

Considered at the July 13, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Appendix 1

Social media (Facebook) comments in response to question about ways to improve and diversify Neighborhood Parks in Port Moody

I've posted this in the hope that anyone living close to a Neighbourhood Park in Port Moody will be willing to share what might encourage increased park activity, e.g., playground, benches, dog relief area, picnic tables, expansion, etc.

Port Moody has many parks under 1 hectare, which are classified as Neighbourhood Parks: Ailsa, Appleyard, Barber, Cedarwood, Eagle, Flavelle, Foxwood, Greenleaf, Kyle, Reservoir, Seaview, Sycamore, Twin Creeks, and others not yet inventoried.

Neighbourhood Parks seem to get less attention and I'd like to learn informally about ways to diversify and improve these parks.

(This post isn't about Trails, or the larger City, Community parks like, Aspenwood, Northshore, Old Orchard, Rocky Point, Westhill, etc.

If you have comments to share about these bigger parks, please make your own post; thank you.)

Disclosure: I'm a part of a Parks & Recreation Commission project underway.

- s.22 Personal Information
 - Moody Centre, Chip Kerr Park. Playground is geared to 3-8 year olds, nothing for 1-3 year olds, nothing for 8-?? Also, it is built on wood chips! Toddlers eat these!! And then they drag it home too! Not good. Porta potty facilities would be nice. A couple more benches would be appreciated. Also, dogs run free here and not everyone picks up!!
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information This is our local park too. My kids much prefer exploring in the woods behind the park!
- s.22 Personal Information
 - We skip the playground for the bush, we've dubbed this one "bush park".
- s.22 Personal Information
 - They need a parking lot at Bert Flinn Park so it is more accessible for disabled and elderly residents. There is limited parking right now. Also, more activities for kids.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Small, fenced dog areas - they don't need a huge space, and I don't like going to the big, busy dog parks.
 - Benches/picnic tables. Washrooms!
 - Neighbourhood park is Mountain Meadows, if that counts.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information . What about active play structures for different ages?

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- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information I absolutely agree with the fenced playground suggested above if I was still taking little kids.
 - More things for teenagers? Basketball courts, etc.? Or the workout equipment I've seen at some parks?
 - How about benches in some quieter areas for when people just want some peace and quiet?
- s.22 Personal Information
 - What activities would be possible in a neighborhood park that would attract tweens, and teens?
- s.22 Personal Information
 - picnic tables as a place to hang out.
 - Climbing walls can be built for many ages (and can be added to existing buildings).
 - Teens will play on playgrounds- I saw a bunch of teens on a climbing structure in a PoCo park last week.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - I think more basketball hoops would be great for the older kids! And I think having large games painted on the ground would be awesome like checkers (kids can use rocks or sticks for the game pieces).
 - And any other game ideas (I can think of any lol)
 - For the littler ones I think having painting on the ground/sidewalks little roads for when they ride their bikes and just run around with stop signs and little traffic lights
 - Have pit stops like a market, car wash, police station, vet, firehall so they can travel to each location (within the park)
 - bigger slides like the one at Rochester Park in Coquitlam!!! My older boys love it (11/13-year-old boys) and they love the climbing wall!!
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information It's great to hear what actually get used in parks. Too many small neighborhood parks are empty much of the time.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Ahhaha I am re chalking my driveway every other day like this 😂😂😂 my little guy who is 3 is full of imagination and loves to follow the paths to different places. mainly the police station though.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information Perhaps you should consider a career in creative play area design

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- **s.22 Personal Information**
 - hahaha I should lol u should see the inside of my house 😂😂 imagination play is in every room 😂 tape on the floors, cardboard cut outs, blanket forts u name it.
 - But I think I'll keep my 24/7 job of being a mom and not add any else to the pile of raising 4 kids cuz I run around with my head cut off A LOT
- **s.22 Personal Information**
 - Also, we have an off-leash dog park in Moody Centre, adjacent to Chines Park at the south end of Hugh Street, that still doesn't have one of the red dog-do disposal cans.
- **s.22 Personal Information**
 - As a grandma of toddlers, I enjoy tot lots with a bench or two to place stuff on, and occasionally sit on to watch kids play from.
- **s.22 Personal Information**
 - I just want to mention, not all people go to the park for a picnic, or a day out with the kids. Some people go and sit on the benches to think, and maybe grieve. So perhaps a bench or two away from the commotion. Maybe near some flowers to help heal. Just a thought.
- **s.22 Personal Information**
 - **s.22 Personal Information** yes, some quiet benches in out of the way spots for people looking for calm/quiet/the sounds of nature.
- **s.22 Personal Information**
 - Live in **s.22 Personal Information** and closest park is Easthill park. Westhill Park isn't far, either.
- **s.22 Personal Information**
 - Do you feel your nearest neighborhood parks are adequately "activated" to attract various ages of children, seniors, families?
- **s.22 Personal Information**
 - **s.22 Personal Information** Yes, I do. Although there is ZERO parking for Easthill park, so it's only accessible by walking. Westhill has plenty of parking.
- **s.22 Personal Information**
 - A covered area, garbage and recycling bins, a bench or two would be great.
 - Speaking for myself though, I'd love it if more playgrounds were fenced or partially fenced. I have twins and they love to run off in different directions lol.
 - We tend to mostly frequent the playground at the Rec Centre because it only has that one open door. It's so much easier for me to keep track of them when I only have to keep eyes on one exit. It gives them more freedom to roam and explore, too.

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- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information I hear you, we use to go to Como Lake Park for this particular reason 🤔
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information, We frequent that one too!
 - And the little tot lot at Poirier.
 - Fenced playgrounds are few and far between.
 - I'd much rather take them to a smaller neighbourhood playground than a larger playground if I knew that I wouldn't be stressed about them running into traffic.
 - Those little legs are getting fast! 😊
- s.22 Personal Information
 - I live next to s.22 Personal Information and find dog owners use it most heavily in the winter, it's mostly used by the kids-splash pad in the summer. The old waterpark was more all-year (it had a bridge, large rocks and a 'follow-me' path our kids loved to run or bike on- vs the new waterpark is fancier but single purpose)
 - For this park, mostly used by neighbours, I don't think a bathroom is essential. Welcoming spaces and trees to create a 'destination' are the main appeal.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information Great feedback. Thank you but define "welcoming spaces" for you please.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information they can vary. A large grass expanse in front of fences isn't very welcoming. Add a border or trees, a sandpit or a bench and it becomes a destination.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information my son loved the old water park. I liked having a park close by we could walk to that was not overwhelmed. Many summer days spent their picnicking.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information, Water seems to be a natural attractant and doesn't have to be pool or a beach. Look what happens on a hot day when someone puts out a sprinkler for the kids to jump through,

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- s.22 Personal Information
 - we held 3 different summer birthday parties for my young son at this park in the 90's.
 - The kids played in the water without concern you have with a pool. The adults used the picnic tables to sit, and we had the kids snack/lunch at them. The trees gave shade when the sun was hot.
 - This park was also well used by the elementary school when the afternoon was hot, and the end of the school year was close.
 - It was a great little park, but I have not been back since moving in the early 2000.
 - Only suggestion would be a small fence around the sitting/play area. The creek is there and having a few kids there keeping me busy making sure they stayed out of it.... also would help keeping dog poop off of the kids shoes.

s.22 Personal Information

- A neighbourhood park is really meant to be for those within a couple of km - walkable with little kids. There's not much you could add to make it attractive enough to drive to, as a destination, so traffic is really dependent on # of families in the immediate area, and those demographics shift. So if you want more use of the space, it needs to appeal to complementary audiences (dog owners, adults, teens, seniors) who also live on the area but don't care about the play structure. A fenced small dog area would be a draw, a unique piece of play equipment that adults/seniors would also like is an option, a piece of interactive art or natural local indigenous history info, an affiliation with a well known local group (rotary, school) are some ideas.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - We're going to look at a few different walkability distances s.22 Personal Information. Thanks
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information if each park also had an identity - a special theme or play feature - that might draw out of neighbourhood users. Not sure that's a goal though. An example of a unique feature could be a loose parts/unstructured playground (like the one Coquitlam piloted in 2018 I think at Pinetree). Or a water pump and river run play feature, though once you add water the operating cost is higher. Same with washrooms.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - I've been doing walkabouts and asking questions of those I see using the area what they like and dislike. Love this post s.22 Personal Information Disclosure: I'm also involved in a Parks and Recreation Commission Project
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Rubber ground cover instead of wood chips. Some great suggestions already mentioned.

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- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information Could be an issue re latex allergies but that's just a possibility. Not sure if they use natural rubber
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information, I think it may be ground tires. Some parks already have it. I think it may be at the rec Center Park.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - What is the name of your local neighbourhood park please s.22 Personal Information?
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information Appleyard
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information Appleyard.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information it's mostly a tot lot and I agree with s.22 Personal Information suggestion rubber would be great for the littles
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Washrooms and a bit of covered space for some of the lesser sun-friendly folk.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information...and, also, for the lesser rain friendly folk (in regard to the covered area). Allows for small events to held in the park, concerts, art shows, etc. rain or shine.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Live in s.22 Personal Information area.
 - Closest parks are Easthill park and Seaview Park.
 - My s.22 Personal Information attends Seaview and, as the playground is adjacent to the school, we use it frequently - as do many other families.
 - Seaview Park is situated alongside very busy Cecile Dr, which is the main exodus for College Park.
- There is no fencing blocking the very popular Seaview Park from the very busy Cecile Drive roadway.
 - There are no flashing speed readers at Seaview like on Forest Parkway (Aspenwood Elementary) or on Sunnyside (Anmore Elementary).
 - No speedbumps like at Glenayre Elementary or at Moody Centre Elementary.
 - Seaview isn't set far back from the road like Pleasantside Elementary or Mountain Meadows.
 - Safety is a huge issue here.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Washrooms & covered play areas 🍷🍷

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- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information would you and other commentators mind sharing your local neighbourhood park name please? Thanks
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Barbecue pits, garbage cans, picnic benches, (clean) washrooms
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Garbage and recycling bins and water bottle fillers
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Who empties all these containers though? More costs eh
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information Valid question. Perhaps by streaming refundables early, some revenue could be generated
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Nobody uses them for poop bags apparently either lol
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information Sadly too many irresponsible dog walkers/owners leave their bagged dog crap outside of a garbage bin even when there are specially designated bins available.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - So frustrating! I feel like it's almost better to adopt campgrounds approach of not providing bins at campsites idea, but we know humans just are not responsible enough here sadly.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Where is neighbourhood park?? Sorry for asking
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information what area do you live in
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Port Moody west
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information Glover College Park, Seaview, Glenayre? Port Moody west is a wide area. I can tell you which is your nearest park if I know more precisely what area your home is in.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Westhill
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information Your neighborhood park would be Westhill park.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Garbage bins NOT situated next to benches.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Obviously covered areas are needed in raincover 😊
 - <https://www.aaastateofplay.com/playgrounds-for-senior-citizens/>

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- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information Thank you for this excellent reference resource. Making a note of this.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - Playground equipment for anyone more than 8 or 10 years old is woefully lacking in all Port Moody parks of all sizes and classifications.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information This has been a recurring complaint in many areas. Thank you for posting.
- s.22 Personal Information
 - s.22 Personal Information 100% agree. Our playgrounds are terrible. The only two decent playgrounds in Pomo are Rocky Point and Old Orchard .OO is pretty basic, and RP is prettier than pre-reno, but our Pomo kids find it less challenging and less exciting than before.

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Appendix 2

Neighborhood Park User interview and written feedback regarding Chip Kerr Park

On Tue, Jun 14, 2022 at 4:51 PM s.22 Personal Information

s.22 Personal Information

wrote:

I am a member of the city Park and Recreation commission and would love to hear your ideas on what our neighborhood parks need to be optimized for the users (kids and parents)

Please send me your ideas asap as we are preparing a report for council.

Thank you so much

Hi s.22 Personal Information,

Nice to chat with you yesterday!

I know you're needing this info soon, so I'll share with you the feedback I got from our staff yesterday.

The absolute most important feature we look for in a play area is an undercover area. At s.22 Personal Information we feel that kids are stuck indoors too much at school (and at home!) and we strive to keep kids busy learning and playing outdoors as much as possible- even with our soggy weather! We have built at least 1 hour of outdoor curriculum into our Monday- Friday before and after school care and are outdoors for upwards of 6 hours a day during spring and summer camps. Rain or shine, we take nature walks, do outdoor science programmes, go on community adventures and just play outdoors. The only covered area in our general location is located at Moody Elementary, and this space is not always available to us. It would be great to have a sheltered space available at Chip Kerr and at Kyle Park for kids to gather, teachers to teach and for a dry space to leave backpacks and supplies.

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Appendix 2

Neighborhood Park User interview and written feedback regarding Chip Kerr Park

Another point mentioned was, of course, washrooms. The only public washrooms accessible by little walking feet in our neighbourhood are at Rocky Point- for summer camps this is sometimes doable, but we do like to stay south of St John's where there is less traffic.

It is music day today at [s.22 Personal Information] but tomorrow we will be asking the kids to share with us their ideas and desires for playground and park necessities on Thursday. I'll share their ideas with you Thursday evening or Friday. I'll continue to get feedback from our staff as well.

Thanks again for taking our ideas into consideration, it's always great when our awesome community works together!

[s.22 Personal Information], Program Administrator

[s.22 Personal Information]

[s.22 Personal Information] Instagram

[s.22 Personal Information] Port Moody

This is an adventure

Note: We anticipate a further reply from [s.22 Personal Information] we are including these comments now to support the upcoming report to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Should a further response be received, we will submit that as an on-table item to be an attachment to Appendix 2.

Neighbourhood Parks Promotion Sub Committee – Co-Chairs

Wilhelmina Martin

John Grasty