

2011 Public Consultation: River Park I Sandy Beach I Britannia Slopes

Jan. 19/27 Introduction Session Meeting Notes:

Activity	Public Comments January 19, 27	Project Team Response/Comment
<p>Introductory Information Sessions</p> <p>Jan 19, 27</p>	<p>Awareness of the Engagement Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need system of getting information about process out to wider and public audience (see below) • Promotion - consider putting up notices in grocery stores • Need to hit all communities • Need broader communication – Calgary Herald ads • Inform park users • Need to ensure promotion of process and meetings, as well as online information, is as wide-spread as possible. <p>Access to the Engagement Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop system for people who don't use/have computers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project team will promote the 2011 public consultation process through low-cost/high-impact methods such as bold signs, event posters, media coverage and social media (Twitter, Face Book, City web site, e-mail). Newspaper advertising is very costly and often not as effective for public engagement events as bold signs. • In November, 8,040 flyers promoting the 2011 public consultation process were delivered to residences in the following communities surrounding the regional park: Bel-aire, Mayfair, Windsor Park, Britannia, Elboya, Parkhill, Elbow Park, Roxboro, Rideau Park, South Calgary, Altadore, North Glenmore Park, Meadowlark Park, Parkhill/Stanley Park, Garrison Woods. • Encouraging community members to share information (bulletin boards, community associations, social networks, etc.) • Please help this project by spreading the word; if you think there is someone who doesn't know about this project, please invite them. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public workshops are included throughout the engagement process for people without computers to provide feedback. • Information on upcoming events can be obtained by calling 3-1-1. • The City is now making arrangements to have project background information binders

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	<p>Goal of the Plan/ Engagement Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is this process intended to develop a new plan or tweak the existing plan? • Project needs a Mission Statement (post meeting comment) • Goal – health and sustainability of park • What is the main objective? Protection or development for more users? • What really is the need? Is it capacity? • What is issue – Is it just a dog problem? 	<p>available in the near future at the Alexander Calhoun Library (3223 - 14 ST NW) as well as through community association facilities in close proximity to the regional park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed plan developed in 2009 no longer exists. Parks was directed to gather more public input and present a new plan. • A new plan will be drafted in May 2011 and posted online for public review. A public meeting to report back on the proposed plan will also be planned for May 2011. • This project is the result of concerns presented to The City of Calgary by the River Park Working Committee in 2007 and this citizen groups' request for a park management plan. • The goal of this engagement process includes hearing from participants what they think the goal and contents of the park plan should be. • For example: What is important to you about the park? What issues do you think the plan should address? Do you think new amenities should be developed in the park – why or why not? • Issues identified during the 2009 stakeholder input events are now available under the Background Information link on the project web site.
	<p>Participants in the Engagement Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who are the stakeholders? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a public stakeholder process. All citizens are welcome to participate.
	<p>How feedback will be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will input be taken seriously? • Will the design consultant be re-tendered – concerned previous input not in plan • How will the input of local versus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City is committed to a transparent process by collecting public input and reporting back to the public at several stages before a draft park plan is presented to Council.

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	<p>other users be balanced or weighted – especially with respect to traffic and parking?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will input of regional users be balanced with those adjacent stakeholders who are directly impacted? • Timing of process not responsive to “snowbirds” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The design consultant contract will not be retendered. As directed by Council, Parks and its consultants are committed to meeting the June 29 deadline to present a draft plan to Council’s Community & Protective Services Committee. • All input will be considered. Parks is tracking the communities that participants are from to ensure that residents living closest to park are participating as well as other park users from across the region. • The public consultation process has been designed to allow citizens to take part and provide input through in-person or online activities from February to June 2011.
	<p>Plan/ Engagement Process Alignment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to tie in other projects I.E. Glenmore Athletic Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other City departments who may have projects coming up affecting communities near River Park (the Glenmore Athletic Park Project and 50 Ave Local Area Plan) have been approached by Parks for information sharing.
<p>Open Space Workshop</p> <p>Feb 12, 2011 900 47 Ave SW 1:30-4:30 PM</p> <p><i>(Identify issues and discuss, set some priorities)</i></p>	<p>Format:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is an Open Space Workshop? <p>Availability of Background/Technical Info:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request City to make all background documents available E.g. Traffic and parking studies • Could City provide list of studies, links/dates when studies would be completed • Transparency means post all documents • Provide background documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The workshop format is designed to allow citizens to identify and discuss the issues of their choice. Participants are free to suggest topics and move around and take part in any group discussion they wish. Participants are also welcome to come and go as they please. • Background information from Phase 1 in 2009 is now available on the project web site . This information includes background information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the regional park (habitat, uses, vegetation, etc.) -City of Calgary park planning policies -2009 stakeholder input -parking and traffic reports

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	<p>and Phase 1 information – on website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there studies on capacity or park? • Do a proper traffic study and make available – community needs time to assess whether or not need to do own study <p>Issue Identification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before meeting on Feb. 12th – define “hot spots” – erosion, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying and discussing hot spots, issues, concerns and wishes for the park is the objective of the current public consultation process. • During the online discussions in March, citizens will also be able to add any issue topics for conversation that were not identified at the Feb. 12 meeting. • To view the issues identified in 2009, please view the stakeholder result documents on the project web site .
<p>Online Discussion Forum Launch</p> <p>March 1-12, 2011 www.calgary.ca/riverpark</p> <p><i>(issues put online for further discussion and input and to generate new issues)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we know who is saying what if there is agreement to have name posted? • How will the online discussion be regulated? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants will be required to register to take part in the online discussions. Registration information will be kept confidential. • Individuals may include their names within their comments if they choose to do so, but are not required to do so. • The online discussion will be moderated by an independent facilitator and will take place over one or two weeks.
<p>World Café</p> <p>March 19, 2011 [address TBD]</p> <p><i>(Issues grouped/ prioritized from input for workshop – workshop focus on solutions)</i></p>	<p>Format:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a World Café? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A World Cafe is a meeting process featuring a series of simultaneous conversations to pre-determined questions. These questions will be developed through the Open Space Workshop and Online Forum. • Participants change tables during the process and focus on identifying common ground in response to each question.

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	Problem-Solving: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternatives and options should be developed • Want to be involved in solution development and also see solutions that may have been developed in Phase 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the stakeholder input from 2009, there are several issues that participants have opposing views on. Discussing alternatives and participating in group problem-solving will be an objective during this public consultation process.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set the date soon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The World Café is slated for Saturday, March 19. Time and location TBA.
Online Release of Proposed Plan	Timing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't squeeze public at end to meet deadline • Public okay with stretching to September • More time for process – can we have a second Open Space workshop? • Critical issue - need assurance the public will have enough time to review proposed plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City of Calgary Parks was directed by Council to provide a draft park plan no later than July 2011 to its Community & Protective Services Committee. The closest committee meeting to this deadline is June 29. • The timing of the engagement process has been designed to be focused, and to respect the time of participants (including those that participated in 2009). • The timing of the engagement process also allows for the park plan (if approved by Council) to be considered for funding in The City of Calgary's three-year business planning and budget cycle for 2012-14.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternatives in proposed plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This public consultation process has been designed with the express hope of generating discussion of possibilities and alternatives.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include mitigation strategies if aspect of the plan have negative impacts on immediately adjacent neighbours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. Parks is also hoping that through the engagement process ways of mitigating concerns will be identified and articulated by participants.
General Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to address ongoing maintenance issues, not new development – manage and maintain current and future park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens are encouraged to call 3-1-1 to report ongoing or emerging maintenance needs in the park. Issues are addressed with available resources and budget. • At this early stage in the park

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		<p>planning process, The City of Calgary Parks has no plans (or funding) for development in this regional park. Whether the regional park needs new amenities or development (or not) will likely be a topic explored by stakeholders during the 2011 public consultation process.</p>