



Trail Network Plan Public Engagement Strategy

Date prepared: June 22nd, 2023

Engagement overview

The City of Port Moody is home to an estimated 33 kilometres of authorized trails, including hiking, mountain biking, and mixed-use trails. The development and maintenance of the City's bikeways, greenways, and pathway network is a high priority for Port Moody residents. It physically connects different parts of the community and facilitates recreation and access to City's network of forests and shorelines.

In recent decades, the City has experienced considerable growth in the demand for the trail network, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. In fact, trail uses are the most popular recreational activity in Port Moody. People walk, jog, bike, or hike on trails for exercise. The heightened demand for and use of trails are expected to persist and grow with the community. To meet the increasing demand, the City is planning to develop a Trail Network Plan (TNP), in combination with the City's new Trail Standards document, to establish clear and coordinated direction and approaches for planning, managing, and enhancing the City's trail network over the next 30 years (through to 2050). Community engagement will take place along with the development of the TNP to obtain insight into public aspirations, concerns, and priorities for Port Moody's trail network.

The Trail Network Plan (TNP) project was initiated in response to increased use of trails and is guided by policy in the Official Community Plan (2014), Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2015), Master Transportation Plan (2015), and Climate Action Plan (2020). The development of Port Moody's TNP will contribute to the implementation of parks and recreation goals, including:

- Natural Environment: Protect and celebrate nature as a destination
- Healthy Active Living: Increase parkland, facilities, programs, and services as the population grows
- Beautify the Community: Provide easy access to nature for all residents
- Connectivity and Accessibility: Expand the trail and bikeway systems to link existing trails with each other, considering multiple trail uses; Consider active transportation as a whole, integrating trails with bikeways, and considering the interrelationships with vehicular access, parking and links to surrounding communities
- Facilities to Meet Needs: Expand multi-use opportunities in buildings, parks, trails and public spaces

The TNP will establish a 30-year vision for our extensive trail network and provide clear and coordinated direction for the planning and management of our trails and trail-related amenities to meet the increasing demand for trail uses.

There will be two phases of public engagement during the development of the TNP. The first phase will focus on informing and educating the public on the project and seeking input on public aspirations and concerns for the trail network. The second phase will ask participants to provide feedback on the draft TNP and assess implementation priorities for the final TNP. Most of the engagement activities will be in person to offer the best engagement experience for community members. The TNP will be developed throughout 2023 and into early 2024 with opportunities for public engagement offered in the fall 2023 and winter 2024. Completion of the TNP is targeted for early 2024.

Purpose of engagement

To achieve our community engagement goals, we have identified five main objectives, including:

- Inform and educate the public about:
 - The current and projected state of our trail network (including access to trails), considering population growth, climate change, and development pressure
 - The role of a TNP and other policies and regulations on trail maintenance, management and planning
 - The challenges for trail network management, particularly due to rapidly increasing demands and ongoing development
- Understand the community's aspirations, needs, and concerns for the City's trail network
- Consult the community in developing a long-term vision for trail planning and management that reflects the community's needs, aspirations, and priorities
- Consult the community to assess priorities for implementation, and identify outstanding gaps and opportunities to maintain and enhance the City's trail network
- Build community awareness, support, and advocacy for the TNP
- Collaborate with First Nation governments on trail design to avoid impact on sites of Indigenous cultural heritage and enhance sites of Indigenous and natural cultural heritage

Topic of engagement

Both phases will seek to consult the community and targeted stakeholders to obtain insight into public aspirations, concerns, and opportunities to better plan, manage, and enhance our trail system. Engagement will also aim to build community awareness, support, and advocacy for the TNP.

Phase one will focus on informing and educating the public on the current and projected state of our trail network and the challenges for trail planning and management. It will also seek inputs on public aspirations, needs, and concerns for the trail network. The second phase will ask participants to provide feedback on the draft TNP and share their priorities for implementation.

Impact of engagement

Engagement on this project will impact the community by improving their understanding of the current and projected state of the trail network in Port Moody. Engagement on this project will directly influence the vision, values, and prioritization of implementation in the TNP. Engagement will indirectly influence final strategic recommendations presented to Council.

Engagement will seek public input to ensure that their questions, aspirations, concerns, and issues are identified, understood, and accounted for in the development of the TNP.

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 tools and the participants' satisfaction with the engagement.

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.

Consultation with First Nations

Consultation with local First Nations is essential to collaboratively develop a successful TNP. Therefore, it is a crucial component of the Engagement Plan and will continue as standalone work throughout the development of the TNP. The project staff will collaborate with interested Rights Holder Nations whose traditional and unceded territory has the potential to be impacted as a result of this project. Trail design should be done to avoid impact on sites of Indigenous cultural heritage and enhance sites of Indigenous and natural cultural heritage. Rights Holder Nations may include:

- kwikwə́ləm (Kwikwetlem)
- sə́lilwə́təʔ (Tseil-Waututh)
- xʷməθkʷə́yəm (Musqueam)
- Sk̓w̓x̓wú7mesh (Squamish)
- q̓ícə́y (Katzie)
- q'wa:ń́ ʔ'əń́ (Kwantlen)
- qiqéyt (Qayqayt), and
- Stó:lō (Sto:lo) Peoples

At the project initiation, the City will send a project notification to local First Nations with information about the TNP project and invite them to participate in government-to-government discussions about the project. Consultation with First Nations will be designed to meet the availability and interests of local First Nation staff and community members. It could include a sharing circle at any point in the project, site visits with First Nation representatives, and one-on-one meetings with Elders and other community members, either online or in-person.

Reach of engagement

The project reach will be extensive as the trail network contributes to the entire community of Port Moody.

Target audiences for the engagement will include:

- Port Moody residents
- City committees, such as:
 - Parks and Environment Committee
 - Seniors Focus Committee
 - Transportation Committee
 - Inclusion Diversity Equity Accessibility (IDEA) Committee
 - Youth Focus Committee
- Key external stakeholders and agencies, such as:
 - Metro Vancouver Regional Parks
 - Adjacent municipalities (Coquitlam, Anmore, Burnaby)
 - Trans Canada Trail
 - Trails BC
 - Port Moody Rotary Club
 - School District 43
 - Community associations
 - Business owners/operators
 - Developers
 - Environmental groups
 - Recreation user groups, including but not limited to: Tri-Cities Off Road Cycling Association, HUB Cycling, Burke Mountain Naturalists, Mossom Creek Hatchery,

Noons Creek Hatchery

- Mayor and Council
- Any other stakeholders as identified by City staff

Methods of engagement and communication

The following primary methods of external engagement are proposed:

- **Engage Port Moody project page**
 - Platform: Engage Port Moody
 - Intent: To inform the public about the TNP project and to promote participation to the online survey and pop-up open house events. Diamond Head Consulting will prepare the content on project background and key messages to the public.

Phase 1 engagement activities:

- Referral letter to local First Nations
 - Follow up discussions and activities
 - *Optional*: summary update sent to local First Nations at the conclusion of Phase 1
- **Online survey #1**
 - Platform: Engage Port Moody
 - Intent: To collect information from the public regarding:
 - Their trail usership, access, and preferences
 - Barriers to trail use (gaps and constraints) and user conflicts
 - Level of satisfaction with and support for the trail network (e.g., condition, wayfinding, safety, crowding)
 - Opportunities for improvements
- **Online stakeholder workshop**
 - Platform: Online (Zoom)
 - Intent: To obtain further insights into the current management and planning of Port Moody's trail network and associated challenges and opportunities
 - Targeted external stakeholder groups: As listed above in the section of "Reach of engagement"
- **Trailhead pop-up open house events (2) and signage (multiple locations)**
 - Platform: Pop-up information booth(s) at trailheads, exact location(s) TBD in consultation with City staff, signage at multiple trailhead locations to direct public to online survey
 - Intent: To provide information about the project and hear from public about their concerns, opportunities, and priorities for Port Moody's trail network

Phase 2 engagement activities:

- Second referral letter to local First Nations providing proposed action plan
 - Follow up discussions and activities
 - Summary update sent to local First Nations at the conclusion of Phase 2
- **Online city staff workshop**
 - Platform: Online (Zoom)

- Intent: To obtain feedback on the drafted action plan and the prioritization of actions
- **Online council workshop**
 - Platform: Online (Zoom)
 - Intent: To obtain feedback on the draft TNP and highest priority actions
- **Online survey #2**
 - Platform: Engage Port Moody
 - Intent: To collect feedback from the public on the draft TNP, assess priorities for implementation, and identify outstanding gaps or opportunities for the final TNP
- **In-person open house**
 - Platform: In-person venue
 - Intent: To present the draft strategy to community members and stakeholders, inform them of the draft TNP, and answer questions related to the TNP content and development

Timeline

Activity	Date(s) or date range
Phase One * All timelines are approximate and are to be confirmed	
First Nations referral letter #1	February 2023
Engage Port Moody project page launch including survey #1	September 2023
Online Stakeholder Workshop	September 2023
Trailhead pop-up open house events	September 2023
Phase one public engagement summary	November 2023
Phase Two	
First Nations referral letter #2	December 2023
Online interdepartmental staff workshop	January 2024
Online Council workshop	February 2024
Engage Port Moody survey #2	February 2024
In-person open house	February 2024
Phase two public engagement summary	April 2024

Reporting of engagement

The results of the consultation will be reported back to City staff and Council. In addition, the consultation results will be shared with the public via Engage Port Moody, which will include Phase 1 and Phase 2 public engagement summaries.