



City of Port Moody

Report/Recommendation to Council

Date: December 10, 2024
Submitted by: Community Services Department – Parks Division
Subject: 2024 Annual Report – Parks and Environment Committee

Purpose

To provide a report on the activities of the 2024 Parks and Environment Committee.

Recommended Resolution

THAT the report dated December 10, 2024, from the Parks and Environment Committee regarding 2024 Annual Report – Parks and Environment Committee be received for information;

AND THAT the 2025 Parks and Environment Committee be asked to review this report and bring forward its annual Work Plan in Spring 2025.

Committee Mandate

The purpose of the Parks and Environment Committee is to provide recommendations and advice on parks and environmental issues, strategies, and initiatives in the following areas:

- long term planning, management, maintenance, improvement, operation, control, construction, and use of Parks and Recreation facilities;
- fee schedule for all facilities, programs, and operations on which fees shall be levied on an annual basis;
- existing or proposed bylaws and policies related to the protection and enhancement of the City's parks and environment;
- requirements for parks and environment in new development or re-development within the city as referred by Council;
- opportunities for park enhancement and environmental protection within the city; and
- other areas identified by the committee with approval from the Council.

Meeting and Attendance

The Parks and Environment Committee met monthly between January 2024 and December 2024, with the exception of February and May due to a lack of quorum, August and December, due to summer and winter break. Beginning in September, the City offered committees the opportunity to conduct meetings in-person/hybrid or electronically, contingent on satisfying an

in-person physical quorum. Between September and November 1 meetings were held in-person/hybrid and 2 meetings were held electronically.

Councillor Diana Dilworth was appointed as Chair and Councillor Haven Lurbiecki as Vice-Chair for the 2024 term. The following members, representing a diverse range of knowledge and experience relevant to the Parks and Environment Committee were appointed:

- John Callaghan
- Greg Curtis (until April 2024)
- John Grasty
- Sterling James
- Trevor Kouyoumjian
- Jonas McConville (as of March 2024)
- Pedram Moshirfatemi
- Christa Overbury (as of June 2024)
- Damian Regan
- Andrea Rempel
- Cleone Todgham

Julie Pavey-Tomlinson, General Manager of Community Services, and Nathan Taylor, Manager of Recreation, served as the primary staff liaisons to the Committee. Arsh Dhillon and Adam Shroff served as the Legislative Services Coordinators.

Key Activities and Work Plan

The 2024 Parks and Environment Committee Work Plan was approved by Council on February 27, 2024. The following are the key activities that were undertaken in 2024 by the Parks and Environment Committee (a complete list of motions from 2024, along with the status of each, is included in **Attachment 1**).

Fees Bylaw – Community Services

Staff provided an overview of the changes to the Fees Bylaw, noting the increase in fees and charges, reviewing factors used to determine proposed fee increases, and comparative fees to neighbouring municipalities. Committee discussion ensued regarding methods utilized to determine fees for different activities; cost of equipment and staffing; usage of pre-paid passes, notifications to pass holders, and funds redistribution upon cancellation of passes; venue cancellation timelines and fees; changes in patterns, trends, and demands for classes and activities; and fee schedule and subsidization for local schools.

Inlet Park Redevelopment Project

Staff gave a presentation entitled “Inlet Park Redevelopment Project Update.” Committee discussion ensued regarding the following topics: tentative grand opening event; Dark Sky Compliant Standards; considerations of climate change adaptation on playground and shade structure options; accessibility and management plan for parking lot; tree removal and repurpose process; and bike rack availability.

Shoreline Trail Upgrade

Staff gave a presentation entitled “Shoreline Trail Sanitary Upgrades Project.” to review the recent improvements made to the Shoreline Trail system. Committee discussion ensued regarding sanitary sewer mains reaching end-of-life; high use of the trail by the community; the importance of providing a pathway that is high quality and meets the community’s expectations; upgrades that were made to address accessibility and safety concerns/tripping hazards; and an update on outstanding work.

Environment and Sports City Awards

Staff presented the nominations for the City Awards related to Environmental and Adult Sport Awards. The committee reviewed the submissions and evaluated nominations based on the award criteria for each award category and recommended award recipients for Council to consider.

Tree Protection Bylaw

Diamond Head Consulting gave a presentation entitled "Tree Protection Bylaw Updates." Committee discussion ensued regarding the following topics: communications with Port Moody residents regarding changes to the Bylaw and long-term community plan; permitting requirements when trees are an imminent risk to property and residents; replacement ratio at other local municipalities; requested information about any test pilots completed to see real impacts of the proposed changes; changes to the permitting process; and studies conducted on survivorship of trees when using certain replacement ratios.

Coastal Flood Strategy

Staff gave a presentation entitled “Coastal Flood Management Strategy,” and asked the committee to provide input into considerations for developing the strategy. Committee discussion ensued regarding the following topics: risk assessments; climate action plan goals; sea level rise; other barriers and opportunities in developing the strategy as well as the next steps in the process.

Rocky Point Park and Old Orchard Park Master Plans

Staff gave a presentation entitled "Recommended Design Concepts: Rocky Point Park and Old Orchard Park Master Plans. “Committee discussion ensued regarding the following topics: concern regarding replacement of assets prior to end of infrastructure lifespan; expanding amenities into under-served neighbourhoods; staff clarification on capital investment plans into the pool; potential to use shoreline improvement to help reduce the silting and dredging to support boat launch operation; jurisdiction of boat launch and increase of fees; safety enhancements of youth at skatepark; plans for the band stand at Rocky Point Park; length of Boathouse Restaurant lease agreement; stakeholder engagement with the Port; habitat islands for ecosystems; and interconnectivity and accessibility of Old Orchard Park.

Rocky Point Park and Old Orchard Park Master Plans – Draft Report

Staff gave a presentation to update progress on the Rocky Point and Old Orchard Master Plans entitled "Recommended Design Concepts: Rocky Point Park and Old Orchard Park Master Plans.” Regarding Rocky Point Park, Committee discussion ensued regarding the following topics: indoor pool and considerations with Recreation Facility Study, proposed width of walkways and boardwalk, capacity of the park and needs for additional park space to support

future growth, engagement with museum, consideration to further reduce parking in the future, and update on pay parking program. Regarding Old Orchard Park, Committee discussion ensured regarding the following topics: Pacific Coast Terminals and dredging, the classification of the park, concerns regarding construction estimates being too low and project enhancement timelines.

Natural Asset Management Strategy

Staff gave a presentation entitled "City of Port Moody Natural Asset Management Strategy." Committee discussion ensued regarding the categorization and inclusion criteria for parks, trails, protected areas, or trees to be considered natural assets.

Trail Network Plan

Staff gave a presentation entitled "City of Port Moody Trail Network Plan." Committee discussion ensued regarding the following topics: steps that can be taken to protect sensitive habitats from fragmentation and impacts from trail user and dogs; municipal use of open-source activity data and apps for trail development and planning; clarification on previous strategies and plans; concerns regarding accessibility of trails networks; clarification on distance of trails; public art on trails; consideration of new trails on Development Cost Charges update; and park inventory and classification.

Invasive Species Management Strategy

Staff gave a presentation entitled "Invasive Species Management Strategy." Committee discussion ensued regarding the following topics: opportunity to connect with CP Rail; areas with ground nesting birds; opportunity for public awareness and education through signage; ideal time of year for invasive species removal; and engagement of private landowners.

Feasibility Study for New Recreation/Community Facilities

Staff gave a presentation entitled "Feasibility Study for New Recreation Facilities – Overview." Committee discussion ensued regarding the following topics: looking at failures and successes of new recreation facilities at neighbouring municipalities to mitigate risks; youth accessibility to recreation facilities; opportunities for bike jumps for youth; planning location and construction of recreation facilities based on new housing requirements from the provincial government; and avoiding construction of single purpose facilities and combining buildings with other community needs.

Alcohol in Parks

Staff gave a presentation entitled "Responsible Liquor Consumption in Public Spaces – Pilot Project Assessment." Committee discussion ensued regarding the following topics: experience of committee members regarding alcohol in parks; inclusion and exclusion criteria of parks in the program; bylaw officers patrolling the parks; garbage in the parks and cost of managing garbage collection; drinking in parks excluded from the program; and clear signage to prevent association of drinking in the parks with smoking.

Civic Complex Enhancement Project

Staff gave a presentation entitled "Civic Complex Exterior Upgrades and Enhancement" and referred to slides contained within the on-table package. The Project Manager of Engineering and Operations facilitated an interactive

activity to gather feedback for inclusion in the project considerations.

Outstanding Matters (Recommended to be included in the 2025 Work Plan)

- Zero Waste Strategy
- Parkland Strategy
- Green Infrastructure Policy
- Dog Management Strategy
- Lower Suter Brook Enhancement Plan

Suggested Focus Areas for Next Year

Subject to Council's direction, the following focus areas should be included in the Committee's Work Plan for 2025:

- Zero Waste Strategy – review draft and provide input
- Parkland Strategy – review draft and provide input
- Green Infrastructure Policy - review draft and provide input
- Dog Management Strategy - review draft and provide input
- Lower Suter Brook Enhancement Plan - review draft and provide input
- Parks and Recreation Master Plan – input on development of a new 10-year strategic plan
- Fees Bylaw – provide input on updates to Community Services Fees
- City Awards– review nominations and make recommendations for the Environmental and Adult Sports Awards

Council Strategic Plan Goals

The recommendations in this report align with the following Council Strategic Plan Goal(s):

- Strategic Goal 1.2 – Ensure financial sustainability;
- Strategic Goal 1.3 – Lead with good governance;
- Strategic Goal 2.1 – Protect, integrate and enhance our natural assets;
- Strategic Goal 2.2 – Advance climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- Strategic Goal 2.3 – Enhance and expand parkland and open spaces;
- Strategic Goal 3.3 – Enhance community wellbeing.
- Strategic Goal 4.3 – Leverage public spaces.

Attachment

1. 2024 Parks and Environment Committee Resolutions.

Report Authors

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