



# Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

## Sunset Park Revised Concept Plan

November 16, 2015

Visit the Park Board website at: [vancouverparks.ca](http://vancouverparks.ca)



## Recommendation

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the revised concept plan for Sunset Park as described in this report.

# Context



# Existing Park Features



Sunset Community Centre, Sunset Ice Rink, Park Board Nursery and Works Yard, parking lots, off-leash dog area, sports field, lawn and playground

# Existing Park - Photos



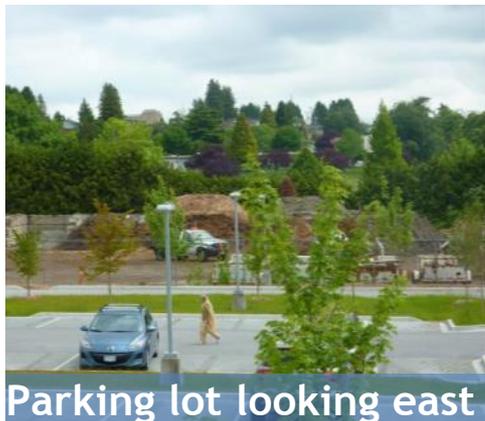
Sunset Community Centre  
Looking north from 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue



Sunset Works Yard



Sunset Ice Rink



Parking lot looking east



Prince Edward Street



Playground (East side)

## Progress to Date 2013-2015

- 2 Public Outreach Sessions
- Design consultant retained
- 18 stakeholder meetings
- 2 Public Open Houses
- 8 Guiding principles
- 4 Park Scenarios
- Revised Concept Plan



November 27, 2014 Open House



July 1, 2015 Open House



# Open House #1 November 27, 2014

## 8 Guiding Principles

1. Incorporate sustainability strategies and goals identified in the 2013-17 Strategic Framework, as well as best management practices.
2. Identify, promote, and enhance connections to greenways.
3. Create inclusive, accessible features that respond to park user needs.
4. Address continued operational requirements of Sunset Nursery/Yard.
5. Be adaptable to changing user needs; a phased park development.
6. Create highly safe, visible pedestrian routes that connect park components.
7. Enhance connection between current and future park facilities and features.
8. Develop programs that reflect community identity.

# Open House #1 November 27, 2014

## 4 Scenarios presented for community comment

SCENARIO 1



SCENARIO 3



SCENARIO 2



SCENARIO 4







# Open House #1 Summary

- At least half of the respondents are regular Sunset Park visitors, visiting the park 1-2 times a week or more, in both spring/summer and fall/winter;
- Visiting the Sunset Park Community Centre and ice rink are the two most common activities by visitors to Sunset Park;
- A majority of respondents (57%) support the eight draft principles that were developed, while 26% say they support the draft principles but with certain changes;
- Among the existing amenities at Sunset Park, half of the respondents say they would like to see the ice rink changed or improved in the future; and
- Almost all respondents (98%) said a children's playground is 'very' or 'somewhat' important in a future Sunset Park.

# Open House #1 Result

## SCENARIO 2



Scenario 2 best reflects the objectives of park connectivity and provides future space for the additional amenities desired by the community

# Open House #2 Section & Perspectives

## Perspectives

BIRD'S EYE PERSPECTIVE LOOKING NORTHWEST



PERSPECTIVE LOOKING NORTH ALONG THE BIKEWAY

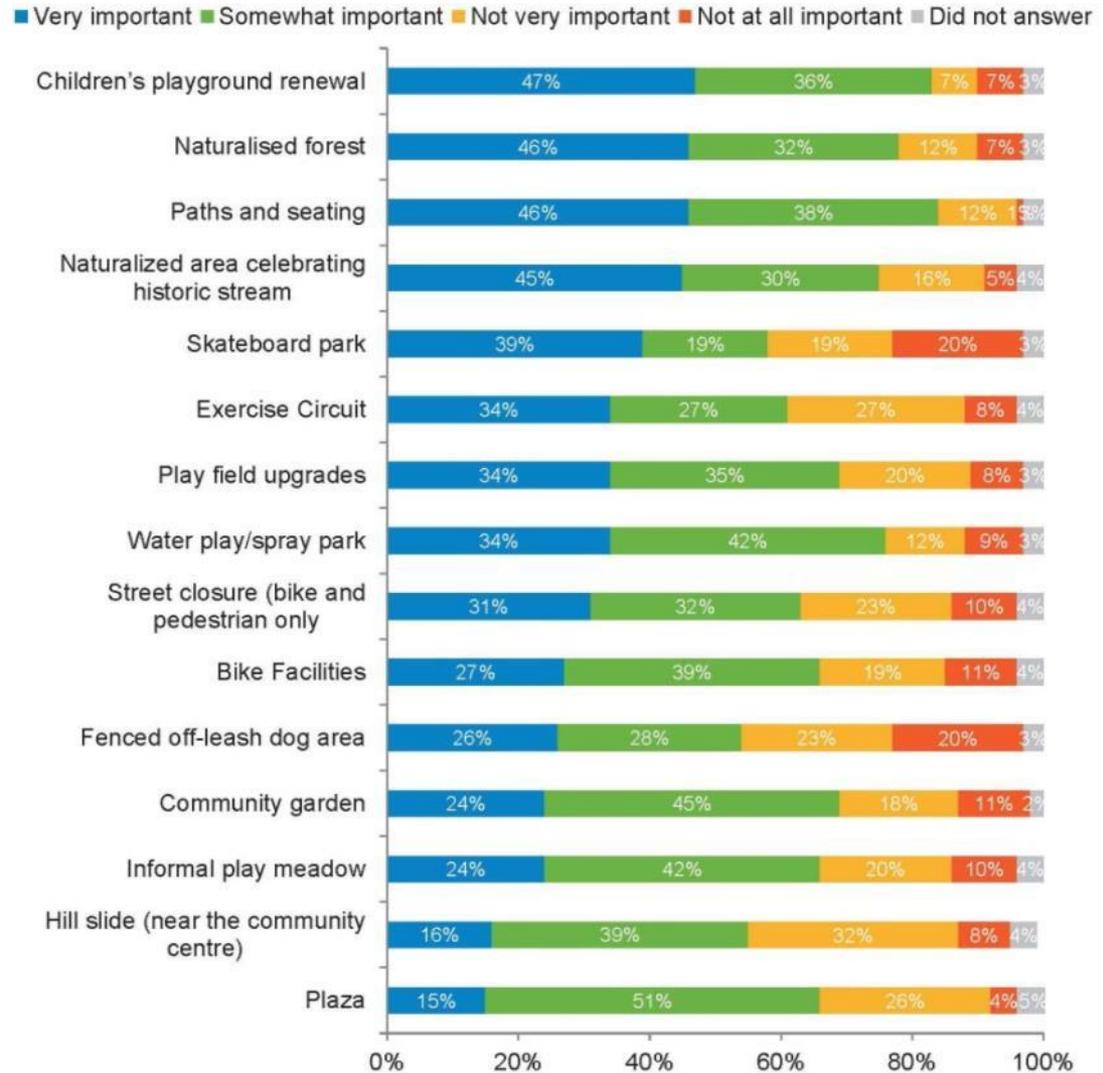


SECTION 2: Fitness circuit with adjacent dog park and informal play meadow



# Open House #2 Summary

- A concept plan was proposed, based on Scenario 2
- Online survey:  
July 1 - July 31, 2015
- Approximately 250 attended and 74 surveys received



# Community Preferred Park Features:

Children's playground



Spray park



Naturalized forest



Paths/Seating

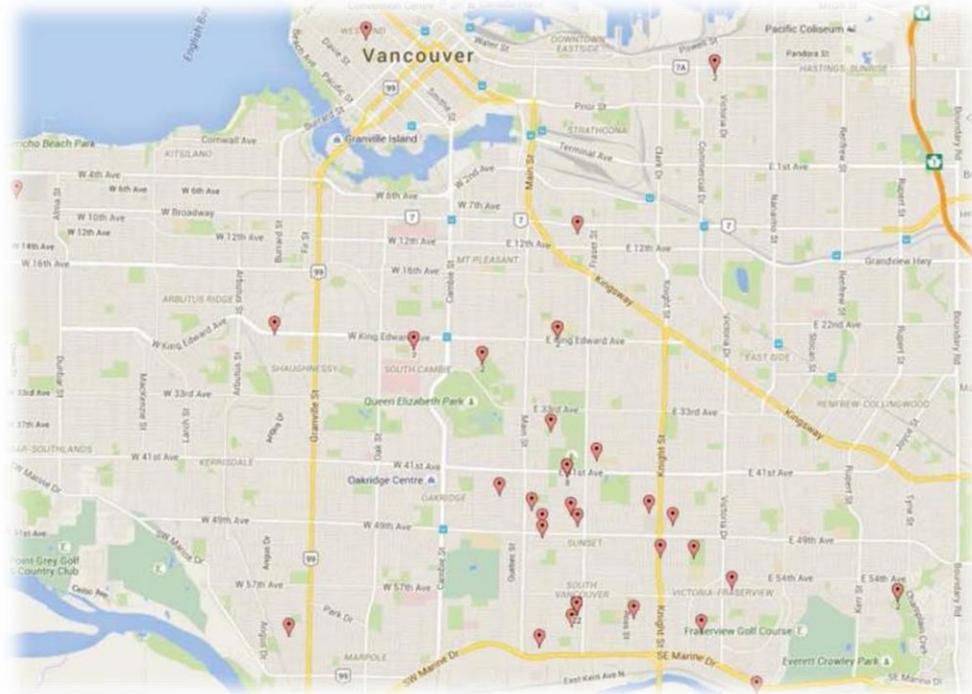


Historic stream



## Who did we hear from?

Sunset Community Centre Association, Indo Canadian Seniors Society of Vancouver, South Vancouver Neighbourhood House, Indo Canadian Women's Group, Sunset Youth Group, HUB, parents and teachers from John Henderson Elementary, Sunbrite Chinese Seniors Society, Community Centre and Park Board Operations staff.



## Dog Off-leash Area

- PAC indicates potential for conflict with children if dog off-leash area is moved closer to school
- Moved boundary further away from playground/school
- Area to be fenced with low tree planted berms and a path



## Shade and Seating

- More shade requested especially on the south side of the centre
- Covered seating is purposed adjacent to the community garden
- Benches and picnic tables accommodating 6 to 8 people requested with access to event receptacles



**This input is incorporated in the revised concept plan.**

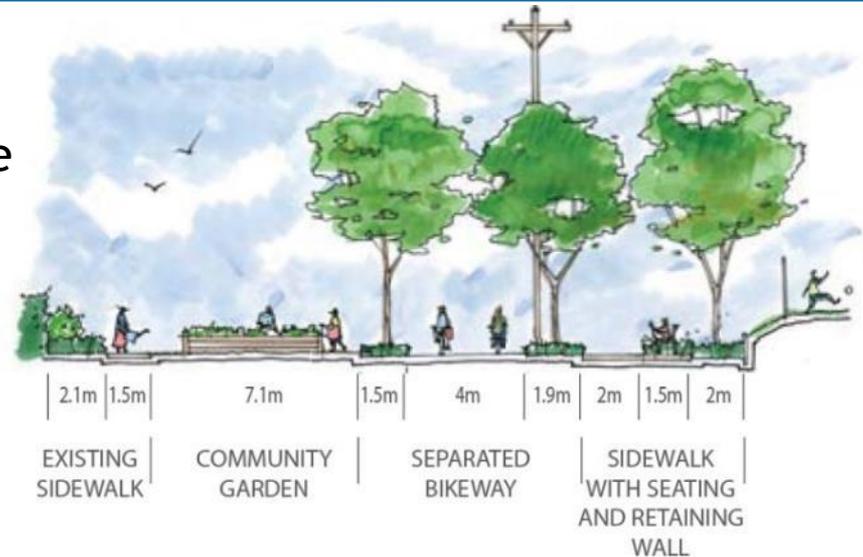
# Refined Concept Design



## Potential Street Closure

The south end of Prince Edward Street to be closed to vehicles. Community to be asked to comment again after 6 month trial.

- 61% of the community support the potential street closure
- 15% Do not support the potential closure



Section: Prince Edward Street Closure

## Skate Board Area and Ball Court

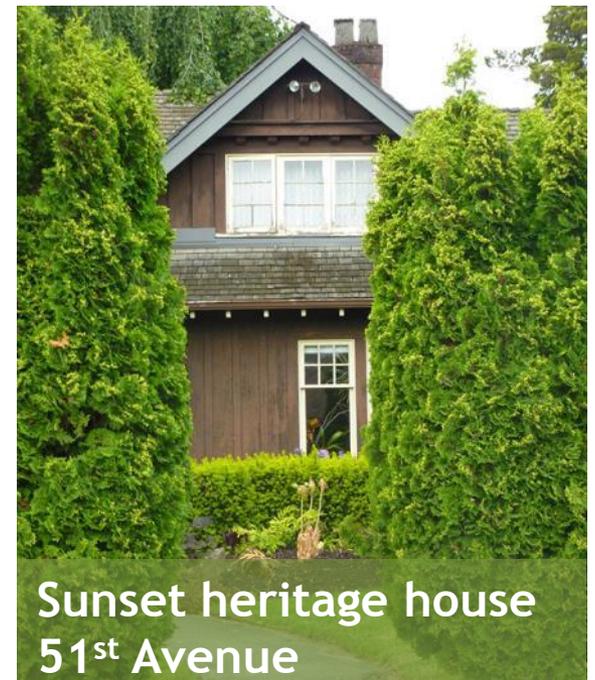
Modification of northwest corner to accommodate a skate park.

- 64% of the respondents support
- 19% of the respondents do not support



## Sunset Nursery and Works Yard

- Integral to park operations for south Vancouver and for urban forestry operations city-wide
- Reconfigured with no loss of space
- Interface and program opportunities between the community centre and nursery
- Opportunities to improve 51<sup>st</sup> Ave landscape and front gardens and fencing of the heritage home for street presence



- Community Centre parking lot modified (no net loss of parking)
- Small spray park feature added to the south side of the Sunset Community Centre
- Berms reconfigured to facilitate events and planted with additional shade trees.
- Tree lined path to connect east and west sides of Sunset Park



- Rain garden design with historic stream
- Community garden with covered seating area and event receptacles
- Off-leash dog area moved to the east side of Prince Edward Street, fenced and surrounded with gentle berms and trees
- Naturalized forest area with new paths exercise equipment and seating
- Renewed playground rebuilt adjacent to John Hendry Elementary



# Park Board Strategic Goals in Sunset Park

- Urban Forest Strategy and Access to Nature
  - 160 trees planted increasing canopy coverage from the existing 8.9% to 23% at maturity
- Improved accessibility
  - Pathways and possible changes to Prince Edward street encourages walking and cycling
  - Additional seating provided at strategic locations to assist those with less mobility
- Enhanced Participation & Active Living
  - Covering seat area and community garden encourages the community to be active



# Next Steps

- Hire consultant to assist in detailed design: January 2016
- Detail design review: Spring-Summer 2016  
Work with Park Board staff and stakeholders to develop detailed design
- Construction of Phase 1 improvements: Spring/Summer 2017





## Recommendation

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the revised concept plan for Sunset Park as described in this report;
- B. THAT the Sunset Park site be included as a possible location in the upcoming Aquatic Study, should further consultation indicate community support for such a pool;
- C. THAT the Park Board look at opportunities to relocate some, or all, of the Works Yard to enable additional park, green space, or amenities.

