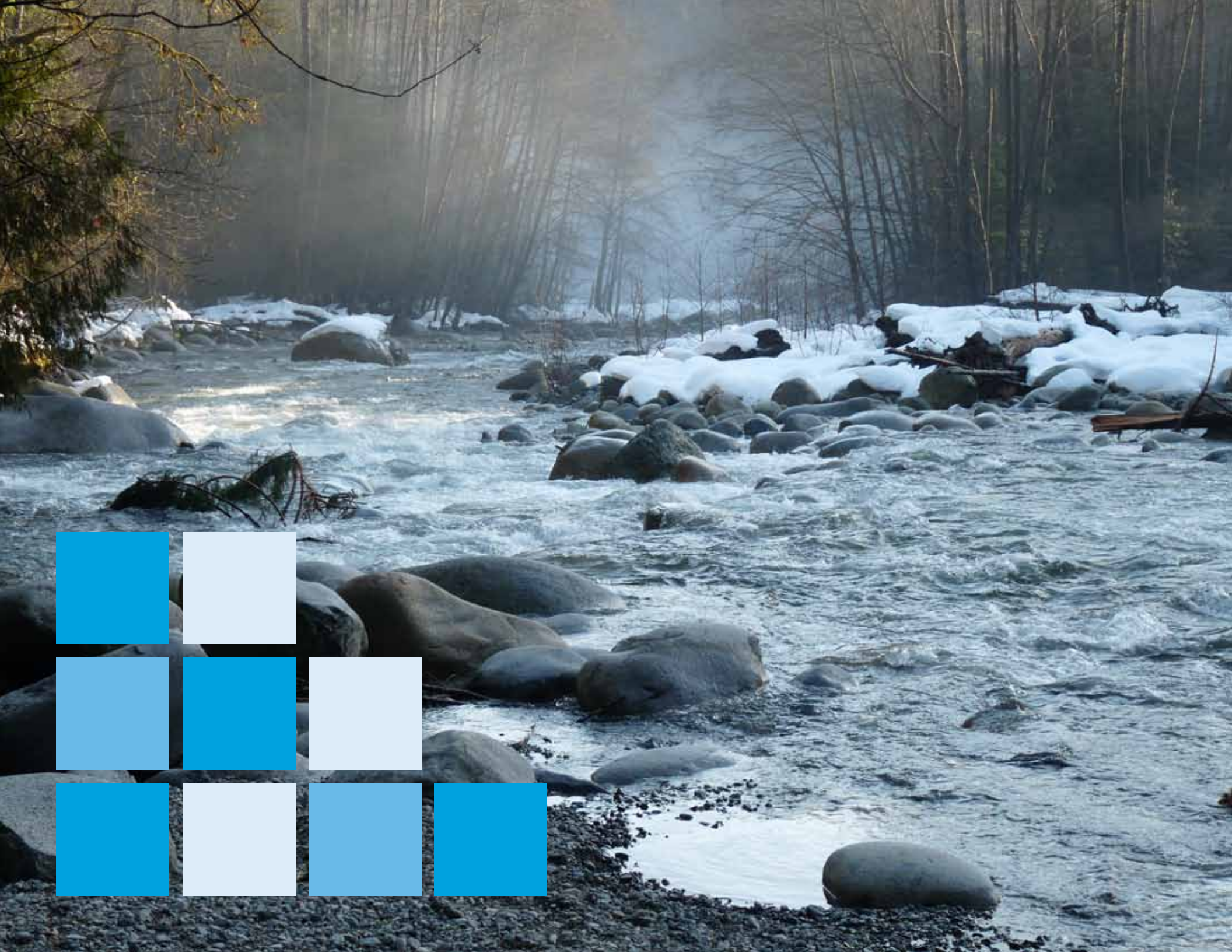
<b>Table 11: Policy, Guidelines, Planning and Management</b>	<b>Phasing</b>			
	<b>Current</b>	<b>Short Term</b> 0–5 yrs	<b>Medium Term</b> 5–10 yrs	<b>Long Term</b> 10–20 yrs
<b>Parks and Open Space Classification, Standards, Supply, Analysis and Planning</b>				
Work with School District to retain playgrounds, sport courts, playing fields and trail linkages	✓	✓	✓	✓
Explore addition of neighbourhood level park amenities in deficient areas			✓	
Work with District Planning on detailed park and open space plans for the growth areas	✓	✓	✓	✓
Prepare a Park Acquisition Strategy with acquisition and development criteria and priorities		✓	✓	✓
<b>Incorporate opportunities for an aging and culturally diverse population</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Sustainable Park Restoration and Development</b>				
Implement the District Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) Parks Asset Management Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓
Develop and implement Sustainable Best Management Practices			✓	✓
Develop park standards for construction and apply CPTED principles			✓	✓
<b>New Innovative Park Facilities</b>				
Cates Park/Whey-ah-Wichen: Develop ecotourism, special event, education opportunities, etc.			✓	
Panorama / Deep Cove Park: Integrate parking and traffic management strategies			✓	
Deep Cove Park: Review of Deep Cove Boathouse		✓		
Seymour Alpine Area: Undertake environmental studies, consultation and design to identify and establish trail routes and potential staging areas			✓	
<b>Sports Fields</b>				
Undertake site and agronomic analysis as basis for 10 year capital renovation plan		✓		
Investigate development of second tier 'casual use' field areas	✓	✓		
Review field allocation, scheduling, management and use of DNV, CNV and SD44 fields	✓	✓	✓	✓



<b>Table 11: Policy, Guidelines, Planning and Management</b>	<b>Phasing</b>			
	<b>Current</b>	<b>Short Term</b> 0–5 yrs	<b>Medium Term</b> 5–10 yrs	<b>Long Term</b> 10–20 yrs
<b>Develop strategies to address congested traffic and parking pressures in high use parks</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Develop strategies to improve public safety and minimize vandalism</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Expand the Park Ranger Program</b>		✓	✓	✓
<b>Explore models to manage and support evolving trends for youth parks, skate parks, bike skill parks, BMX parks, dirt jump parks and long boarding</b>		✓		
<b>Develop policies regarding boot camps, adventure and extreme sports</b>		✓		
<b>Integrate public art into park design and park elements</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Develop and Implement a Dog Management Program with Best Management Practices</b>		✓	✓	
<b>Trails</b>				
Prioritize the completion and upgrading of key trails linkages in and through the District (i.e. Spirit Trail)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Update the District Parks Major Community Trails and Routes Document	✓	✓		
Implement Alpine Recreational Strategic Study	✓	✓	✓	✓
Implement Fromme Mountain Sustainable Trail Use and Classification Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓
Inventory and map Seymour alpine trail system and prepare background report to summarize issues and concerns		✓	✓	
<b>Develop and update communication, wayfinding, maps and signage for parks and trails</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Ecological Integrity and Stewardship</b>				
Adopt an ecosystem-based approach and adaptive management process to park planning and management	✓	✓	✓	✓
Collaborate with Metro Vancouver and integrate their initiatives into planning and management	✓	✓	✓	✓
Implement recommendations from the Forest Ecosystem Mapping Framework for Ecosystem-based Management plan	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Implement recommendations from the Street Tree Master Plan and the Street Tree Inventory</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓

<b>Table 11: Policy, Guidelines, Planning and Management</b>	<b>Phasing</b>			
	<b>Current</b>	<b>Short Term</b> 0–5 yrs	<b>Medium Term</b> 5–10 yrs	<b>Long Term</b> 10–20 yrs
<b>Wildlife Program</b>				
Support initiatives to strengthen a bear smart community	✓	✓	✓	✓
Identify priority ecosystem components, habitat and biodiversity 'hot spots'		✓		
<b>Riparian and Storm Water Management</b>				
Protect and preserve wetlands, stream banks and streams, and provide public education	✓	✓	✓	✓
Implement storm water best management practices		✓		
<b>Provide education and enforcement to minimise the impact of encroachment in parks</b>			✓	
<b>Expand and coordinate public education, engagement, stewardship, volunteer and advocacy programs</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Develop a parks communication plan, in synergy with other organizations</b>		✓		
<b>Develop and enhance effective and dynamic interagency partnerships</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Develop a process to explore, review and manage public/private partnerships in parks</b>		✓		
<b>Develop criteria to assess requests for access to parks for commercial uses</b>		✓		
<b>Explore opportunities to expand the role of Maplewood Farm</b>		✓		



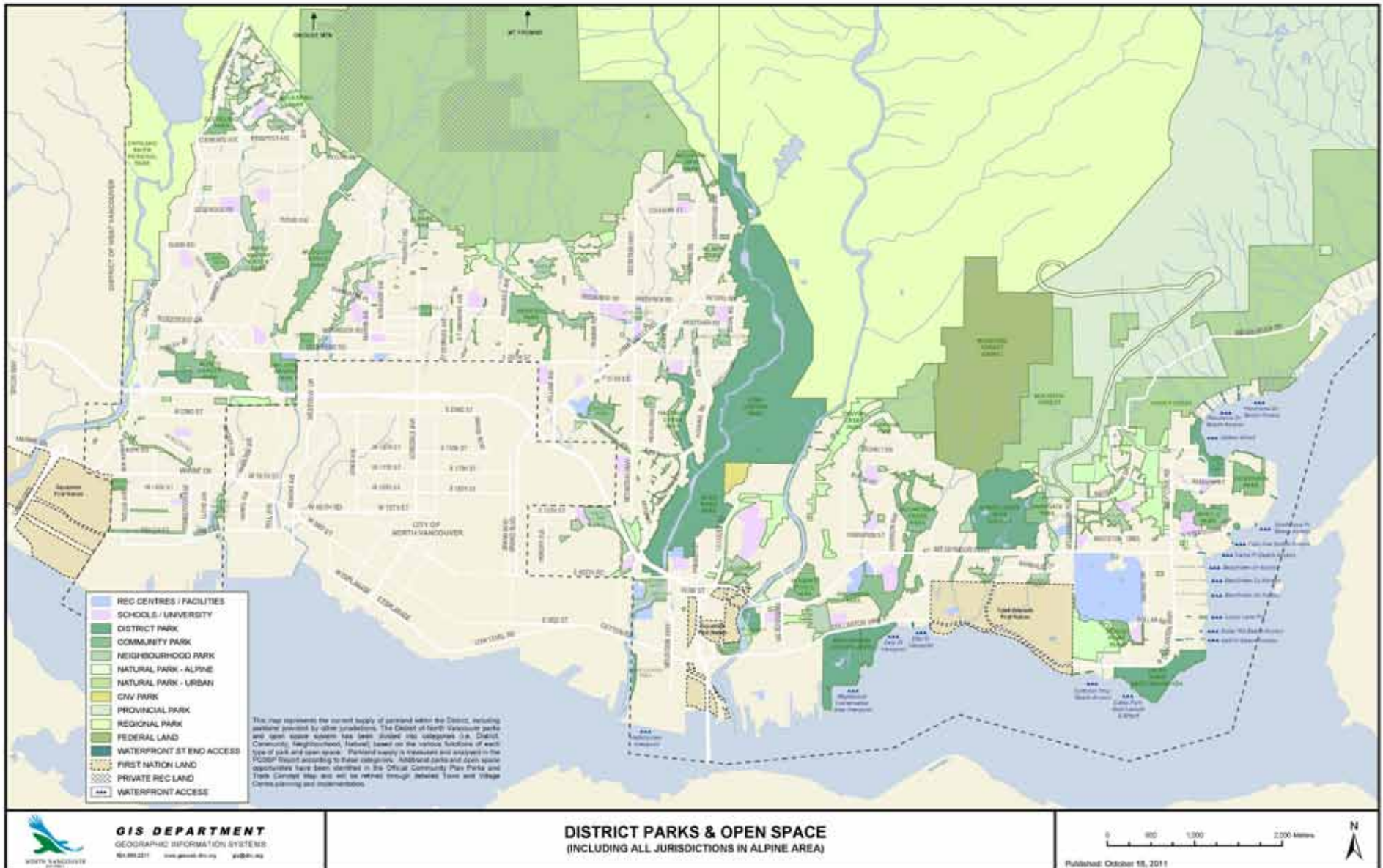


## 7.0 Maps

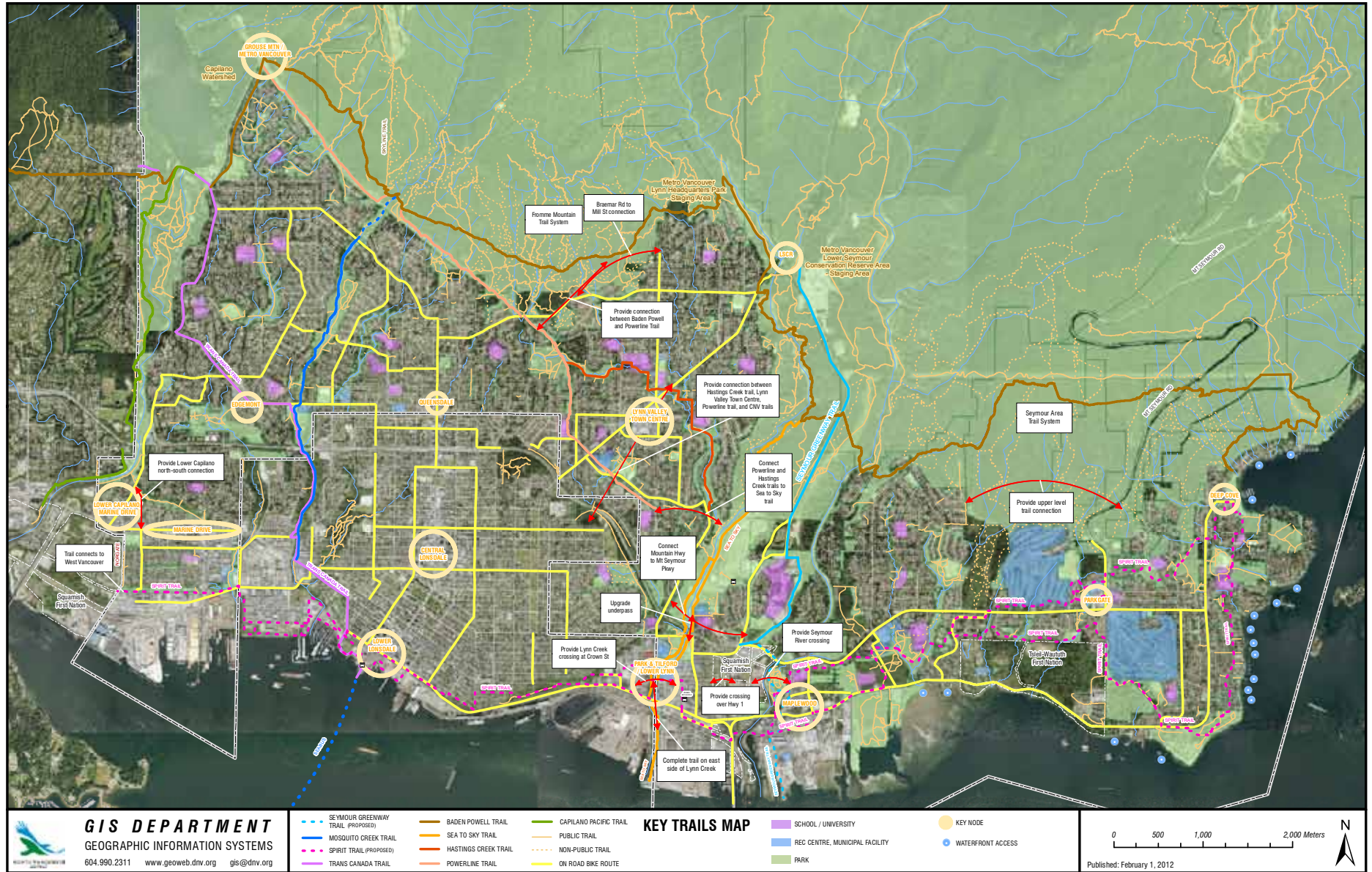
The following maps can be viewed in  
more detail at:

<http://www.dnv.org/article.asp?c=1096>

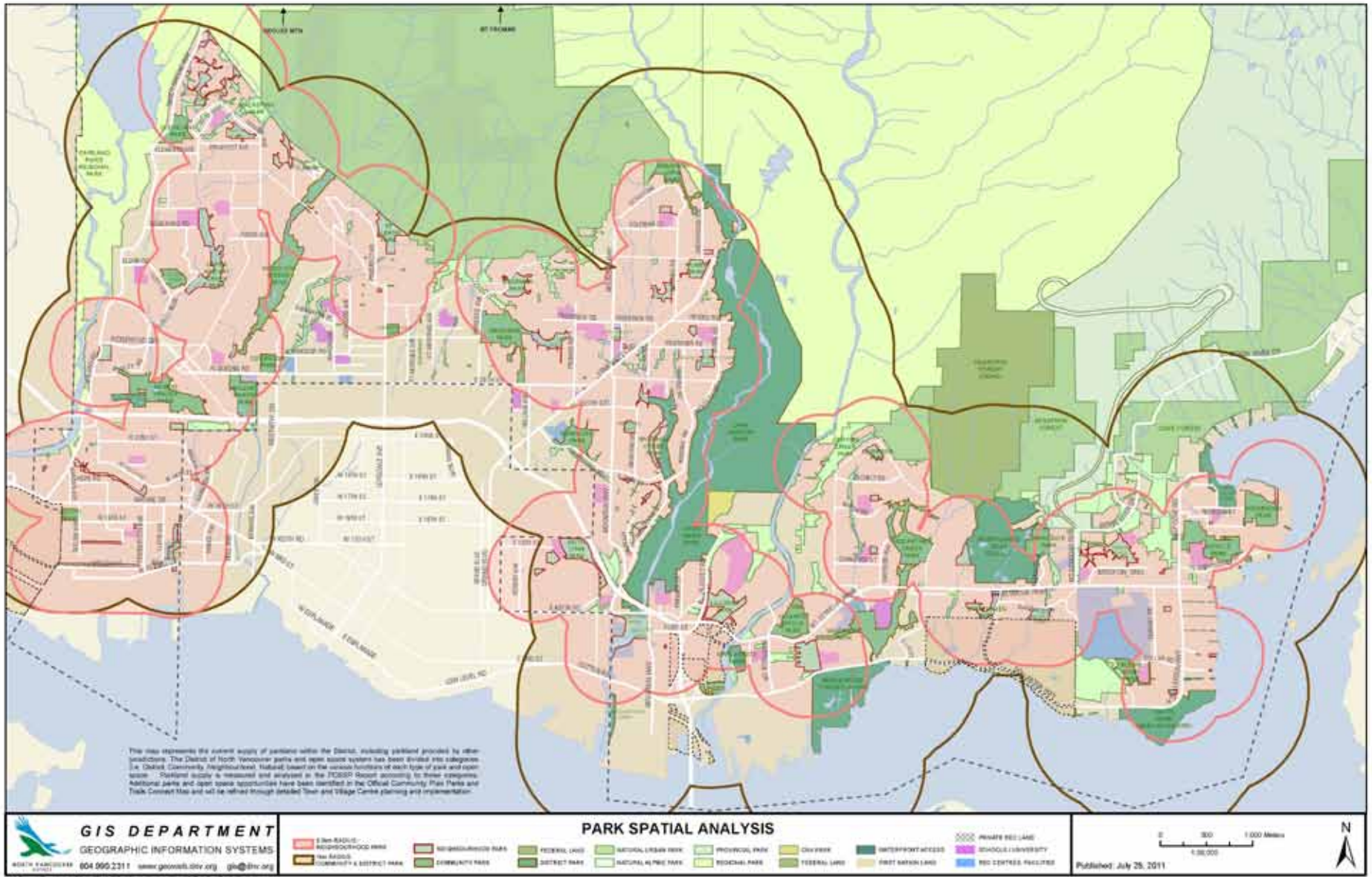
# Map 1: District Parks & Open Space



# Map 2: Key Trails

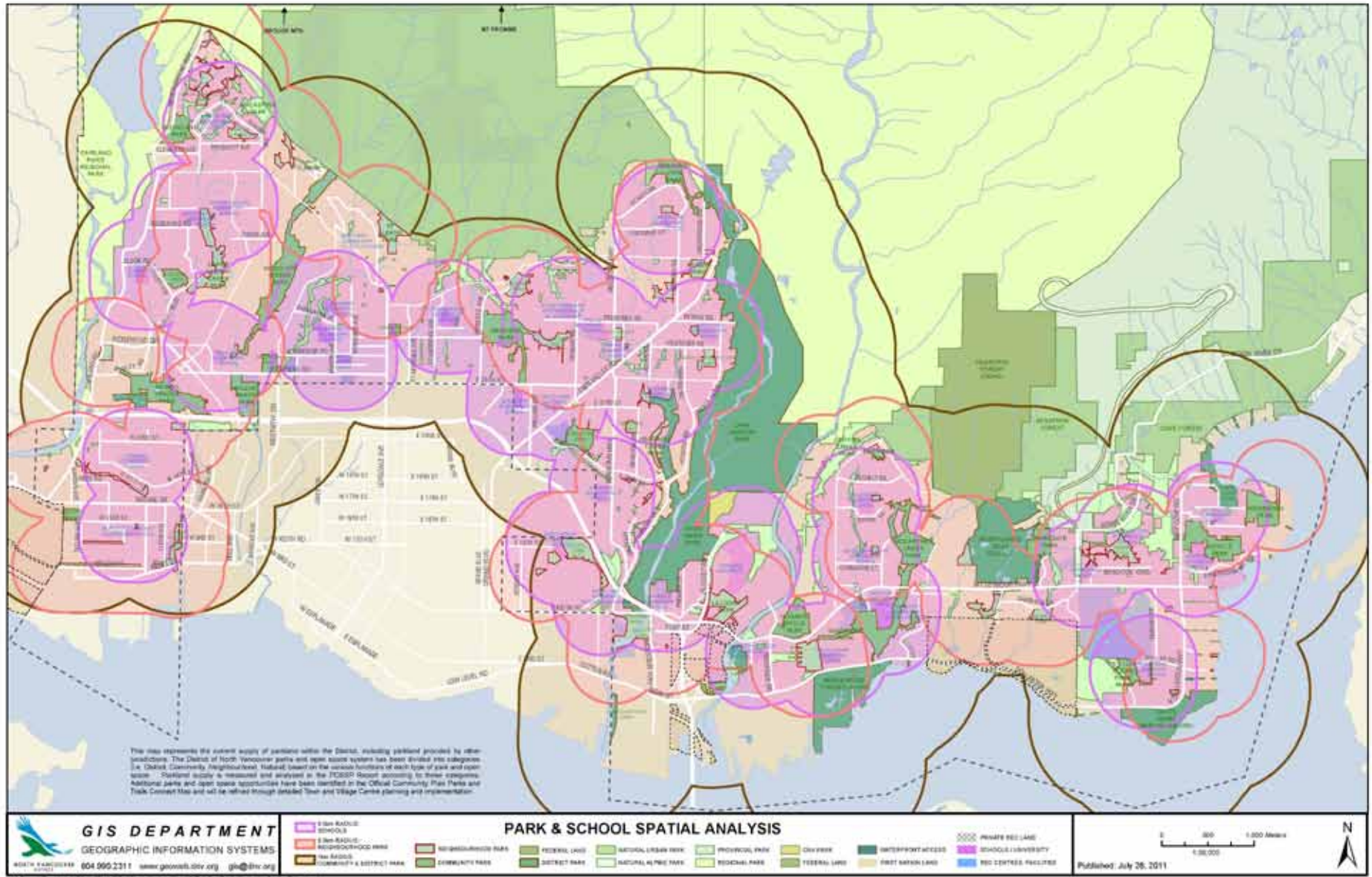


### Map 3: Park Spatial Analysis





# Map 4: Park & School Spatial Analysis



DNV  
2030

identity

Inspired by nature, enriched by people