

JOHN HENDRY (TROUT LAKE) Park Renewal Plan

Park Board Committee Meeting Monday May 16, 2022



Purpose of Presentation



- To provide an overview of the John Hendry Park Renewal Plan and the planning process used to develop it
- Seek a decision by the Board whether or not to approve the Proposed John Hendry Park Renewal Plan

Presentation Outline



- Project background
- Park context
- Planning and engagement: 2013 2022
- Overview of the Proposed John Hendry Park Renewal Plan
- Discussion

Background – Renewal Plan Objectives







Advance Reconciliation & Decolonization





Support Healthy & Sustainable Water Systems





Enhance Natural Spaces & Biodiversity





Support Safety, Accessibility, & Inclusivity and Create a Park for All





Provide Diverse Recreational Options





Improve Park Connectivity

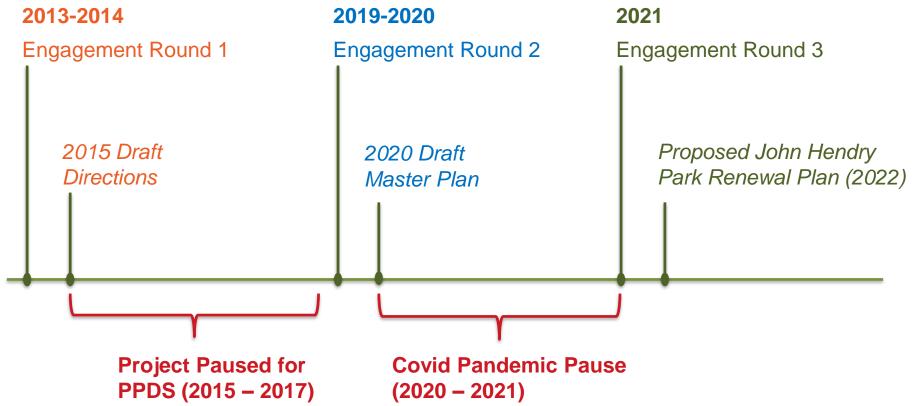




Reinvest in Priorities

Background - Timeline





Key initiatives and events since project started in 2013



- COVID Pandemic (2020 2022)
- Heat Dome (2021)
- Reconciliation and Decolonization (2016 ongoing)
- VanPlay (2019/2020)
- Climate Emergency Action Plan (2021)
- Local Food System Action Plan (2021)
- Rain City Strategy (2019)



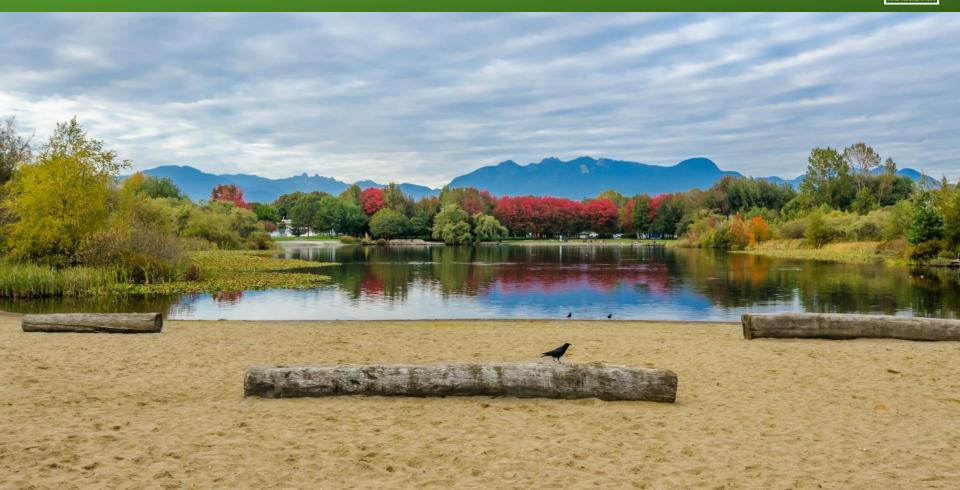






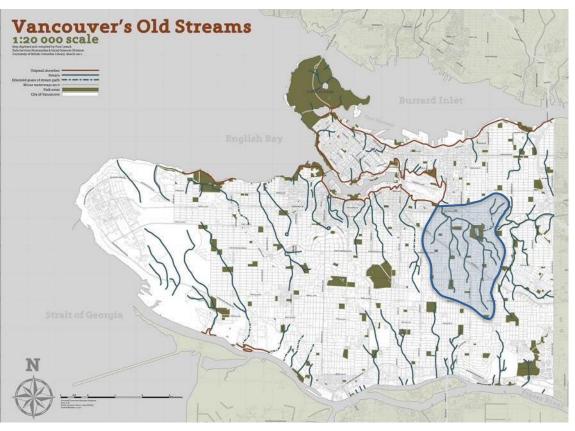
Park Context





Pre-colonial Context





- Trout Lake part of a 550-600ha
 'China Creek' catchment that drained to False Creek
- Important site for First Nation cultural practices/food gathering
- Shallow lake (< 3m deep)
- Primarily 'bog' conditions with 4-6m layer of underlying peat
- Home to old growth forests, bears, wolves, beavers, salmon, trout, eagles, hawks, herons, songbirds, amphibians....

Early Colonial Development Timeline





Hastings Mill 1880c



Trout Lake 1890c



East Vancouver 1940c

- 1880c diversion of water from Trout Lake to Hastings Mill
- 1890c Trout Lake a popular recreation
- 1900c Farming/development near lake
- 1920c South Beach area created including raft and dressing rooms. Park Board begins acquiring land nearby
- 1926 Aldyen Hamber donates land to Park Board with condition it be named after her father John Hendry Park
- 1926 John Hendry Park created

1960s - 1990s





- 1950c China Creek culverted
- 1953 Trout Lake Little League
- 1963 Grandview Community
 Centre constructed
- 1968 Trout Lake closed due to pollution/high bacteria levels
- 1969 Drinking water added to Trout Lake for the first time
- 1992 Vancouver Coastal Health begins seasonal testing of Trout Lake water quality

John Hendry Park - aerial looking west 1971c

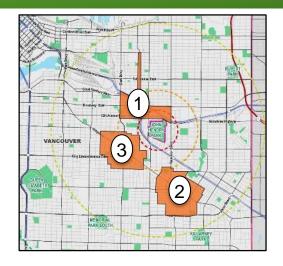
John Hendry Park: 1971 vs 2022



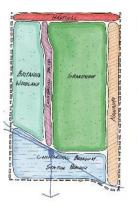


Increasing densification nearby = Increasing park use





Grandview-Woodland





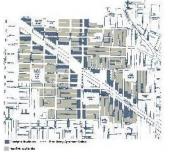
Safeway Site -Commercial Drive and East Broadway

2. Norquay Village





3. Kingsway and Knight





Planning Process





2013 – 2014 Engagement





John Hendry Park – Public Ideas Event 2013

- 3 Phases of engagement
- 2500+ people participated and provided feedback
- Master Plan was scheduled to be finished by 2015

Stakeholders

- Trout Lake Community Centre Board
- Trout Lake Community Centre Youth Group
- Trout Lake Community Centre Seniors' Group
- Vancouver Field Sports Federation (VFSF)
- Local Sports Groups
- Local Environmental Groups
- Community and Family Services Representatives
- Active Transportation Representatives
- Special Events Representatives
- Off-Leash Dog Representatives

Opportunities and Challenges



Opportunities

- Improve water quality in Trout Lake
- Restore natural flow of water into lake
- Restore the bog
- Maintain/enhance natural habitat and green space
- Boardwalks in wet areas
- Infrastructure upgrades
- Washroom upgrades
- Permanent facility for the Farmers
 Market
- Diversity of programming
- Expand swimming area

Challenges

- Poor water quality in the lake
- Reduce the amount of potable water pumped into the lake
- Control invasive species
- Poorly drained areas
- Pathways narrow and often flooded
- Accessibility
- Safety and dark areas at night
- Conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians
- Conflicts with dogs throughout park
- Restrict dogs off leash to designated area

2015 - Park Improvement Recommendations





Stormwater and Water Quality

- Direct internal park run-off to Trout Lake
- Integrate neighbourhood stormwater daylighting and management
- Develop a water quality treatment program for Trout Lake

Natural Areas

- Improve existing natural habitat
- Create new natural areas
- Look to restore portion Trout Lake bog
- Develop a tree inventory

2015 - Park Improvement Recommendations



Features and Amenities

- Replace South Beach concession and washroom building
- Enclose/add amenities for dog OLA
- Relocate Farmers Market
- Improve services for events
- Develop additional picnic shelters
- Redevelop South Beach playground
- Washroom in north of the park
- Add park amenities

Circulation

- Relocate existing and develop active transportation connections
- Redevelop multi-use lake loop trail
- Upgrade secondary trails within the Park
- Install boardwalks and lake lookouts
- Provide additional bicycle facilities
- Improve wayfinding, signage, amenities

Playing Fields

- Retain and complete minor improvements for the all-weather field
- Maintain existing fields and identify potential to relocate some user groups

2019 Engagement







- Revisit park improvement recommendations (2015)
- Topics for additional input
 - Circulation
 - South Beach Area
 - Off-leash area
 - Farmers Market and community gardens
 - Sports Fields and hard courts
- 1700+ people participated and provided feedback





2019 Engagement – Sample of stakeholders involved



Trout Lake Community Centre

- Trout Lake Community Centre Association
- Trout Lake Community Centre patrons
- Trout Lake Community Centre staff

Farmers Market and Community Garden

- Vancouver Farmers Market
- Cedar Cottage Community Garden

Active Transportation

Hub Cycling

Environment

- Environmental Youth Alliance
- Wildcoast
- Echo Ecological
- Bog Group

Culture/Event Groups

- National Indigenous Peoples Day
- Mother's Day Traditional Pow Wow
- Vines Art Festival
- Britannia CC Seniors, Elders and Advocates
- Bike the Blossoms
- Gutsy Walk
- Vancouver Pagan Pride
- Lantern Procession

Sports Groups

- Trout Lake Little League
- Scribes Football
- Vancouver Athletic Football Club
- Vancouver Field Sports Federation
- Youth Soccer
- Vancouver Ultimate League
- TLCC Basketball

2019 Engagement – Additional Topics



1. Circulation

- Reduce conflicts between different park users
- Improve connections and accessibility

2. South Beach Area

- Upgrade concession/ washroom building
- Upgrade playground
- Add volleyball court(s), seating, gathering areas.

3. Deep Dive: Dog Off-leash Area

- Maintain current size and define boundaries
- Reduce conflicts

4. Deep Dive: Farmers Market/Community Gardens

- Explore different locations for Farmers Market that maintain/ expand current space, provide better infrastructure, is close to washrooms, minimizes impact on the neighbourhood.
- Consider adding a community garden into the park. However, if added ensure it is inclusive and not restrictive in terms of who can enter.

5. Deep Dive: Sports fields, courts and playgrounds

- Improve the playability of the main sports fields and re-purpose marginal fields.
- Provide more hard court options.

2021 Engagement





- Park pop-up, community partner meetings and online survey.
- 550+ people participated and provided feedback

- 2020 Proposed 'Master Plan' prepared based on feedback from 2019 engagement
- Final round of engagement on proposed 'Master Plan' delayed due to COVID
- 2021 'Renewal Plan' engagement included:
 - 31 park improvement recommendations, most had been identified in 2015, supported in 2019.
 - 9 topics that remained unresolved since 2019
 - Introduction of the Cultural Focus Area as an instrumental part of the Renewal Plan
 - Discuss other recent initiatives and events that had surfaced since 2019 and influenced the Renewal Plan

2021 Engagement – Sample of stakeholders



Trout Lake Community Centre

- Trout Lake Community Centre Association
- Trout Lake Community Centre patrons
- Trout Lake Community Centre staff

Farmers Market and Community Garden

- Vancouver Farmers Market
- Cedar Cottage Community Garden

Active Transportation

Hub Cycling

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Sports Groups

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- Vancouver Field Sports Federation
- Youth Soccer
- Vancouver Ultimate League
- TLCC Basketball

2021 Engagement - Overall Concept Plan







activities including community calebrations (e.g., National Indigenous Peoples Day,

DEDICATED FLEXIBLE

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- 31 park improvement recommendations,.
- 10 topics that either remained unresolved since 2019 or were new since 2019
 - Cultural Focus Area as an instrumental part of the Renewal Plan

2021 Engagement – Feedback on 9 topics





Cultural Focus Area



Adaptive Trout Lake Water Quality Monitoring & Treatment

75% Felt the draft recommendations would address water quality issues in Trout Lake.

75% Felt the draft recommendations would enhance Trout Lake's recreational use.



Dedicated Flexible Open Spaces

96% Felt it is important to include a variety of open spaces in the park.

93% Felt the draft recommendations would meet or somewhat meet their needs. Felt the draft recommendations would



Bicycle Circulation

Felt the draft recommendations would reduce conflicts and enhance safety for park visitors.

90% Felt the draft recommendations would meet or somewhat meet their needs.



Sports Fields

Felt the draft recommendations 91% balance the needs of sports field users with other park visitors.

Felt the draft recommendations would meet or somewhat meet their needs.



Dog Off-Leash Area

Felt the draft recommendations would balance the needs of the dog off-leash area with other park uses.

Felt the draft recommendations would meet or somewhat meet their needs.

2021 Engagement – Feedback on 9 topics





South Beach Event Area

94% Felt the draft recommon would meet or somewhat meet their needs.



Farmers Market Relocation

92% Felt the draft recommendations would meet or somewhat meet their needs.



Courts Activity Centre

94% Felt the draft recommendations would enhance the ability for people to enjoy court sports in the park.



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84% Felt the draft recommendations would meet or somewhat meet their needs.

Overview of Renewal Plan Recommendations





Organizing Framework





Cultural Focus Area – Indigenous Reconciliation

Water – Blue Layer

Natural Spaces – Green Layer

Open Spaces – Relax Layer

Activity Spaces - Play Layer

Circulation – Move Layer





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Water -Blue Layer

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Circulation -Move Layer

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Recommendation

Today:

Limited space in the City for Indigenous-led design and programming

Proposed:

- Cultural Focus Area
- Work with MST and Urban Indigenous people to reimage this part of the park
- **Potential Indigenous** celebration/event facility

Cultural Focus Area

Culture Layer





- Supports an Indigenous-led planning and design process
- Make visible the cultural values and programming needs of the First Nations and Urban Indigenous Peoples
- Support positive community relationships



Trout Lake - Water Quality Problems



Trout Lake fountain



Trout Lake

Annual input of drinking water

25,000,000 L/year (2020) = 10 Olympic swimming pools (40,000,000 L/year - pre 2015)

Yet despite the annual contributions of drinking water, poor water quality results in closures due to E.coli.

- 2021: Closed for 77+ days (July 9 Sept 21)
- 2020: Closed for 28 days (Aug 11th Sept 7th)
- 2019: Closed for 10 days (July 22-31)
- 2018: Closed for 28 days (July 20-Aug 16)
- New solutions are required
- Focus first on ecological restoration, then determine recreational opportunities



Trout Lake Water Quality Monitoring & Treatment



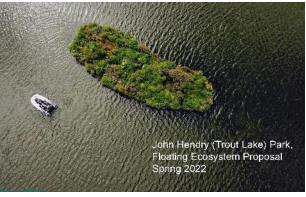


- Phased program:
 - Develop water quality monitoring program
 - Trial water quality enhancement practices including aeration, floating wetlands, potential partitioning
 - Work towards eliminating use of drinking water
 - Enhancing natural freshwater habitat
- Treat and direct rainwater into the lake
 - Work with Engineering to separate
 Combined Sewer Outfalls in the
 neighbourhood to redirect rainwater
 runoff into a linear wetland in the park
 and return some hydrologic connections



Floating ecosystem pilot project







Artist renderings of floating ecosystem in Trout Lake











Floating ecosystem - example

Proposal

- 3rd party donating and installing floating ecosystem/ wetland to determine if it can enhance lake ecology
- Potentially combine with aeration to see if the wetland can improve water quality
- Include monitoring and annual reporting
- Park Board is contributing plants (\$3,000)







- Establish a native woodland in the northeast of the park
- Enhance riparian vegetation on west and east side of Trout Lake
- Renew and expand urban forest with native and climate adaptive species
- Enhance wildlife habitat by introducing pollinator friendly plantings throughout the park
- Convert naturally wetted areas to raingardens to treat rainwater and provide additional biodiversity and habitat





- Maintain flexible, unprogrammed spaces
- Improve the grassy areas through better drainage to be more even and usable







- BC Parkway shifted to east park edge
 - Little League Fields shifted
 - Mature trees maintained
- Low-speed compacted crushed gravel, multiuse trail that connects BC Parkway and E 14th Ave bike route and provides access to key park amenities







- Investigate subsurface soils and extent of underlying bog which are presenting playability/maintenance and challenges
- Develop a drainage and field reconstruction program for:
 - Northwest field
 - Northeast field
 - Little League fields
 - All-weather field
- Southwest field removed







- Size and location maintained
- Objectives:
 - increase safety for all park users
 - maintain a great space for dogs and people
- Apply People, Parks & Dogs Policy



Dog Off-Leash Area

Play Layer





LEGEND





















South Beach Activity Area



Existing parking area removed and converted to usable park space



- Create a family friendly destination spot
- Enhance beach area with imported sand, shade trees, defined edges, beach volleyball
- Add accessible beach/lake access
- Update beach building with:
 - improved washrooms/change rooms, concession/mobile food vending
 - a multi-purpose activity space
 - a seating deck with tables and chairs
 - equipment storage/staff room
- Add an adventure playground
- Integrate vegetation and seating throughout

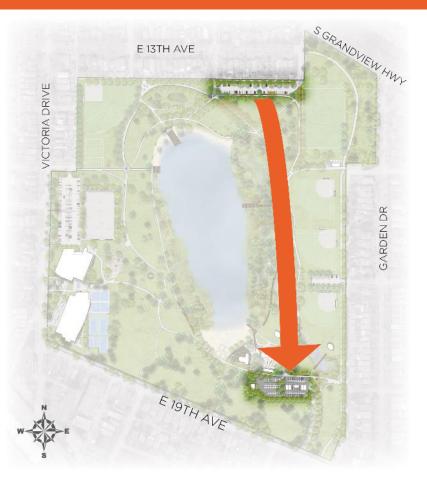




- Upgrade south parking lot with permeable paving and design it to be flexible as an event space
- Add an event space to the west of the parking lot to support the park's many events and activities
- Include infrastructure (e.g. power/water)
- Working with upgrades to South Beach **Activity Area**



Farmers Market Relocation



- Relocate Trout Lake Farmers Market to the South Beach Event Area to capitalize on amenities and infrastructure in this area
- Work with Farmers Market representatives to ensure South Beach Event Area provides the logistical and infrastructural support necessary for the Market
- Work with Engineering to implement a parking plan for the area to the south of the park to minimize impact on residents



Courts Activity Centre



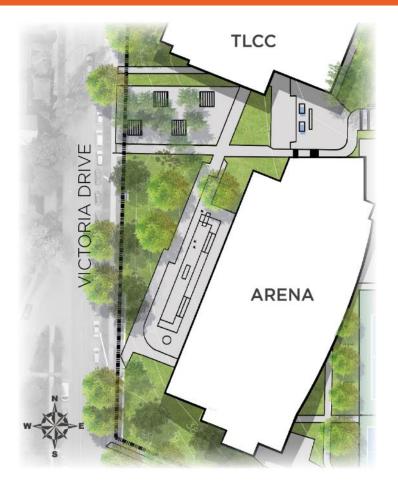
Key Recommendations

Reconfigure and update the courts area based on findings of Sport Court Strategy. Updates could include:

- 3 full tennis courts
- 2 basketball courts
- 2 multi-sport courts
- ping-pong tables
- integrated seating with wifi and power







Victoria Drive Community Plaza

- Create a welcoming, multi-use community space with elements like:
 - Covered spaces for TLCC programming and informal use
 - Urban plaza with integrated parkour and skate elements
 - Enhanced seating with power, wifi and shelter
 - Art showcase space
 - Games and lounge areas
 - Grassy play space

Other Considerations - Engineering





Potential outlet to Trout Lake, depending on the quality of treated water

Potential point for water quality monitoring to assess level of treatment

Vegetated linear wetlands and marshes

Sediment forebay that slows water to allow large sediment to sink out before it enters the natural watercourse

Oil / grit separator to remove major pollutants and oil before water enters the natural watercourse

Flow diversion to send regular flows into John Hendry Park, with high storm event flows directed to a pipe to prevent damage to the natural watercourse

- Restoration of Trout Lake requires the redirection of rainwater runoff from the neighbourhood to the southeast of the park.
- Involves ongoing collaboration with, and funding from, Engineering to define the runoff to be redirected into the park, and the spatial and vegetation requirements for the rainwater channel to be constructed in the park.
- The separation of sewers lines in the neighbourhood is expected to take 3 to 5 years before runoff can be redirected into the park.

Other Considerations – Community Gardens



Not included at this time for 3 reasons:

- 1. Cultural Focus Area The southeast part of the park represents a unique opportunity to decolonize John Hendry Park and envision an area that reflects indigenous values and needs. An indigenous-led process to identify future changes to this part of the park.
- 2. Local Food System Action Plan (2021) Update existing Park Board documents (Urban Agriculture Policy and Urban Agriculture Garden Guide) to provide direction on alternative approaches to integrating food in parks (e.g. food forests) that can be more widely integrated and are often more democratic than plot-focused community gardens
- 3. Unprogrammed Space The pandemic has revealed the importance of flexible open areas in parks have become since the pandemic arrived, in supporting the physical and mental wellbeing of Vancouverites. John Hendry is already programmed, maintaining flexible open spaces is considered a priority.

Financials |



- The John Hendry Park Renewal Plan will take multiple Capital Plans (10+ years) and 20+ million dollars to implement the 31 Recommendations and 94 Actions
- Current funding \$1,400,000 allows staff to undertake some quick starts
- Some elements in the renewal plan may be eligible to be funded through Development Cost Levies (DCLs) as they respond to growth in the area
- The majority of funding will need to come from funding sources eligible for renewal projects, such as community amenity contributions and debt

| Timeframe | Estimated Costs (2022 dollars) |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Short Term Recommendations (1-5 years) | \$5,000,000 - \$7,000,000 |
| Medium Term Recommendations (5-10 years) | \$13,000,000 - \$15,000,0000 |
| Long Term Recommendations (10+ years) | \$1,000,000 |

Implementation Plan



- Develop an implementation plan that uses a set of criteria (e.g. health & safety, asset condition, feasibility) to rank actions and inform the phasing plan
- Identify phasing opportunities and synergies that reflect the Park Board's overall park renewal priorities and City of Vancouver financial capacity as determined through the upcoming and future four-year capital planning process.
- Numerous components of the Renewal Plan required detailed design investigations that will include

Recommendation



- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the John Hendry Park Renewal Plan, attached as Appendix A and summarized in this report; and,
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to develop an Implementation Plan that identifies phasing opportunities and reflects the Park Board's overall park renewal priorities and financial capacity as determined through the upcoming four-year Capital Planning process.

Recommendation – Final as Amended



- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the John Hendry Park Renewal Plan, attached as Appendix A and summarized in this report.
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to develop an Implementation Plan that identifies phasing opportunities and reflects the Park Board's overall park renewal priorities and financial capacity as determined through the upcoming four-year Capital Planning process.
- C. THAT the Park Board ask staff to explore inclusion of community garden plots in the renewal plan.
- D. THAT the Park Board direct staff to develop and implement a plan to prioritize water quality improvements to ensure safe swimming at Trout Lake with a goal to eliminate public swimming closures as a result of unsafe E.coli levels.





Questions