



NICOMEKL RIVERFRONT PARK

PUBLIC CONSULTATION
SUMMARY REPORT 2020



Overview

The Nicomekl Riverfront Park assembles a series of riverfront land parcels between Elgin Road and 40 Ave into a 3 km long riverfront park experience. The park vision prioritizes habitat conservation and enhancement and weaves together ecology, heritage, public art, recreation, infrastructure and innovative adaptations to climate change and sea level rise.

The City of Surrey and consulting team, led by PFS Studio, coordinated a two-phased community engagement process for the Nicomekl Riverfront Park planning process. First Nations, stakeholders, and Surrey Residents (adults, youth and kids) were asked to review the park vision, objectives and concept plan and provide feedback at various engagement events, meetings and site visits and via multiple consultation platforms. Phase 1 was focused on understanding residents' vision for the park and collecting information about the community. Phase 2 was focused on getting feedback on the proposed park vision, principles and concept plan. The City of Surrey's Nicomekl Riverfront Park webpage provided project information and updates throughout the planning process. Project postcards, posters and digital media were distributed publicly to invite residents to learn more about the project and provide feedback. Feedback from early consultation was incorporated into the park management plan, concept plan, design initiatives and management strategies and presented at later consultation events. Further public consultation will occur in the next phase of the project, detail design.

Consultation Events:

Phase 1 Stakeholder Workshop #1 - May 4, 2018

- Open House #1 - September 24, 2018
- Youth Speak Up Forum - October 26, 2018
- Kids Conference - November 18, 2018

Phase 2 World Wetland Day - February 2, 2019

- Stakeholder Workshop #2 - July 17, 2019
- Open House #2 - August 6, 2019

Consultation Platforms:

- Public Open House
- Workshop/Meeting
- Site Visit
- Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube)
- Email & Phone

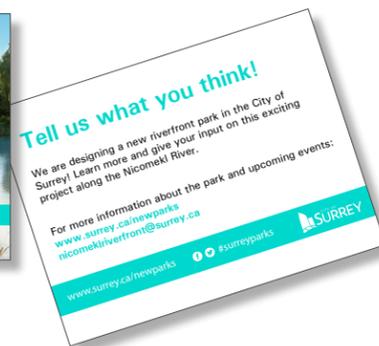
Stakeholder Workshop #1: May 4, 2018

The first Stakeholder Workshop was held on May 4, 2018 with representatives from a number of community groups including: Crescent Road Corridor Community Residents Association, Elgin Creek Ratepayers Association, Friends of Semiahmoo Bay, Birds on the Bay, Friends of Semiahmoo Trail, Green Timbers Heritage Society, Historic Stewart Farm, Little Campbell Watershed Society, Nicomekl Rowing Club, Semiahmoo Fish and Game Club, Ocean Park Tree Committee (O.P. Beautification Committee), Surrey Environmental Partners and Surrey Historical Society.

The project team presented the project mandate and scope, environmental site assessment findings and opportunities, heritage research findings and site analysis. Precedent images of parks and park elements were also presented to help stakeholders identify the desired character for the Nicomekl Riverfront Park.

Participants then broke into three small groups for facilitated discussions. The first round of discussions asked participants to respond to the research and analysis on the site and its context and provide further information or correct any inaccuracies based on their knowledge of the Nicomekl River, its history, its ecological functions and its use by the community. The second round of discussions utilized the precedents images presented at the start of the workshop to identify preferences about future park programming, character and usage. After each round, groups reported back to the whole.

In summary, participants wanted to see high ecological integrity, a naturalized aesthetic, soft paths, boardwalks, places to touch the water, intimate gathering areas and integrated habitat. They wanted to avoid expanses of paving, large gathering places, formal ordered landscapes and big lawns. This feedback was incorporated into the management plan, concept plan and public open house content.



Huntley Meadows
(Fairfax County Park Authority)



Chatsfield State Park
(Kieth Akers)



Bass River Park
(Jessica Langlois)



Canmore Creek, Alberta
(Stream Tender Magazine)



Puerto-Princessa Subterranean River
(Hungarian Snow)

The five images with the strongest positive reactions from the Stakeholders Workshop



Hans Tavsens Park
(SLA)



The River Aire, Geneva
(Landezine)



Museum Park Louvre Lens
(Mosbach Paysagistes)



Tianjin Qiaoyuan
(Turescape Landscape Architecture)



Tiered Seating
(Cindrebay School of Design)

The five images with the least favourable reactions from the Stakeholders Workshop



Photos from the First Public Open House

Public Open House #1: September 24, 2018

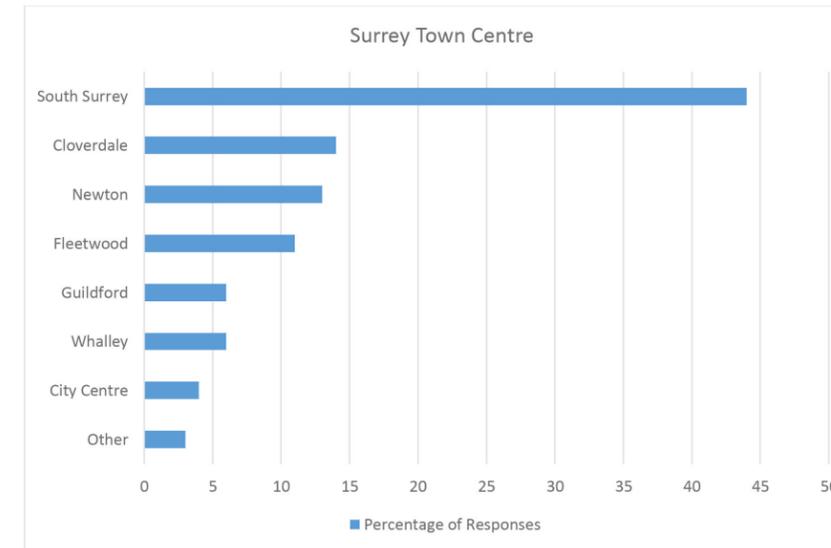
The First Public Open House for the Nicomekl Riverfront Park took place on September 24, 2018 at Turnbull Gallery in the South Surrey Recreation & Arts Centre. It attracted over 160 attendees. In addition to those who participated in the open house, there were over 1200 online surveys completed after the event.

The open house displayed a series of panels that covered similar material to the First Stakeholder Workshop, updated with the information gathered from the stakeholder input. The survey sought comments from participants on a number of topics:

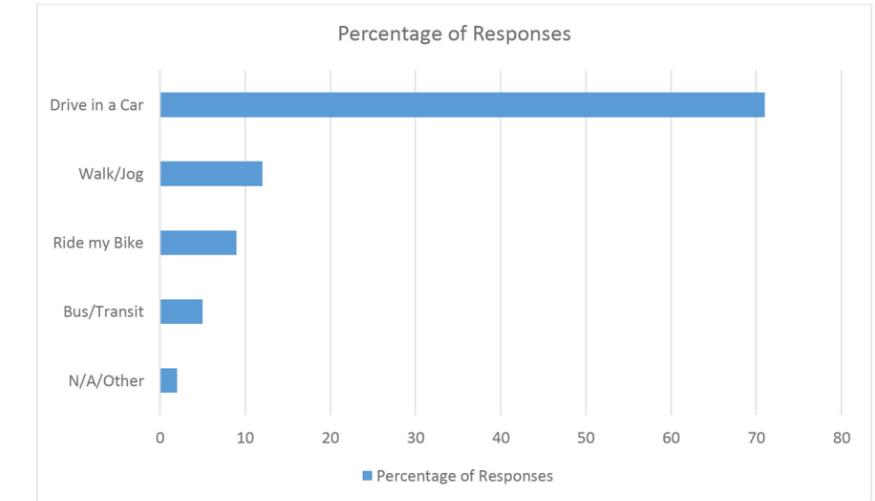
- Participants felt the most important drivers in shaping the Nicomekl Riverfront Park should be nature / wildlife habitat; trails / connectivity / accessibility, and public access to the waterfront.
- People felt that more information was needed about parking / traffic, the potential to expand the park to the west, provisions for biking and dog areas. Several people also registered their lack of support for the development of the Rosemary Heights Retreat Centre.
- Natural areas were generally preferred with limited programmable park space.
- First Nations, early settlers/pioneers, river use and watersheds, significant people and events, and wildlife/environment were all considered important histories to address in the park.
- There was a strong preference for functional and integrated public art in the park. Many stated that the art expression should be subordinate to the natural character of the park.
- Participants generally supported the Draft Planning Principles.
- There was great support for the preliminary park concept plan either as presented or with minor changes.
- The top five amenities desired in the park included natural trails, boardwalks, washrooms, habitat areas and a parking lot.

Profile of Survey Participants:

Where in Surrey do you live? (98% of participants live in Surrey)

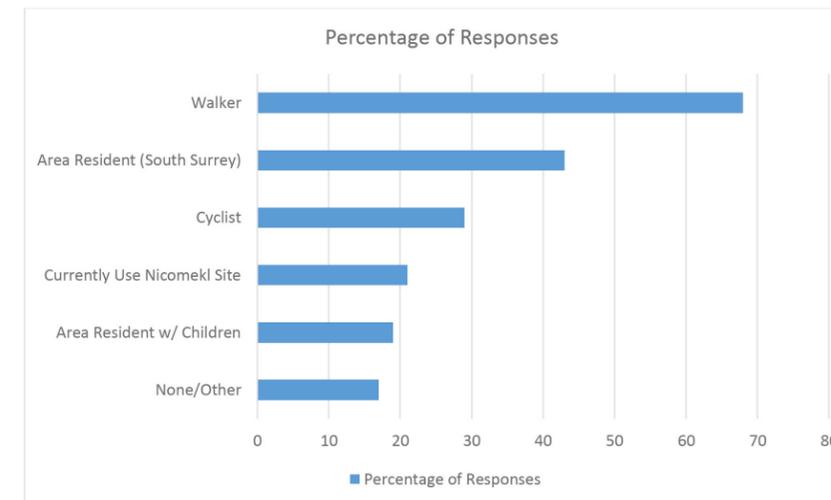


How would you likely get to the park?

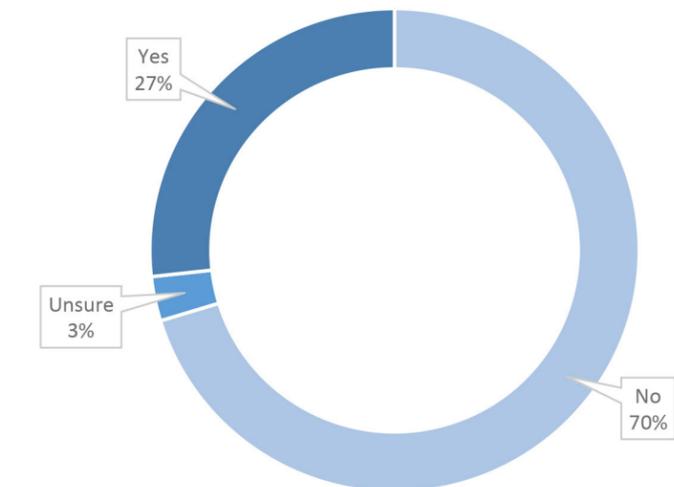


Do you live walking distance to the park?

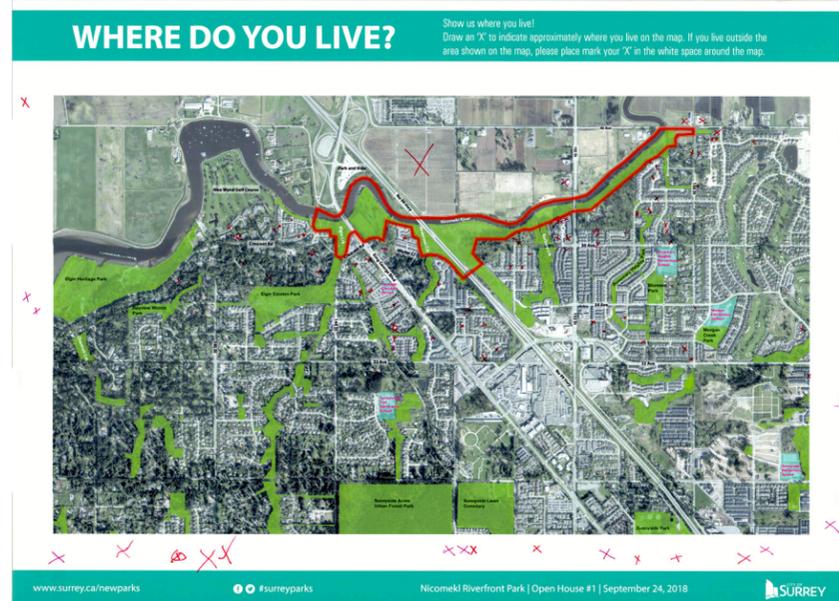
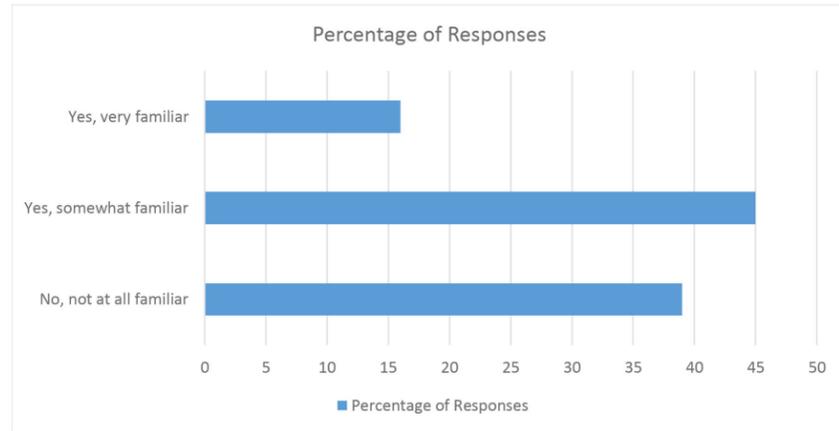
Which of these perspectives do you represent? (select all that apply)



Walking Distance to the Park



Prior to receiving this survey, were you familiar with the Nicomekl Riverfront Park Area?

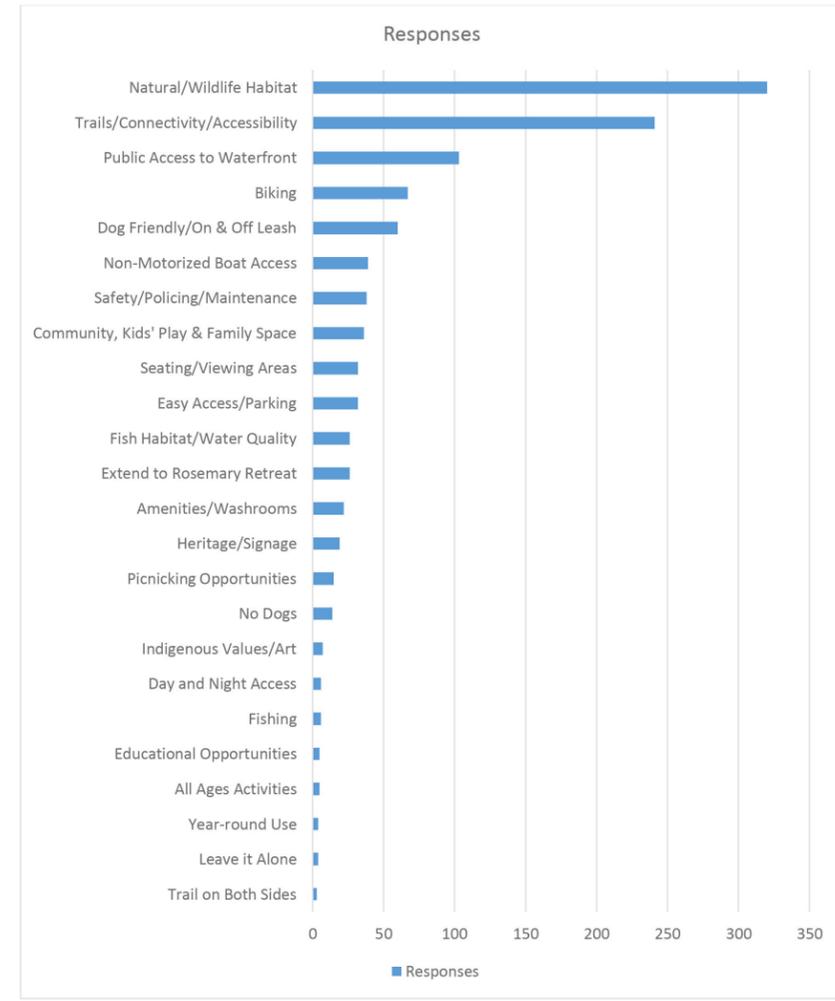


Participants who attended the Open House marked where they live in the area

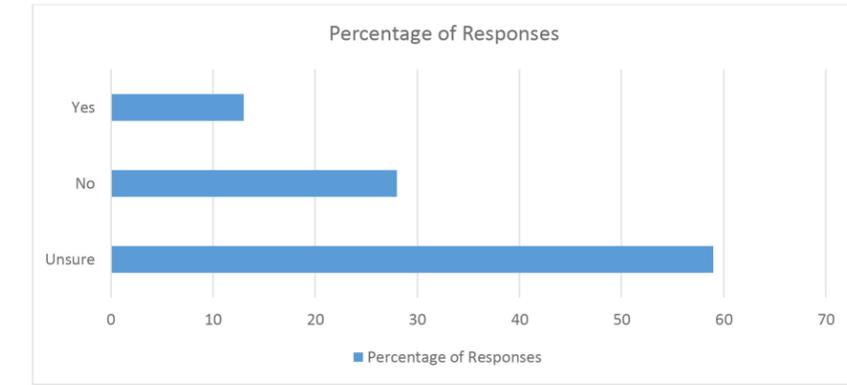
Detailed Responses to the Survey Questions:

Note: Graphed responses for questions that did not have multiple choice answers have been created by calculating the number of occurrences of common comments and keywords in people's written responses.

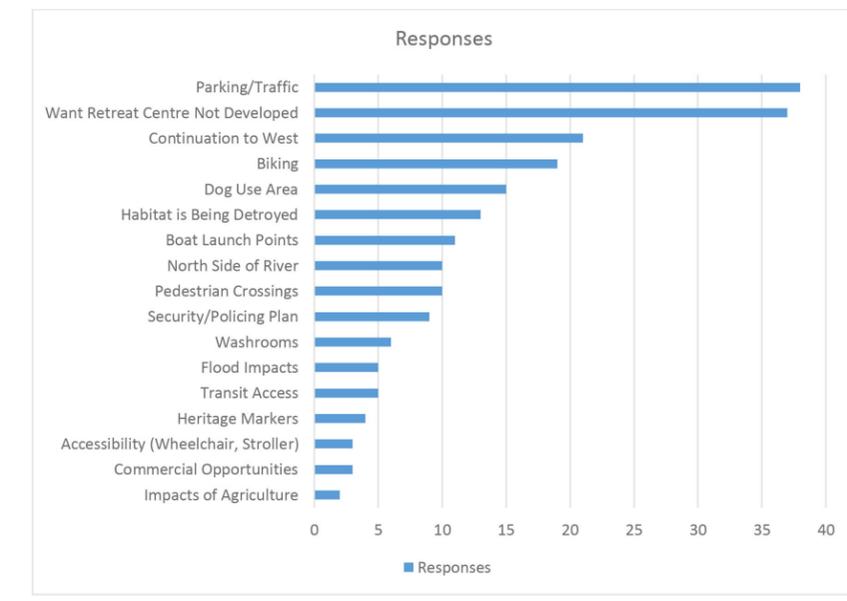
1. What's important to you in shaping the Nicomekl Riverfront Park?



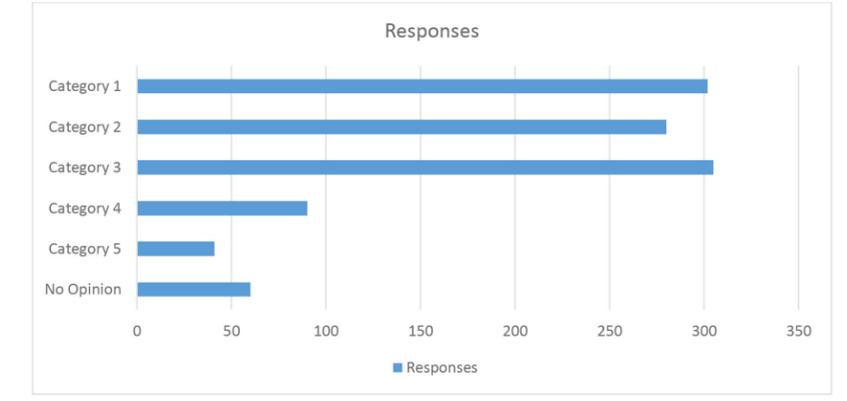
2a. Did we miss any information about the Nicomekl Riverfront Park site and/or the neighbouring area?



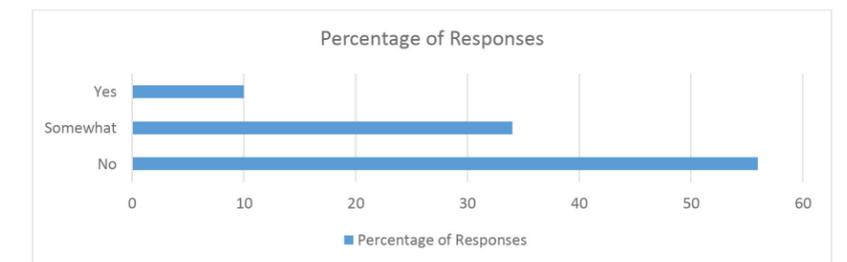
2b. What information was missed?



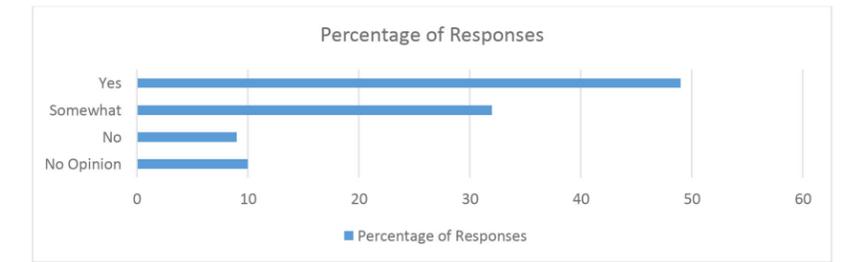
3. On a scale of 1-5, what level do you want the park to be? 1 being most natural areas protected and limited human access/amenities and 5 being few natural areas protected and human access/amenities in most of the park.



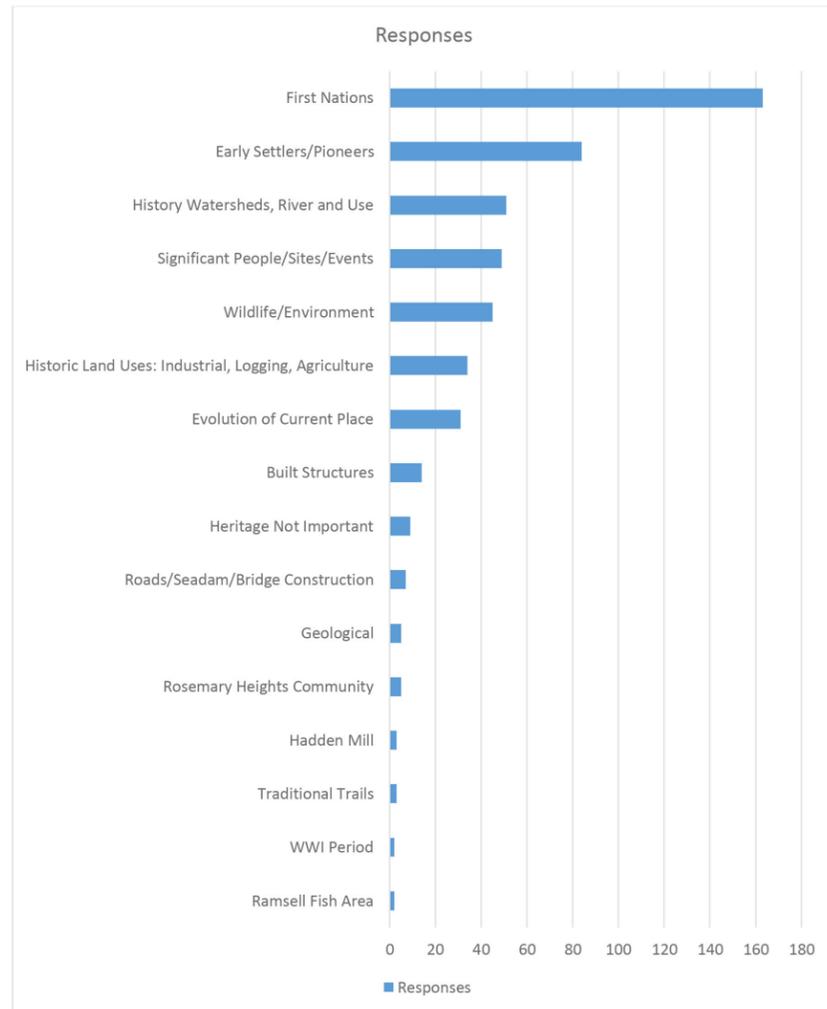
4a. Are you familiar with the history of the park site?



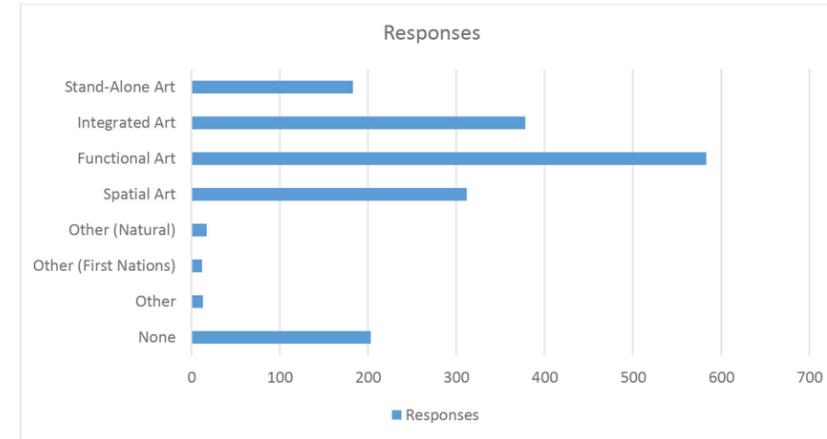
4b. Is it important to you that the park site's history be incorporated/represented in the park spaces?



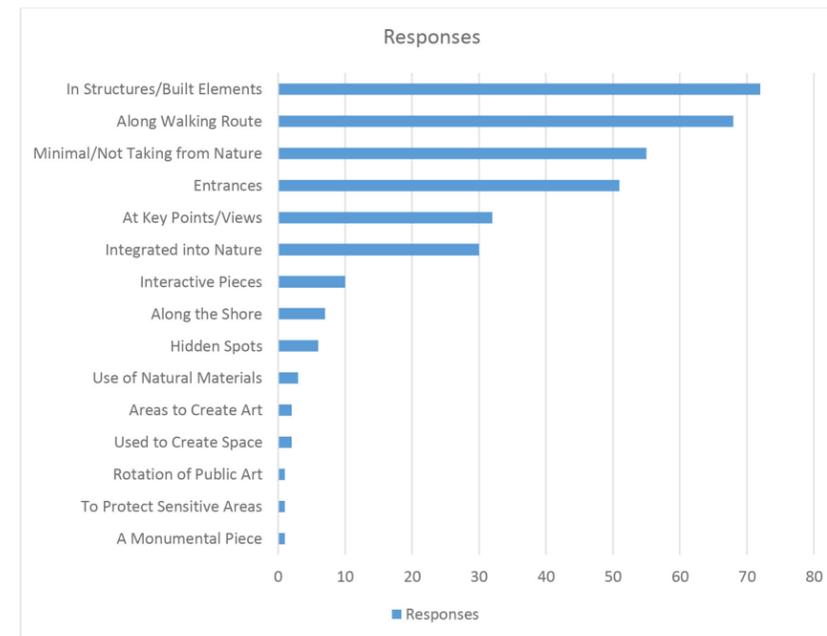
4c. What history on/of the site is important?



5a. What kinds of public art appeal to you?



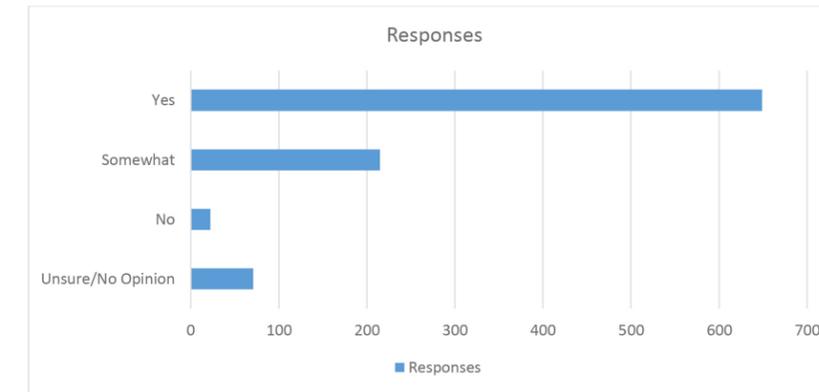
5b. How/where would you like to see public art integrated into the park?



Principle reasons for not wanting public art in the Park:

- Find it intrusive. Want the area to just be natural and don't want the art to take away from the natural beauty of the park
- Think it is expensive and can be prone to vandalism

6. Do you support the draft planning principles?



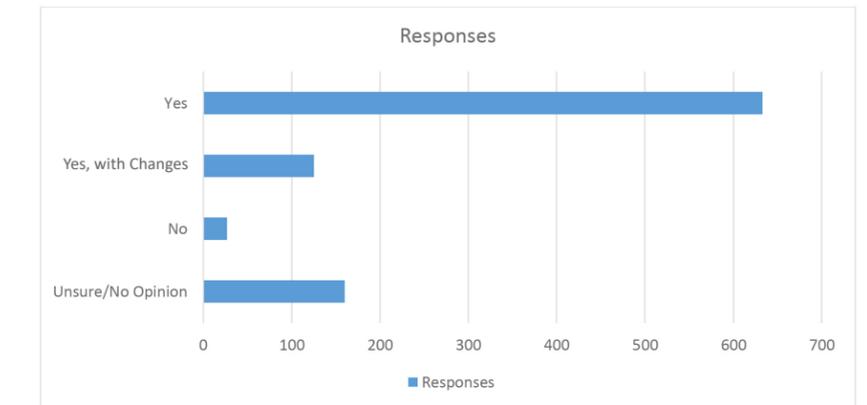
Comments on Draft Planning Principles:

- There should be less focus on public art. It is not essential to the space and the natural elements and habitat should be the main consideration.
- There needs to be a balance between habitat, wildlife and human use.
- Support for ecological integrity and First Nations reconciliation as primary principles
- Keep it simple.
- There should be more emphasis on nature.
- There is too much human intervention. There are too many hidden human intruding activities in the planning principles.
- Don't compromise by trying to be all things to all people.
- There should be more access and use for families.
- Keep this as an ecological corridor.
- It is important to know that the river is the main highlight and everything revolves around that.
- There should be more recreational activities and park programming details.
- Make a section of the park a biodiversity preserve/no go area.
- The principles are too high level.
- Concern about the impacts of park programming/"engaging opportunities" from a natural standpoint.
- Too much room for interpretation.
- Bikes should be considered in the plan.
- Crime prevention measures should be integrated.
- Year-round access is desired.
- Emphasis should stay on natural aspects of the park.

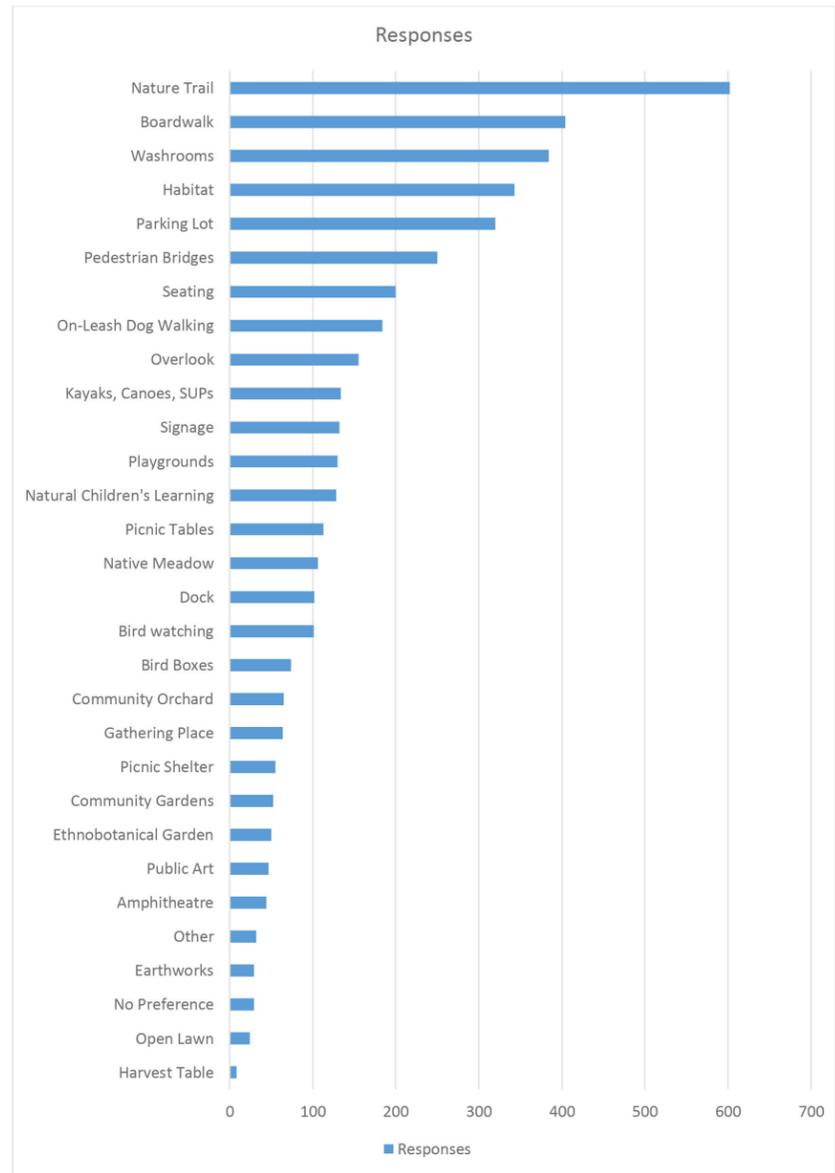
Any other principles you think should be included?

- The park as a conduit to the ocean foreshore
- Safety/visibility
- Education/student accommodation
- Minimal intrusion
- Easily accessible with many access points
- Proactive climate change mitigation
- Fitness opportunities
- Water health
- Accessibility for wheelchairs, strollers, etc.
- Linkages to north
- Salmon enhancement/lifecycle
- Dog use
- Stormwater management and pollution control

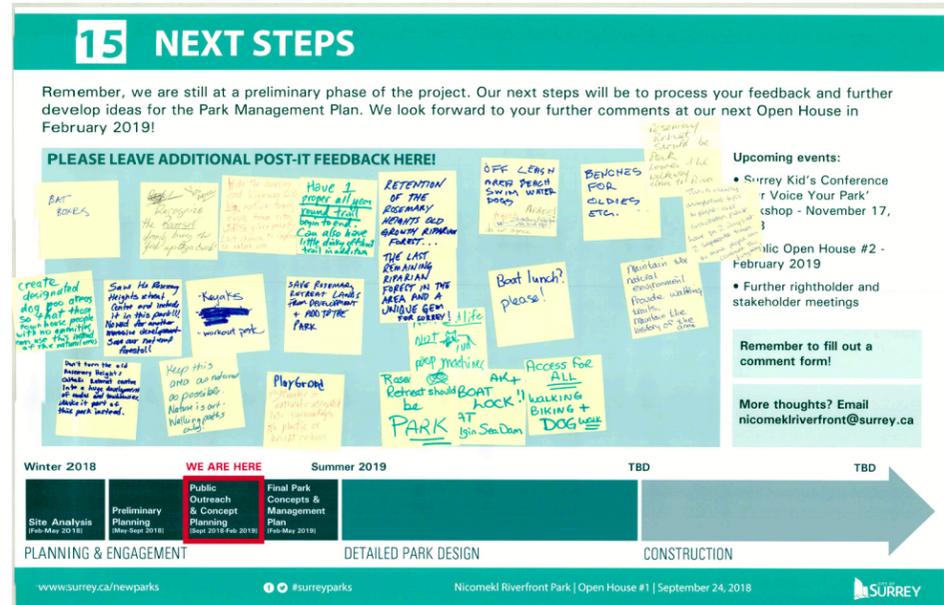
7. Do you support the preliminary park concept plan?



8. Top 5 amenities most important to you to include in the park?



Top 5 Amenities Chosen:

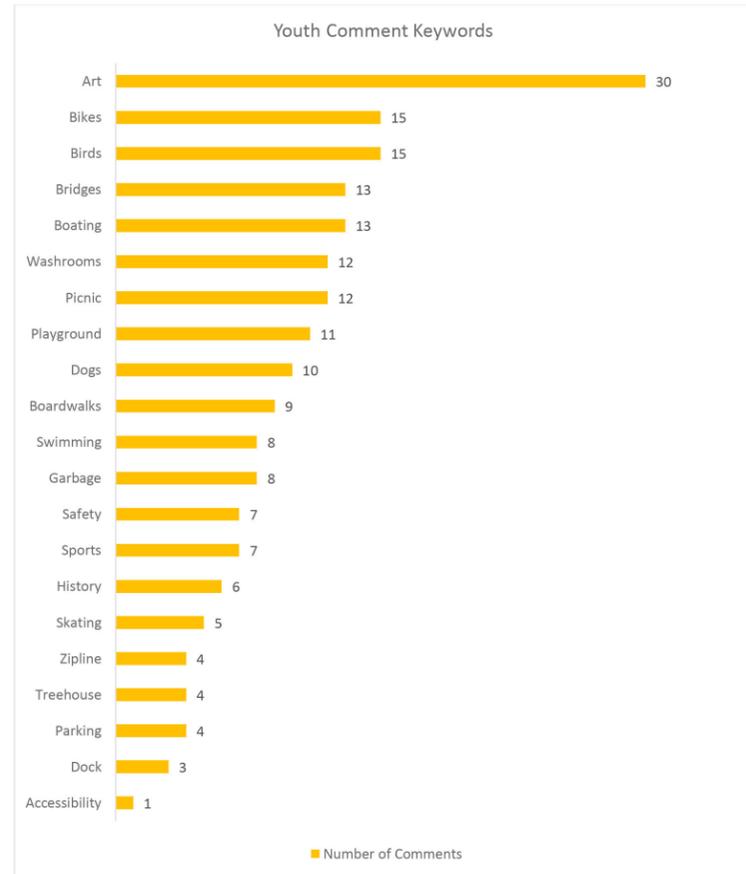


Final Board Comments from the Open House

Additional Consultation Events

Youth Speak Up Forum

Youth were engaged to think about and design ideas for the park at the 'Build a City' workshop at the Youth Speak Up Forum held on October 26, 2018. Youth aged 13-18 took part in a facilitated design charette. Some of the key words that came up in the comments from participating youth at the event are graphed on the right.



Youth Comments from the Youth Speak Up Forum

Surrey Kids Conference

Children were engaged at the 'Your Voice, Your Park' workshop at Surrey Kids Conference' on November 17, 2018. Key takeaways were that the kids wanted a natural park supporting animals, forest and trails. Kids preferred a natural playground over a more conventional structure. Rock mountains, bridges, trees and ziplines were all supported as elements in the park that could allow for natural play opportunities.

World Wetlands Event

On World Wetlands Day, February 2, 2019, the City hosted an event for people to learn more about wetlands and the natural ecology and heritage of the Nicomekl Park site. A keynote presentation, "Wetland Values & Threats" was given by Dr. Sean Boyd, Research Scientist from Environment Canada Wildlife Research Division, Science and Technology Branch.

A bus and walking tour with City staff and members of the design team was given of the existing wetlands, salmon stream and riparian areas on the park site. Short talks and questions and answers were fielded at three sites within the park on wetlands, salmon habitat, sea level rise and the vision for the park.



Photos from the World Wetlands Day Event

Stakeholder Workshop #2: July 17, 2019

The second Stakeholder Workshop was held on July 17, 2019 and involved invited representatives of a number of community and environmental groups including: Historic Stewart Farm, Semiahmoo Fish and Game Club, Surrey Historical Society, White Rock Rotary Club and Nicomekl Hatchery.

A presentation was given about the project's development since the first stakeholder meeting and open house, and an update was provided about the draft management plan. The design for the overall plan and each of the detailed concepts for the individual park zones were presented to the representatives from the stakeholder groups. Participants commented and provided additional thoughts and information about each zone of the park.

In summary, stakeholders were very supportive of the plan as it had evolved over the last year. They supported greenway connections from the park and recommended including additional boat access from the north side of the river. Boardwalks were well supported with interest in having pull-out areas incorporated within the loops to stop, rest and listen to birds. They shared that South Surrey has a lot of dog owners and emphasized the importance of directing them to the proposed off-leash dog park in order to preserve the ecological integrity of the rest of the park. Participants suggested that the portion of Elgin Creek and the salmon ponds within the Hadden Mill zone should be completely realigned and restored in order to provide viable habitat. Stewardship of salmon ponds will also be crucial to ensuring their success.

The participants discussed that South Surrey is a growing community that needs many diverse parks for its residents. They felt that the proposed design for the Nicomekl Riverfront Park offers what people need - walking paths, community spaces, space for family activities, picnics informal recreation, and opportunities to experience native plant communities and animals near the water. It was also mentioned that from a heritage perspective, this area has always been a destination both locally and regionally. Therefore the park can easily incorporate meaningful heritage components throughout.



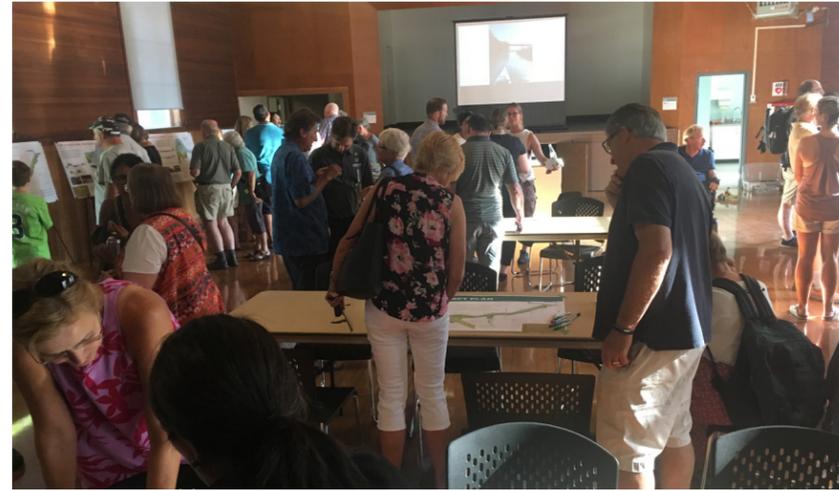
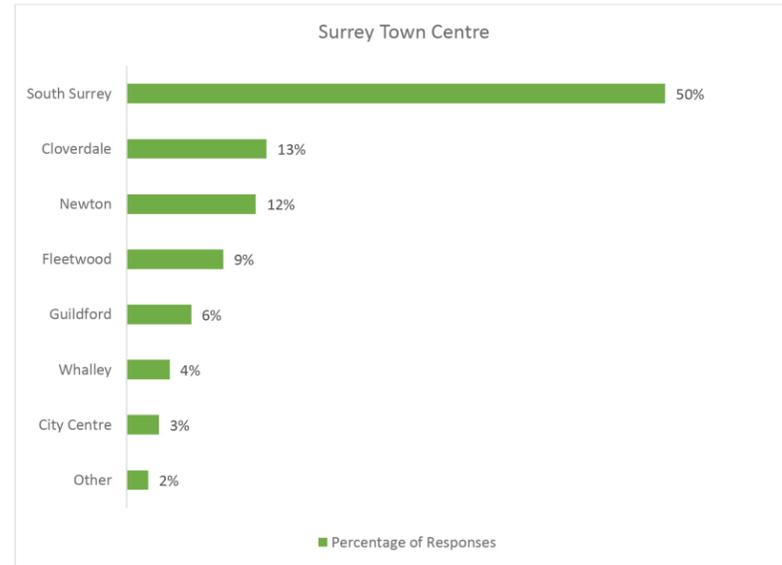
Public Open House #2: August 6, 2019

The Second Public Open House for the Nicomekl Riverfront Park took place on August 6, 2019 at Elgin Community Hall in South Surrey. It was well attended and in addition to those who participated in the open house, there were over 1000 online surveys completed.

The open house displayed a series of panels that covered information about how the plan had evolved since the first open house. Boards focused on the proposed park planning principles, and plans and recommendations for the environment, climate change, heritage and public art. They also presented more detailed plans for the park as a whole and for each park zone. The survey sought comments from participants and levels of support for each proposed concept. The majority of participants were supportive of the plan's direction and pleased with the progress made since the first open house.

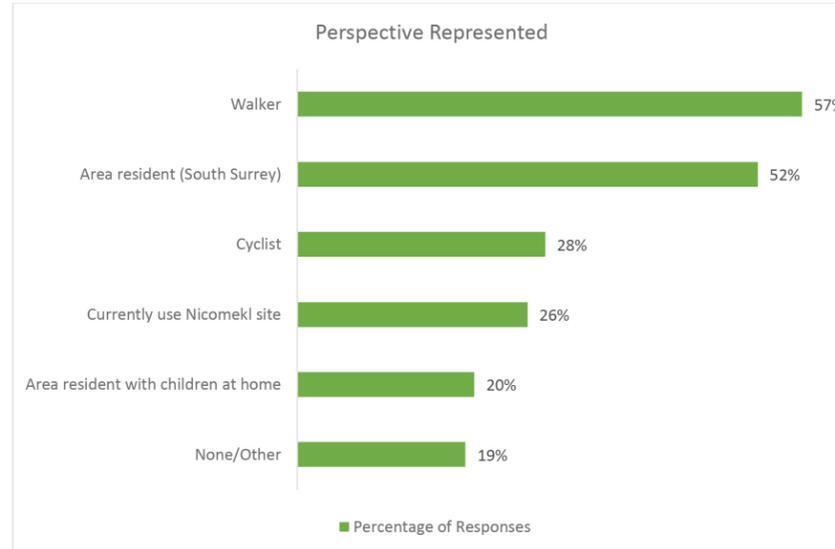
Profile of Survey Participants:

Where in Surrey do you live? (98% of participants live in Surrey)

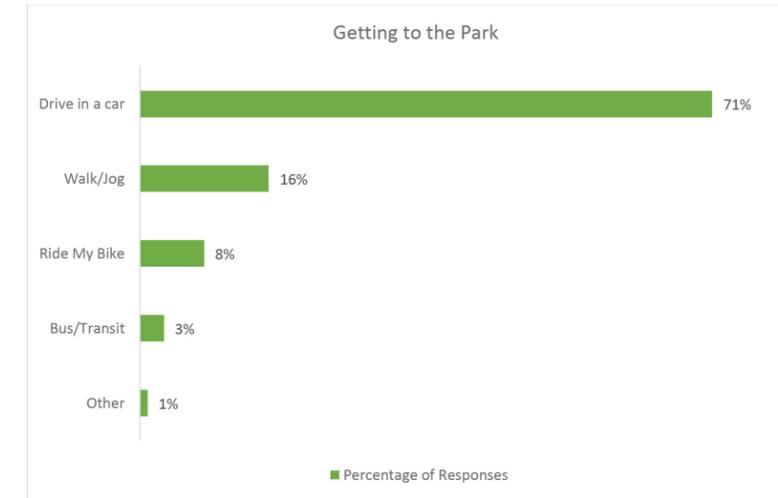


Second Open House Participants at Elgin Community Hall

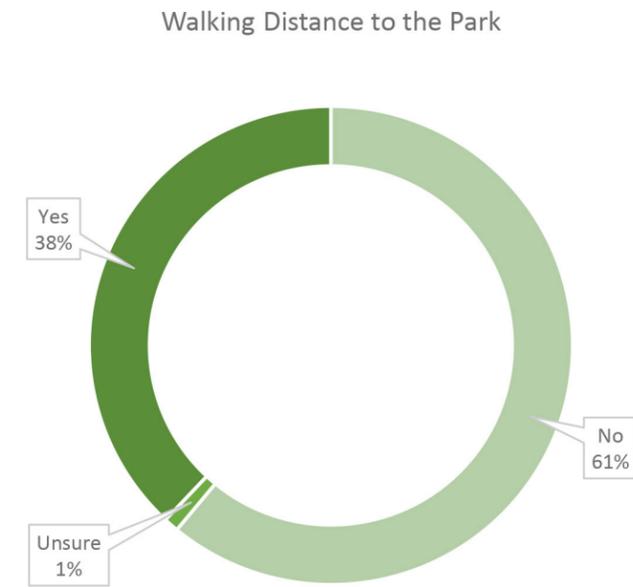
Which of these perspectives do you represent? (select all that apply)



How do you typically get to the park?

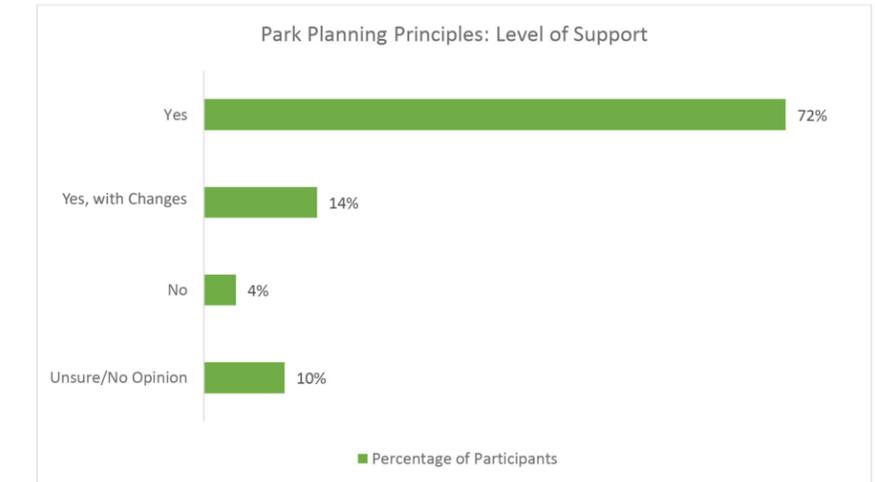


Do you live walking distance to the park?



Detailed Responses to the Survey Questions:

1. Do you support the proposed park planning principles?

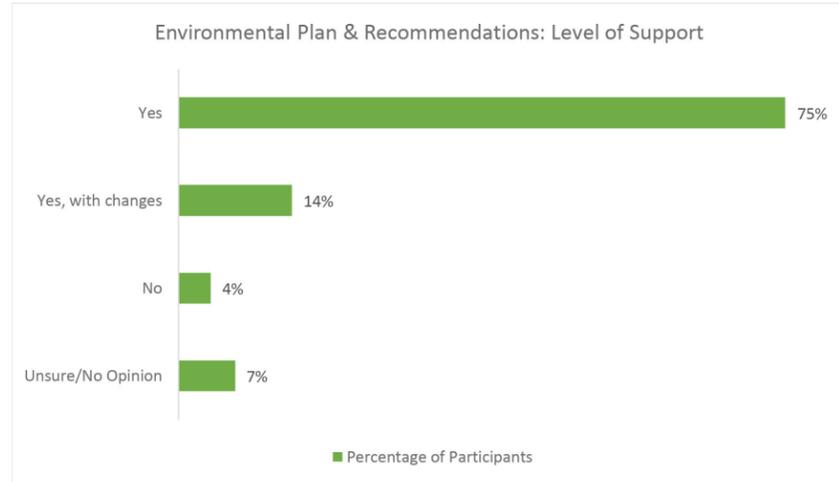


Park Planning Principles:

Reasons for support (summary of comments): People believe that the planning principles are thorough and appreciate the park's primary focus on the Nicomekl River. They are also excited about having better access to the river while balancing this with ecological protection. Involving First Nations in consultation and addressing sea level rise in the design are also seen as positive aspects.

Aspects that could be done differently (summary of comments): Some believe that the sensitive ecological area of the park needs to be better protected and worry about the negative impacts of encouraging more people to use this area and access the river. Some think that aesthetic features are unnecessary wastes of money and that less art should be installed.

2. Do you support the proposed environmental plan and recommendations?

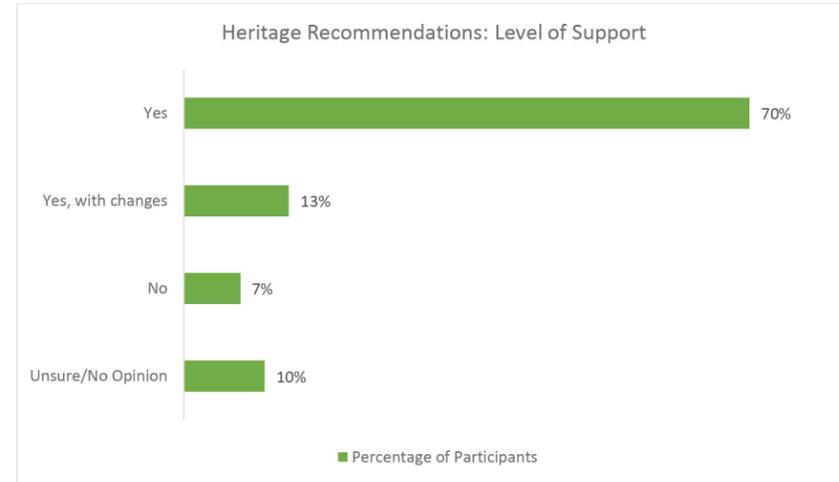


Environmental Plan and Recommendations:

Reasons for support (summary of comments): Participants appreciate the protection and preservation of the environment and wildlife and the creation of new habitat that is inaccessible to humans. They also support the removal of invasive species and restoration of native plants and wetlands. Many want to restrict dog access to certain areas of the park.

Aspects that could be done differently (summary of comments): Some participants want the park to remain in its current natural state and to restrict access to specific natural areas. Others believe that there should be less restrictions on access to certain areas of the park. Some people want rules about dogs to be relaxed while others want dogs to be prohibited from the entire park. Some participants would like to have bicycle paths in the park.

3. Do you support the proposed heritage recommendations?

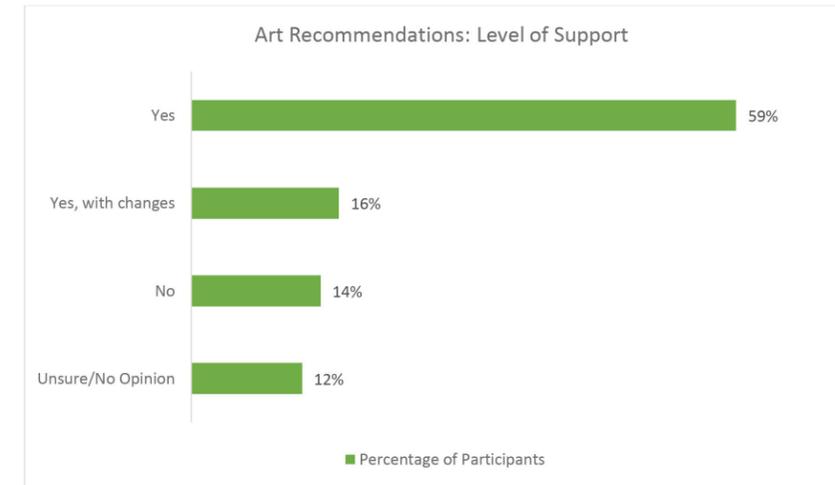


Heritage Recommendations:

Reasons for support (summary of comments): People appreciate the involvement of First Nations in consultation and planning and the inclusion and integration of indigenous references, names, native plants and programs. They support the focus on the interaction between history, archaeology, culture and the Nicomekl River.

Aspects that could be done differently (summary of comments): Many participants believe that priority should be given to the preservation of natural habitat over heritage, and worry that too much focus on interpretation will detract from the natural beauty of the site. Some people would prefer a mix of traditional and English names. Participants would like clarity on the size, nature and use of the proposed venues and gathering spaces

4. Do you support the proposed art recommendations?

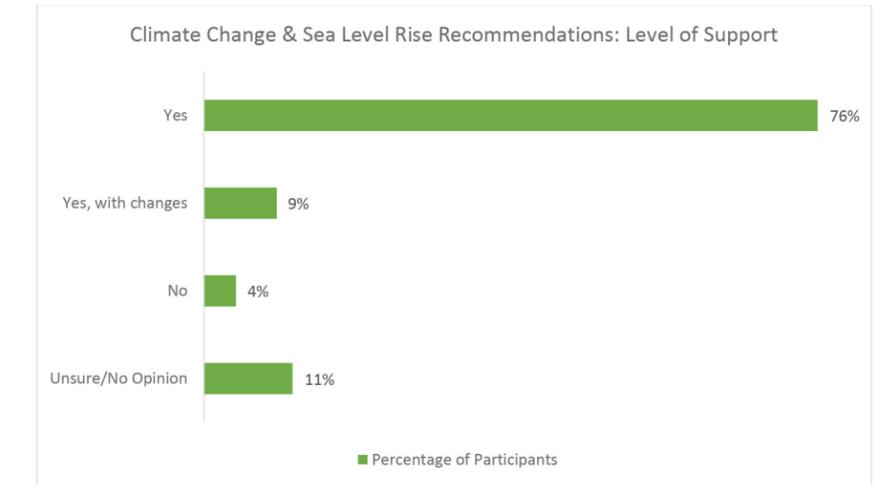


Art Recommendations:

Reasons for support (summary of comments): Participants who support the public art recommendations believe that the art adds another interesting and creative element to the park. Many prefer art that is integrated into structures, functional objects and way-finding elements. Art should be discreet and not detract from the natural beauty of the site. People support integrating First Nations and other local art.

Aspects that could be done differently (summary of comments): Many people worry about art detracting from the beauty of nature and that money should be spent elsewhere. Some people are concerned that public art pieces will attract vandalism.

5. Do you support the proposed climate change and sea level rise recommendations?

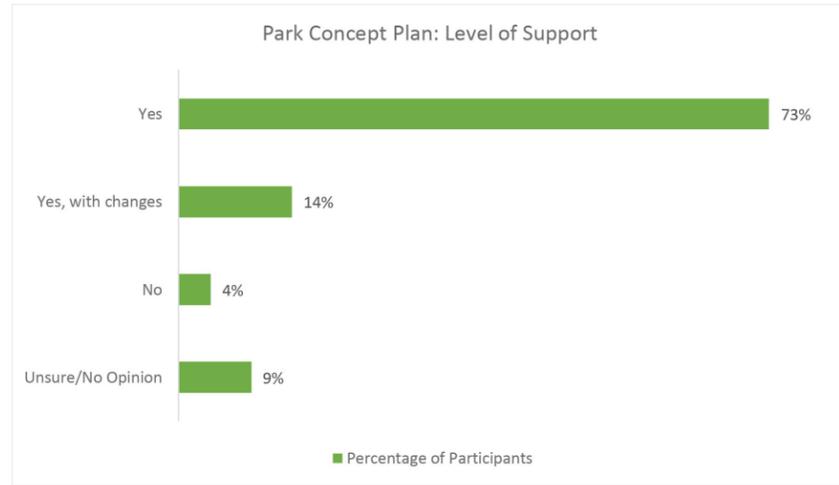


Climate Change & Sea Level Rise Recommendations:

Reasons for support (summary of comments): Participants believe that the recommendations are forward thinking, reasonable and practical, and present an integrated and proactive approach to managing rising water levels in the area. People appreciate that the plan recognizes the reality of climate change and the need to take action. Many feel positive about re-establishing the native streamside ecology to control erosion, accept occasional flooding and provide habitat.

Aspects that could be done differently (summary of comments): People would like to better understand the need, costs and benefits of relocating the Billy Hadden House, and wonder why this house is being moved and not others. Some question investing in areas of the park that might be under water in the future. Participants suggest acquiring and integrating the Rosemary Heights Retreat property to expand the park at a higher elevation to support the native ecosystem and accommodate gathering space.

6. Do you support the proposed park concept plan?

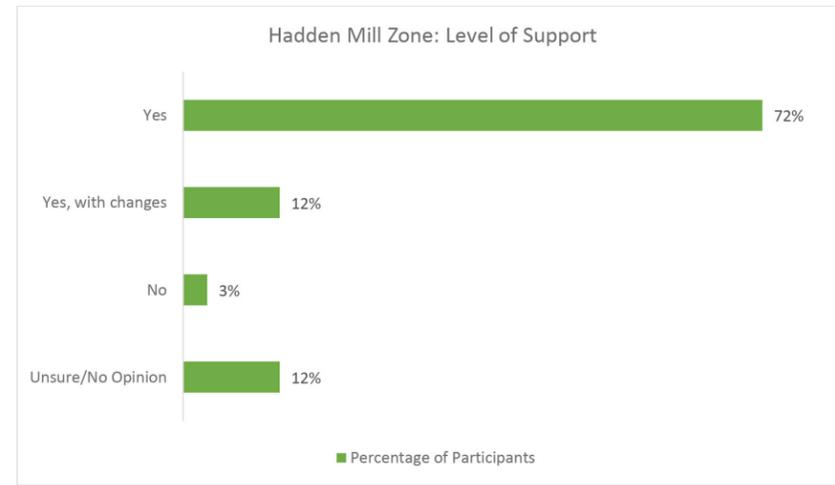


Park Concept Plan:

Reasons for support (summary of comments): Participants find the plan to be well thought out, forward thinking and comprehensive. They support that the plan embraces and promotes the natural beauty of the Nicomekl River and surrounding area. They also like that the design presents valuable learning opportunities in a unique natural environment. Specific aspects that have been well received are the interconnected and extended trails, zones supporting the diverse ecologies and topographies of the site, and the canoe/kayak docks.

Aspects that could be done differently (summary of comments): Some participants think that more parking is needed and more washrooms throughout. They want to ensure that habitat islands and other sensitive areas are protected. Many want the park to be more natural with less built items. There are requests for wheelchair friendly paths and strong support for the integration of bicycle paths.

7. Do you support the proposed detailed concept plan and recommendations for the Hadden Mill park zone?

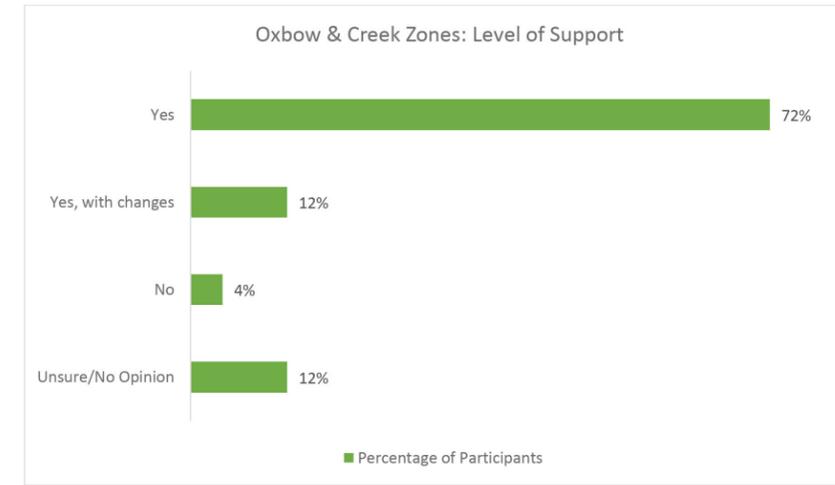


Hadden Mill Park Zone:

Reasons for support (summary of comments): Participants like the inclusion of heritage elements, the protection and enhancement of salmon habitat, the restoration of the wet meadow, and the enhancement of the existing salmon ponds. They also support the natural play area, the boat launch, public washrooms and the under-bridge crossing.

Aspects that could be done differently (summary of comments): Some participants think that parking lots should be expanded and parking should be located closer to the boat launch. People think that there should be more washrooms. Some are concerned about the cost and benefit of relocating the Billy Hadden House. Sharing more information about the Hadden family house and history would help in getting support from the public. Some were concerned about on street parking being used by park users on residential streets if multiple park access points are introduced. Some question the need for the amphitheatre in a natural environment and are confused about its size and function. Participants bring up that access across Crescent Road is currently not safe and should be addressed, especially for interim access to the site before the new bridge is completed.

8. Do you support the proposed detailed concept plan and recommendations for the Oxbow and Creek park zones?

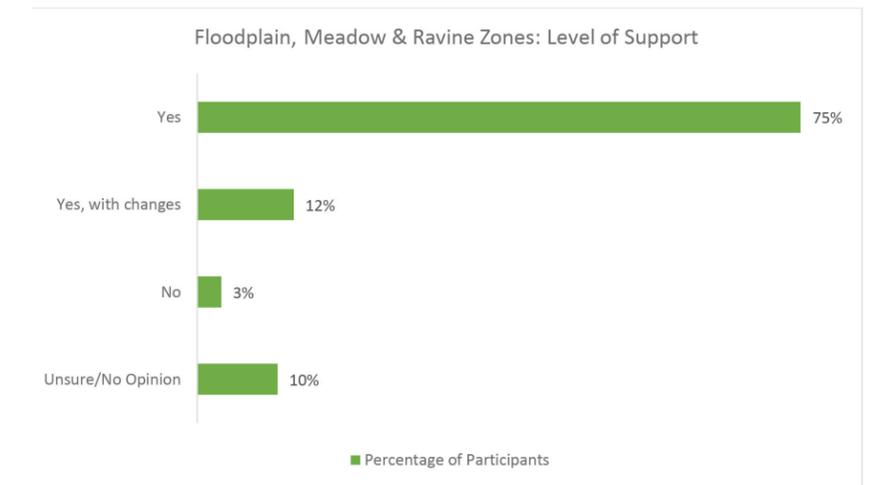


Oxbow & Creek Park Zones:

Reasons for support (summary of comments): Participants find the plan to be comprehensive, well designed and demonstrates clever use of the flood lands. Many people like the improved accessibility to the site with the under-bridge connection and the boat dock. There are positive reactions to the floodable tiers, amphitheatre, teaching area and picnic area, and people believe that the design provides a variety of things to learn about and explore.

Aspects that could be done differently (summary of comments): Some people think that the parking area should be increased and its accessibility to the boat launch should be improved. A number of participants question the amphitheatre and are confused about its size and use. Some believe that picnic shelters are not necessary or should be simpler. Some would like to see more washrooms and to have bikes incorporated. Some felt that noise from neighbouring roads and bridges should be mitigated through the design.

9. Do you support the proposed detailed concept plan and recommendations for the Floodplain, Meadow and Ravine park zones?

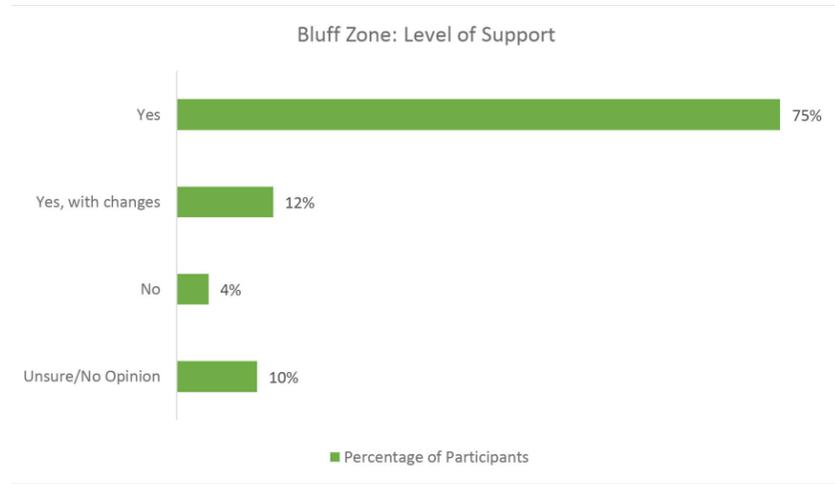


Floodplain, Meadow & Ravine Park Zones:

Reasons for support (summary of comments): Participants like the inclusion of the boardwalk, under-bridge pedestrian crossing and fenced off-leash dog park. They also support eliminating invasive species and re-establishing native plant communities, and appreciate the emphasis on preserving wildlife habitat and limiting access to sensitive ecologies.

Aspects that could be done differently (summary of comments): People believe that more parking is needed, especially for the dog park. Some are against the off-leash dog park and others want it to be larger. Participants would like bicycle paths incorporated and for there to be more washrooms and seating. There is concern about wildlife crossing the highways safely.

10. Do you support the proposed detailed concept plan and recommendations for the Bluff park zone?

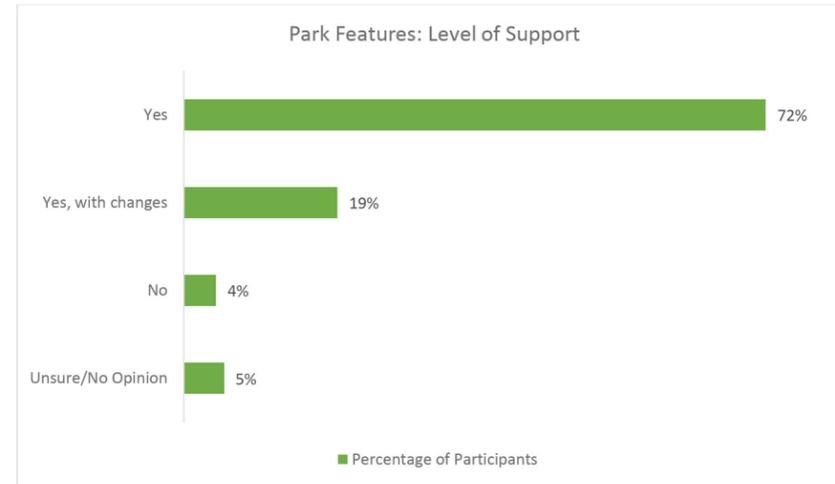


Bluff Park Zone:

Reasons for support (summary of comments): Participants like the viewpoints and boardwalks within the natural environment, and the canoe/kayak launch and washrooms. They support the preservation and protection of the wildlife movement corridor and habitat, and the plan's efforts to minimize the environmental impacts and human intrusion in this zone.

Aspects that could be done differently (summary of comments): Many participants believe that the Rosemary Heights Retreat property should be included in the plan to expand the park and help it better function as a wildlife corridor. There are some concerns that the planned residential areas would encroach on the habitat corridor. Some request bicycle paths be incorporated. People want to ensure that there is sufficient setback and privacy for homes that back onto the park.

11. Do you support the proposed park features?



Park Features:

Reasons for support (summary of comments): Participants believe they incorporate a wide range of elements that appeal to all ages. They support the preservation of the environment and habitat while enabling visitors to enjoy nature. They also find that the proposed features enhance the natural beauty of the river and surrounding area. Specific elements mentioned in survey responses include the salmon habitat, riparian habitat, natural playground, boardwalks, signage, bird boxes, boat launches and picnic shelters.

Aspects that could be done differently (summary of comments): Some participants do not believe that built elements (amphitheatre, stage, playground or art) are necessary and think that they could be added later based on the park's usage. They would like to see built elements like picnic shelters to blend into the environment. Having an element titled "amphitheatre" makes people worry about concerts and events, so the intention should be clarified. People want bicycle/multi-use pathways to be incorporated. Some believe there should be more washrooms and they should be aesthetically pleasing. Feedback on dogs is mixed with some believing the park should be more dog-friendly and others wanting them to be completely restricted.

Sample of Final Comments:

- "This is a very sound plan that will allow this unique, future Riverfront Park to be sustainable and well used while still staying true to its core guiding principles."
- "Am impressed with your project process – attended the open house and chatted with various dedicated, knowledgeable members of your staff. Thank you Surrey for supporting this initiative."
- "...Parks are good, we don't have enough of them, especially near the people who can actually get to them. The park isn't that accessible unless by car and I don't see enough parking for all the activity you would like to offer."
- "Please make it so those of us with mobility issues can access most of the park... flat paths, washrooms, benches. We go to Elgin Park and it worked well. Also allow dogs on leashes."
- "Let's not clutter it up trying to be all things to all people. Use the KISS approach."
- "Overall, it looks wonderful and I anticipate getting lots of use out of it when completed. A very thoughtful design, and I appreciate that there has been consultation with local First Nations."
- "I do like the concept of the projects. My only concern is how much is this going to cost us as taxpayers?"
- "Stop development of Rosemary Heights Retreat lands and incorporate it into park and trail plans."
- "Really keen on preserving/improving the wildlife corridors and limiting access to sensitive areas where animals are currently living."
- "I hope that the project continues to focus on environment, First Nations and accessibility for people with disabilities or mobility issues, and that dogs are not allowed to run rampant disturbing wildlife and visitors."
- "I hope the park will include the preservation of the Rosemary Heights Catholic Retreat Lands. This would allow existing wildlife and bird areas to expand into this area and not be displaced by more development."

First Nations Consultation

In keeping with the City of Surrey’s policies in support of Reconciliation, City staff and the design team have met with representatives of the Semiahmoo and Kwantlen First Nations regarding the Nicomekl Riverfront Park design intensions at several points during the planning process.

The first series of meeting took place between City staff and members of the Semiahmoo First Nation on July 3, 2018 and July 23, 2018. As part of their advice to the City, the Semiahmoo First Nation recommends:

- Planting medicinal/traditional First Nation native plants in the park;
- Including interpretations of historic First Nation’s structures, such as a cedar hat pavilion;
- Identifying opportunities for First Nation historical events;
- Providing opportunities to host First Nations events at the park, serving aboriginal tourism;
- Collaboration with the urban aboriginal population as well as the land-based nations regarding the use of cultural practices and art in the park; and
- Using the traditional name of the river and other traditional First Nation names through the park.

The Semiahmoo First Nation requests that Surrey Parks does an extensive archaeological impact assessment of the park site. They also ask to work with the project team, DFO and the Nicomekl Hatchery to enhance the river and shoreline to improve salmon habitat.

After the second round of public consultation, another meeting took place with representatives from the Kwantlen and Seamiahmoo First Nations on August 26, 2019. Ashley Doyle (Lands and Stewardship Manager, Kwantlen First Nation), Tanner Timothy (GIS Specialist, Kwantlen First Nation) and Chief Harley Chappell (Semiahmoo First Nation) shared their comments on the design of the Nicomekl Riverfront Park with City staff and members of the project design team. Comments discussed during the meeting included:

- Add content, such as information on how the River was used. The City has an opportunity to share the history of the Indigenous people. The story should be positive, interactive and done in a way that would allow new stories to be added as more knowledge is gained about First Nations history and cultural heritage;

- The park should be a place about learning who lived here before, including the Nicomekl people, descendants of the Smakwec, and who the Coast Salish are today too. The park should include information about the Nicomekl people and their demise, but should not focus on the negative aspects of colonialism;
- The park should focus on the Indigenous way of life and world view in a positive way and the First Nations attitude toward nature and living in relation to the land, including changing water levels;
- Naming is important. Traditional names should be used that represent all the Nations;
- Ethnobotanical plants and ecologies should be highlighted throughout all the zones of the park. There may be interest in some sensitive collection of ‘medicine’ and workshops to help educate young people;
- First Nations should be engaged and employed for the construction of the park and artworks;
- The park could provide an active learning experience and space to support First Nations curricula in schools;
- The park’s process should include research to find strategies to recover, restore and preserve traditional cultural practices; and
- Limited interest in preserving the Hadden House since it is much more pressing to preserve lost indigenous culture. There was discussion about the possibility of hosting residencies for First Nation writers and other artists in the space to share stories of old growth forests, elk and other local topics.

Additional meetings and discussions with First Nations representatives will occur on a regular basis. Discussions that include the Katzie First Nation are anticipated. These discussions will continue to influence the priorities and practices associated with the management of the Nicomekl Riverfront Park.

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