



CITY OF PORT MOODY

Trail Network Plan

Phase 2 Engagement Summary



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on behalf of the City of Port Moody.

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1.0 Scope of the Engagement

The City of Port Moody is home to a valued network of 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 and trail use is the most popular recreational activity in Port Moody. In recent decades, the City has experienced considerable growth in the demand for the trail network, which is expected to persist and grow with the community. To meet the increasing demand, the City is planning to develop a Trail Network Plan (the Plan) 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). The Plan is being developed following Port Moody's Trail Standards document. The Trail Standards provides a trail classification and difficulty rating system and standards for the design, construction, and maintenance of the City's trail system. Together, the Plan and Trail Standards will help the City of Port Moody manage its trail network for the benefit of all trail users in the city.

Two phases of public engagement were delivered during the development of the Plan. The first phase took place from September to early October 2023. The engagement focused on informing and educating the public on the project and seeking input on public aspirations and concerns for the trail network. The first phase of engagement was presented to the Council on January 9, 2024. The second phase took place from November 19 to December 15, 2024, to get feedback on key components of the draft Plan. The final Plan is expected to be presented to Council for their consideration by the spring of 2025.

While public engagement results provide the City with valuable information, please note the views expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of all Port Moody residents.

1.1 Scope of Public Engagement

During Phase 1 engagement, the project team planned to:

- Inform and educate the public on the:
 - Current and projected state of our trail network (including access to trails), and considerations such as population growth, development, and climate change
 - Role of a trail network plan and other policies/regulations that guide trail maintenance, management, and planning
 - Challenges and opportunities for trail network management
- Ask the community to provide input on:
 - Their aspirations, needs, and concerns related to the maintenance and enhancement of Port Moody's public trail network
 - Their long-term vision and priorities for trail planning and management

During Phase 2, the project team intended to ask the community to:

- Review the draft Trail Network Plan and provide feedback
- Help us prioritize actions for implementation

1.2 Engagement Activities

The public was invited to provide input through an online survey¹, and an online open house in November and December 2024. Table 1 outlines the details of engagement opportunities for Phase 2.

Table 1. Summary of engagement opportunities in Phase 2 Engagement

Date	Engagement Activity	Participants
November 18 to December 15, 2024	Survey	236 respondents
December 4, 2024	Online open house	10 participants

1.3 Communication Approaches

Information on engagement opportunities was communicated via several available channels to reach as many people as possible. The channels used included:

- Engage Port Moody project page
- Engage Port Moody direct email to registered users
- Direct email to civic committee members, School District 43, Fraser Health, Metro Vancouver, and Citizen Advisory Group members
- Media release (also published as a web news story at portmoody.ca)
- Direct email to City news subscribers
- Social media posts (Facebook, X, Instagram)
- Calendar entry at portmoody.ca
- Ads on digital billboards, Newport digital sign, and Civic Centre Galleria tv monitors
- Digital ad (Tri-City News)
- Boosted Facebook post

¹ Paper copies of the survey were made available upon request

2.0 Who We Heard From

We had 246 interactions with engagement participants in Phase 2 Engagement, including 236 survey responses and 10 people who attended the online open house.

Public engagement participation from engage.portmoody.ca/trail-network-plan includes:

- **236 engaged participants** contributed to one or more feedback tools
- **684 informed participants** visited multiple project pages, contributed to a tool, or downloaded documents
- **1,398 aware visitors** viewed the project page

2.1 Survey Demographics

Of the 236 survey respondents:

- 86% reside in Port Moody
- 11% own or operate a business in Port Moody
- Most respondents live in Heritage Mountain/ Heritage Woods/ Twin Creeks (24%), Moody Centre (21%), Inlet Centre (19%), and College Park/ Glenayre/ Harbour Heights/ Seaview (18%; **Figure 1**)
- Most represented age groups are the 35–44-year-olds (27%) and the 65+ years old (25%; **Figure 2**)

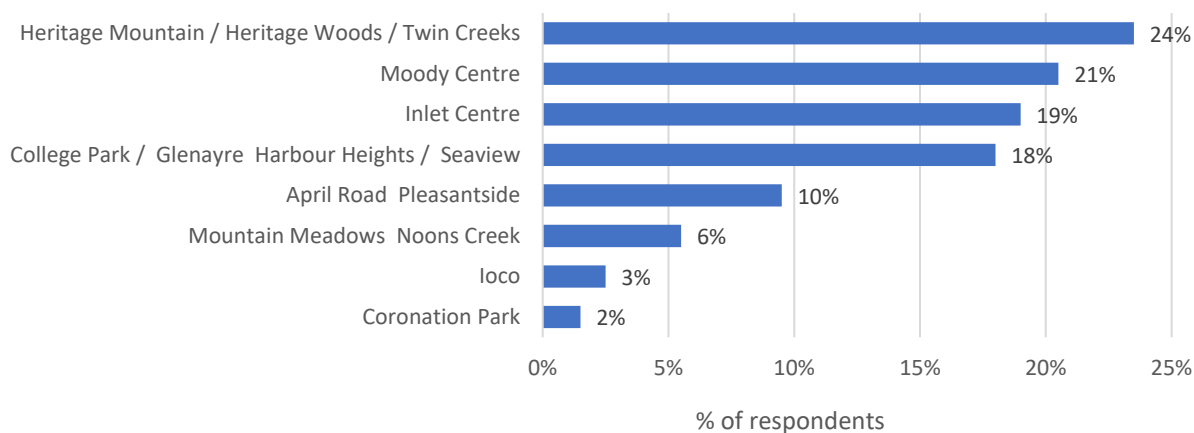


Figure 1. Where survey respondents reside (total respondents = 200)

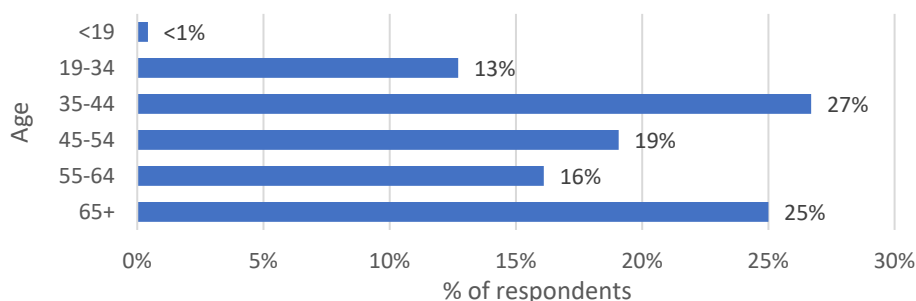


Figure 2. Age of survey respondents (total respondents = 236)

2.1.1 Respondents' Trail Use

Survey respondents were also asked about their trail use, so that the project team could better understand the interests of users who took the survey. Out of the 236 respondents:

- The top motivations to use trails were exercise (86% of respondents) and mental health (67%; (Figure 3).
- Most common travel modes along trails include walking (90%), biking (56%) and running or jogging (40%; Figure 4).

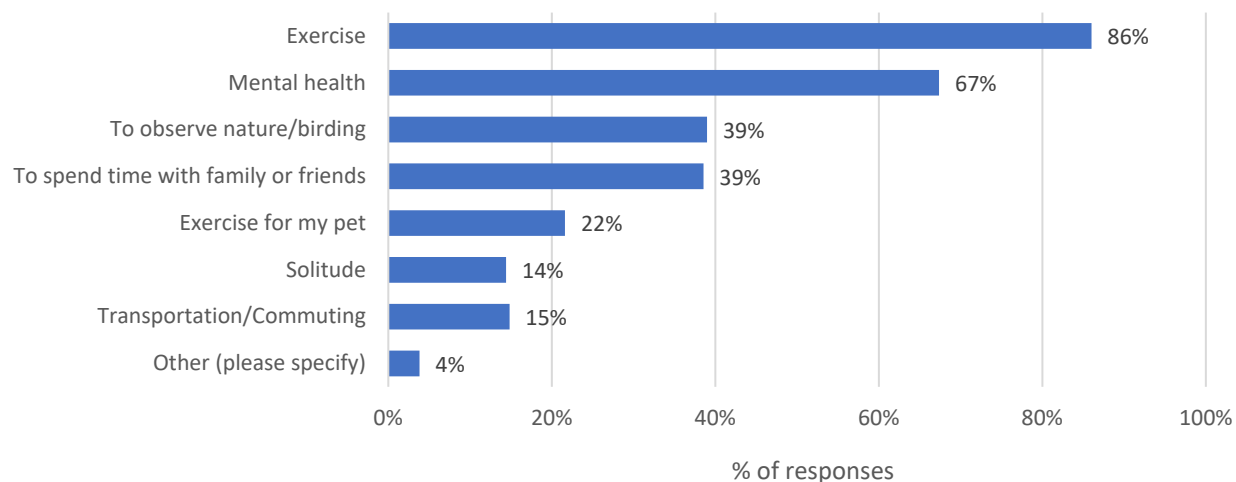


Figure 3. Ranking of survey respondents' motivations for using Port Moody trails (total respondents = 236).

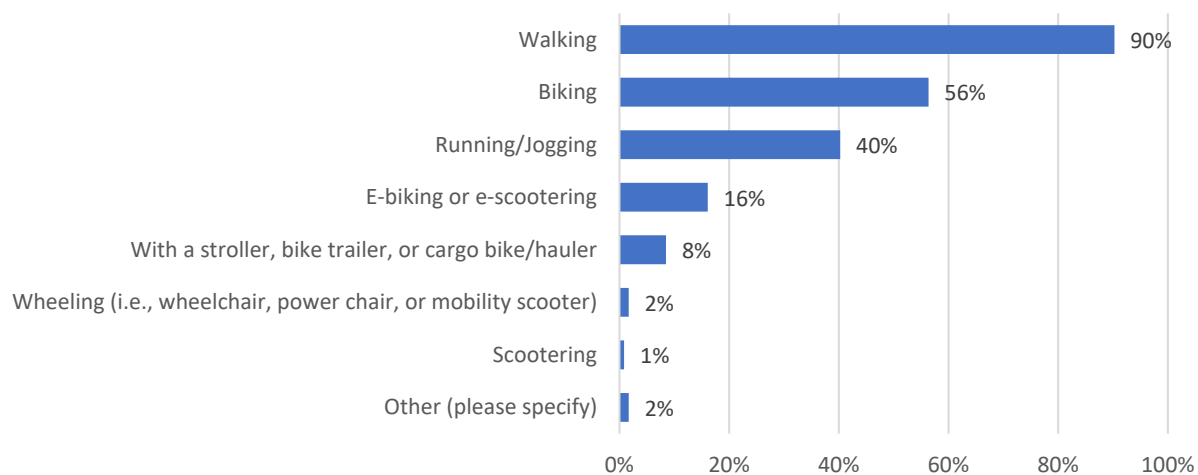


Figure 4. Survey respondents' mode of travelling along trails (total respondents = 236).

Eighty-six (86) survey respondents indicated being members of a local trail user organization. The most represented organizations were the Tri-Cities Off Road Cycling Association (20% of respondents) and HUB Cycling (10%; Figure 5).

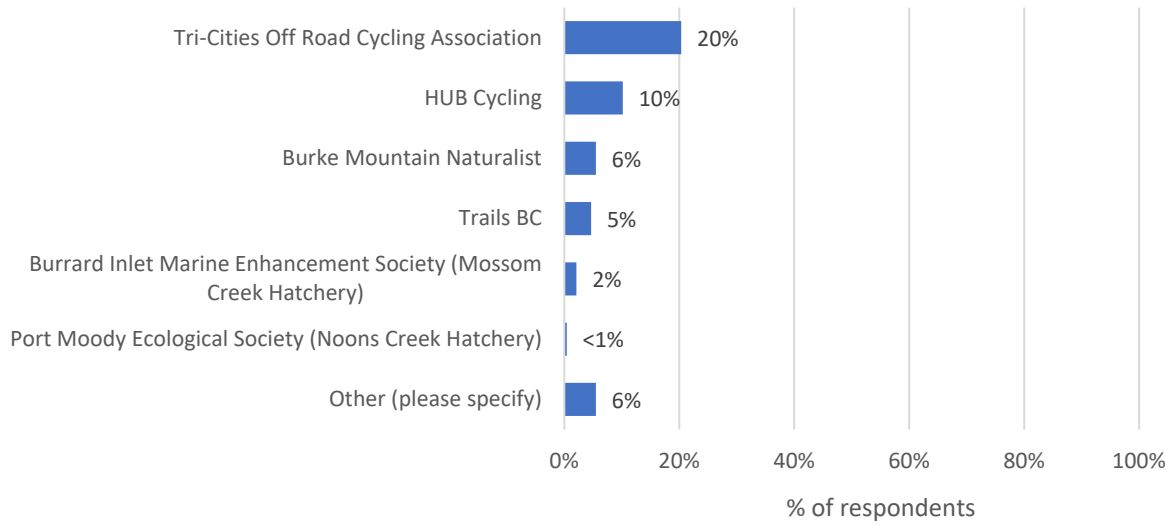


Figure 5. Respondents' membership with local trail organizations (total respondents = 86; percentage expressed as the percentage of total survey respondents)

The 13 respondents who were members of an "Other" organization included:

- Burnaby Mountain Biking Association
- Canada Pacific Trails Association
- Dogwood walking group e.g. Striders
- Inlet Rowing Club
- Nahanni Community Group

3.0 What We Heard

Results from the second phase of public engagement are summarized in this section and structured around the following engagement topics:

- Alignment with the draft Vision
- Desired connections
- Action plan
- General feedback of the Plan

The results are provided based on how they were collected, i.e., through the survey and online open house.

3.1 Survey

This section discusses the results from the 236 survey respondents. Per the public engagement best practices that inform the City's Public Engagement Policy, responses to open-ended questions have been analyzed and the common themes are included in this public engagement summary to provide key insights. Complete verbatim responses are anonymized and shared directly with Council to provide decision-makers with the full range of input collected.

3.1.1 Vision

Survey respondents were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction or dissatisfaction with the vision statement – *Port Moody's trail network provides residents and visitors with recreational opportunities and connections to enjoy Port Moody's natural areas and community spaces through active transportation.*

Eighty-nine percent (89%) of respondents somewhat or strongly agreed with the statement (Figure 6).

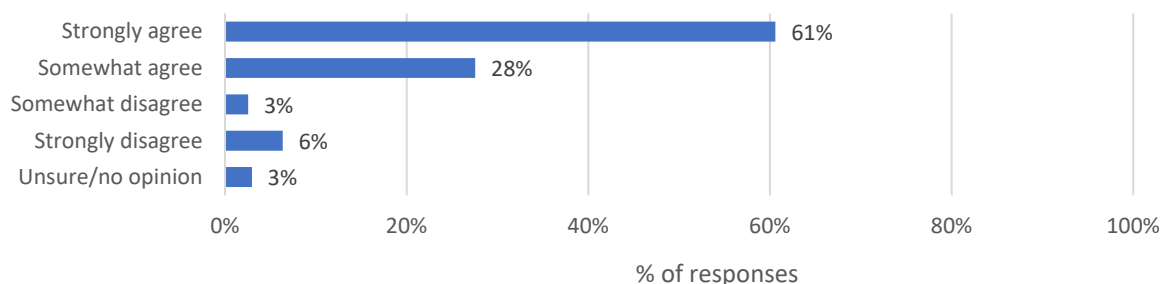


Figure 6. Vision statement agreement and disagreement (total respondents = 236).

Those who somewhat or strongly disagreed with the vision statement were asked how it could be improved. The 12 open-ended responses included suggestions to:

- Use less jargon and more accessible terminology for broader understanding. For example, the term "active transportation" was highlighted to be confusing and unclear
- Refine the vision for clarity and conciseness

- Expand on the depth of the vision
- Include intention towards climate resiliency

3.1.2 Desired New Trails and Connections

Survey respondents were provided with a summary list and map showing the proposed trail network extension and were asked how satisfied or dissatisfied they were with it. Eighty-nine percent (89%) of respondents were somewhat or very satisfied with the proposed trail extensions (Figure 7).

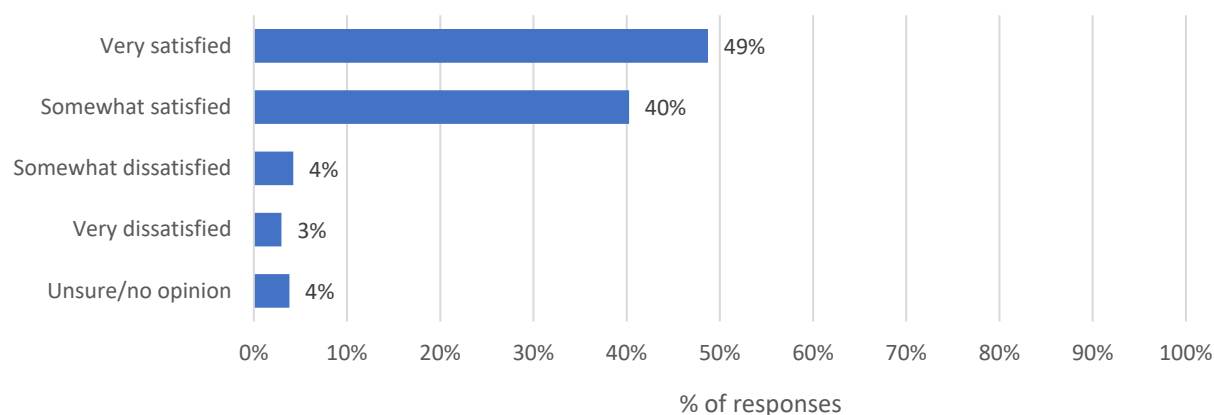


Figure 7. Satisfaction and dissatisfaction with the proposed trail network extension (total respondents = 236).

Those who were somewhat dissatisfied or very dissatisfied were asked if the proposed extensions were missing a route or a connection. Top suggestions from the 13 open-ended responses included new trails branching out of Chines Park and Port Moody Secondary.

Respondents were also asked to select up to three types of features or amenities that would most improve their experience on Port Moody trails (Figure 8). The most sought-after feature was on-trail maps and wayfinding signage, which 47% of respondents were interested in. Other highly desired features and amenities are shade (38%), waste bins (36%), washrooms (33%), and viewpoints (29%).

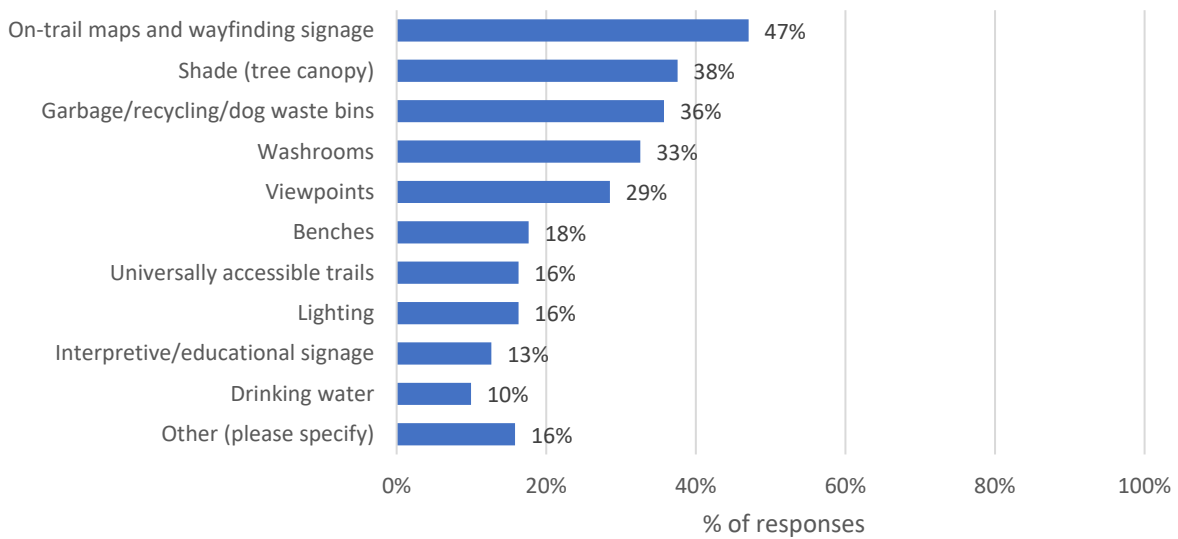


Figure 8. Features and amenities that would improve user experience on Port Moody trails (total respondents = 221).

The most common themes in the 35 open-ended comments included:

- Improving trail management and safety (e.g., signage)
- Providing more trails for different user types (e.g., off-leash dogs, mountain biking)
- Incorporating educational opportunities along trails

3.1.3 Action Plan

Survey respondents were introduced to the draft plan's six core actions that will play a key role in achieving the plan's vision and were asked if anything was missing from the list. Of the 236 respondents, 65% indicated that nothing was missing while 19% believed additional actions were necessary (Figure 9).

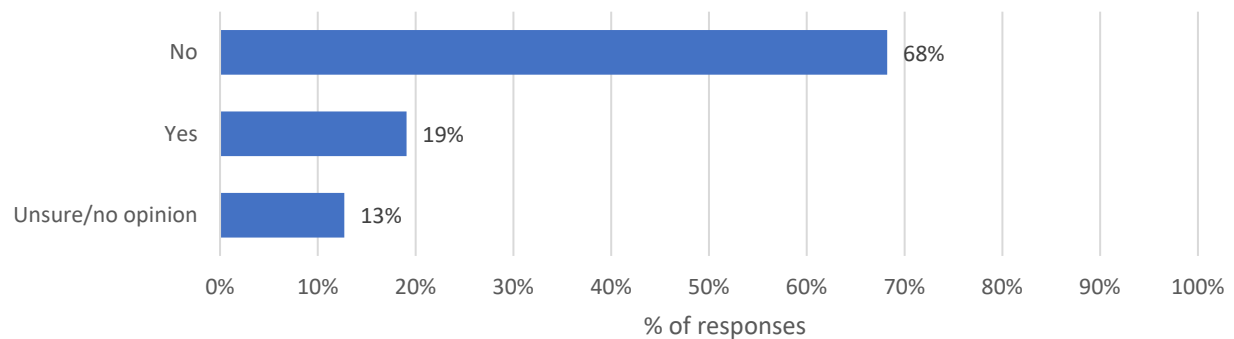


Figure 9. Survey respondents' perspective of whether anything was missing from the core action (total respondents = 236).

Common themes in the suggestions provided by 42 respondents who submitted a comment about what core actions they thought were missing included:

- Improved trail accessibility for cyclists and pedestrians of all ages, including better protection from vehicle traffic
- Trails for all user types and to reduce conflict between them, including off-leash trails and mountain biking, and more connections along the waterfront
- Measures to minimize conflict between residents and trail users at trailheads, such as parking
- Strong protection of environmental areas, including reducing trail impacts and keeping areas free of trails

3.1.4 General

Survey respondents were asked to share any feedback they may have on the Trail Network Plan, and 87 respondents provided comments that highlighted the following themes:

- Safety
 - Reduce mountain biking trails for safety purposes
 - Build safer urban bike routes to destinations like Belcarra Regional Park
 - Improve wayfinding and trail use signage to keep users on course and along the trails appropriate for their user
 - Enforce trail-use rules to keep dogs and bikes on the appropriate trails
- Trail design
 - Improve parking at trailheads
 - Preserve the names of historic mountain biking trails to maintain their features and character
 - Consider creating a wellness/sensory trail
 - Designate separate multi-use trails especially for mountain bikes and dogs since dogs may be reactive towards bikes, highlighting specifically Bert Flinn
 - Minimize environmental impacts of the trail network on sensitive ecosystems
- Trail Expansion
 - Add more mountain biking trails
 - Increase trail connections in Port Moody and to neighbouring communities, including:
 - Along Barnet Highway
 - To Moody Center
 - Regional greenway completion from Pleasantside to Belcarra
 - From Pleasantside to Rocky Point Park
 - To Sasamat Lake
 - In Chines Park (interest in more trails and concerns about the trails negatively impacting the ecosystem)
 - Guilford Way bike route extension
 - Eagle Mountain to Bert Flinn Park
 - Bert Flinn Park to Shoreline Trail
 - From Alderside Road to Anmore and Belcarra
 - Trails towards and along the SkyTrain route
- Trail maintenance and access
 - Provide funding to organizations working to maintain trails, such as TORCA
 - Create online trail maps that are updated regularly
- Satisfaction with the draft Plan
 - Incorporate mountain biking trails in the trail network and continued collaboration with TORCA
 - Desire for trail expansion

3.2 Online Open House

The online open house was hosted on Zoom on the evening of December 4, 2024. The project team presented the draft Plan to 10 participants who had the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

Overall, participants noted being excited about the draft Plan's proposal for the network extension, which would see currently a few unauthorized trails added to the City's trail inventory. Some participants suggested that terminology might need to be adjusted to reflect the fact that many new trails already exist as unauthorized trails that are known to Port Moody users. Members of the Tri-Cities Off-Road Cycling Association highlighted their interest in a continued partnership with the City. Other participants asked for more details on how new urban routes would look and noted the challenges associated with some desired connections, particularly where railway crossings exist.

4.0 Next Steps

The findings from the second phase of community engagement will inform the draft Trail Network Plan to address the public's aspirations, concerns, and opportunities for the city's trail network. The final Trail Network Plan is expected to be presented to Council for their consideration in the spring of 2025.