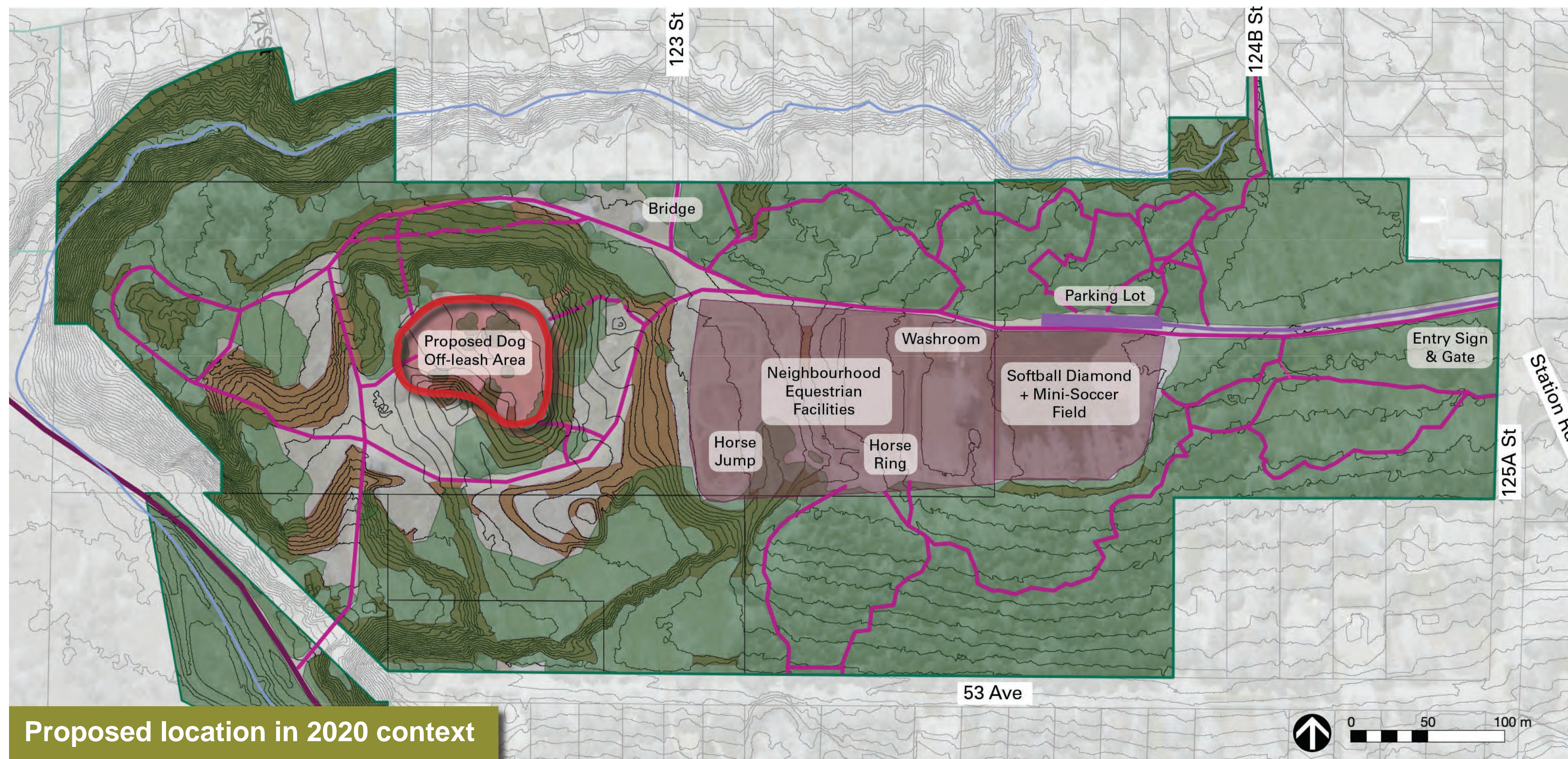


Introduction



Proposed location in 2020 context

LEGEND

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
|  | Proposed Dog Off-leash Area |  | Park Boundary |
|  | Existing Park Uses |  | Multi-use Pathway |
|  | Natural Areas |  | Delta-South Surrey Regional Greenway |
|  | >15% Slope |  | Vehicular Access |
|  | 1m Contour |  | River |

Joe Brown Park

Welcome to Joe Brown Park, a 27.5 hectare (68 acres) community-level park within the Newton community and Panorama Ridge neighbourhood. The park provides unique recreational opportunities including walking trails, equestrian activities, a softball field, large forested areas and protection of a fish bearing stream.

In the 2009 Master Plan Public Consultation, you told us a dog off-leash area is needed at Joe Brown Park. In 2012 the Surrey Dog Off-leash Area Strategy provided tools to guide the planning, design, and operation of off-leash areas. Surrey Parks is now in the design stage for the dog off-leash area at Joe Brown Park and we are asking for your feedback. Help guide the design of a safe, engaging, and fun area for all park users.

Your feedback is important to us!

Please fill out the online survey at the end of this presentation.

Site Selection

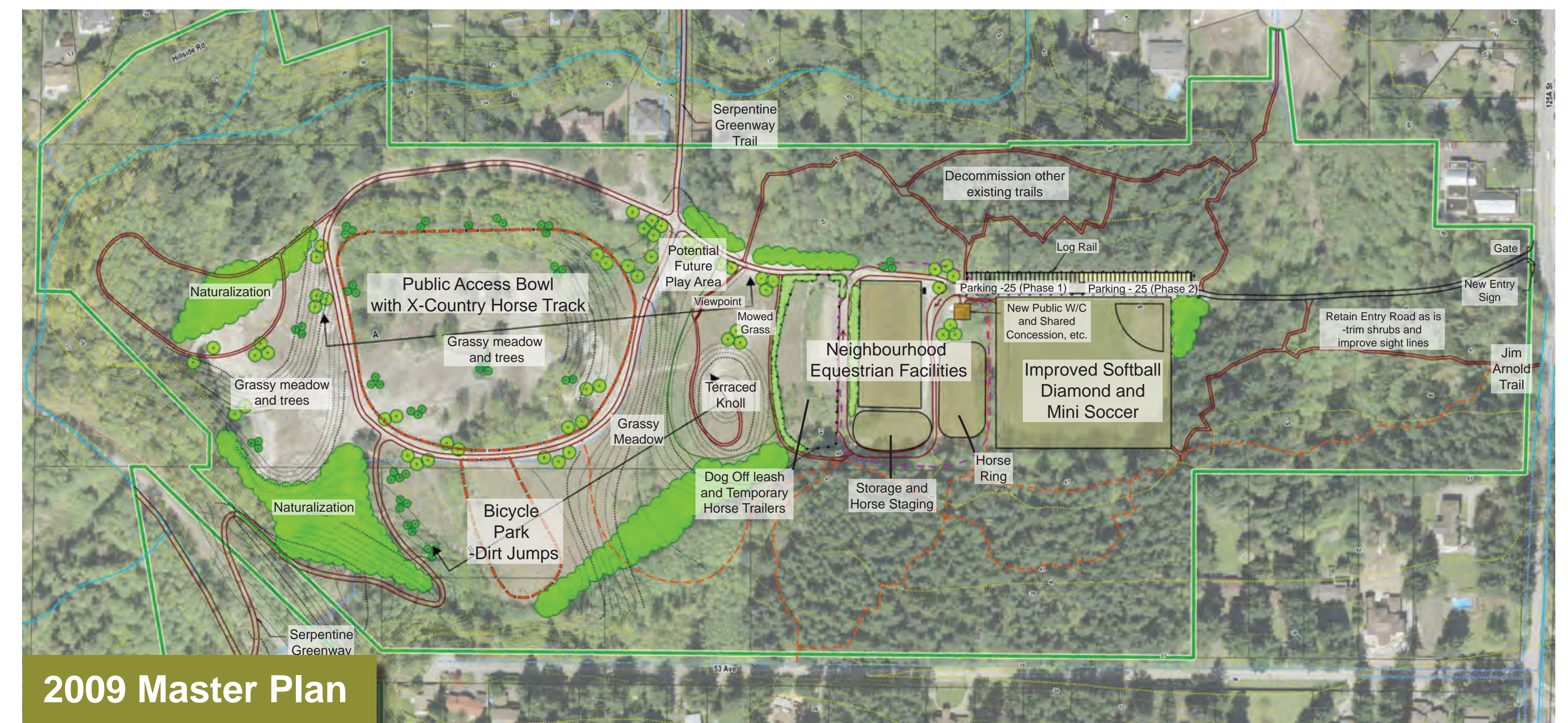
Why here?

The 2009 Joe Brown Master Plan consultation demonstrated public support for the addition of a dog off-leash area. The current consultation is a progressive step towards realizing this vision. Since the master plan was conceptualized, the forest cover has increased, and a new opportunity to locate a permanent dog off-leash area became available.

Through careful analysis, a 1-acre minimum parcel of land was selected within Joe Brown Park. The dog off-leash area is planned for the western portion of the park, in an area referred to as the “Bowl”. This is the only area in the park that meets the minimum size criteria, exhibits relatively level topography, is set back from natural areas, is compatible with existing uses, and is connected with existing trails.

The “Bowl”

The bowl-shaped clearing you see today originated as a City owned gravel quarry known as Colebrook Pit which was in production until 1983. In 2004, Colebrook Pit was designated as a park. Local residents refer to the central portion of the pit as the “Bowl,” and use this area to enjoy recreational activities, tree planting and connecting to the multi-use trail network.



Environmental Context

Environmental Analysis

Most areas of the Bowl show signs of disturbance from past human activity. The proposed off-leash area would have low environmental impact in this location.

Vegetation

Main vegetation inside the Bowl includes herbaceous plants, shrubs, and pioneer tree species.

Recommendation: Keep snags, wildlife trees, and large woody debris onsite for habitat value.

Habitat

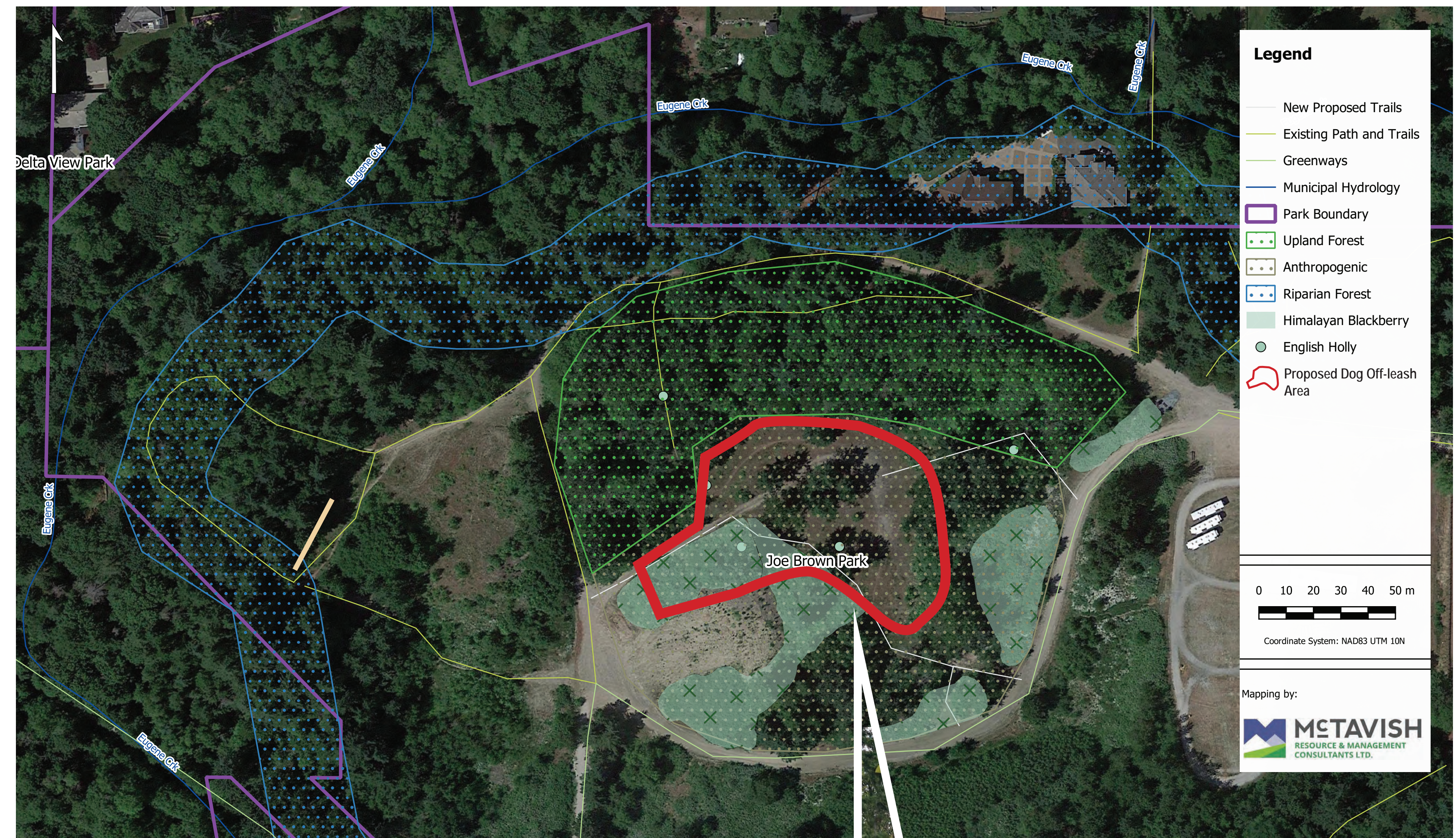
Low wildlife habitat suitability in proposed fenced area, moderate to high for young forest upland, and very high for riparian forest.

Recommendation: Keep forested uplands and riparian forest protected and outside of off-leash area.

Soil

Soil inside the proposed off-leash area is classified as gravel pit. Soils adjacent to the proposed development are classified as moderate to well drained mineral soils.

Recommendation: Minimize disturbance of soils and vegetation outside of the proposed development to avoid erosion. Reuse surface soils for site restoration.



Environmental Inventory



Proposed Dog Off-leash Area

Design Strategy

The proposed dog off-leash area includes a fully fenced perimeter, with a mixture of grass, trees, and topographic terrain. With approximately 1.3 acres of fenced-in open space, the Joe Brown dog off-leash area offers opportunities for long distance dog running activities such as frisbee and ball throwing. See the Dog Off-leash Amenities board for additional ideas.



- 1 Fencing & Gate Entrances**
Fencing around the off-leash area provides clear boundaries between on-leash and off-leash areas. Double-gates have self-closing entries. See fencing configurations for one area for all dogs or two areas for big and small dogs.
- 2 Environmental Design**
Keep existing terrain and trees for shade and screening. Remove blackberry plants in the west to improve sightlines.
- 3 Perimeter Path**
Provide a multi-use perimeter trail along the northern edge of the fenced off-leash area to maintain existing trail access in the Bowl for all users.
- 4 Signage**
Signage at strategic locations to identify off-leash use and etiquette.

OPTION A | ALL DOG OFF-LEASH AREA



Configuration of Dog Off-leash Area(s)

The Online Survey offers two options: Do you prefer ONE big area for all dogs or TWO separate areas for big and small dogs?



OPTION A | ALL DOG OFF-LEASH AREA



OPTION B | BIG & SMALL DOG OFF-LEASH AREA

Dog Off-leash Amenities

Rank your 3 favourite amenities and share your own ideas on the Online Survey.

OPEN SPACE

emphasizes an unprogrammed area for free run and toy toss.



SEATING

provides resting and socializing opportunities for dog owners.



TOPOGRAPHIC MOUNDS

provide visual interest, varied play opportunities, and can help mitigate aggression between dogs by blocking low sightlines.



ALL WEATHER SHELTER

provides rain and shade protection from inclement weather.



AGILITY ELEMENTS

such as bars and run obstacles provide goal-oriented training.



WATER STATION

provides drinking water and a cleaning area for dogs.



CLIMBING STRUCTURES

such as bridges, tunnels, stumps, and boulders provide opportunities for dogs to crawl under or over structures.



INFORMATION KIOSK

provides opportunity for dog owners to exchange news and resources via postings.



Benefits of a Dog Off-leash Area

Benefits of a dog off-leash area

Regular Exercise

Dogs need daily exercise to lead healthy lives. A well exercised dog is better behaved than one with excess energy. An off-leash area allows dogs to move at their pace -which can be far faster than their owner's!

Socializing amongst Dogs

Socializing is a learned behaviour. Dogs off-leash have opportunities to engage and learn from other dogs on how to interact, read body language, and play. Off-leash engagement is different from leashed engagement. When a leashed dog feels threatened, it may resort to posturing due to lack of retreat. Off-leash engagement fosters confidence and social skills that dogs can bring to all interactions.

Positive Interactions

Off-leash areas attract people who love dogs. When dogs interact with other friendly owners, it reinforces their positive attitude towards people. These same interactions are also an opportunity for dog owners to converse and recreate together.

Responsible Dog Ownership

Clear delineation between on-leash and off-leash areas minimizes park user conflicts and encourage dog owners to pick up after their dogs.

Protect the environment

By limiting free roaming to a fenced area, forest undergrowth, sensitive riparian area and wildlife are protected from wandering paws.

Safety

Introduction of off-leash areas in under-used park areas can add eyes in the park and discourage potential criminal activity. Dogs are particularly good sensors to alert owners to the presence of others.



Next Steps



Online Survey

We want to hear from you. Please fill out the online survey to inform the character of the Joe Brown Park dog off-leash area at:

<https://surrey.simplesurvey.com/f/l/jbpark?ds=project>

Report Back

Following this online consultation, staff will review feedback and ideas generated to determine the character of the dog off-leash area at Joe Brown Park. A summary of ideas and feedback gathered will be posted on the [Joe Brown Park website](#) in Spring 2021.

Contact

Got questions? You can reach the project lead Mary Wong at:

Email: mary.wong@surrey.ca

Phone: 604.598.5723