



City of Port Moody

Report/Recommendation to Council

Report Date: February 11, 2025
Submitted by: Community Services Department – Parks Division
Subject: Mayor’s Town Hall and Community Dialogue on Park Expansion in Moody Centre

Purpose

To present a proposed scope for the Mayor’s Town Hall and Community Dialogue on Park Expansion in Moody Centre and to seek Council’s endorsement.

Recommended Resolution(s)

THAT the proposed scope outlined in the report dated February 11, 2025, from the Community Services Department – Parks Division regarding Mayor’s Town Hall and Community Dialogue on Park Expansion in Moody Centre be endorsed.

Background

At the Strategic Priorities Committee meeting held on November 19, 2024, Council received a project update on the Parkland Strategy including the draft analysis, key findings and recommendation themes. Council also passed the following resolution:

SPC24/047

THAT a Mayor’s Town Hall and Community Dialogue on Park Expansion in Moody Centre be held;

AND THAT members of Council be requested to attend and assist in the facilitation of this event;

AND THAT staff work with the Mayor’s Office to plan this event, and report back to council with a plan and budget for approval by February 2025;

AND THAT the results of this Mayor’s Town Hall/Community Dialogue be used to inform the Parkland Strategy and be incorporated into the draft OCP for consideration.

Discussion

Staff are currently completing the final draft of the Parkland Strategy, aiming to present the document to Council for endorsement in April 2025. The town hall as described in this report will take place after the presentation of the Strategy. The town hall will tie the goals laid out in the Strategy to specific conditions and needs for Moody Centre to inform future park projects in that neighbourhood, and the review and update of the OCP. The town hall as envisioned will broadly focus on the following four topics:

1. The current condition and pressure on Moody Centre parks and how this could change over time.
2. Input on what is working well in existing parks and open spaces in Moody Centre.
3. Ideas and examples that could help inform the planning for Moody Centre.
4. Financial and physical opportunities and constraints to park service delivery in Moody Centre.

This event will provide participants with an opportunity to learn more, share thoughts and experience, receive answers to questions, and connect directly with Council. Feedback received from the town hall will be considered in the implementation of the Parkland Strategy and in the update to the OCP.

Other Option(s)

This report is in response to direction from Council to plan and deliver a town hall to discuss parkland in Moody Centre; therefore, no other options are being provided.

Financial Implications

The costs associated with the town hall are estimated at \$26,500. These costs allow for efficiencies in having the same engagement consultant as for the ongoing OCP engagement process, as outlined more fully below. This amount includes supporting event planning and design, preparing materials (including a presentation and handouts), facilitation of the meeting and all table discussions, event documentation and follow up reporting. The proposed funding source is CM24001 – (O) Council Strategic Plan Goals.

Communications and Public Engagement Initiatives

City staff propose working with an external facilitator to plan and deliver the town hall. While the snow and ice town hall held in (2023) relied on staff to plan and facilitate the event, external facilitation is proposed for several reasons:

- The content of the Moody Centre parkland town hall is complex and impactful. The discussion requires consideration of long term impacts, current and future uncertainty and significant financial investments. A carefully designed approach, with dedicated facilitation and a professional report of the process and outcomes will help ensure the event meets the needs and expectations of Council, and can transparently inform the OCP process.
- External facilitators leading the small group discussions will allow members of Council and staff to participate more fully and listen to the ideas and feedback from participants.

- The facilitators will compile detailed notes from the small group discussions, and develop an overall report on the town hall including a summary of the presentations, which can be quickly shared back with participants and Council.
- Having the same facilitator for both the OCP and parkland town halls will link the parkland strategy implementation discussion with the ongoing OCP update, and provide greater fluidity of information flowing from the parkland town hall into the time-sensitive OCP update process.
- Having facilitators plan the event allows will leave staff capacity for other priority work plan items.

The town hall outline is as follows:

With whom are we engaging?	Port Moody residents including Council Committees and Citizen Advisory Group
What is the scope of the public engagement?	<p>Staff and the consultant will share information and provide opportunity for discussion and feedback around the following themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The current condition and pressure on Moody Centre parks and how this could change over time. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Within this theme we will share background analysis, and explore opportunities and constraints in Moody Centre now and in the future (e.g., climate change, population and demographic changes, technology). 2. Input on what is working well in existing parks and open spaces in Moody Centre. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Within this theme we will explore well loved spaces, amenities and activities to build on what is working. 3. Ideas and examples that could help inform the planning for Moody Centre. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Within this theme we will explore designs and amenities from other cities that can serve to inspire park service delivery in Port Moody’s fastest growing neighbourhood. Factors for consideration may include climate resilience, reconciliation, inclusivity, diversity, equity, accessibility, or mental and physical health. 4. Financial and physical opportunities and constraints to park service delivery in Moody Centre. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Within this theme we will explore financial needs and options, including how partnerships, phasing and innovation could play a role in diversifying and growing park services in Moody Centre.
How will we engage?	Attendees will listen to presentations, participate in topic-specific discussions, and provide feedback using visual engagement materials, such as maps, renderings, and photos.

How will we communicate?	<p>We will promote participation in the town hall for key audiences through the City’s usual communication channels, which typically includes media release, website, social media, and digital billboards.</p> <p>We will also promote the event onsite within permitted spaces via existing or new signage; and ensure Parks staff/hosts have information so they can answer public inquiries. Staff will directly invite Council Committees and the Citizen Advisory Group via email.</p>
When will we engage?	The town hall will take place in May 2025 (scheduling underway) in the Inlet Theatre and Galleria.
How will we share what we heard?	The engagement consultant will provide a What We Heard Summary for inclusion in a staff report to be publicly presented to Council.

Council Strategic Plan Goals

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

- Strategic Goal 2.3 – Enhance community well-being;
- Strategic Goal 3.1 – Protect, integrate, and enhance our natural assets;
- Strategic Goal 3.2 – Advance climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- Strategic Goal 3.3 – Enhance and expand parkland and open spaces;
- Strategic Goal 4.2 – Enhance vibrancy through placemaking, arts, culture, heritage, and tourism; and
- Strategic Goal 4.3 – Leverage public spaces.

Report Author

Erin Embley, RPP, MCIP
 Director of Environment and Parks

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Moody Centre Parkland Expansion Town Hall.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Feb 4, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Julie Pavey-Tomlinson, General Manager of Community Services - Jan 29, 2025

Stephanie Lam, City Clerk and Manager of Legislative Services - Jan 29, 2025

Lindsay Todd, Manager of Communications and Engagement - Jan 30, 2025

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Jan 30, 2025

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology, for Anna Mathewson, City Manager - Feb 4, 2025