



Rocky Point Park & Old Orchard Park Master Plans

Public Engagement Strategy

Date prepared: May 6, 2022

Engagement overview

The City of Port Moody is developing a comprehensive 10-year Master Plan Update for Rocky Point Park and a Master Plan to guide moderate upgrades for Old Orchard Park.

Rocky Point Park is Port Moody's best-known park and a popular regional destination for residents and visitors alike. Its 3.8 hectares (9.5 acres) offer public access to the waterfront, a variety of recreation opportunities, and a gateway to the Shoreline Park System right in the heart of the city. The Park was built circa 1947, with a major improvement implemented in 1991 which included the development of the seawall and concrete pathways.

Old Orchard Park, built circa 1958, anchors the north end of the Shoreline Park System and is one of the two parks within the Shoreline Park System (besides Rocky Point Park) that hosts a range of programming opportunities such as swimming, playground, picnicking, wildlife viewing as well as marine recreational uses (for non-motorized boats). Old Orchard Park also hosts Port Moody's only swimming beach and is a starting point option for walkers and cyclists using Shoreline Trails which extend approximately 3 kilometers to Rocky Point Park.

While Rocky Point Park and Old Orchard Parks continue to be well enjoyed by the community, they face intensifying usage pressures, as well as heightened stress on aging infrastructure and related ecosystems. With the anticipated population growth in Port Moody (and the region as a whole) as well as visitors to the city predicted to increase, an updated assessment and strategic renewal of park spaces has become essential to community well-being, social equity and the resiliency of our natural environment.

There will be three rounds of public engagement during the development of the Master Plans. The first round will focus on raising awareness, educating the public, and exploring project opportunities. The second round will determine the level of support for the draft principles and directions, and gain feedback and considerations related to the draft concepts. The final round will focus on relaying what we've heard from engagement, and how the input has shaped the final Master Plans.

Depending on future Provincial Health Office restrictions and guidelines, engagement opportunities may need to occur online or outdoors. The approach will be reviewed based on public health restrictions at the time of planning for each round of engagement.

The Draft Master Plans will be developed from Spring 2022 to Fall 2023, with opportunities for public engagement offered at key points in the planning process. Completion of the draft Master Plans is targeted for September 2023.

Purpose of engagement

There are three main objectives for this engagement:

- **Raise awareness** about the parks planning process and the key elements that will inform the concepts (i.e., access to and within parks, ecological network and habitats, climate adaptation, multimodal access and circulation, recreational uses, commercial businesses, community needs and programming, etc.).
- **Understand** community needs and desires for the parks and their connectivity and ensure participants feel they were heard throughout the process.
- **Gather quality feedback** on opportunities, considerations, values, as well as proposed park design concepts.

Topic of engagement

Phase one will collect feedback that will inform the draft guiding principles, early directions, and concepts. It will explore topics including the public's vision, values and goals for the parks, as well as current park usage and park access. Phase two will gather feedback on the draft concept designs for each park and the key principles associated. It will assess the level of support for the draft principles and early directions to inform the final concept plans. Phase three will provide an opportunity for the project team to present the Master Plans and to address any final questions and comments.

Below are key topics that we anticipate the public and stakeholder groups will want to discuss. These are potential topics to engage on:

- Parking demand and capacity
- Wildlife and habitat protection
- Species at risk
- Climate adaptation and sea level rise
- Park upgrades and maintenance
- Youth programming and amenities
- Accessibility and mobility needs
- Events and community programming
- Educational opportunities
- Multi-use trails and pathways
- Recreational amenities and uses
- Business and commercial needs

Impact of engagement

Engagement on this project will seek to ensure that community concerns and issues are identified, understood, and accounted for in the development of the Master Plans. Specifically, engagement success will result in outcomes including, but not limited to:

- Public and stakeholder feedback that helped to inform decision-making process;
- Public satisfaction with engagement process and opportunities; and,
- Strengthened relationship between the City and stakeholders/public

The project team will track and report back on participation metrics such as the number of participants at engagement events or the number of submissions on online platforms.

Level of engagement

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFORM We will keep you informed.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSULT We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision. We will seek your feedback on drafts and proposals.	<input type="checkbox"/> INVOLVE We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternative developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	<input type="checkbox"/> COLLABORATE We will work together with you to formulate solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	<input type="checkbox"/> EMPOWER We will implement what you decide.
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iap2canada.ca – IAP2 Canada, an association of professionals in the field of public participation (P2), works to advance good public participation practices and has set the standard for engagement levels.

Reach of engagement

The project will reach target audiences including:

- Local and regional park users (both Rocky Point Park and Old Orchard Park)
- Broader Port Moody community
 - Community Associations
 - School District 43
 - Nearby residents
- Internal staff working groups by department
- Internal Steering Committee
- External stakeholder groups
 - Environment and stewardship groups
 - Business owners and recreation groups
 - Community groups and programming organizers
 - Youth groups

Other key stakeholders include:

- First Nations
- Park and Recreation Commission
- Environmental Protection Committee
- Youth Focus Committee
- Seniors Focus Committee
- Transportation Committee
- Mayor and Council

Methods of engagement and communication

The following primary methods of external communication and engagement are proposed:

Communications (all phases)

- **Engage Port Moody project page**
Project page to inform the public, hosted on Engage Port Moody with FAQ tab including a series of commonly asked questions.
- **Signs and posters at City Facilities**
Signage to inform the public of the project and engagement opportunities, distributed at City facilities including libraries and community centres.
- **Social media posts**
Engagement opportunities and project updates posted on Port Moody's social media channels.
- **Stakeholder invitations**
Invitations to participate in stakeholder meetings/workshops, delivered to targeted groups and organizations.
- **Community events (TBD)**
Materials to promote the engagement process distributed at community events.

Engagement Activities

Phase 1

- **Staff Working group interviews**
Group interviews with staff by department to understand key opportunities and challenges as part of this process.
- **Stakeholder meetings/workshops**
Facilitated group conversations to provide a background review and learn about a range of perspectives and priorities for each Master Plan.
- **Online survey**
Online and printed public survey to engage with Phase 1 key topics and gather feedback that will inform the draft park concepts. Project team may consider a QR code link to a simplified poll with fewer questions for those who do not wish to register on Bang the Table (e.g., regional visitors).
- **Open house event(s)**
Outdoor open house at each park to share the project process and ask for initial public input through engagement boards and survey.

Phase 2

- **Online survey**
Online and printed public survey to gather comments on the draft concepts for Rocky Point Park and Old Orchard Park, and their implementation. Project team may consider a QR code link to a simplified poll with less questions for those who do not wish to register on Bang the Table (e.g., regional visitors).

- **Stakeholder meetings/workshops**
Facilitated group conversations to receive feedback on the draft concepts for Rocky Point Park and Old Orchard Park, and their implementation.
- **Open house event**
Combined open house for Rocky Point Park and Old Orchard Park to seek public input on draft concept plans.

Phase 3

- **Information Session (in person / online)**
Virtual open house to share the draft plans and address final questions and comments.

Timeline

Activity	Date(s) or date range
Phase One * All timelines are approximate and are to be confirmed	
Staff Working Group Interviews	Spring 2022
Stakeholder Meetings/Workshops	Spring – Summer 2022
Public Online Survey	Summer 2022
Outdoor Open Houses	Summer 2022
Pop-Ups at Community Events (TBD)	Summer 2022
Outreach and Educational Opportunities	Summer – Fall 2022
Phase Two	
Public Online Survey	Winter 2023
Stakeholder Meetings/Workshops	Winter 2023
Open House	Winter 2023
Pop-Ups at Community Events (TBD)	Winter 2023
Phase Three	
Information Session (in person / online)	Spring 2023

Reporting of engagement

Feedback will be summarized and reported out after each phase of engagement (Phase 1, Phase 2, and Phase 3). Engagement reports will be included in a memo to Council and will be shared publicly on the project webpage.