

River Park | Sandy Beach | Britannia Slopes Phase 2
Open Space Workshop: February 12, 2011 – 1:30 to 4:30 pm
Temple B'nai Tikvah – 900 47 Ave. SW

Group 4

Issue: “Sandy Beach is my community green space. Should other people who come from their communities with their own green space have an equal voice to mine? As a local resident, I am impacted by their use of this space.”

- **Impact of park use on surrounding communities.**

Discussion Group Flip Chart notes:

- Density of community and park/park users
- Who has the voice – the community versus the users versus both?
- Traffic - increase in traffic into the community - speeding and safety issues
- Speeding, especially on 42nd Ave., between 20th St. and 14A St., 50th Ave. & 15th St.
- Frustrated with process – involved in process for 5 years;
 - Only 3 speed bumps
 - Communities and streets fighting against each other
 - Need to see the community as a whole
- Has been some slow down; not enough; still not safe – lots of kids
- Traffic committee and parks committee and others had their own agenda
- “Well kept secret” communities not working together
- Parking as issue - street parking
- 14A St. – too many cars
- Don't need more parking
- Goal is to improve park - improving = adding to parking = more people = increase erosion = more problems
- Add to erosion by adding more people - counter to original input that was provided
- Make regional park = increase parking - opposed to 1) adding more people; 2) making it a regional park; 3) increasing parking
- Rise in population due to Garrison Woods development – did developers consider this?
 - Does City talk to developers
- Developers do have to have dedicated/required green space
- If had known something was going on re: traffic, would have been there
- Concerns for own children/ other children/ traffic/ safety
- CAs were involved
- Opportunity to participate existed; but people need to know what they can participate
- Laws and bylaws need to be enforced
- Professional dog walkers need to be charged to use parks – cannot control 12+ dogs by themselves or clean up after them
 - No way for person to control 12 dogs
- Dog walkers should be licensed or regulated
- Question – how many dogs can reasonably be controlled?
- Lansdowne Ave. - path issue - potential for path; use by dog walkers; access/ proximity to river
- Why is another entrance to park needed?
- Parks said no formal path; only chipped - still a path

- Water runs into ditch - another path - flooding
- Wooden steps unsafe
- Cyclists & dogs; dogs not on leash & running with bike – must be leashed on pathway
- Unfortunate people discovered Altadore because over used
- Erosion has always been there (Elbow Park) – nothing has changed
- Erosion on River Park side; animal tracks
- Fence ugly, but has been effective (what side of hill looks like)
- Planting of bushes
- City referred calls to AB Fish & Wildlife
- Proposing 19 new parks
- Why is our park so popular with professional dog walkers?
 - They live in the area and are hired by people in the area
- Carl Safran - fence - small space
- Reduce speed in area to 30 km
- Will never get speed set at 30 km for 14A/14th St.
- What if we added a playground and made a playground zone?
- We want our kids to be safe
- Elbow Drive largest playground zone in Calgary (/Alberta) – (put in) because a child was killed
- Why difficult to change speed limit?
 - Council/community role
- 30 km zone designated? A park is not a playground zone. Add a playground?
- Alderman Pincott's efforts to address speed limit
- Petition City to make it a playground zone – add playground to River Park
- South of that people happy because people will not speed there, North of that people unhappy
- Sandy Beach as my green space
- Traffic coming in
- If charging for boot camps, should charge dog walkers
- Saw 3 girls with 28 dogs
- Unique features of area will draw people
- Dog walkers a very powerful group
- They are not being responsible and are impacting our neighbourhood
- I live in other area, but do go to River Park & do clean up after my dog
- Dog walkers not cleaning up, not being responsible
- Not all dogs under control
- Children in park being confronted by dogs
- We all need to be stewards of the park
- Dog license fees should go up so that City can hire people to do clean up, maintenance
- Bureaucracy it creates
- Dog crap in park impacts other dogs & responsible dog owners
- Dog gets ill due to excrement in park
- Rafting, drinking on river
- Rafters using river banks as public toilets - & private property
- License/control rafters
- People have moved there knowing about dog park & traffic
- Issue that applies to Sandy Beach doesn't apply to River Park & vice versa
- Have to keep in mind that this is a regional park

- Park usage has already increased dramatically in last 15 years & will continue to increase
- Maintenance an issue
- *Need a budget to maintain park
- *Need more dog parks in area