



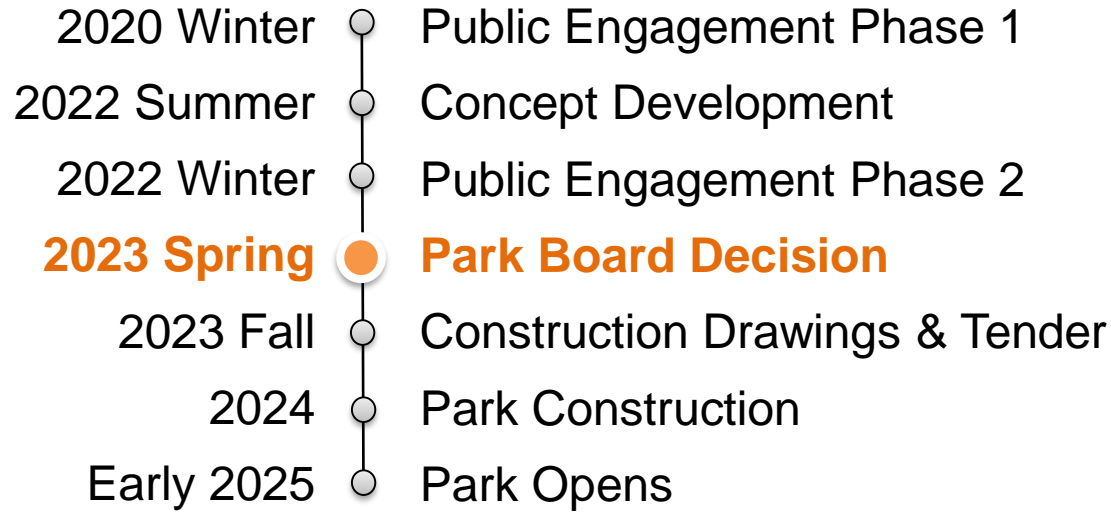
NEW PARK AT MAIN & 7TH

Concept Plan

Park Board Committee Meeting
Monday, May 29, 2023



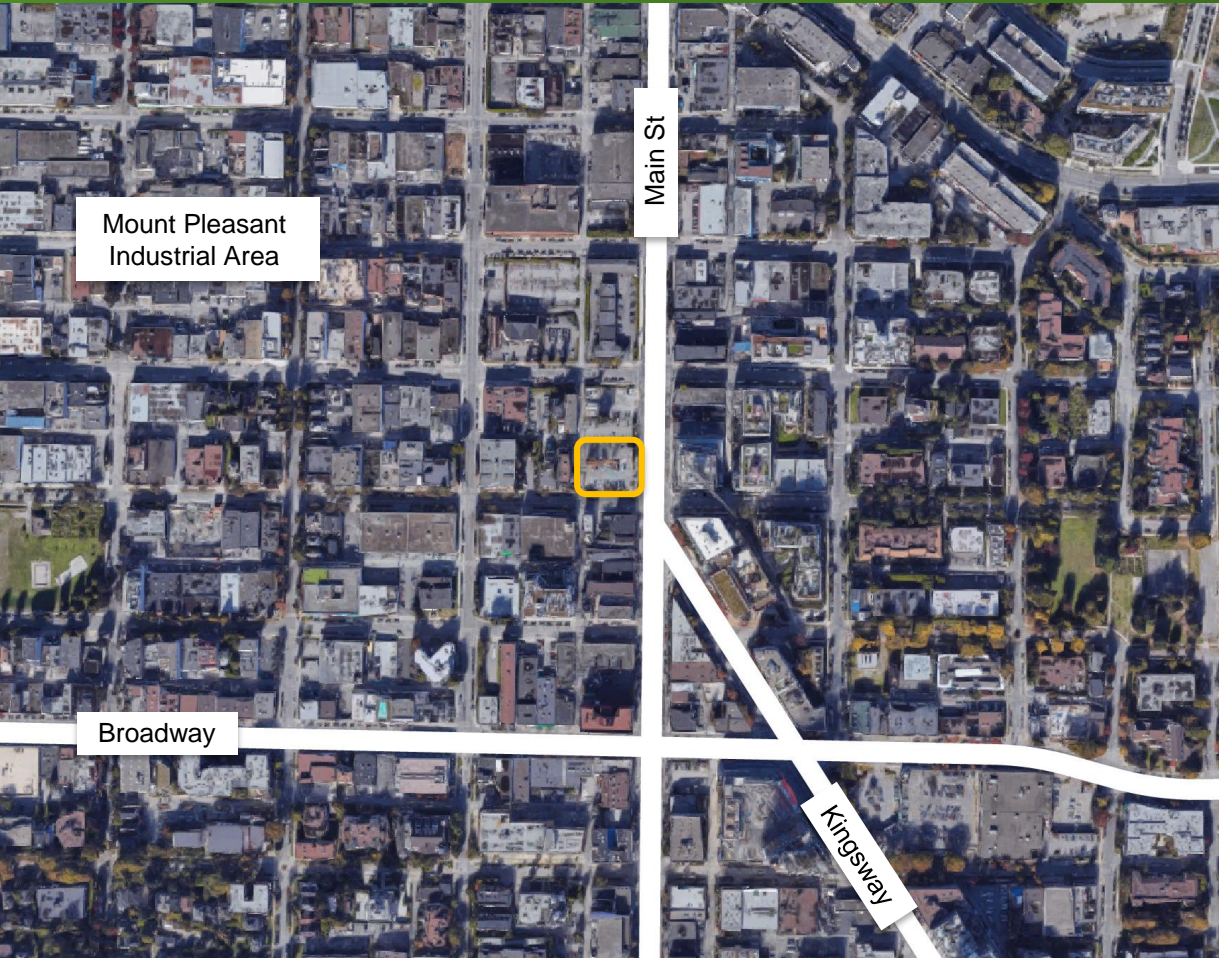
- The purpose of this presentation is to:
 - Provide background information on the design process for the New Park at Main Street & 7th Avenue
 - Share public engagement results and the design response to the input received
 - Seek a Board decision on the concept design to enable staff to progress to the detailed design stage



An aerial photograph of a city, likely Vancouver, showing a dense urban grid with various buildings, streets, and green spaces. A solid green horizontal banner is positioned at the top of the image, containing the title text.

Project Background

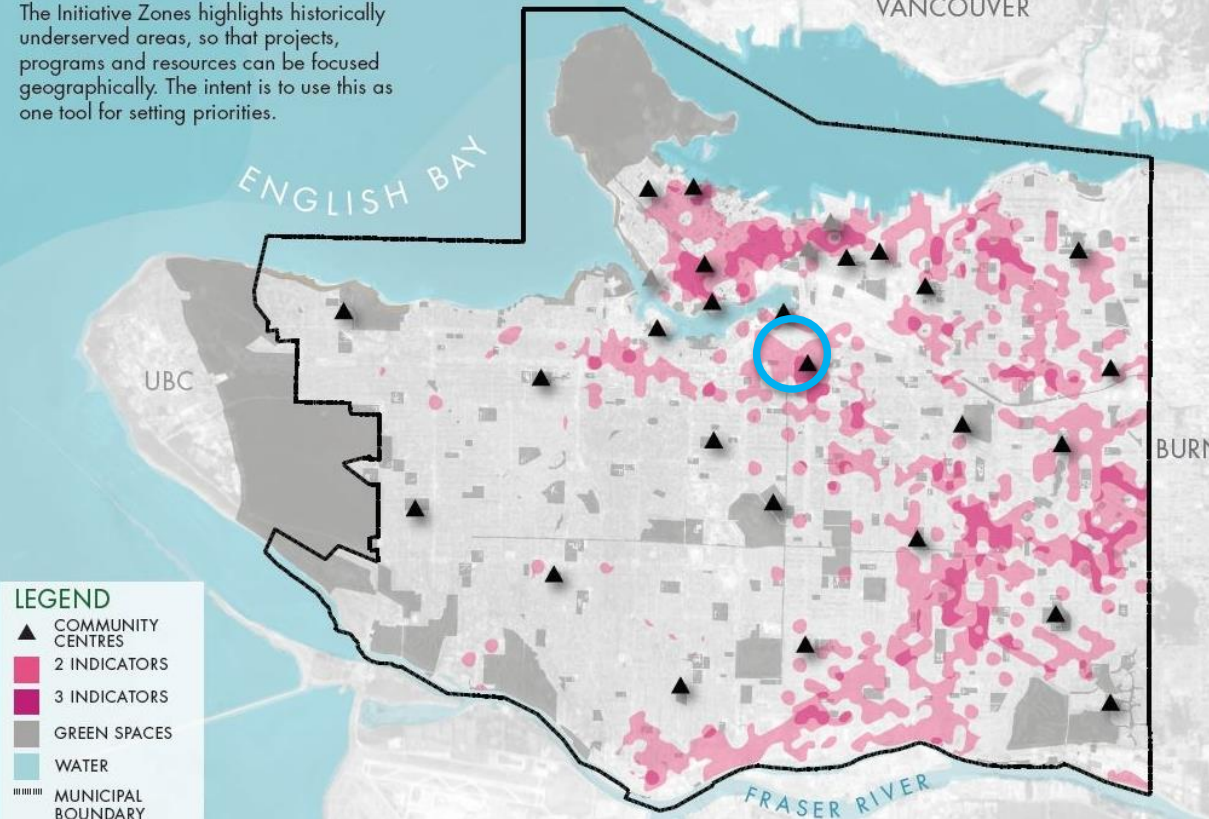
Background – Context



- 1000 sq.m site within the Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood acquired by the Park Board in 2018.
- Neighbourhood is primarily mixed use medium to high density residential, with a growing industrial area in the northwest.
- South facing site exposed to sunlight all day long.

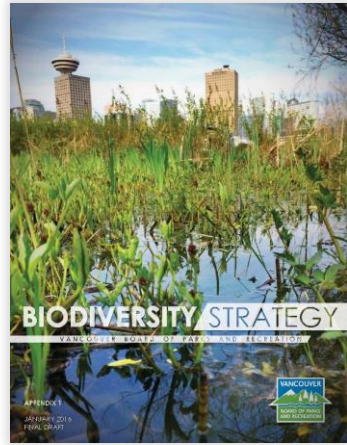
INITIATIVE ZONES MAP

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.



- **Population Density:** Since VanPlay was published, Mount Pleasant has moved into highest tier bracket (10,000+ per sq. km)
- Expected to grow by 6,000 residents by 2041
- **Park Access:** Second lowest tier
- **Tree Canopy:** Lowest tier bracket.

Background – Policy and Strategies



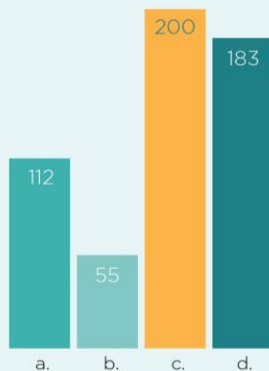
The proposed concept for the New Park is supported by principles outlined in these plans and strategies:



Public Engagement



Public Engagement – Round 1: What We Heard



What would you like the character of the park to be?

- a. Exciting and bold
- b. Quiet and Contemplative
- c. Lively and social**
- d. Natural and restorative

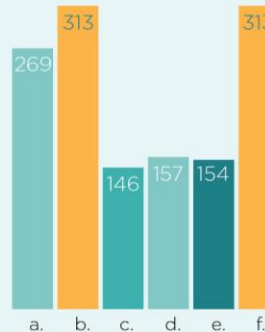
36%



What activity level do you think is suitable for the small park?

- a. Low Key: Take a break
- b. Social: Meet friends and family**
- c. Active: Shop, play, attend events

40%



What elements would you like to see at the Main & 7th Park?

- a. Pavilion / covered area
- b. Multi-Use flexible space**
- c. Small market space
- d. Public art, culture and history
- e. Plaza space for performances
- f. Screens to block noise**

57%

57%



Which landscape elements appeal to you the most for this space?

- a. Habitat for birds
- b. Planting for bees and butterflies
- c. Native plant species
- d. Trees for shade**
- e. Ornamental flowers
- f. Formal and Organized

32%

This round of engagement was held on Shape Your City November - December 2020

Public Engagement – Round 1: Key Principles



A LIVELY & EXCITING PARK

Design a park unique to Mount Pleasant that promotes a lively space for all and strengthens the neighbourhood's vibrant culture and community.



A PLACE TO MEET FRIENDS & FAMILY

Create a safe and inviting meeting place for people to socialise with friends and family.



A LUSH PARK WITH TREES FOR SHADE

Grow a lush pocket of nature in Mount Pleasant to provide a little respite.



A MULTI-USE FLEXIBLE SPACE

Create a dynamic and multi-functional park that can host a diversity of community events throughout the seasons.

PHASE 2: PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

From Nov 29th to Dec 21st 2022, the Vancouver Park Board hosted the second phase of engagement to receive feedback from the public on preliminary design concepts for the new park at Main & 7th. Design concepts were based on feedback received in Phase 1.

We interacted with over 1,400 people through a public engagement event and online survey on the City of Vancouver's 'Shape Your City' engagement platform. Participants provided responses and ideas that will inform park concept design revisions, detailed design and delivery.

Residents were notified through mailout postcards, social media and posters displayed around the Mount Pleasant neighbourhood.

Separate to the public engagement process, ongoing conversations with the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations to discuss the park and its concept design are continuing.

Feedback received from the Phase 2 engagement is summarized in this report.



In summary, the result of the Phase 2 public engagement largely indicates enthusiasm and support for the provided concept design.

A majority of surveyed individuals expressed the park meets or exceed their expectations and aligns with identified project principles.

WHO WE REACHED

190+ survey responses
online + hardcopy

1,400+ visitors
to the project webpage
shapeyourcity.ca/main-7th-park

9,700 postcards
delivered across surrounding
project area

10,200+ reached
through social media



Public feedback was compiled in an engagement summary and posted to the project website (Nov – Dec, 2022)

190 respondents, overall positive response

- **87%** liked the proposed design
- **2%** were neutral

WHAT WE HEARD

To capture anything that might have been missed, we also asked an open-ended question: **Do you have any other comments regarding the proposed concept design?**

We identified seven key themes from the 141 responses we received.

Top Themes

Respondents mentioned the following themes in their comments:

- 25% Green space & planting
- 18% Canopy, rain & shade
- 16% Pedestrian flow & accessibility
- 12% Noise reduction
- 7% Dog amenities
- 7% Play areas for children
- 5% Artistic elements & public art
- 10% Other

* Top themes are based on the most repeated topics referenced by individuals out of a total of 141 responses



* Word cloud is based on the number of times a word is mentioned across all 141 responses

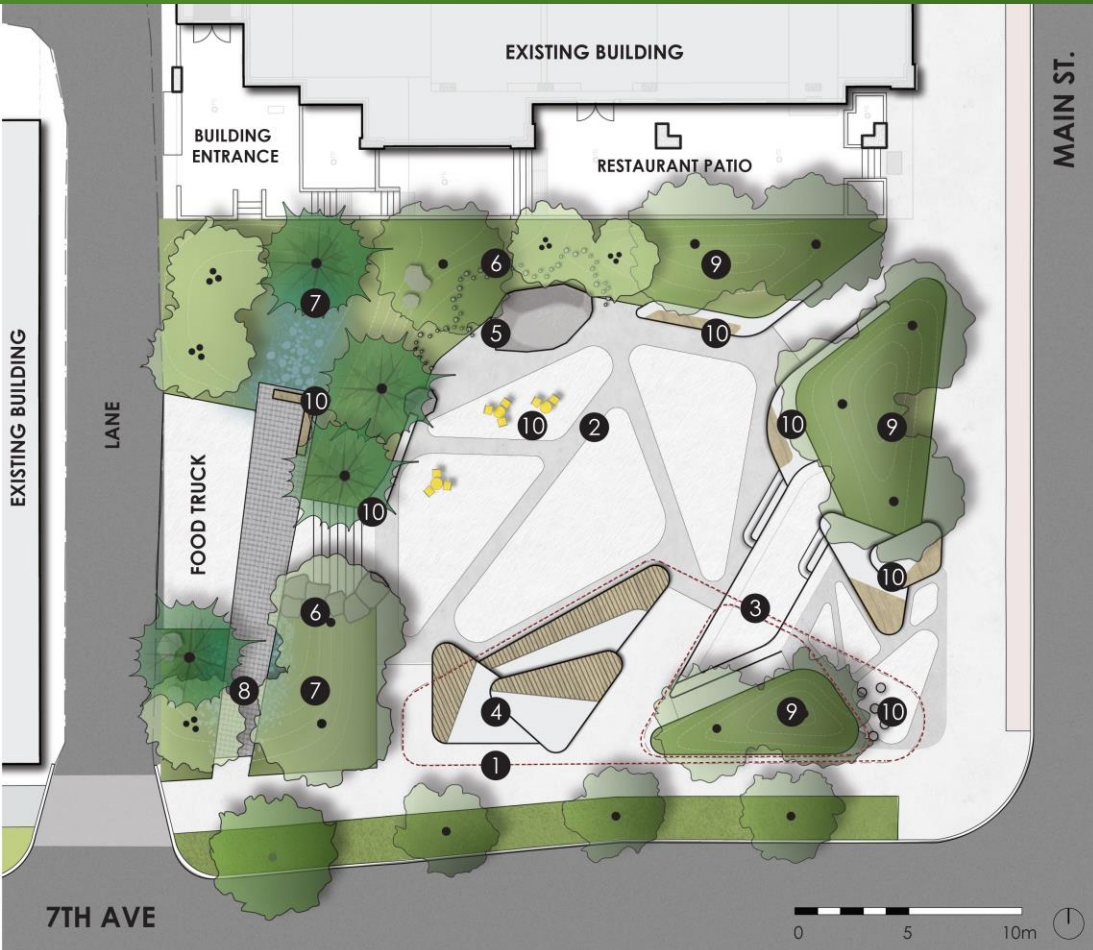
Top themes heard from the public were summarized and assessed.

In response, concept plan was refined to include:

- Additional green space
- A canopy structure
- Expanded universal access

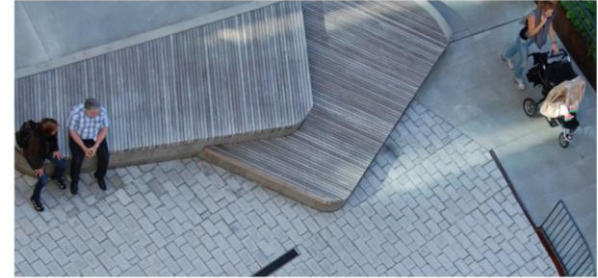
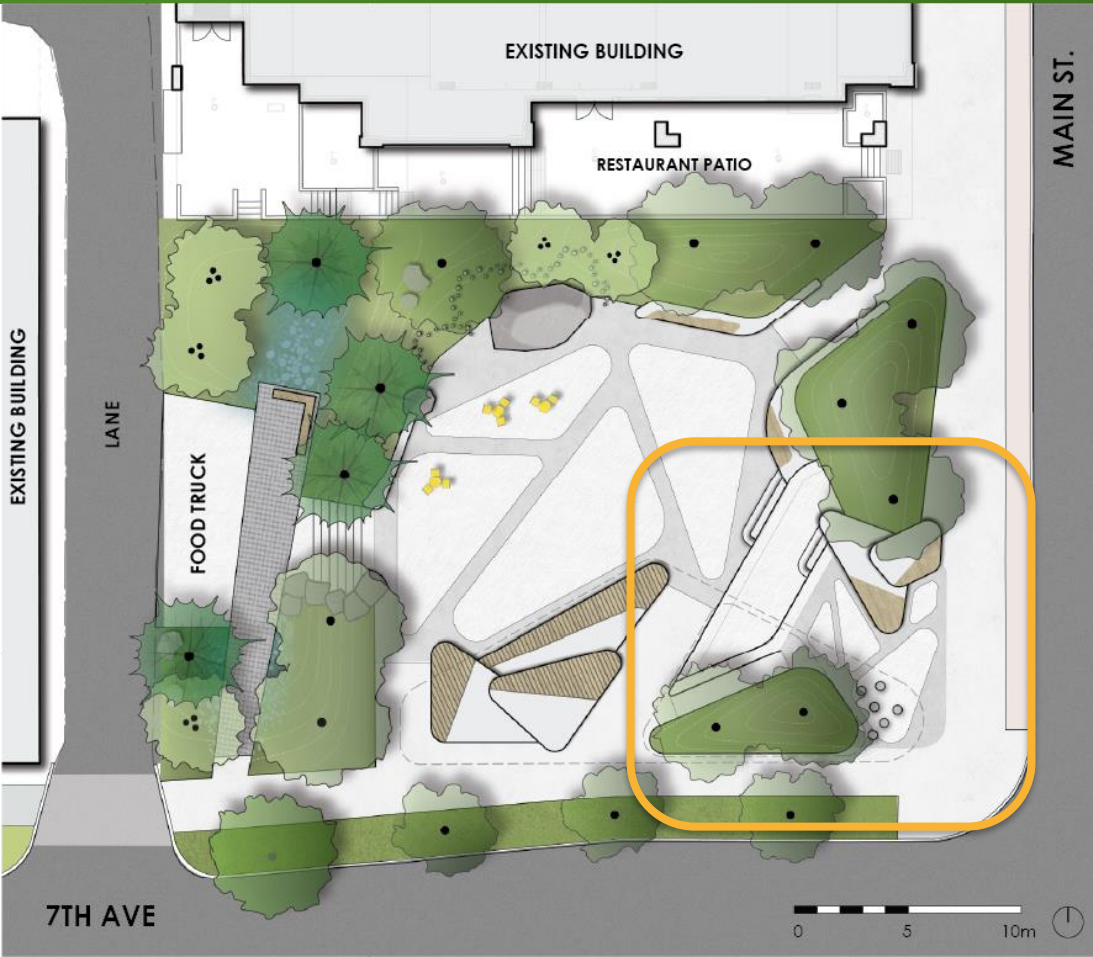
- Staff have started the collaboration process with the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations
- Staff have engaged with:
 - Park Operations, Park Rangers, Resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction
 - Mount Pleasant CCA
 - Mount Pleasant BIA
 - Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee (UIPAC)
- All conversations will continue through the detail design process

Discussion – Proposed Concept



- ① Shade canopy & public art
- ② Central plaza
- ③ Terraced seating
- ④ Platform seating & performance space
- ⑤ Sun rock
- ⑥ Nature play
- ⑦ Rain garden
- ⑧ Elevated walkway
- ⑨ Planted mounds & tree cover
- ⑩ Seating

Discussion – Proposed Concept: Entry Terrace

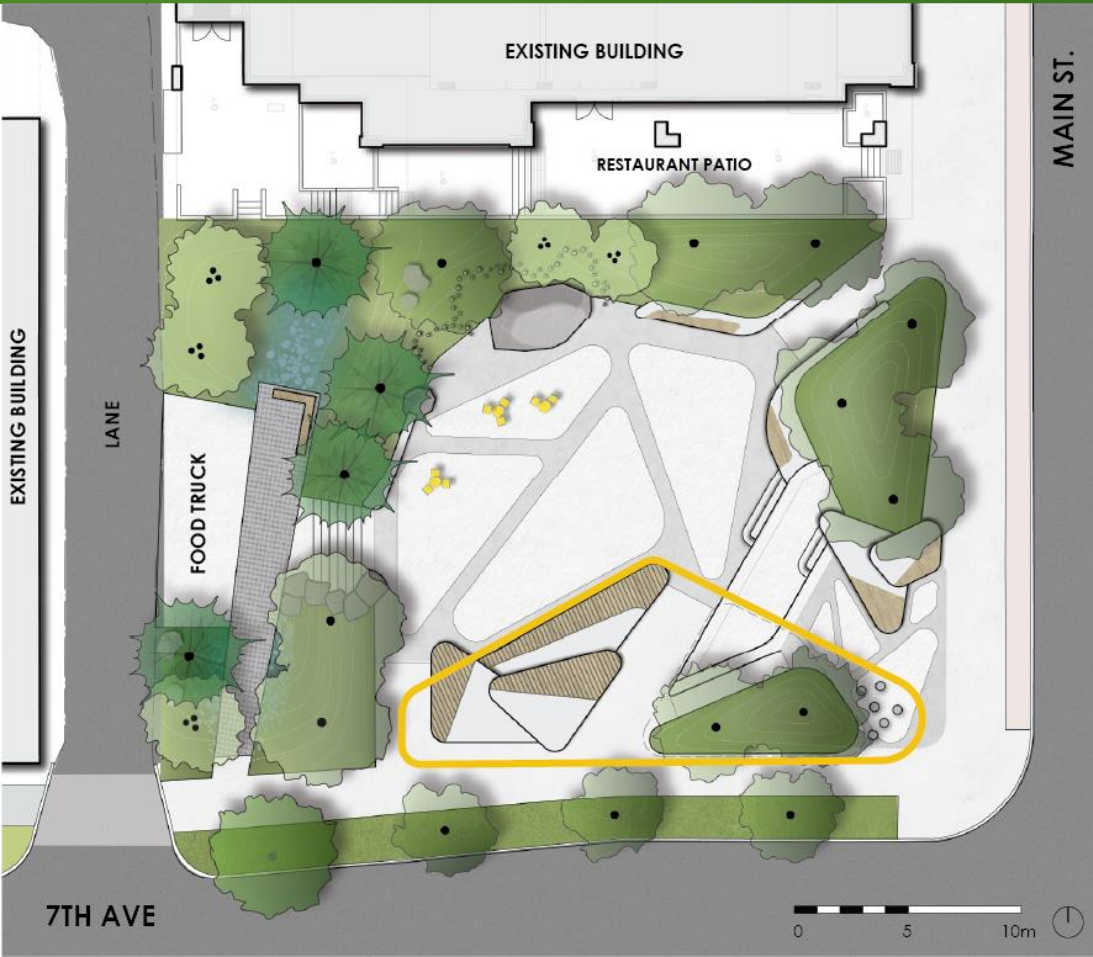


Discussion – Proposed Concept

From Main St. looking into the park, planted mounds and tree cover provide noise attenuation and shade, while creating a green oasis.

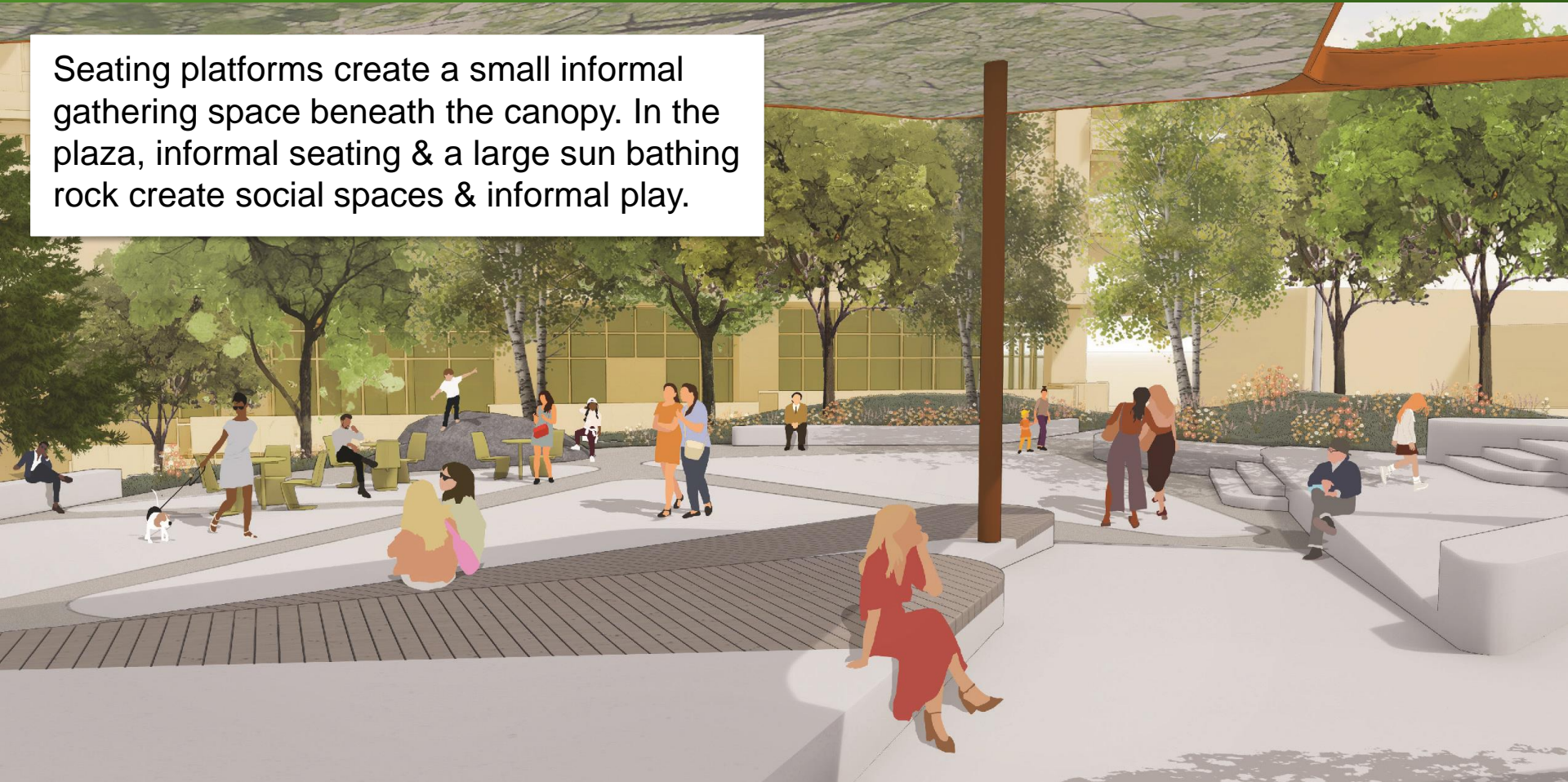


Discussion – Proposed Concept: Canopy

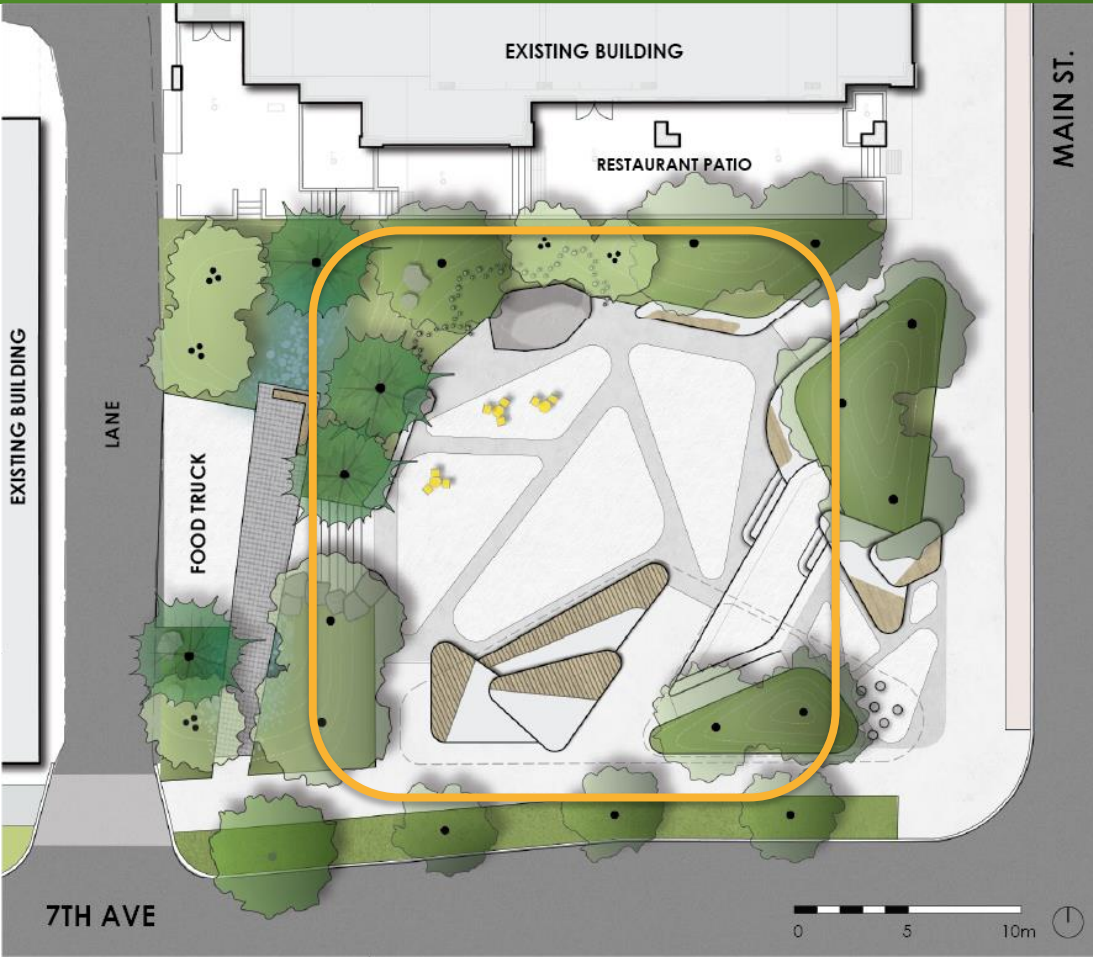


Discussion – Proposed Concept

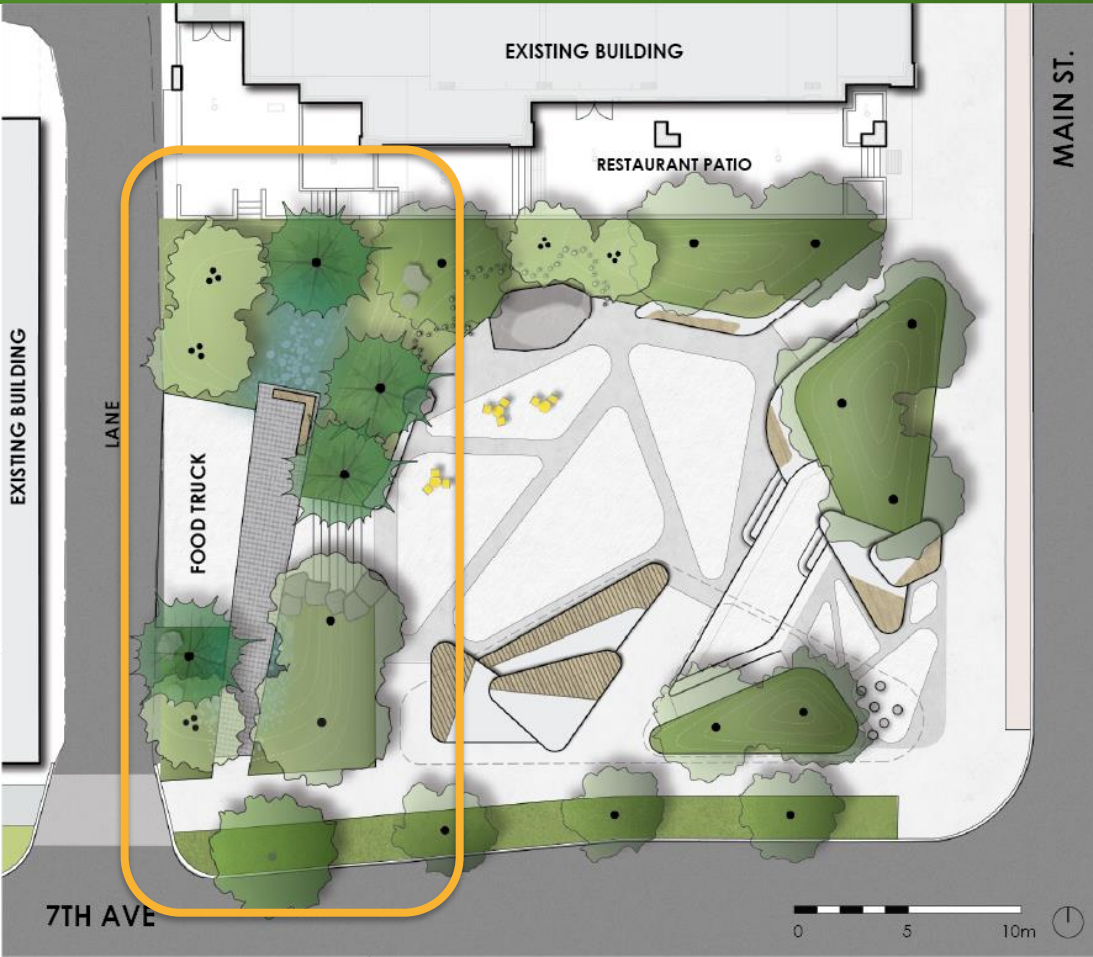
Seating platforms create a small informal gathering space beneath the canopy. In the plaza, informal seating & a large sun bathing rock create social spaces & informal play.



Discussion – Proposed Concept: Central Plaza



Discussion – Proposed Concept: Raingarden



Discussion – Proposed Concept

Boulder stepping stones and an elevated walkway weave through the raingarden, which collects and filtering a significant amount of stormwater.





Concept design can accommodate:

- Markets
- Food trucks
- Small performance space

Additional opportunity to temporarily activate laneway



- The development of the New Park at Main & 7th is funded by Development Cost Levies in the 2019-2022 Capital Plan.
- The anticipated project cost for is \$3,700,000
- Operating budget for this park is estimated between \$54-\$71k per year and this amount is to be requested as part of the annual operating budget process.

Next Steps



THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the proposed concept plan for the New Park at Main & 7th as described in this report and as shown Append A.



