



BURRARD VIEW PARK - Proposed Vancouver Urban Food Forest

Park Board Committee Meeting
Monday, March 8, 2021



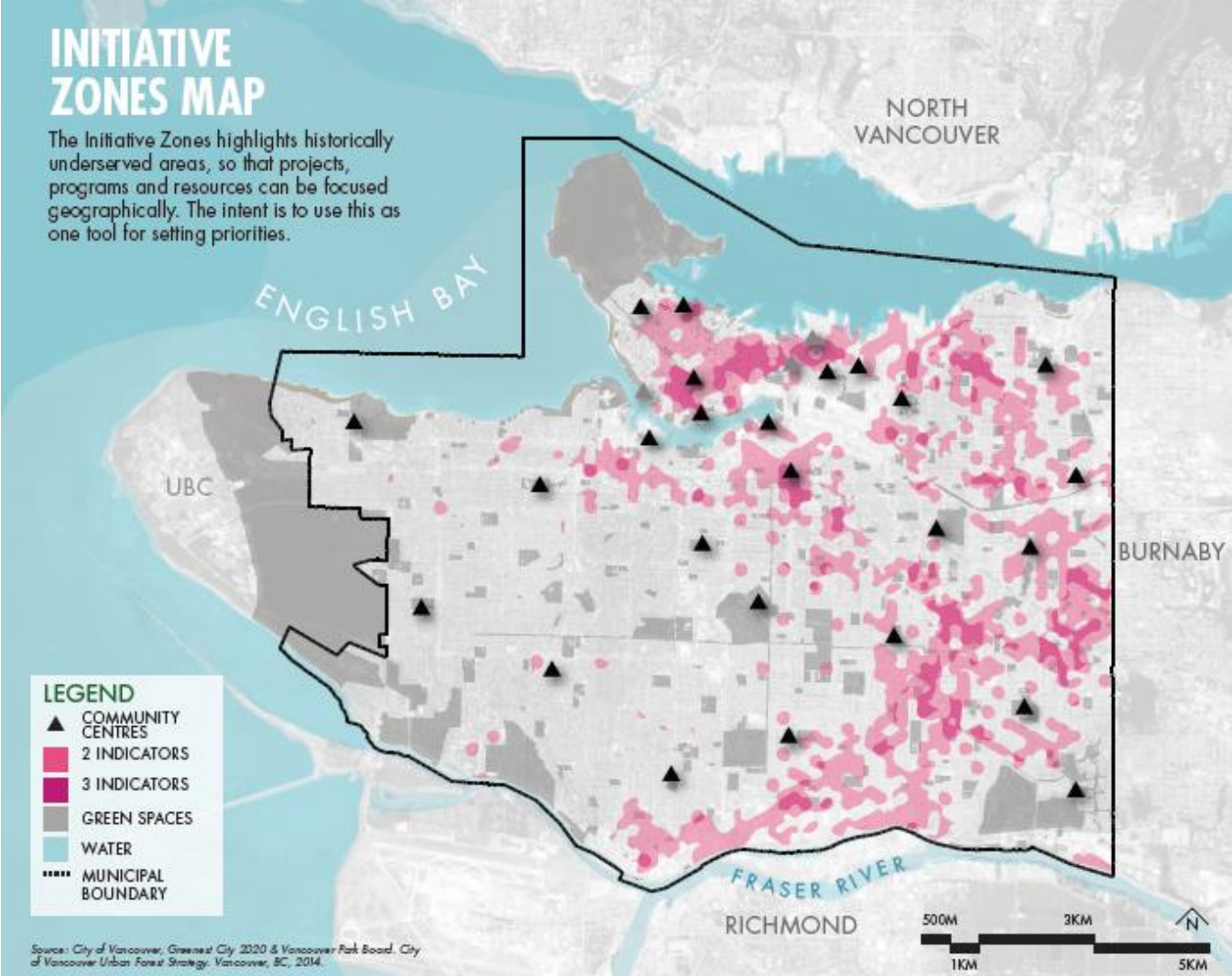
- The purpose of this presentation is to offer information and recommendations on a proposed collective garden (Vancouver Urban Food Forest) in Burrard View Park. The presentation includes:
 - Background information on the neighbourhood, park, strategic alignment, and proponents;
 - Analysis of public feedback; and
 - Discussion of siting, land use, adjacent amenities, and costs.

INITIATIVE ZONES MAP

The Initiative Zones highlights historically underserved areas, so that projects, programs and resources can be focused geographically. The intent is to use this as one tool for setting priorities.

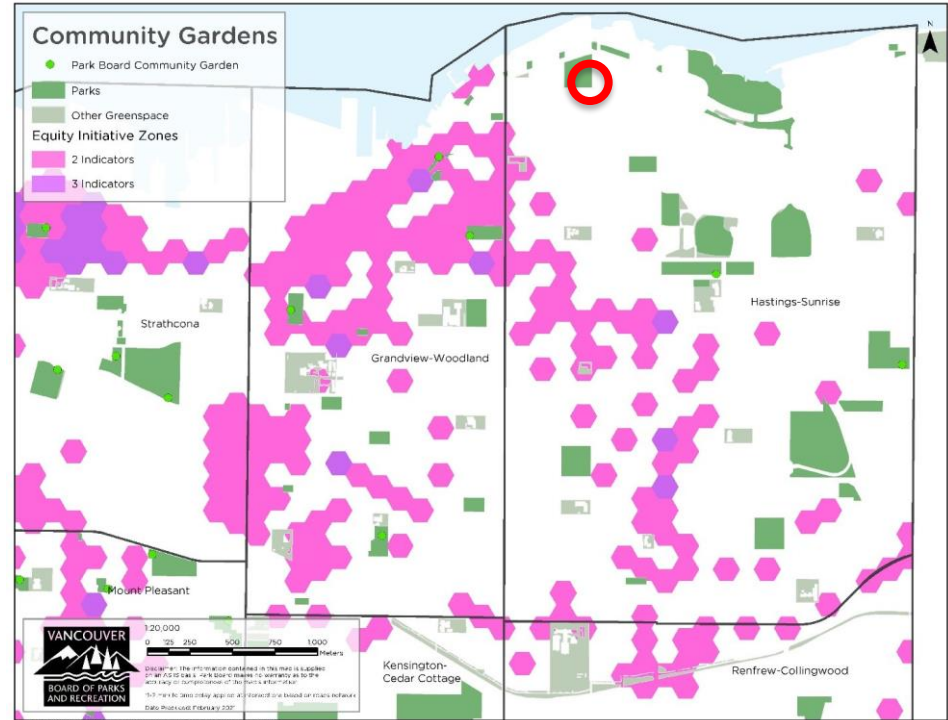
LEGEND

- ▲ COMMUNITY CENTRES
- 2 INDICATORS
- 3 INDICATORS
- GREEN SPACES
- WATER
- MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY



Source: City of Vancouver, Greenest City 2020 & Vancouver Park Board, City of Vancouver Urban Form Strategy, Vancouver, BC, 2014.

- Hastings-Sunrise, ~34k people
 - 59% visible minorities; 3.4% (1,100) with Indigenous identity
- Burrard View Park in proximity to VanPlay-Equity Initiative Zones (EIZ)
- Within 6-blocks: 40% single-family homes and 60% low-rise apartment units, BC Housing, Kiwassa Neighbourhood House, Aboriginal Mother's Centre*





- Amenities: daycare, playground (upgrade 2022), unfenced off-leash dog area (OLA), “activated” field house, privately-run hospice.
- Passive use adjacent to field house, south of OLA, north of hospice
- VUFF is proposed N and W of field house in area of passive use mown turf
 - Washroom access, storage, collaborative programming

R.3 LOCAL FOOD

Support access to sustainable, local and healthy food.

#	INITIATIVES	TIMELINE
R.3.1	Encourage food-focused programming and infrastructure for formal and informal gatherings that facilitate cooking, eating and sharing of food in parks and community centres.	Underway
R.3.2	Work with Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations and Urban Aboriginal communities to support Indigenous food systems in parks and recreation.	Underway
R.3.3	Provide the following: places to cook and share food in parks, learn-to-cook opportunities, more concessions and restaurant partners (leases), and food security through community centre kitchens, community gardens, field houses (Update the Local Food Action Plan).	Short

2040 Asset Targets

- All new community gardens on Park Board-managed land have at least 50% of total area dedicated to collective food growing.
- Complete at least one project per year that supports sharing and gathering to cook or eat food in parks.

- Supporting the efforts of Indigenous community members to grow medicinal and food plants for cultural use (Reconciliation)
- Improving biodiversity with native plants that offer bird and pollinator habitat (Biodiversity)
- Local Food Action Plan currently under review

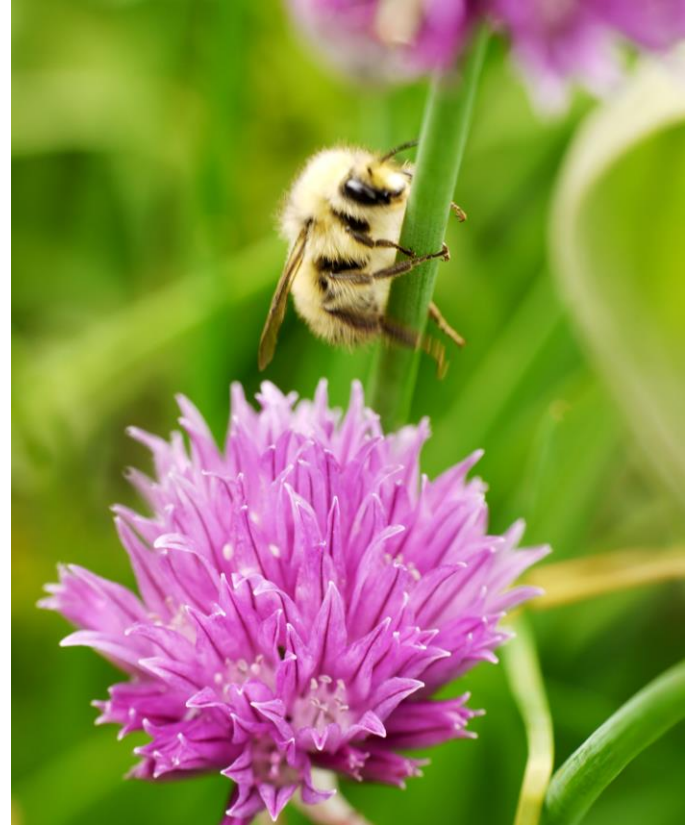




Photo credit: Little Mountain Neighbourhood House

- Vancouver Urban Food Forest Foundation: Kiwassa Neighbourhood House, Refarmers, Lettuce Harvest.
 - established community service non-profits
- Secured funding and dedicated capacity to food security and community-building
- Similar model to successful Riley Park Garden with LMNH

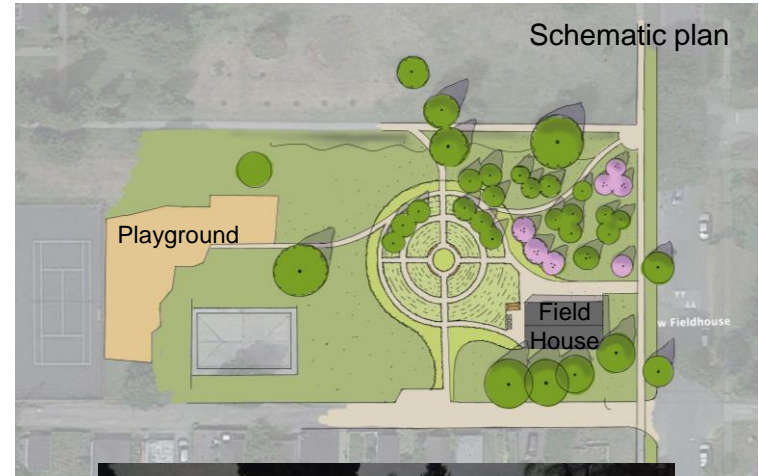
Size of Park:
2.77ha

Size of Garden:
0.2ha, 8% of park



Key elements of the proposed VUFF are:

- medicine wheel-inspired garden planted and maintained with permaculture practices;
- no individual plots, shared gardening and harvest;
- an adjacent food forest of native plants planned, maintained and programmed with Indigenous people
- collaborative community programs to address food security and climate change



- Public notified as required by Urban Agriculture Policy:
 - Webpage, letters mailed within 2 block radius using the Canada Post Precision Targeter (1,034 homes), sign in the park
- 108 email and phone responses: 69% support, 28% opposed, 3% neutral
 - Of supporters, approx. 2/3 support as is and 1/3 support different location in the park
- In addition to public engagement efforts by Park Board, the proponents undertook their own outreach and relationship-building in the neighbourhood.

Location choice:

- BVP chosen for proximity to Equity Initiative Zones and availability of necessary infrastructure and amenities

Land Use:

- Site is between playground and field house, currently a passive use space; offers proximity to water supply, washrooms, opportunities for community participation and programming
- Passive space would be reduced as a result of the garden. Activities that take place on mown turf may be less possible; however the garden, designed to welcome passers by, would offer new passive opportunities.

Adjacencies:

- Unfenced off-leash area: staff to monitor need for fencing between OLA and garden

Costs:

- Estimated \$63,000 cost to proponents including design, communications, materials
- Estimated \$17,000 cost to Park Board including site preparation, irrigation, initial load of soil and compost.
 - From Local Food budget in 2019-2022 capital plan
- If required, a fence would be an additional \$10k - \$20k cost to Park Board



- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the Vancouver Urban Food Forest, as applied for in the expression of interest (EOI) and as outlined in the associated report; and
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve a 5-year license agreement with the Vancouver Urban Food Forest Foundation to operate the garden, with terms consistent with those in the Urban Agriculture Policy.

THAT the Park Board refer the report recommendations back to staff for further consultation and engagement with the proponents, community, and other key stakeholders in order to identify a suitable location for the Vancouver Urban Food Forest in Burrard View Park.

Carried Unanimously

