

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO
REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAILS SELECT COMMITTEE
AGENDA

Tuesday, May 15, 2018

12:00 P.M.

Committee Room

This meeting will be recorded

	Pages
1. CALL TO ORDER	
2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA	
3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES	
3.1 Regional Parks and Trails Select Committee Meeting - January 30, 2018	3
That the minutes of the Regional Parks and Trails Select Committee meeting held January 30, 2018, be adopted.	
4. DELEGATIONS	
4.1 R. Stone, re: Erosion to Nanaimo River Park Grounds	6
5. CORRESPONDENCE	
5.1 R. O'Donnell, Benson View Resident to T. Osborne, Regional District of Nanaimo, re: Mt. Benson Parking Update (and replies)	7
5.2 L. & B. Lemmon, Benson View Resident to T. Osborne, Regional District of Nanaimo, re: Benson View Regional Park Issues (and reply)	14
5.3 N. Goeller, Ministry of Forest Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development to K.Cramer, Parks Planner re: Nanaimo River Regional Park (and replies)	16
5.4 D. Gaudry, Nanaimo & Area Land Trust, re: Proposed Mount Benson Regional Park Trail Maintenance 2018-2019	19
6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS	

7. REPORTS

7.1 Parks Update Report – Winter 2018 20

That the Parks Update Report - Winter 2018 be received for information.

7.2 Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail Improvement Partnership Agreement 37

That the Regional District of Nanaimo enter into a two year agreement with the Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia for the restoration and improvement of the Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail and trails within Mount Benson Regional Park.

7.3 Mount Benson Regional Park – Parking Lot Project Update 51

That following completion of the new parking lot, the existing parking lot and floating boardwalk at Witchcraft Lake remain open for one year and that a subsequent report to the Board be prepared on their use.

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. ADJOURNMENT

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAILS SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, January 30, 2018

12:00 P.M.

Committee Room

In Attendance:	Director H. Houle	Electoral Area B
	Director M. Young	Electoral Area C
	Director B. Rogers	Electoral Area E
	Director J. Fell	Electoral Area F
	Director J. Stanhope	Electoral Area G
	Director J. Hong	City of Nanaimo
	Alternate	
	Director M. Beil	City of Parksville
	Director B. Colclough	District of Lantzville
Regrets:	Director A. McPherson	Electoral Area A
	Director B. Veenhof	Electoral Area H
	Director G. Fuller	City of Nanaimo
	Director I. Thorpe	City of Nanaimo
	Director B. Yoachim	City of Nanaimo
	Director M. Lefebvre	City of Parksville
	Director T. Westbroek	Town of Qualicum Beach
Also in Attendance:	T. Osborne	Gen. Mgr. Recreation & Parks
	W. Marshall	Mgr. Park Services
	A. Harvey	Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order and respectfully acknowledged the Coast Salish Nations on whose traditional territory the meeting took place.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as amended to include 'Benson Creek Falls Update' to New Business.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Regional Parks and Trails Select Committee Meeting - October 17, 2017

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regional Parks and Trails Select Committee meeting held October 17, 2017, be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE

It was moved and seconded that the following Correspondence be received:

R Morris, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, re: All Licensee Gate Letter

T. Osborne, RDN to D. Podetz, RDN Resident, re: Moorecroft Regional Park Meadows

N. Donnelly, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, re: Crown Guidance for Use of Foreshore

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

Parks Update Report – Fall 2017

It was moved and seconded that the Parks Update Report - Fall 2017 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Beachcomber Regional Park Management Plan

Ms. Marshall summarized the report for the committee and answered Director's questions.

It was moved and seconded that the Beachcomber Regional Park Management Plan 2018 – 2028 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

Benson Creek Falls Update

Ms. Marshall informed the Committee about some of the options being considered for the Benson Creek Falls stairs and bridge. She passed around some concept drawings and said staff would be starting public consultation in the coming weeks and a report would follow in the fall.

IN CAMERA

It was moved and seconded that pursuant to Section 90(1) (e) and (h) of the *Community Charter* the Committee proceed to an In Camera meeting to consider items related to land and legal issues.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TIME: 12:40

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TIME: 1:00pm

CHAIR

Delegation: Ronald Stone, re: Erosion to Nanaimo River Park Grounds

Summary:

Action Requested: Bring awareness to the erosion, the loss of ground, habitat and its potential.

From: Randy O'Donnell [rjodonnell]
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 12:12 PM
To: Osborne, Tom <TOsborne@rdn.bc.ca>
Cc: [patdc](#); [alpennington](#); [g-igow](#); [biglarr1](#); Marshall, Wendy <>; Maureen Young <>
Subject: Mt. Benson Parking Update

Good morning, Mr. Osborne;

I noted on Monday that surveyors were working on the section of the Gow property purchased by the RDN for a new parking area for Mt. Benson Regional Park. I'm assuming this is good news, an indication that the project is moving forward.

Would you please provide us with an update regarding any recent decisions by the RDN Board and a new timeline of expectations for completion? And just a reminder that we residents are still awaiting the **important decision** regarding whether the existing parking lot will be de-commissioned and the floating portion of the bridge across Witchcraft Lake will be removed.

Respectfully
Randy O'Donnell
2920 Benson View Rd.

From: Randy O'Donnell [<mailto:rjodonnell@shaw.ca>]

Sent: Saturday, February 10, 2018 11:03 PM

To: Osborne, Tom <TOsborne@rdn.bc.ca>

Cc: [patdc](#); [alpennington](#); [biglarr1](#); [g-igow](#); 'Tom

Holmes' <[trholmes](#)>; Maureen Young <>

Subject: Mt. Benson Parking

Good day, Mr. Osborne;

As I await a reply to my last e-mail to you, I note that the RDN now has a web page dedicated to progress on the new parking lot. On that page I see the following:

Is the existing parking lot going to be closed?

We have heard requests to both close the existing Witchcraft Lake parking lot and to keep it open. Staff will continue to gather information from the community and hold discussions with partners to determine the future of the existing parking lot.

Would you be kind enough to share the basis for saying you've had requests to keep the existing lot open? I'm not looking for names of course, but to the best of my knowledge, no one in the neighbourhood has any desire to see the parking lot remain open. If the 'requests' are coming from people not of the neighbourhood, why would those be given the same weight as the expectation of those who are impacted by the lot? Perhaps you could also provide a rationale for keeping the lot open given our well expressed and reasonable position that human nature being what it is the existing lot, should it remain, would continue be the primary choice of hikers as it is slightly closer to the 'trailhead' itself. Meaning of course that the problems we have experienced and which have led to the not inconsequential expenditure of public funds, would simply continue.

Respectfully

Randy O'Donnell

2920 Benson View Rd.

From: Osborne, Tom
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 11:43 AM
To: 'Randy O'Donnell' <rjodonnell>
Cc: Maureen Young <; Houle, Howard <;
Marshall, Wendy <>; Cramer, Kelsey < Dobbs, Mark
<
Subject: Mount Benson Parking Area - Development Update

Mr. O'Donnell,

This email is in response to your emails dated February 7 and 13, 2018 requesting updates on the parking lot under development at 2761 Benson View Road.

The project is currently progressing on schedule. The first point of business on the property is removing the house, which will go through a tendering process and has targeted completion for the end of April. Simultaneously, detailed design of the property to accommodate the parking lot and trailhead amenities is underway.

The floating bridge is the property of the City of Nanaimo. RDN staff met with City staff to inform them of neighbouring residents' interest to have it removed or relocated and to have the existing parking area decommissioned. RDN and City staff agreed to meet on site in the spring to consider whether the structure could be converted into a lookout elsewhere on the lake should it be determined the structure is not required to serve the municipal park and regional park in its present form.

For your information, the feedback received from Benson View Road residents is attached. It is not unanimous that the existing parking lot be decommissioned. Once the new parking lot is built, recreationalists will be directed to it. The existing parking lot will be monitored following the opening of the new parking lot and the possibility of decommissioning it will be presented to the RDN Board for consideration in 2019, sooner if possible. The concerns you and your neighbours have raised about the existing parking lot have been noted and the RDN is striving to improve the situation for residents and recreationalists.

Updates on the project will be provided on the RDN's website at <https://www.getinvolved.rdn.ca/mt-b-parking>.

Regards,

Tom Osborne

Tom Osborne
General Manager, Recreation and Parks Services

Regional District of Nanaimo
Recreation and Parks Department
830 West Island Highway
Parksville, BC V9P 2X4
T: (250) 947-2565 | Email: tosborne@rdn.bc.ca

Benson View Road Residents Feedback Summary

compiled December 11, 2017

Feedback form distributed at Residents Meeting on-site October 17, 2017. Thirteen (13) residents signed in.

Number of Respondents: 8 feedback forms returned
3 emails with comments received

Question 1	Please share any general comments regarding the Regional District of Nanaimo Board's recent approval to purchase 2761 Benson View Road for the purposes of an off-road parking lot and trailhead amenities for Mount Benson Regional Park and surrounding lands.		
Responses	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE	Comments (# times noted if more than 1)
	9	2	Gate control at night to prevent partying (2)
			Security checks, animal control checks
			Retain as much existing vegetation as possible
			Install no parking signs on Benson View (2)
			Process is taking too long, waiting another year is unreasonable
			Great. Ensure veg. buffer between road and parking area
			Install 'tow-away zone', 'slow your speed' on BV Rd
			Parking upgrades required, build and retain as much as possible. Construction costs and demand will only increase in future. We'll be across from new parking lot and would prefer things did not change, but are aware this is unrealistic and support RDN efforts towards easing the congestion
			Install Parking Lot Full sign (2)
			Elated to receive news of designated parking lot
			Benson View Road is dangerous for vehicles, walkers, bikers (3)
			Excellent! Decommission existing parking and bridge (2)
			Install 'residents only' parking signs on BV Rd
			Not sustainable as sole access to Mount Benson (2)

Question 2	Depending on whether the adjacent Harrow Road allowance is incorporated, between 92 and 126 parking stalls are anticipated. Final design will include a fence between the parking lot and the neighbouring residence and will include an access-control gate.		
Responses	92 better than 126	126 better than 92	Comments
	0	8	126 will not be enough for future needs with more vehicles.

Question 3	Do you feel that phasing construction would be a suitable approach (e.g. build some stalls first and then build the remainder at a later date)?		
Responses	Yes	No	No response
	0	7	Staging the project will increase cost.

Question 4	Are there specific aspects of Option 1 or Option 2 that you prefer and would like to see reflected in the next stage of design?		
Responses			
	Option 2- we need to maximize parking now and in future.		

Benson View Road Residents Feedback Summary

compiled December 11, 2017

	Build out as much as possible with consideration for neighbourhood and environment.
	Make new trail to Witchcraft Lake and existing floating bridge so people not tempted to park at end of Benson View Rd.

Question 5	Please check all trailhead amenities that you feel should be integrated in the next stage of design:		
Responses	For	Against	Comments (# times noted if more than 1)
Kiosk	8	0	
Garbage	6	2	Must be emptied - bears will make a mess
Recycling	5	3	Must be emptied - bears will make a mess
Pit toilets	4	4	Area is on wells, pit toilets not compatible. Toilets essential - where do 8000 people from June to Aug go?
Directional Signs	8	0	
Interpretive Signs	7	1	
Other	2	0	Gate locked at night (2), sign warning of fines for littering

Question 6	Given the new proposed parking facility and trailhead development at 2761 Benson View Rd, what is your preference for the existing roadside parking lot?	
Responses	Count	Comments
Leave it as is and continue to maintain it as a secondary trail access point	3	Very disappointed to think access should be discontinued all together. Why demolish a unique amenity and reduce parking capacity by 24 stalls? Why reduce usage options for mobility constrained people?
Leave the floating boardwalk, but reduce parking area and remove kiosk	0	
Decommission parking area and remove floating boardwalk/ all amenities	5	Could the existing bridge be relocated to new trailhead as a pier to walk out onto? Decommissioning all is only sane plan for residents. If bridge is left, hikers will still park all up and down the road.
Other	1	Leave the bridge, but decommission parking area - people can walk to bridge from new parking area.

Additional Comments Received via Email
Residents expect quiet rural lifestyle and increase in traffic takes this away.
People undertaking 'midnight hikes' then early morning voices are loud when they return.
Unsavory characters drink and party in existing parking lot and police have had to be called.
Many visitors use the roadside as their garbage dump - how is RDN going to manage garbage issue.
Traffic safety on Kilpatrick and Benson View Road is most important factor. There have been two fatalities on the road. Road is disintegrating in places due to increased traffic, road wasn't intended for this level of traffic.
Road is treacherous in winter and heavier traffic will reduce safety.

From: "Randy O'Donnell" <>
Date: February 13, 2018 at 1:22:38 PM PST
To: "'Osborne, Tom'" <>
Cc: "'Maureen Young'" <, <biglarr1; <g-igow; <patdc; <alpennington' <ian.thorpe, <bobroger, <bill.veenhof, <alecmcpherson <jstanhope <bill.bestwick, <jerry.hong <bill.mckay, <gordon.fuller, <jim.kipp <diane.brennan, <bill.yoachim <mayor; <CouncillorOates>, <councillor.colclough>, <mayor@qualicumbeach.com>
Subject: Mt. Benson Parking: Doing the Math

To: Tom Osborne, Manager RDN Planning

Note: Interesting coincidence, I received your response to my prior e-mail as I was writing the following and will incorporate a response to your reply in the latter portion.

Good morning, Mr. Osborne;

Further to the indecision regarding closure/non-closure of the existing Mt. Benson Regional Park parking lot, I bring your attention to the following:

- The design for the replacement lot calls for 92 parking spaces.
- The worst case 'overflow' to the existing lot was 46 vehicles (total 70 vehicles) - during a prolonged winter that offered excellent ice skating opportunity on Witchcraft lake.
- Summer weekends typically result in 50 or so vehicles, overflowing a lot designed for 24 vehicles.

The new parking lot property was purchased by the RDN for \$500,000+. One might assume that when completed, costs may approach \$1,000,000 (assuming it is paved, which I believe is being considered). Based on historical usage, the new lot will have a capacity ranging from 24% to 54% in excess of typical *maximum* usage of the existing lot.

Given (a) the capacity of the new parking lot and (b) the tremendous cost to develop it, what justification is being offered in even considering retaining the existing parking lot and bridge access? I reiterate my point: go to any retail store and note the parking pattern. Human nature determines that most people will choose the closest, most convenient parking to their objective: in this case the trailhead. This being the case, does it not defeat the purpose of this rather large expenditure of tax dollars – a bit like the gate that was installed to no purpose?

** From your .pdf survey and e-mail:

At least one of the individuals who attended the on-site meeting and who was adamant about retaining the existing parking lot identified herself as *NOT living in the neighbourhood*. She spoke of "options for mobility constrained people" and while noble, the reality is that in my 24 years here, I have yet to see anyone with mobility issues accessing the park. Her stridency and outspokenness created considerable animosity from the neighbours directly affected.

While future needs must be considered, the planned excess capacity above current use is considerable. Most respondents (neighbours) favoured the larger capacity (126), but the RDN has decided on the lower number (92). Therefore, one must assume RDN planners believe the lower number is adequate for future use. In balancing 'future need' against the likelihood of continued use of the existing lot, the quality of life and property values of long term residents should take precedence. I also note that the single largest response in the survey (with the exception of building in stages) favoured **removal** of the bridge access. If one single, simple step were to be implemented: ie: removal of the *floating section* of the bridge structure – much of this problem would be resolved. Detach the bridge, remove the anti-slip metal and let it float around like all the other wood debris on the lake. There is no need to remove the landing structures, just add a couple of 2x10's across them and you have a "viewing platform" on either side.

You write: "*... the possibility of decommissioning it will be presented to the RDN Board for consideration in 2019, sooner if possible.*" While I have not had an opportunity to speak with my fellow neighbours, I think I can say with confidence that this is not acceptable. We have been dealing with this over such an extended period of time, that to be told that "*possibility of decommissioning*" will be extended into another calendar year is just not reasonable.

We want our quality of life restored as quickly as possible.

Respectfully
Randy O'Donnell

From: larry lemmon []
Sent: Sunday, April 08, 2018 4:17 PM
To: Osborne, Tom; Maureen Young; Cramer, Kelsey; Marshall, Wendy
Cc: Patricia; g-igow@; Randy O'Donnell
Subject: Benson View Regional Park Issues

Hello RDN Representatives,

I sent this letter to you the first week of April this year and I hadn't received a response so I thought I would resend it. I am moving back this month and the same issues mentioned in the letter below still exist and are actually compounding with Spring here and more people using the trails which dominos the litter, noise, excessive parking and bathroom problems because there are no facilities. So here is the same letter again. I am not going away and I will be persistent until some measures have been taken to ease the issues.

I live directly across from the current parking lot and floating bridge on Benson View Rd and have done so for 27 yrs. We moved away from the property for the last 2 yrs to get away from the hundreds of cars parked outside our doorstep. We ran away from the noise of car doors banging, loud and rude voices, inconsiderate people blocking driveways and our gates ----blocking our access.

I will be moving back in a couple of months and I am appalled at the length of time it is taking to make a decision as what to do.

It is imperative that the existing parking lot be decommissioned and the floating bridge removed from the current location.

Any compromise other than this, will not help the prevailing problem of people parking along both sides of the road as they do now, to access the park.

Why would a hiker park in the proposed parking lot, walk 10 min to get to the trail when they can jus park as they do now and be at the trailhead momentarily.

Even hikers are lazy----- not to mention the garbage strewn throughout the trails.

Please decommission the existing access and bridge, otherwise, the hundreds of thousands of dollars you have used to purchase the land to put in another parkade will be done in vain.

Work with us, not against us!

Thank you for considering our needs and we ask you to please make wise choices by choosing to close the existing parking lot, decommissioning the bridge as soon as the new parkade is finished, and making sure the maximum number of stalls are created for parking.

Sincerely,

Larry and Bonnie Lemmon

From: Osborne, Tom
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2018 9:16 AM
To: 'larry lemmon'
Cc: Patricia; g-igow@; Randy O'Donnell; Maureen Young; Cramer, Kelsey; Marshall, Wendy; Bill Veenhof; Dobbs, Mark; Houle, Howard
Subject: RE: Benson View Regional Park Issues

Larry and Bonnie Lemmon,

The RDN received your email dated March 1, 2018 and your request to decommission the existing access and bridge have been noted and will be considered along with input from other residents in the local

neighbourhood, the broader community, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) and the City of Nanaimo when the Regional Board is deciding on the future of the existing parking lot that is located on MoTI property and City of Nanaimo parklands.

RDN Park staff have been updating the website for the project of which I have attached the link below along with the last update that was posted.

<https://www.getinvolved.rdn.ca/mt-b-parking>

- **[Project Update - House removal underway](#)**

6 days ago

Russell McMann Builders Group has been awarded the contract to begin works to remove the residence from the property at 2761 Benson View Road, the site of a future parking lot and new trailhead for Mount Benson Regional Park. The removal of the house will be underway during April, 2018.

Project engineers are working to complete the design of the future parking lot and trailhead at 2761 Benson View Road. The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure will review the design and hydrology assessment prior to issuing a permit to the RDN for use of the undeveloped road allowance that runs along the backside of the property.

Park staff will be applying to the Province of BC for permission to use a new trail alignment that will provide a more direct link from the new parking area to Mount Benson Regional Park.

The existing roadside parking lot and trailhead at Witchcraft Lake will remain open until the new parking lot is constructed. The RDN Board will consider and make a decision regarding decommissioning the existing parking area at their regular Board meeting later this spring.

It is anticipated that parking lot construction will be underway this fall. Updates to the project timeline and other project details will be posted here as they become available. Please check back for updates!

Per the latest post above, staff will be providing an update to the Regional Board this spring on the overall project and will bring forward information that will lead to the Board providing direction to staff on the long term use of the existing parking area. Park staff will inform the local neighbourhood of the date of the meeting once set.

RDN Park staff will continue to update the project website as the development of the new parking lot progresses in addition will continue to answer questions that you or others in the community may have.

Regards,

Tom Osborne
General Manager, Recreation and Parks Services

From: Goeller, Neil FLNR:EX
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 10:12 AM
To: Cramer, Kelsey
Subject: RE: Nanaimo River Regional Park

Kelsey,

I think that is a good summary. A few points to add.

The province is generally averse to hard engineering solutions when it comes to bank protection. So things like Rip Rap or lock blocks etc. are generally only considered when there is no other alternative, or there is an immediate risk to public health and safety. Also, as we discussed previously, the processes at work here are largely natural, and although this avulsion/neck cutoff and abandonment of the original main channel appears extreme to some, it is not unusual. Given the historic configuration of the river (from the photos you sent over), it was, to some extent inevitable and should have been expected.

Soft engineering and other, so called, working with nature solutions are preferred. Willow staking can have some more immediate benefits, however this is a large channel and it is difficult to say what success could be realized in the short term. Success for willow staking depends on survival, the ability to establish vegetation such that it reduces the undercutting that is occurring and can develop a root network to retain the soil prior to be swept away. The channel as a whole is in a period of readjustment, and there isn't the bank strength on the outside of the bend to resist the kind of pressures being inflicted. In a way, the Rip Rap on the old channel bend may have restricted migration and encouraged the cutoff which occurred (this is a bit speculative).

Any bank protection would have to on a large scale to avoid being outflanked, i.e. where the river cuts in behind it upstream. This would be a very costly option both financially and in the damage which could be expected from running heavy machinery in order to construct the scale of works required. The benefit may not be worth the cost.

The reopening of the abandoned channel is also problematic. The river is currently filling that channel with fine sediment through flooding, it already appears to be establishing itself as a marshy area. Although we didn't look at the top end, I don't have any reason to doubt the opinion that it would be easy to breach the blockage at the top end. However, to maintain a functional channel over time would require constant maintenance (maybe every 1 to 5 years). To properly divert flow into that channel would require engineering to determine how best to configure the inlet for long term functionality. Side channels also tend to silt up as they are generally calmer than the mainstem, so regular dredging may be required if the channel is to stay open and provide fish habitat. It is hard to say if such activity would generate any benefits for habitat, this is not my area of expertise, but such channels tend to have fine substrates and higher summer water temperatures which make them less suitable for habitat (my uninformed opinion). They can provide winter refuge during higher flow events.

Hope that helps, let me know if you need anything more.

Neil.

From: Cramer, Kelsey
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 9:52 AM
To: Goeller, Neil FLNR:EX
Subject: RE: Nanaimo River Regional Park

Hi Neil,

Thank you very much for your time and sending the information below. For the purposes of providing the RDN Board with a better understanding of the specific situation/request, it would be helpful if you could provide your opinion on the suggestions brought forward by the two park users:

- a) reinstating a side channel to redirect some flow back around the "island."
- b) armouring the bank downstream of the bedrock/swimming area to stop erosion along this bank.

My understanding from our site meeting is that these are both substantial projects that would require large machinery access to the river bank, approvals from multiple government agencies and could result in downstream affects. Engineering would be required (more so for 'b') and finding the money and who would pay for this is yet to be determined. Without an immediate threat to infrastructure (e.g. roads or houses), it is not something the Province (EMBC or MOTI for example) would work to resolve at this point.

On site you suggested possibly engaging David Polster to offer a bioengineering solution for 'b' with the use of willow plantings. This would be a long-term approach (several decades), requiring the vegetation to become established before seeing erosion mitigation, but would have less impact on the natural movement of the river.

If you have any details to add or clarify, please do.

Thanks again,

Kelsey Cramer

Parks Planner, Recreation and Parks

From: Goeller, Neil FLNR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 12:06 PM
To: Cramer, Kelsey
Subject: RE: Nanaimo River Regional Park

Kelsey,

It was great to meet everybody yesterday. Just to follow up with some information from the perspective of the province.

The website for change approvals is here: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/water-licensing- rights/water-licences-approvals/apply-for-a -change-approval-or-submit-notification-of -instream-work>

in general this is governed by Section 11 of the Water Sustainability Act and Part 3 Water Sustainability Regulation

the quick explanation is that there are two kinds of applications, an Approval (Section 11) and a Notification (Part 3). The names are somewhat misleading, but to summarize.

Only certain works fall under a Notification, these are under Part 3 of the regulation. They are generally smaller, low impact projects or ones which have specific regulated requirements (i.e. clear span bridges and certain sizes of culverts)

Approvals are for more substantial or complicated projects with no specific regulations. They generally require more review, consultation and expertise to adjudicate.

A landowner or their assigned agent can submit an application to FrontCounter BC (FCBC) through the online forms and website to complete works on their land.

Applications need to be sent in well in advance of construction, which does not always happen. Simple projects can be fast tracked a bit with good reason.

I hope that helps clarify the process a bit. Let me know if you want anything more specific about this particular project.

Neil.

NEIL GOELLER, M.Sc., P.GEO.
REGIONAL HYDROLOGIST
MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
WEST COAST REGION
(P) 250-751-7118, (F) 250-751-3103



#8 – 140 Wallace Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 5B1
Phone/Fax 250-714-1990 Email:
admin@nalt.bc.ca
Website: www.nalt.bc.ca



April 25th, 2018

Wendy Marshall, Manager of Park Services
Regional District of Nanaimo
830 W. Isl. Hwy.
Parksville, BC, V9T 2X6

RE: Proposed Mount Benson Regional Park Trail Maintenance 2018 - 2019

Dear Wendy Marshall,

The Nanaimo & Area Land Trust (NALT) and the Regional District of Nanaimo are partners in the securement and protection of Mount Benson Regional Park for its natural and recreation values. As signers to a conservation covenant on the lands, we enjoy a cooperative and respectful relationship.

As part of the obligations of a covenant holder, NALT monitors the lands annually to confirm compliance with the terms of the covenant. Our annual monitoring reports have noted areas of the trail system that need improvement to accommodate the increasing foot traffic in the Park. Recent running events in the Park have heightened concerns about trail erosion, compromised natural values and safety.

NALT supports the proposal put forward by the Island Mountain Ramblers to undertake trail maintenance and improvement in the lower portion of the Park trail system. The proposed area of operation coincides with many of the concerns noted in our annual reporting.

We look forward to seeing the work progress.

Sincerely,

Dean Gaudry
NALT Board Co-Chair

TO: Parks Commissions and Committees **MEETING:** May 15, 2018

FROM: Wendy Marshall
Manager of Parks Services

SUBJECT: Parks Update Report – Winter 2018

RECOMMENDATION

That the Parks Update Report - Winter 2018 be received for information.

SUMMARY

The progress of the projects in the 2018 Parks Work Plan and the RDN Operational Plan is reviewed.

Planning and Capital Projects – Key Highlights

Mount Benson Parking Facilities R+P-40-2016

The contract for the removal of the house located on the property has been awarded and has commenced. Design for the parking lot is underway. The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure will review the design again prior to the RDN submitting a permit for the use of the undeveloped road allowance adjacent to the property. A new trail is being explored to offer a more direct alignment from the new parking area to Mount Benson Regional Park.

Benson Creek Falls Regional Park Facilities R+P-33-2017

Over 160 people responded to the online questionnaire that was seeking input on the conceptual options for a pedestrian bridge across Benson Creek and improved access to the base of Ammonite Falls. A summary of input received has been posted on the RDN Get Involved website and a report will be prepared for Board consideration of the preferred options in the fall of 2018.

Huxley Park Projects (EA 'B') R+P-34-2016

The Huxley Park Phase 1 improvements are complete. A Park Opening was held on April 21st to celebrate the new playground and the improvements to the sports court and tennis court.

Sports Court - It has been requested that pickle ball lines be added to the sports court. A staff report went to the Electoral Area 'B' POSAC on April 9th and will be going to the May 8th meeting of the Electoral Area Services Committee with a recommendation that Community Works funding be used for sports court line painting for pickleball and ball hockey.

Skatepark – The Preferred Conceptual Plan for the Skatepark is now complete and the next step is to develop Phase 2 Construction drawings and project costing that will further assist with budget planning

and future grant application purposes. A staff report went to the April 8th Electoral Area 'B' POSAC and will be going to the May 8th meeting of the Electoral Area Services Committee with a recommendation that the Skatepark concept plan be approved and that Community Works funding be used to proceed with Phase 2 Construction drawings.

Regional Trail from Horne Lake and Heritage Designation R+P-31-2016

A project brief was provided to the Horne Lake Strata for presentation at their April AGM. Survey work on the 1911 Gazetted road allowance has been delayed because inconsistencies in existing plans cannot be reconciled such that an updated plan could be created. A request has been made to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to assist the RDN in working with Island Timberlands and the Ministry on the creation of a replacement Section 107 plan that will satisfy requirements.

Errington Community Park (EA 'F')

Water and Wastewater Services have determined they do not need to assume responsibility for management of the park well at present. The well is operated by the hall board and serves both the hall across the street and the farmer's market concession and washroom. The RDN is awaiting direction from the Province on how to proceed with the licensing of the well. Neither the Province nor the RDN was aware of the well when the property was leased to the RDN in 2006. Development of a park operator agreement with the community hall board, which could include assignment of well responsibility to the hall board, awaits clarification of the Province's position.

Park Master Plan - The stakeholder meeting component of the public engagement process for the Errington Community Park Master Plan project is complete. After review of the plan with the Electoral Area 'F' POSAC, the Concept Plan will be presented at an Open House to be held at the park on May 05, 2018. Following the Open House, the public engagement will continue with an Online Survey. The results of the consultation will inform the design direction of the final concept for the park.

Little Qualicum Hall (EA 'G')

The public engagement component of the project is underway. A Dashwood community group has been consulted on the direction preferred for the building. An Online Survey is being launched at the end of April 2018 to gauge to preferred direction for Little Qualicum Hall by the greater Electoral Area 'G' community. The Dashwood community will receive a letter of invitation to participate in the Online Survey.

Dunsmuir Community Park Development (EA 'H')

The Dunsmuir Community Park Preferred Conceptual Plan is now complete and construction drawings are underway. The next step is to complete Phase 1 construction drawings and proceed to tender this spring. It is anticipated that project construction will begin this fall. Phase 1 will include the removal of the existing tennis court and smaller sports court, the construction of a new larger sports court and a new 20-car parking lot.

Meadowood Way Community Park – Community Centre Development (EA 'F')

A cost analysis for the building and site was completed after receiving the Quantity Surveyor's (Advicas Group) report. Options to complete the project within the allocated budget are being reviewed by staff.

E & N Finishing and Restoration R+P-100A-2014

Further to the one-year inspection, all trail development deficiencies have been addressed with the exception of pavement line painting which will be undertaken when the weather warms. Initial

restoration of the January flood damaged trail section is complete, and the project engineer is designing changes to the trail to counter future flood risk at this and a nearby low-lying trail section. The works should be completed during the summer.

Registry and Mapping

Registry of Electoral Area 'A' regional and community parks, trails and water accesses has been completed with the assistance of the RDN's GIS Mapping Services, and a revised park planning map created for the Area. Park parcels have been consolidated as required, encumbrances and sizes confirmed, and park names updated further to consultation with the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission. A set of park maps and registry information tables along with planning map were included in 2018 Commission binders. Registry and mapping of Area B parks nears completion and work has begun on Area C. Parks Operations staff and GIS have concluded assignment of civic addresses to the bulk of the parks portfolio. Work has begun on electoral area maps including all available outdoor recreational resources, e.g., known Crown land trails and nearby parks and trails in municipalities and other regional districts.

Operations – Key Highlights

General Service Calls - Operations staff was busy during this time with frequent clean-up from storms and repairs from weather related damage. Staff responded to routine complaints including; hazard trees, flooding, vandalism, uncontrolled dogs, dumping, and other prohibited activities.

Descanso Bay Regional Park – The Coastal Wildfire Service Crew carried out hazard tree removal in the park. The trees were identified by an arborist as being hazardous to park uses and removed at no cost to the RDN except travel. Coastal Wildfire used the well supervised opportunity as staff training.

Benson Creek Falls Regional Park – Staff coordinated the removal and clean-up of an abandoned RV trailer and dumping in the parking area adjacent the trail head. Removal involved assistance from Bylaws, Solid Waste, and MoTI.

Glynneath Road Community Park (EA 'A') – Operations staff became aware of declining tree health over much of this forested property. A consulting professional forester was hired to investigate, and identified a large infestation of root rot throughout the park. The condition creates a safety hazard for persons in the park and has potential to impact neighboring properties if not addressed. Harvesting options for infected trees and prescriptive silviculture remediation for the site has been determined. Options and cost estimates to carry out the work are underway.

Kipp Road Community Park (EA 'A') – Illegal firewood harvesting has taken place from the Kipp Rd Park more than once this winter. Bylaw Services has been actively involved along with the RCMP and Provincial agencies. Concrete roadside barriers were breached to gain access. Two such breaches have occurred and EMCOM has acted quickly to close them. Monitoring of the site is ongoing.

Grounds Maintenance Contract (EA 'B') - Lawn and grounds maintenance for Rollo McClay and the Whalebone Parks was tendered for a three year term. Strain Landscapes is the successful contractor, delivering the service at a lower cost than the previous contract.

Lee Road Community Park (EA 'G') - Staff responded to trees down in French Creek posing significant risk of flooding and damage to the adjacent homes. Staff worked with a consulting biologist and the

Ministry of Environment to fast track required the permits and complete the work within a tight timeline.

Parks Programming

The Spring and Summer Active Living Guide was developed in late 2017 and January 2018, with guide release and program registration starting March 5, 2018. Returning programs include the children's camps "GO Wild" at Moorecroft Regional Park in both Spring Break and Summer; hiking programs throughout the area during the Spring; and new programs such as the interpretive "Night Walk", "She's in Nature" and "Amazing Race in the Parks". Registration in the Spring Break GO Wild March 19-23 was high (16) considering the weather (cold and rainy, with snow the week prior). Registration for the hikes and adult interpretive programs has been low so far, with two programs cancelled due to low registration. "She's in Nature" has high registration (14) so far and will be starting April 29.

Park Use Permits

EA 'A' – VIU Horticulture and International Education program was given a permit to propagate wild ginger at Nanaimo River Regional Park April 9. They will be replanting on April 27.

EA 'B' – Gabriola 4-H Club was given a permit to run the concession at Rollo McClay Community Park during the Spring / Summer 2018 softball season. Gabriola Scouts/Guides was given a permit to have a campout at Descanso Bay Regional Park February 22, but the event was cancelled due to snow.

EA 'C' – The Fletcher's Challenge occurred on Good Friday and made use of the TCT near Harewood Mines Road.

EA 'E' – Permits were approved for weddings at Beachcomber Regional Park (September 15, 2018) and Moorecroft Regional Park (June 3, 2018). School District 69 has used Moorecroft Regional Park for interpretive field trips for Nanoose Bay Elementary and for Oceanside Elementary School.

EA 'F' – A permit was granted to Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region Research Institute (MABRRI) to conduct a BioBlitz at Englishman River Regional Park April 21. They will be sharing their research findings with us.

EA 'G' – BC Conservation Foundation was granted a permit for Little Qualicum River Estuary Regional Conservation Area to give a tour during the Brandt Festival, April 5.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The projects outlined in this report have funds identified in the 2018 Budget. Electoral Area projects are funded through the associated 2018 Community Parks Budget and in some cases are supplemented by Community Works Funds or grant funding. Regional Parks projects are funded through the 2018 Regional Parks Operational Budget or the Regional Parks Capital Budget.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Projects in this report support the RDN's strategic priorities for Service and Organizational Excellence and Focus on the Environment:

- Delivering efficient, effective and economically viable services that meet the needs of the Region;
- We will fund infrastructure in support of our core services employing an asset management focus;
- As we invest in regional services we look at both costs and benefits — the RDN will be effective and efficient;
- We recognize community mobility and recreational amenities as core services; and
- We will have a strong focus on protecting and enhancing our environment in all decisions.



Wendy Marshall
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April 26, 2018

Reviewed by:

- T. Osborne, General Manager of Recreation and Parks
- P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments

1. Parks Work Plan – Winter 2018

**Parks Work Plan
Winter 2018**

PARK PROJECTS AND REQUESTS - 2018								
Service Area	Origin	Project #	Park	Description	Start Date	Completion	Progress	Comment
A	16-785	2017-002	Beach Accesses	Driftwood Beach Access consultation and design	2017	2018 Q3	Underway	Board report completed and design to move forward during summer.
A		2018-001	Beach Accesses	Driftwood Beach Access stairs construction	2018	2018 Q2	Not started	Planned for fall.
A	17-153	2018-025	Cedar Plaza	Review Possible Alternatives to allow water	2017	2018 Q2	Underway	Application into NCID waiting for approval
A		2018-026	Ivor Road	Trees - removal/replant	2018	2018 Q3	Underway	Harvesting Assessment complete, obtaining estimates for work.
A		2018-024	Kipp Road	Geotechnical options for site remediation	2018	2018 Q2	Underway	Remediation technical pan complete and cost estimate complete. Applying to the Province for assistance.
A	17-516	2018-023	Skatepark	Review options for a viewing platform	2018		Not started	Planned for fall.
B	16-348, 18-008	2017-006	707	New Signs as per plan	2018	2017 Q4	On hold	Delayed until parkland addition brought into the RDN system.
B		2018-027	707	Gate, drainage and road repairs	2018	2018 Q3	Not Started	Will start once property added to the RDN system.
B		2018-028	707	New Property - add amenities	2018	2018 Q3	Not Started	Will start once property added to the RDN system.
B			707	Management Plan Update	2020		Not Started	Planned for 2020.
B			707	New Property development	2023		Not Started	Planned for 2023.
B		2018-031	Cox	New Property - add safety amenities	2018	2018 Q3	Not started	Will start once property added to the RDN system.
B			Cox	Master plan	2021		Not started	Planned for 2021.
B			Cox	Property Development	2022		Not started	Planned for 2022.

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Service Area	Origin	Project #	Park	Description	Start Date	Completion	Progress	Comment
B		2018-029	Huxley	Electrical Upgrades Assessment	2018	2018 Q3	Not Started	To be completed simultaneously with construction drawings.
B			Huxley	Grant applications for Skate Park	2019		Not Started	Planned for 2019 once drawings completed.
B			Huxley	Skatepark Construction	2020		Not Started	Planned for 2020.
B		2018-061	Huxley	Park Opening Event	2018		Underway	Planned for April 21.
B	16-346	2016-007	McCullum Road Cash in Lieu	Work with Developer for processing the Cash in Lieu	2016	TBD	On Hold	Waiting on developer.
B		2018-033	Pilot Bay & Huxley Benches	Benches	2018	2018 Q3	Underway	Benches Ordered.
B		2018-032	Whalebone	Upgrades to trails	2018	2018 Q2	Completed	2018 upgrades complete as of April 18th 2018.
B-CWrks		2018-030	Huxley	Skateboard and park entrance Construction drawings/costing/geotec/survey	2018	2018 Q2	Not Started	Report going to May 22 Board for project funding approval (CW Funds).
B-CWrks	Staff	2017-009	Joyce Lockwood Stairs	Rebuild Beach Access stairs	2018	2018 Q3	Underway	Geotech assessment of Site underway.
B-CWrks	Board	2015-001	Village Pathway	Design/MOTI approval	2015		On hold	Meeting to be held with MOTI in May to hopefully move ahead with design approval.
B-CWrks		2017-011	Village Way Path	Construction	2019	2020	Suspended	Suspended until MOTI approval of design is obtained.
C EW/PV	Posac	2018-003	Anders Dorrit	Information sign design and install	2018	2018	Not started	Planned to start in June 2018.
C EW/PV	Posac	2018-004	Anders Dorrit	Design & Open House	2018	2018 Q3	Underway	Open house planned for end of April.

**Parks Work Plan
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Service Area	Origin	Project #	Park	Description	Start Date	Completion	Progress	Comment
C EW/PV			Anders Dorrit	Detailed Design	2019	2019 Q2	Not started	Planned for 2019.
C EW/PV			Anders Dorrit	Tender & Construction	2020	2021	Not started	Planned for 2020.
C Ext		2018-035	Extension Miners	Coal artifact display, trail to river design	2018	2018 Q4	Not started	Planned to start in May 2018.
C Ext			Extension Miners	Install Trail to river	2019		Not started	Planned to start in Summer 2018.
C Ext		2018-034	Trails Initiative	Horse Access on Crown	2018	2018	Not started	Planned to start in June 2018.
E	18-084	2018-055	Bonnington Drive/Coventry Place	High level report on cost and process for stairs and trail construction	2018	2018 Q3	Not started	Planned for late spring/summer.
E	18-085	2018-037	Brickyard	Parking, Toilet, Garbage - Concept Layout & Neighbour Consultation	2018	2018 Q2	Suspended	Suspended as per board direction.
E	18-085	2018-038	Brickyard	Toilet, Garbage Install	2018	2018 Q3	Suspended	Suspended as per board direction.
E	16-197	2016-009	Claudet	Utilities lot transfer	2016	TBD	Underway	Staff reviewing approach to dispose of parkland.
E		2018-039	Es-hw Sme~nts	Interpretive signs -design and install	2018	2018	Completed	Completed.
E	18-087		Jack Bagley	Court placement and design	2019		Not started	Survey to take place in 2018 and planning in 2019.
E	17-155, 17-409	2018-036	Nanoose Road Community Park	Early Lease Renewal/Amendment Design new use once received	2018	2020	Not started	Waiting on the province.
E	17-517, 18-086	2018-024	Stone Lake Drive	Natural Playground Site survey, Public Input & Preliminary Design	2018	2018 Q3	Underway	Survey completed and public consultation underway.
E			Water Accesses	Priority from Study (survey, design, install)	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.

**Parks Work Plan
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Service Area	Origin	Project #	Park	Description	Start Date	Completion	Progress	Comment
F	17-310	2018-009	ACT Trails	Surface David Lundine trail	2018	2018 Q2	Underway	In coordination with Errington CP Master Plan.
F		2018-040	ACT Trails	Palmer Road East Trail Construction	2018	2018 Q4	Not started	Planned to start in May/June 2018.
F			ACT Trails	Bellevue Trail 1 - Grafton/Bellevue	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.
F			ACT Trails	Bellevue Trail 2 - Koperick link	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.
F	17-312	2018-006	Errington	Park Master Plan to include a bike skills park and a playground	2017	2019 Q3	Underway	Public engagement process is underway. Open House will be on May 05, 2018 at the park.
F			Errington	Phase I detail design	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.
F			Errington	Phase II Detail Design	2021		Not started	Planned for 2021.
F			Errington	Phase II Construction	2022		Not started	Planned for 2022.
F	Staff	2018-007	Errington	Operator Agreement	2018	2018 Q4	Underway	MFLNRO (lands) advised of well on property and they are now reconsidering RDN lease. Awaiting direction. Good candidate for Crown Grant.
F		2018-041	Meadowood	Community Hall Construction	2018		Underway	New costing matrix being developed.
F-CWrks	Posac	2019-001	Errington	Phase I construction	2020		Not started	Planned for 2020.
G		2018-056	Blue Water	Clearing and restoration.	2017	2020 Q3	Underway	Due to weather, goats will be on site mid-May 2018. BC Hydro grant of \$2,700.00 received to plant trees in park.
G		2017-015	Boulton	Replace playground borders	2017	2018	Underway	Estimates underway.
G			Dashwood	Playground Updates	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.

**Parks Work Plan
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Service Area	Origin	Project #	Park	Description	Start Date	Completion	Progress	Comment
G		2018-057	Lee Rd	Tree removal French Creek	2018	2018 Q1	Completed	Trees removed from the creek.
G	Posac	2018-010	River's Edge	Playground concept design	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.
G			River's Edge	Playground detail construction drawings	2020		Not started	Planned for 2020.
G			River's Edge	Playground Install	2021		Not started	Planned for 2021.
G-CWrks	Posac	2019-002	French Creek Paths/Trails	TBD	2020		Not started	Planned for 2020.
G-CWrks	17-158, 17-405, 17-600	2018-011	Little Qualicum Hall	Engineering study and community consultation to determine direction	2018	2018 Q3	Underway	Engineering study complete and consultation underway with community.
H		2018-042	Beach Accesses	Signage and Improvements	2018	2018 Q3	Not started	Beach Access priorities to be determined at June 11 POSAC.
H	17-020	2017-016	Dunsmuir	Detailed design	2018	2018 Q2	Underway	Phase 1 tender drawings to be completed end of May.
H			Dunsmuir	Phase II Planning	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.
H			Dunsmuir	Phase II Construction	2020		Not started	Planned for 2020.
H		2016-013	Lions Park	Operators Agreement	2016	2018 Q3	Underway	Meeting held with the Lions Club and requested revisions to agreement under legal review.
H	Posac	2019-003	Oakdowne	Licence on other crown parcels surrounding the park	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.
H			Sunny Beach	Improvements	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.
H	Posac	2018-013	Wildwood	Kiosk development and install - split with Regional	2018	2018	Not started	Will coordinate with Elaine in August 2018.
H-CWrks	Other	2020-001	Area H Roadside Trails	Work with MOTI on any development of trails along the road.	2020		Not started	Planned for 2020.

**Parks Work Plan
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Service Area	Origin	Project #	Park	Description	Start Date	Completion	Progress	Comment
H-CWrks		2018-012	Dunsmuir	Phase I construction	2018	2018 Q3	Not started	Report going to April 24 Board for project funding approval (CW Funds). Phase 1 tender planned for June.
Other - Comm	Other	2018-014	Bike Network Plan	Develop plans	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.
Other - Comm	Operational		Development	Subdivision/parkland - review, comments and POSAC input			On Going	Ongoing as required through planning.
Other - Comm	16-616, 18-061	2016-018	Park Signage	Resign Park regulation and info signs	2016	2018 Q3	Underway	Board has reviewed and sign review by committees underway.
REG	Staff	2017-019	Ammonite Falls Trail	Bridge Replace	2017	2018 Q2	Underway	Environmental Assessment complete. Design estimates underway.
REG	Staff	2018-020	Arboretum	Kiosk upgrade -design new sign with volunteers and install	2018	2018 Q4	Underway	Design of signage has started.
REG	Mngmnt Plan	2018-045	Beachcomber	Main Path Upgrades (stairs/handrails)	2018	2018 Q4	Not started	Work planned for fall.
REG	18-072	2016-028	Beachcomer	Management Plan	2016	2017	Completed	Board approved plan.
REG	16-669	2017-048	Benson Creek Falls	Parking feasibility study and design - Weigles entrance (incl. env. study)	2017	2018 Q1	Underway	Concept planning underway.
REG	16-668	2017-049	Benson Creek Falls	Parking - monitor and communicate with residents	2017		Ongoing	Ongoing.
REG			Benson Creek Falls	Weigles entrance parking Lot Construction	2019		Not started	Will occur with stair and bridge construction.
REG	Mngmnt Plan	2018-019	Benson Creek Falls	Kiosk	2020	2020	Not started	Planned for 2020.
REG			Benson Regional Trail	Signage	2019	2020	Not started	Planned for 2019.

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Service Area	Origin	Project #	Park	Description	Start Date	Completion	Progress	Comment
REG		2018-043	BigQ/ACRD Regional Trail	Detailed planning	2018		Not started	Will proceed once preliminary work is completed.
REG			BigQ/ACRD Regional Trail	Construction	2020		Not started	Planned for 2020.
REG		2020-003	BigQ-ACRD Regional Trail	Construction	2019	2020	Not started	Would take place after detailed design.
REG		2018-048	Coats Marsh	Building and Bat housing	2018		Underway	Bat houses underway.
REG	Staff	2018-018	Descanso	Tree removal	2018	2018 Q2	Underway	Coastal Wildfire carried out Phase 1, Phase 2 underway by contracted arborist
REG			Descanso	Gate house replacement	2020		Not started	Planned for 2020.
REG		2018-046	Englishman River	Geo technical study for the bank above the road	2018	2018 Q3	Not started	Work planned for summer.
REG	Other		Fairwinds	Development - PDA		TBD	Underway	Staff have met with Planning Staff to review development proposal and PDA amendments.
REG	16-767	2017-024	First Nations Passage via Horne Lake	Heritage designation	2017	2020	On Hold	Address once regional trail development has advanced.
REG			Horne Lake	Picnic shelter design/tender	2021		Not started	Planned for 2021.
REG		2018-044	Horne Lake and Descanso	Registration Software	2018	2018 Q2	Underway	Registration software purchased. Implementation underway.
REG		2017-021	La Selva Trail	Construction	2017		Delayed	Delayed due to land issue at site.
REG			Lighthouse	Nile Creek Bridge	2021		Not started	Planned for 2021.
REG			Lighthouse	Fletcher Creek	2023		Not started	Planned for 2023.

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Service Area	Origin	Project #	Park	Description	Start Date	Completion	Progress	Comment
REG	16-480	2016-026	Moorecroft	Site Planning with First Nations (as per workshop priorities)	2016	2017 Q4	Underway	Consultation underway when required.
REG	Mngmnt Plan	2018-021	Moorecroft	Picnic shelter design/tender	2020		Not started	Planned for 2020.
REG		2016-026	Moorecroft	FN Liaison	2016		Ongoing	Continue discussions with FN regarding building in the park.
REG			Moorecroft	Parking Lot Design & Improvements	2021		Not started	Planned for 2021.
REG			Moorecroft	Meadow Road Upgrade	2019	2019 Q2	Not started	Planned for 2019.
REG			Moorecroft	Reroute Water Line	2019	2019 Q2	Not started	Planned for 2019.
REG			Moorecroft	Entry Area Improvements	2020		Not started	Planned for 2020.
REG		2018-049	Moorecroft	Miss Moore's Cabin Removal	2018	2018 Q3	Underway	Cabin removed. Planning for the site underway.
REG			Moorecroft	Interpretive Signage (design & install)	2021		Not started	Planned for 2021.
REG			Moorecroft	Kiosk	2020		Not started	Planned for 2020.
REG	Mngmnt Plan	2017-041	Moorecroft	Two vault Toilets & storage (design, locate, install)	2017	2018 Q3	Underway	Archeologist review of site complete, test-holes for vaults complete.
REG	16-666, 17-510	2018-054	Mount Benson	Parking design and construction	2018	2019	Underway	Plans are at 50%. Meetings are to be held with MOTI in May. House removal is underway.
REG			Mount Benson	Trail Improvements - Condition and Evaluation of High Use Routes	2019	2018 Q3	Not started	Planned of 2019.
REG			Olympic Torch Trail and	Planning	2020		Not started	Some reviews done for seniors housing project.
REG			PQ Links	Barclay Bridge - asphalt extension	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.

**Parks Work Plan
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Service Area	Origin	Project #	Park	Description	Start Date	Completion	Progress	Comment
REG	Staff	2017-020	TCT	Timberlands Road trail head development	2016	2018 Q4	Underway	Approval received from Island Timberlands to proceed. Site visits with Hydro and Fortis planned for April. New (free) TCT signage ordered from TCT HQ.
REG			TCT signage review	GPSing of signage in prep for updating given new TCT signs.	2018	2018 Q3	Underway	Staff GPSing signs.
REG			TCT signage update	Apply for free signage if available; otherwise purchase. Update all.	2019		Not started	
REG	Other	2019-004	Top Bridge	Reroute trail and parking lot in City of Parksville	2021		Not started	Timing ultimately depends on the City of Parksville.
REG			Top Bridge	Connection to Rail Trail - Design	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.
REG			Top Bridge	Connection Construction	2020		Not started	Planned for 2020.
REG	Posac	2018-017	Wildwood/LH RT	Kiosk development and installation - split with H	2018	2018	Not started	Will coordinate with Elaine in August 2018.
REG		2017-070	Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail	Volunteer Trail Building Agreement	2017	2018 Q1	Underway	Agreement and report underway for May RPTSC.
REG		2018-047	Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail	Volunteer Trail Building	2018	2018 Q3	Not started	Agreement and report underway for May RPTSC.
REG CAP		2018-050	Benson Creek Falls	Detailed design and costing stairs and bridge	2018	2018 Q4	Not started	Planned for late 2018.
REG CAP			Benson Creek Falls	Bridge Construction	2019	2019/2020	Not started	Planned for 2019.
REG CAP			Benson Creek Falls	Stairs at falls Construction	2019	2019/2020	Not started	Planned for 2019.
REG CAP	16-670	2017-031	Benson Creek Falls	Concept Plans and consultation Bridge and Stairs	2017	2018 Q4	Underway	Concept plans and public consultation completed. Report will be prepared for October.

**Parks Work Plan
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Service Area	Origin	Project #	Park	Description	Start Date	Completion	Progress	Comment
REG CAP		2017-043	BigQ/ACRD Regional Trail	Preliminary planning including agreement with strata	2017	2019	Underway	Working with Horne Lake Strata on an agreement. Request made to MoTI to help resolve survey issues.
REG CAP	17-227	2017-073	E&N -- Coombs to Parksville Rail Trail	Horse Parking - Wood lot	2017		On Hold	Awaiting Springhill Rd development.
REG CAP			E&N -- Coombs to Parksville Rail Trail	Trail Repair - Clean up, Design and rebuild	2018	2018 Q3	Underway	Initial clean up completed. Full restoration proposal being prepared with worked planned for the summer.
REG CAP		2017-022	E&N -- Coombs to Parksville Rail Trail	Finish Construction Details	2018	2018 Q3	Underway	Deficiencies being addressed by contractor. Some items to be completed when weather is warmer.
REG CAP	17-386	2017-068	Little Qualicum	Bridge Design	2018	2019	Underway	RFP to hire a Engineering firm to produce design and drawing has started.
REG CAP			Little Qualicum	Bridge Construction	2020	2020 Q4	Not started	Planned for 2020.
REG CAP	Board	2014-001	Morden Colliery	Lease upgrade	2014		Underway	Waiting on Province to respond to lease upgrade request.
REG CAP	16-124, 14-755, 14-754	2017-047	Morden Colliery	Bridge and trail design and tender	2017		Delayed	Project delayed because of ALC development application process.
REG CAP			Morden Colliery	Construction	2019	2020	Not started	Will commence after detailed designs are completed.
REG - Other	Staff	2018-053	Brochure	Design New Brochure/Print	2017	2018 Q3	Underway	Design is under draft review. Photo sessions were held late March 2018 to provide addition people in parks photos.

**Parks Work Plan
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Service Area	Origin	Project #	Park	Description	Start Date	Completion	Progress	Comment
REG - Other	Operational		Operator agreements	Monitor			Ongoing	Ongoing
REG - Other	Other	2018-016	Park Zoning	With Planning Department	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.
REG - Other	Operational		Partnerships	Meetings and on-going communication with partners			Ongoing	Ongoing
REG - Other	Operational	2017-042	RPT Plan	Develop RFP. Work with consultant on plan development	2018	2019 Q4	Not started	RFP to be prepared during fall for Board report in the spring of 2019.
REG - Other	16-654,16-678,17-019, 18-	2016-020	Salish Sea Marine Trail	Agreement with BC Marine Trail Association & signage	2016	2018 Q3	Underway	Agreement executed by BCMTNA; signage approved and in production.
REG - Other		2017-072	Tourism VI Trails Strategy	Phase 3 Exceptional Hiking Experiences Network	2017		Underway	TVI investigating pursuit of one trail per region to develop as per Master Plan. Meeting planned for April.
Other	Operational	2018-051	2019 Budget and Work plan	Create and forward for approvals	2018	2019 Q1	Not started	Work to start in June 2018.
Other			Acquisitions	Assessment and report			Underway	Several properties under consideration.
Other	Staff	2019-006	Bylaw 1399	Update existing bylaw	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.
Other	Staff	2019-005	Donation Program	Create program	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.
Other	Operational		GIS and Mapping	Ongoing mapping			On going	Ongoing
Other			Park wells	well licensing and decommissioning; reconciliation of provincial data	2018	2019	Underway	Park staff will be visiting well sites to confirm location/existence and an updated list will be provided to the province.

**Parks Work Plan
Winter 2018**

Service Area	Origin	Project #	Park	Description	Start Date	Completion	Progress	Comment
Other		2018-060	Parks Programming	Programming for all seasons	2018		Underway	Spring & Summer Programming Winter 2018, Fall Programming completed June/July 2018.
Other		2018-052	Policies	Update	2018	2018 Q4	Not started	Planned for fall 2018.
Other	Operational		Portfolio Records & Mapping	Acquisition registry, park records, mapping, statistics			On Going	Continuing.
Other	Operational		Project Management	Software	2019		Not started	Planned for 2019.
Other	Operational	2018-022	Standing contracts	With Purchasing Manager bring on frequently used contractors under a standing contract	2018	2018 Q2	Not started	Planned for fall.
Other	Operational	2017-044	Risk Management	Update Inspection Program	2017	2018 Q4	Underway	Work will continue throughout 2018.
Other		2018-059	School Programming	Working with schools to encourage more interpretive programs	2018	2018 Q4	Underway	Program planning Spring 2018, implementation Fall 2018.
Other	Operational	2016-032	SharePoint system	Create and upload old files	2016		Underway	Staff continue to move files from the old files to the new system.
Other		2018-058	Volunteers in Parks	re-initiate program	2018	2018 Q4	Not started	Planned for fall 2018.
Other	Operational	2017-043	Worksafe BC	Update program	2017	2018 Q4	Underway	Work will continue throughout 2018.

TO: Regional Parks and Trails Select Committee **MEETING:** May 15, 2018
FROM: Kelsey Cramer **FILE:** 2240-20
Parks Planner
SUBJECT: Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail Improvement Partnership Agreement

RECOMMENDATION

That the Regional District of Nanaimo enter into a two year agreement with the Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia for the restoration and improvement of the Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail and trails within Mount Benson Regional Park.

SUMMARY

The agreement supports the Regional District's interest in improving the environmental and recreational condition of the Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail (WLRT) and trails within Mount Benson Regional Park. The Island Mountain Ramblers, a member of the Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC, wish to participate in a volunteer trail restoration project in the Nanaimo area. This pilot trail improvement project has the possibility for a future agreement to provide more trail restoration over a longer term.

BACKGROUND

In the spring of 2017, RDN Parks Services was contacted by the President of the Island Mountain Ramblers (the Club), an unincorporated member Club of the Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia (FMCBC), based in Nanaimo. The Club was interested in an opportunity to begin a long-term volunteer trail restoration project in the Nanaimo area and had identified Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail as a possible site. If the pilot project is successful then the parties could enter into a long-term agreement. The Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail Improvement Partnership Agreement (Attachment 1) sets out the project, location and duration of a partnership approach to improving a portion of the Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail and Mount Benson Regional Park trails.

The RDN acquired Mount Benson Regional Park in 2006. Recreational access to the park was sanctioned in 2013 when the RDN received authorization from the Province to manage the WLRT under section 56 of the Forest and Range Practices Act. Within this time, the trail has become worn and eroded and is in need of trail restoration work. The RDN does not have the resources to resolve trail issues to extent that is required and the opportunity to have support from a dedicated volunteer group is critical to improving the environmental conditions of the trail and the recreational experience for hikers. The Nanaimo & Area Land Trust (NALT) was also consulted in identifying the pilot project location and agrees that this is a suitable site to begin remediation works, with the goal of expanding farther down the trail with the renewal of a longer-term agreement in the future.

The FMCBC will enter into the agreement with the RDN on behalf of the Club, who will be undertaking the work, because the FMCBC is a registered society in BC. The Club does not have the ability to enter into an agreement because it is not a legal entity. The attached agreement has been prepared with the RDN's solicitor.

Key aspects of the Partnership Agreement include:

- a plan for trail improvement within the pilot project area is to be submitted to the RDN staff for review and acceptance prior to the work (note: the approved plan will be appended to the agreement as Schedule 'B');
- detailed volunteer record keeping will be submitted to the RDN at the end of the year;
- the Club has responsibility, through the FMCBC, for site safety and supervision of the work;
- FMCBC's will provide comprehensive general liability insurance in the amount of three million dollars, with the RDN listed as an additional insured;
- RDN support for costs of materials for the work (up to \$2,000 has been allocated for 2018); and
- either party to terminate the agreement with 60 days' notice.

Upon completion of the agreement term, the parties will assess the pilot project and a new agreement may be developed for a longer-term trail improvement partnership.

The goal is for the volunteer work to begin early in the summer of 2018.

ALTERNATIVES

1. That the Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail Improvement Partnership Agreement be approved.
2. That the Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail Improvement Partnership Agreement not be approved and alternative direction be provided to staff.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 2018 budget includes \$2,000 for materials to support the volunteer efforts in the first year (summer/fall 2018). A subsequent allocation of funds will be considered for the second year of the agreement term (summer/fall 2019) and will be identified in the 2019 budget. Following an assessment of the pilot project, and if a new agreement is developed for the longer-term, costs for materials will be considered and allocated on an annual basis by the RDN.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

The Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail Improvement Partnership Agreement supports the RDN's strategic plan focus areas of *Environment* and *Relationships*.



Kelsey Cramer
kramer@rdn.bc.ca
April 24, 2018

Reviewed by:

- W. Marshall, Manager, Parks Services
- T. Osborne, General Manager, Recreation and Parks Services
- P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments

1. Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail Improvement Partnership Agreement

**WITCHCRAFT LAKE REGIONAL TRAIL IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIP
AGREEMENT**

THIS AGREEMENT made the _____ day of _____, 2018

BETWEEN:

Regional District of Nanaimo
6300 Hammond Bay Road
Nanaimo, BC
V9T 6N2
(the "**Regional District**")

OF THE FIRST PART

AND:

Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia
Attn: Barry Janyk
130 West Broadway,
Box 19673
Vancouver, BC
V5T 4E7
(the "**FMCBC**")

OF THE SECOND PART

WHEREAS:

- A. The Regional District is the authorized manager of the Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail, portions of which traverse over a Provincial Crown woodlot, an undeveloped provincial highway road allowance and lands owned by the City of Nanaimo;
- B. The Regional District is the owner of Mount Benson Regional Park, which park includes a series of trails, including trails connecting to the Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail (the "**Mount Benson Regional Park Trail System**");
- C. The Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail provides the only public access route to Mount Benson Regional Park. Public access is only permitted by foot;

- D. The Regional District holds an agreement with Island Timberlands to allow road use access by the Regional District to Mount Benson Regional Park for park maintenance only (no public access) by traversing across Island Timberlands' private property;
- E. The Trail (as defined below) requires repairs and preventative maintenance to improve the Trail and to keep it in a safe and proper manner;
- F. The Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia ("**FMCBC**") is a society registered in the Province of British Columbia pursuant to the *Societies Act*, SBC 2015 chapter 18, whose membership includes Individual Members, Associate Members and Member Clubs, as defined in the FMCBC Bylaws;
- G. FMCBC's purposes include: to encourage public appreciation and use of the recreational resources in the mountains of British Columbia; to promote the development and maintenance of a system of mountain access roads, trails and huts;
- H. The Island Mountain Ramblers (the "**Club**") is an unincorporated body having membership in the FMCBC as a Member Club as defined by FMCBC;
- I. The Club wishes to participate in the restoration of and improvements to the Trail as a Member Club of FMCBC and FMCBC agrees;
- J. FMCBC wishes to enter into this this Trail Improvement Partnership Agreement (the "**Agreement**") on behalf of the Club and the Regional District agrees;
- K. The parties agree to undertake a pilot improvement project on a portion of the Trail, with the possibility for expansion of the agreement to include the entire Trail, under the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSES that in consideration of the premises, and the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, the parties hereto agree with each other as follows:

1 TERM

- 1.1 The Agreement will be for a term of two (2) years, commencing on the date first written above and ending on the 31st day of May, 2020 (the "**Term**").
- 1.2 The Agreement may be extended by the written agreement of the parties on the terms and conditions contained herein.

2 IMPROVEMENT AREA

- 2.1 The parties have designated that portion of the Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail and the Mount Benson Regional Park Trail System (together the "**Trail**") laying within the oval area as marked on the map showing the Trail attached hereto as Schedule A (the "**Map**") as a pilot improvement project area (the "**Improvement Area**").

3 RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 FMCBC will submit a plan (the "**Plan**") to the Regional District for review and acceptance prior to commencing trail improvement work within the Improvement Area. Upon acceptance of the Plan by the Regional District, the Plan will be appended to and form part of the Agreement as **Schedule B**.

- 3.2 The Plan will set out the works approved to be done under this Agreement (the "**Work**"), including as follows:

3.2.1 Trail tread improvements:

- Draining/hardening of mud holes and boggy areas;
- Repairing washout areas;
- Repairing slump areas;
- Grubbing rocks, roots, stumps;
- Repairing turnpike sections;
- Repairing trail surfaces, including removal of loose rocks;
- Installing or repairing cribbing; and
- Replenishing trail surface materials using materials similar to the existing or minimal maintenance alternatives.

3.2.2 Trail Alignment:

- Minor re-alignment to avoid obstacles or to improve trail sustainability.

- 3.3 The Plan will set out the following items in sufficient detail for the Regional District to review and approve: the expected resources that will be required in both labour and materials; the approach to be taken in making improvements to the Trail; the health and safety standards that must be followed for all Work; detailed sketches or plans for specific work areas within the Improvement Area.

- 3.4 FMCBC will provide a schedule for the Work and will provide an itemized list of materials needed for the Work to the Regional District not less than three (3) weeks before the materials will be needed at the site.

- 3.5 The Regional District agrees to purchase requested materials for use on the Work, up to a value to be determined by the RDN on an annual basis. Further,

the RDN will, to the extent possible, assist with delivering the materials as close to the Improvement Area as possible by vehicle.

- 3.6 FMCBC will supply and provide all tools and equipment needed to undertake the Work.
- 3.7 FMCBC will be solely responsible for supervising and ensuring that all Work is carried out in a good and workman-like manner and will ensure that the Improvement Area is kept in a safe and useable state at all times.
- 3.8 There are no financial obligations between the parties, other than that expressed in Section 3.5, under this Agreement.
- 3.9 FMCBC will not permit any volunteer to participate in the Work prior to the volunteer reading and signing a copy of the waiver attached hereto as Schedule C and will provide the originally signed waivers to the Regional District by December 15th of each year.
- 3.10 FMCBC will satisfy itself of the competency of individuals undertaking the Work, including without limitation, prior to being permitted to operate a chainsaw, FMCBC will obtain proof that the individual is certified under the BC Forest Safety Council's Basic Chainsaw Operator Training course or an equivalent qualification.

4 RECORD KEEPING

- 4.1 FMCBC will maintain a record of volunteer participants, as detailed in Section 4.2 below and will provide the completed records to the Regional District by no later than December 15th of each year.
- 4.2 FMCBC will keep accurate records of all individuals participating in the Work, including: name, address, date of birth, qualifications (e.g. training, certification, or training requirements), FMCBC membership, and the specific dates that each individual participated in the performance of the Work under this Agreement.
- 4.3 FMCBC will collect and use the personal information in 4.2 in strict accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, RSBC 1996, chapter 165.

5 POSTING NOTICE OF THE WORK

- 5.1 FMCBC will post signage on the trailhead kiosks, at least one week prior to the commencement of the Work. This notice shall provide detailed information regarding the Work to be undertaken, the timeline for the Work to be completed

and the potential risks associated with use of the Trail while the Work is occurring.

- 5.2 All signage posted by FMCBC will provide contact information that users of the trail may use to obtain further information about the Work.
- 5.3 If at any time FMCBC requires the Trail to be closed to facilitate the Work, FMCBC must provide written notice to the Regional District at least two weeks prior to the commencement of the Work and must post signage at the trailhead kiosks notifying any potential users of the closure at least one week prior to the commencement of the Work.
- 5.4 FMCBC agrees that the Regional District may direct individuals interested in participating in the Work to the FMCBC or the Club.

6 INSURANCE

- 6.1 FMCBC will carry a policy of comprehensive general liability insurance against claims for bodily injury, death or property damage to any person or persons arising out of the Work carried out on the Trail, in the amount of not less than three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00) per single occurrence or such greater amount as the Regional District may from time to time designate, having a deductible of not more than five thousand (\$5,000) dollars, naming the Regional District as an additional insured party.
- 6.2 The FMCBC agrees to provide to the Regional District certified copies of the insurance policies referred to in section 6.1 upon execution of this Licence.
- 6.3 All policies of insurance must contain a clause requiring the insurer not to cancel or change the insurance without first giving the Regional District thirty (30) days prior written notice.
- 6.4 The Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC policy specifically provides coverage for all members of the FMBC and the Club during any Club-led activity that is posted as an Island Mountain Ramblers event. Persons who are not members of FMCBC or the Club are not covered by the FMCBC's insurance policy.

7 INDEMNIFICATION

- 7.1 FMCBC agrees to release and discharge, the Regional District, its elected officials, appointed officers, employees and agents from and against all liability, including without limitation, claims, damages, costs, expenses or fees (including fees of lawyers on a solicitor and own client basis), losses, personal injury, including severe bodily injury or death, which the FMCBC, the Club, its members or volunteers, may suffer or allege arising out of or resulting from the

Work or any activities of the FMCBC, its members, agents, contractors, or invitees or the Club or its members on the Trail or within the Improvement Area.

- 7.2 FMCBC will indemnify and save harmless the Regional District, its elected officials, appointed officers, employees and agents from and against all lawsuits, damages, losses, personal injury, including severe bodily injury or death, costs, expenses, liability and fees (including fees of solicitors on a solicitor and own client basis) (the "**Claims**") which the FMCBC or anyone else may incur, suffer or allege by reason of the use of the Trail by the FMCBC or by any person for which the FMCBC is at law responsible, except to the extent the Claims are contributed to or caused by the negligence, willful misconduct or wrongful act or omission of the Regional District.

8 ASSIGNMENT

- 8.1 FMCBC may not assign this Agreement without the advance written consent of the Regional District, such consent to be at the sole discretion of the Regional District.

9 TERMINATION

- 9.1 Either party may terminate this Agreement by providing sixty (60) days' notice in writing to the other party (the "Notice Period"). During the Notice Period, FMCBC will complete any Work in progress and will clean the Improvement Area, including the removal of all tools, equipment and unused materials.
- 9.2 The Notice Period may be extended by the parties to permit FMCBC to complete the tasks set out in 9.1.
- 9.3 Any unused materials provided to FMCBC by the Regional District shall be returned to the Regional District at the end of the Notice Period.
- 9.4 Unless a new agreement is entered into as contemplated by Section 10.1 below, upon expiry of the Term, FMCBC will complete any Work in progress and will clean the Improvement Area, including the removal of all tools, equipment and unused materials.

10 RENEWAL

- 10.1 On the completion of the Term, the pilot project will be assessed by both parties and a new agreement may be developed for a longer-term Trail improvement partnership.

11 NOTICES

11.1 Each notice sent pursuant to this Agreement ("**Notice**") will be in writing and sent to the relevant party at the address or email address set out below or to such other party as may be designated in writing:

<p>To the Regional District:</p> <p>Regional District of Nanaimo Attention: Manager of Parks Services 6300 Hammond Bay Road Nanaimo, BC V9T 6N2 Email: parks@rdn.bc.ca</p>	<p>To the FMCBC:</p> <p>Federation of Mountain Clubs Attention: Barry Janyk 130 West Broadway, Box 19673 Vancouver, BC V5T 4E7 Email: barry.janyk@mountainclubs.org</p>
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12 MISCELLANEOUS

12.1 Waiver of any default by a party is not a waiver of any subsequent default.

13.2 That when the singular or neuter are used in this Agreement they include the plural or the feminine or the masculine or the body politic or corporate where the context or the parties require.

13.3 The headings to the clauses in this Agreement have been inserted as a matter of convenience and for reference only and in no way define, limit or enlarge the scope or meaning of this Agreement or any provision of it.

13.4 This Agreement must enure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto and their respective heirs, executors, successors, administrators and permitted assignees.

13.5 This Agreement must be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws applicable in the Province of British Columbia.

13.6 All provisions of this Agreement are to be construed as covenants and agreements as though the word importing covenants and agreements were used in each separate paragraph.

13.7 This is the entire agreement between the parties.

13 COUNTERPARTS

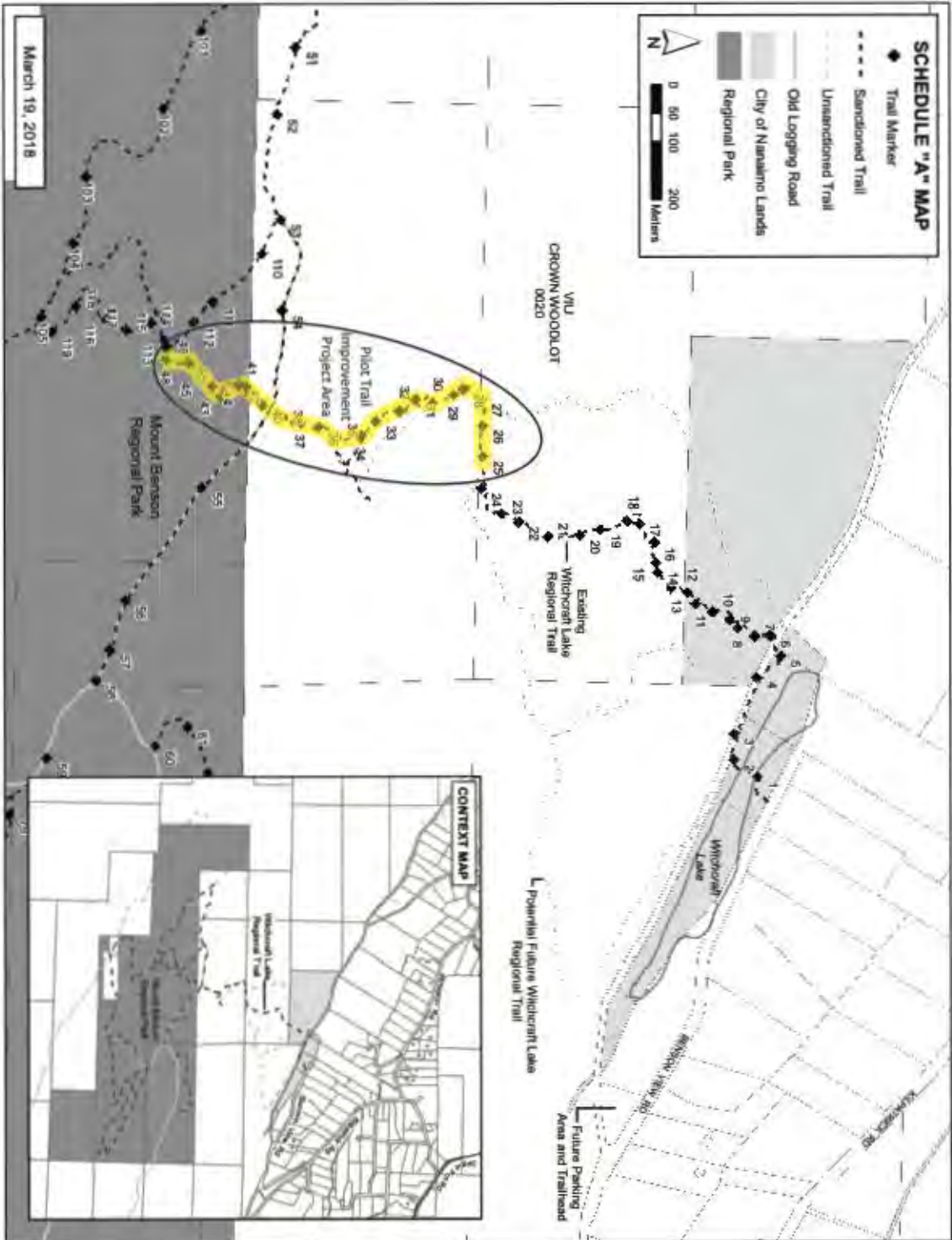
13.1 This Agreement may be executed in counterpart with the same effect as if both parties had signed the same document. Each counterpart shall be deemed to be an original. All counterparts shall be construed together and shall constitute one and the same Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have set their hands and seals as of the day and year first above written.

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO)
by its authorized signatories)
)
_____)
Name:)
)
_____)
Name:)

FEDERATION OF MOUNTAIN CLUBS OF)
BRITISH COLUMBIA)
by its authorized signatories)
)
_____)
Name:)
)
_____)
Name:)

SCHEDULE "A" MAP



SCHEDULE "B"
TRAIL IMPROVEMENT AREA WORK PLAN

SCHEDULE "C"
RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER AND ASSUMPTION OF ALL RISKS

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER AND ASSUMPTION OF ALL RISKS

Witchcraft Lake Trail Improvement Project

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

TO: Regional District of Nanaimo

I wish to participate in the Witchcraft Lake Trail Improvement Project and acknowledge that in order to do so, I must agree to be bound by this Release of Liability, Waiver and Assumption of Risk. I understand and acknowledge the risks and hazards of trail improvement and accept full responsibility and agree to participate in the Witchcraft Lake Trail Improvement Project at my own risk.

I HEREBY waive any and all claims that I may now and in the future have against, and release from all liability and agree not to sue the Regional District of Nanaimo and their respective agents, officers, employees, volunteers or representatives (the "Released Parties") for any loss, damage, personal or bodily injury, or death sustained or suffered by me as a result of my participation in the Witchcraft Lake Trail Improvement Project due to any cause whatsoever, including without limitation, negligence, fault or breach of statutory duty by the Regional District of Nanaimo, including duties arising from *Occupiers Liability Act*.

In no event will the Regional District of Nanaimo be liable for any loss, damage, personal or bodily injury or death nor for any loss of or damage (including indirect or consequential damages) that I suffer whether attributable to or arising out of my participation in the Witchcraft Lake Trail Improvement Project or by reason of any matter or thing done or permitted.

I confirm that I am the age of majority and that I have read and understand this agreement prior to signing it and agree that this agreement will be binding upon me (as participant or guardian), my heirs, executors and administrators.

Signed this ___ day of _____, 2018 at _____, British Columbia.

Participant's Signature

Participant's Printed Name

Witness's Signature

Witness's Printed Name

TO: Regional Parks and Trails Select Committee **MEETING:** May 15, 2018

FROM: Kelsey Cramer
Parks Planner **FILE:** 6150-20

SUBJECT: Mount Benson Regional Park – Parking Lot Project Update

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That following completion of the new parking lot, the existing parking lot and floating boardwalk at Witchcraft Lake remain open for one year and that a subsequent report to the Board be prepared on their use.

SUMMARY

A new \$ 1 million 100+ stall parking lot to serve Mount Benson Regional Park and the surrounding recreational trails on provincial crown land is expected to be complete summer, 2019.

Some local residents have requested that the existing parking site be fully decommissioned by removing the parking lot and floating boardwalk. The anticipated cost to fully decommission the parking lot and boardwalk is in the order of \$20,000 to \$25,000, in addition to the loss of approximately \$83,000 in capital expenditures that went into creating the site.

Monitoring of the use of the existing parking area once the new parking lot is open to assess the impact is recommended.

BACKGROUND

Since the creation of Mount Benson Regional Park in 2006, the main trailhead and access point on Benson View Road, at Witchcraft Lake, has seen increasing recreational use. The current parking area, which straddles Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) road allowance and City of Nanaimo (City) land, was installed in 2010 for a cost of \$34,000. The roadside parking lot was installed with input from the MoTI, as well as from the neighbours, who had voiced concern about a lack of parking at the site. A floating boardwalk was also installed by the City of Nanaimo to provide a sanctioned route across the lake to the trails beyond. The RDN contributed \$30,000 to its construction and manages the trailhead and floating boardwalk as regional trail under License of Use with the City of Nanaimo. Prior to this infrastructure going in, recreationalists would trespass around the northern shore of the lake to get to the trails and mountain top. The RDN's License of Use agreement with the City was renewed in 2017 for a second 5-year term, expiring in 2022.

The existing roadside parking area holds 24 cars and is managed by the RDN under permit with the MoTI. Other site amenities include a trailhead kiosk with map, a garbage can, bollard, access control gate and directional signage that have gone in between 2010 and 2017, at a total cost of approximately \$19,000. There is the potential to move these amenities to the new parking lot.

The existing roadside parking area appeared to meet the immediate needs at the time. More recently however, in 2015 and 2016, neighbours once again began contacting the RDN with complaints about the parking and trailhead, including road congestion, noise and litter. The RDN Board approved the purchase of 2761 Benson View Road, at a cost of \$580,000, with the intent to create an off-road parking lot and new trailhead for Mount Benson Regional Park which should be completed in the summer of 2019 (see Attachment 1 for a Context Map).

Update on the New Parking Lot Project

The new paved parking lot will contain approximately 100+ stalls, 25 of which would be located within the adjacent undeveloped road allowance. The design is considered to be at 50% completion and may change as the design progresses (Attachment 2). The corresponding cost estimate is approximately \$905,000, which includes a 15% construction contingency (Attachment 2). Trailhead amenities are not included within this estimate. MOTI will review the design and hydrological assessment prior to permitting access, development and maintenance of the parking area where it falls on road allowance.

Current works on the property include the removal of the house, which is expected to net \$11,500 towards the project.

The project includes trail improvements to connect with the existing Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail. The RDN already holds a permit with MoTI for trail development and maintenance in the undeveloped road allowance south of the lake. A new trail alignment across Crown land to the Regional Park is also being investigated, with the intent of delivering a sustainable hiking trail that will be able to better withstand the recreation use than the existing Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail. The cost of this trail is estimated to be in the order of \$20,000. A submission to the Province for permission to use this alignment will be made in the coming weeks.

Once approvals from MoTI and the Province are confirmed and the design is complete, then the project will be tendered. An anticipated timeline for tendering the project is winter 2018/2019, with Board consideration of the award of the tender in February 2019 and project construction beginning spring 2019.

Determining the Future of the Existing Witchcraft Lake Parking Area

While most residents are content with the plans for the new parking lot, some residents, near the existing trailhead, are requesting the RDN decommission the existing parking area and remove the floating boardwalk over Witchcraft Lake (Attachment 3). The RDN manages the existing parking under permit with MoTI and maintains the floating boardwalk under agreement with the City.

The RDN has kept the City staff and MoTI staff apprised of the neighbours' requests and concerns given that responsibility at this site will shift fully to their organizations should the RDN no longer be involved. City staff and MoTI staff have been on site to consider options for the existing parking and trailhead area.

The following are options considered:

- a) *Leave the parking and trailhead area as is and monitor its use for a given period once the new parking lot is open; monitoring the existing trailhead and parking once the new parking lot is open will allow the opportunity to observe how the environment changes with the new parking lot and trailhead in operation. As per a letter from the MoTI (Attachment 4), the Ministry supports the continued use of the existing parking area located within the public road right of way, and will, in conjunction with the RDN re-asses the use of the existing parking area after the construction and implementation of the new parking lot.*
- b) *Leave the parking area as is once the new parking lot is open and have two parking lots; it is expected that the majority of recreationalists will make use of the new parking lot and trailhead as it will provide amenities such as signage, maps, garbage and vault toilet. It is also expected that historic winter use of Witchcraft Lake will continue and that recreational access across the lake remains a valued asset, including for the residents who live nearby. The existing kiosk would be relocated to the new parking lot and a smaller map sign could be installed to de-emphasize this access point.*
- c) *Permanently remove the existing parking area, boardwalk and other trailhead features by removing the culvert and re-instating the roadside ditch, as well as restoring vegetation once the new parking lot is open; prior to the boardwalk going in, people walked around the northern shore of the lake to access the trails. The lake itself has been used for skating in the winter when it's cold enough to freeze. To fully decommission the site would detract from the public's access to the lake and the trails on the other side. MoTI staff expressed that they would not support installing no-parking signs along this portion of Benson View Road because the surrounding area and road itself are public. There is also no avenue to enforce signage beyond calling the RCMP, who may be busy responding to other priorities. With this input, if the roadside parking and boardwalk are gone, people who still want to visit the lake will not be obstructed with no-parking signs. They will still be able to park on the road shoulder.*
- d) *Remove the boardwalk, but keep the platform at the base of the trail as a lookout, or relocate the boardwalk elsewhere on the lake so that it provides a viewing platform, but does not provide a crossing; a lookout or viewing platform would create an environment where people are not merely passing through, but are invited to stay. Neighbour concerns around noise and loitering could potentially be exacerbated by a viewing platform or lookout in this relatively secluded location. Another limitation to moving the structure elsewhere on the lake is the quantity of dead trees in the waterbody. A clear route would need to be created, or it would need to be lifted and then installed from a new location along the shoreline.*

Removing the existing 24 parking stalls and floating boardwalk immediately after the new 100+ stall parking lot is opened may be premature if there is no longer the pressure on this location as the primary access point to this popular recreational area. A monitoring period of one year is proposed to allow time to make a decision on the RDN's future involvement at this location. The City of Nanaimo will be consulted and kept informed during the monitoring period as the outcome at this site involves City land.

ALTERNATIVES

1. That following completion of the new parking lot, the existing parking lot and floating boardwalk at Witchcraft Lake remain open for one year and that a subsequent report to the Board be prepared on their use.
2. That the existing roadside parking lot and floating boardwalk at Witchcraft Lake remain open once the new parking lot is complete and the RDN manage both recreational access points.
3. That the existing roadside parking lot and floating boardwalk at Witchcraft Lake be permanently decommissioned and the RDN remove itself from future responsibility at this site once the new parking lot is complete.
4. That the Regional Board provide alternative direction to staff regarding the future of the existing roadside parking lot and floating boardwalk at Witchcraft Lake.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

To date approximately \$83,000 has been spent by the RDN on capital improvements to the existing parking lot and trailhead at Witchcraft Lake.

ITEM	COST
2010 Floating Boardwalk	\$30,000
2010 Parking lot	\$34,000
2013 Kiosk with map and bollard	\$15,000
2017 Garbage can and Gates	\$4,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$ 83,000

Operational costs on site have been approximately \$1,000 annually and include garbage removal, trail re-surfacing and most recently, snow-plowing.

To fully decommission the existing parking and boardwalk will be an expected one-time cost of approximately \$20,000 to \$25,000 (which includes an estimated \$8,000 to remove the floating boardwalk and \$15,000 to remove the culvert, re-instate the ditch and re-vegetate the disturbed areas). Actual costs of removal would be confirmed by contractor quotes.

Costs associated with monitoring the site for one year will depend on the method applied and could cost in the range of \$5,000. This would be budgeted for in 2019.

In summary, a capital loss of approximately \$89,000 would result if the existing site is decommissioned, assuming the kiosk, bollard, garbage and gates would be used elsewhere. If the site is left open and monitored, an expected cost for monitoring would be \$5,000 per year.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

The Mount Benson Regional Park parking lot project responds to the following RDN strategic priorities:

- Recognizing recreational amenities as core services.
- Funding infrastructure in support of our core services.



Kelsey Cramer
kramer@rdn.bc.ca
May 9, 2018

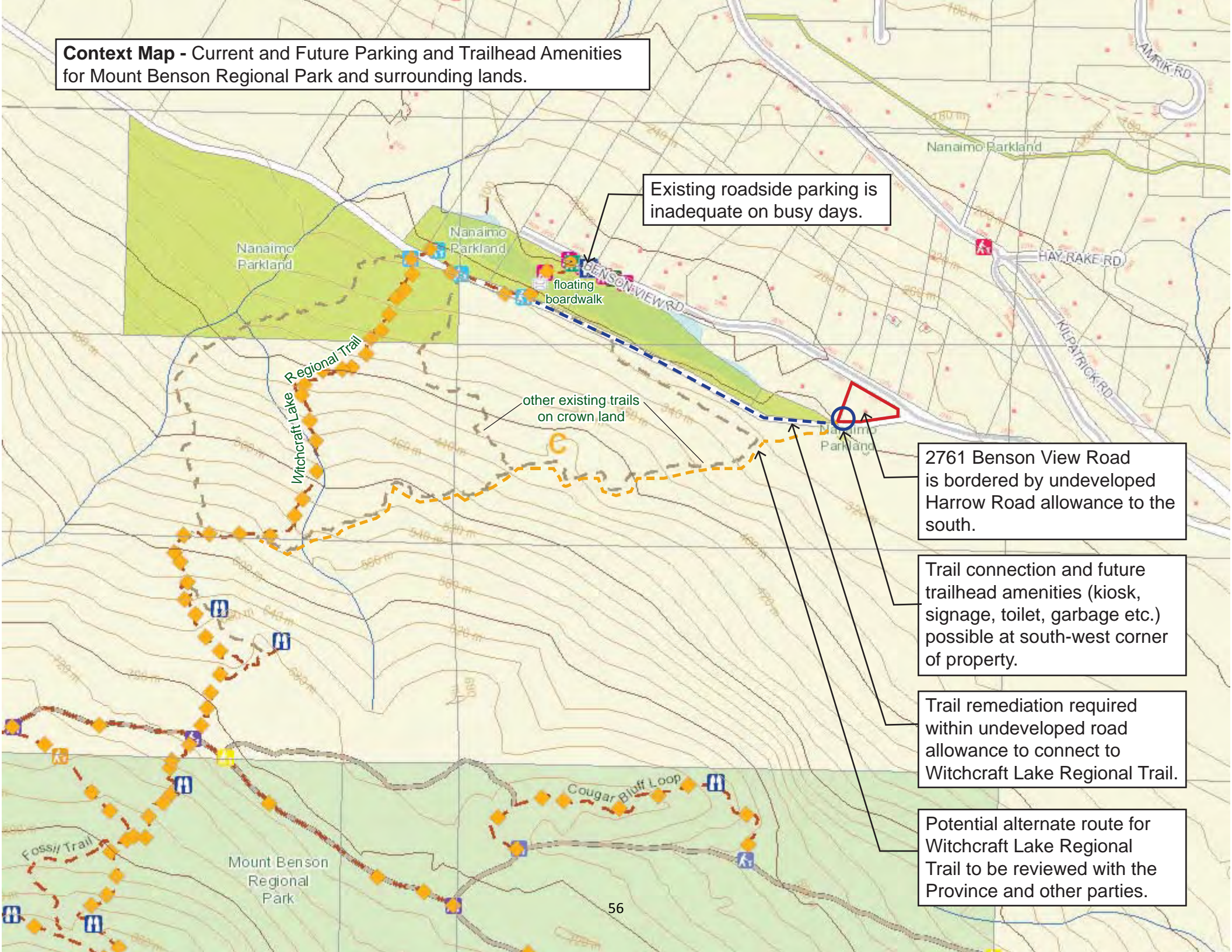
Reviewed by:

- W. Marshall, Manager, Parks Services
- T. Osborne, General Manager, Recreation and Parks Services
- P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments

1. Context Map
2. 50 percent Concept Design and Cost Estimate
3. Benson View Rd Residents Feedback Summary
4. Letter from MoTI

Context Map - Current and Future Parking and Trailhead Amenities for Mount Benson Regional Park and surrounding lands.



Existing roadside parking is inadequate on busy days.

other existing trails on crown land

2761 Benson View Road is bordered by undeveloped Harrow Road allowance to the south.

Trail connection and future trailhead amenities (kiosk, signage, toilet, garbage etc.) possible at south-west corner of property.

Trail remediation required within undeveloped road allowance to connect to Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail.

Potential alternate route for Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail to be reviewed with the Province and other parties.



- NOTES:
1. PAVEMENT MARKINGS TO CONFORM TO THE MANUAL OF STANDARD TRAFFIC SIGNS AND MARKINGS (MSTSM) AND BE REVIEWED AND APPROVED PRIOR TO PLACEMENT.
 2. ERADICATE EXISTING ROAD MARKINGS AS REQUIRED.
 3. RELOCATE SIGNS TO COME WITH NEW CONCRETE. TO BE SUPPORTED OFF THE CONCRETE BASE & POST TO BE SUPPLIED BY THE CONTRACTOR.

PARKING	
FULL-SIZE	76
SMALL-CAR	8
ACCESSIBLE	3
BUS	1
PICK UP / DROP OFF	4
TOTAL	92

- LEGEND:
- [B] BENCH 1.8m x 1m PAD
 - [X] MOOP 3m x 1m PAD
 - [G] GARBAGE 1.2m x 1m PAD
 - [BR] BICYCLE RACK 3m x 1m PAD
 - [T] TOILET 2.5m x 2m PAD / FOOT FRONT



<p>REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO 830 WEST ISLAND HIGHWAY, PARKSVILLE, BC, V9P 2K4</p> <p>MOUNT BENSON PARKING LOT GEOMETRICS, SIGNING AND PAVEMENT MARKINGS</p>		<p>Drawing No. 104</p> <p>Project Number 22311230-01</p> <p>Rev. PA</p>
<p>Approved Stamp</p>		<p>McElhannney McElhannney Consulting Services Ltd.</p> <p>22311230-01 22311230-01 22311230-01 22311230-01</p>
<p>50% DESIGN NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION</p> <p>Scale: 0 2 1:250 1:2m</p> <p>ORIGINAL (DATE, REV, APP, 0 22311230-01)</p>		<p>ISSUED FOR 50% DESIGN APPROVAL</p> <p>DATE: APRIL 2018</p> <p>BY: [Signature]</p>

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO
Recreation and Parks Department
Mount Benson Parking Lot
50% DESIGN - CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE

Prepared By: H.Cao
Checked By: C.M.P.
Date: April 19, 2018

					MCSL ESTIMATE	
					2018 Dollars	
ITEM NO.	MMCD REF.	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
1.0	GENERAL CONDITIONS					
1.1	Refer to Supplementary Specifications	Mobilization and Demobilization	Lump Sum	1.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
1.2	Refer to Supplementary Specifications	Site Maintenance and Sediment Management	Lump Sum	1.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
		GENERAL CONDITIONS SUBTOTAL				\$23,000.00
2.0	ROAD AND SITE WORKS					
		SITE PREPARATION				
2.1	Refer to Supplementary Specifications	Clearing and Grubbing - Includes tree removal and disposal	Square metre	6225.00	\$2.00	\$12,450.00
2.2	31 24 13 1.8.5.1	Stripping (150mm thickness fill areas only)	Cubic Metre	290.00	\$12.00	\$3,480.00
2.3	31 24 13 1.8.5.1	Common excavation , off-site disposal	Cubic Metre	2460.00	\$18.00	\$44,280.00
2.4	31 23 17 1.6.1/2/3/4	Rock Removal (Blasting permitted)	Cubic Metre	990.00	\$200.00	\$198,000.00
2.5	31 24 13 1.8.9	Subgrade preparation	Square metre	6225.00	\$1.50	\$9,337.50
2.6	31 24 13 1.8.7	Import road embankment fill	Cubic Metre	1120.00	\$25.00	\$28,000.00
	32 11 16.1	GRANULAR SUB-BASE:				
2.7	32 11 16.1 1.4.3/4	Granular sub-base - 250 mm thickness for parking areas	Square metre	4630.00	\$13.00	\$60,190.00
	32 11 23	GRANULAR BASE:				
2.8	32 11 23 1.4.2/3	Granular base - 150 mm thickness for road and site	Square metre	4630.00	\$15.00	\$69,450.00
	32 12 16	HOT-MIX ASPHALT CONCRETE PAVING:				
2.9	32 12 16 1.5.1/2	Asphaltic concrete paving 50mm thickness	Square metre	3740.00	\$45.00	\$168,300.00
2.10	32 12 16 1.5.1/2	Asphalt water control curb	Lineal Metre	200.00	\$35.00	\$7,000.00
	03 30 20	PAINTED PAVEMENT MARKINGS:				
2.11	32 17 23 1.5.3	Permanent pavement markings	Lump Sum	1.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
2.12	Refer to Supplementary Specifications	Traffic sign, pole and base	Each	15.00	\$600.00	\$9,000.00
		MISCELLANEOUS				
2.13	Refer to Supplementary Specifications	Concrete No-post Barriers	Lineal Metre	55.00	\$180.00	\$9,900.00
2.14	Refer to Supplementary Specifications	Concrete Wheel Stops	Each	12.00	\$120.00	\$1,440.00
2.15	Refer to Supplementary Specifications	Steel Security Gate c/w concrete footing	Each	4.00	\$3,500.00	\$14,000.00
		ROAD AND SITE WORKS SUBTOTAL				\$644,827.50
3.0	STORM WORKS					
3.1	Refer to Supplementary Specifications	Remove existing culverts	Lineal Metre	15.00	\$90.00	\$1,350.00
3.2	31 23 01 1.10.6	Drainage swale	Lineal Metre	140.00	\$25.00	\$3,500.00
3.3	Refer to Supplementary Specifications	Drainage Ditch (MOTI ROW)	Lineal Metre	75.00	\$50.00	\$3,750.00
3.4	Refer to Supplementary Specifications	Ditch Rip Rap - 25kg Class min 300 thickness	Square metre	120.00	\$40.00	\$4,800.00
3.5	33 40 01 1.6.2	Culvert 500mm CSP, imported backfill	Lineal Metre	20.00	\$210.00	\$4,200.00
3.6	33 40 01 1.6.2	Culvert 600mm CSP, imported backfill	Lineal Metre	30.00	\$250.00	\$7,500.00
3.7	33 42 13 1.5.3	Pre-cast concrete headwall	Each	6.00	\$3,500.00	\$21,000.00
3.8	33 40 01 1.6.5	Catchbasin	Each	6.00	\$1,500.00	\$9,000.00
3.9	33 40 01 1.6.2	Pipe - 200mm diam. PVC SDR28, imported backfill (catchbasin lead)	Lineal Metre	50.00	\$140.00	\$7,000.00
3.10	33 40 01 1.6.2	Pipe - 300mm diam. PVC, imported backfill	Lineal Metre	100.00	\$180.00	\$18,000.00
3.11	33 44 01 1.5.1.1	Manhole, lid, slab, cover and frame - 1050mm diameter	Each	2.00	\$2,800.00	\$5,600.00
3.12	33 44 01 1.5.1.2	Manhole riser section - 1050mm diam.	Vert. Metre	3.00	\$600.00	\$1,800.00
		POND				
3.13	Refer to Supplementary Specifications	Pond Grading	Square metre	200.00	\$100.00	\$20,000.00
3.14	Refer to Supplementary Specifications	Discharge Control Structure	Lump Sum	1.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO
Recreation and Parks Department
Mount Benson Parking Lot
50% DESIGN - CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATE

					2018 Dollars	
ITEM NO.	MMCD REF.	DESCRIPTION	UNIT	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
3.15	Refer to Supplementary Specifications	Geofabric Liner	Square metre	200.00	\$8.00	\$1,600.00
3.16	Refer to Supplementary Specifications	Re-use of existing blast rock for armour (stockpile and re-use)	Cubic Metre	90.00	\$30.00	\$2,700.00
STORM WORKS SUBTOTAL						\$116,800.00
4.0	LANDSCAPING					
	32 92 19	HYDRAULIC SEEDING				
4.1	32 92 19 1.8.1/2	Hydraulic Seeding of disturbed areas	Square metre	600.00	\$5.00	\$3,000.00
LANDSCAPING SUBTOTAL						\$3,000.00

Notes:

1) Estimated costs are derived from recent experience on Vancouver Island, but there is no warranty that actual cost will not vary. McElhanney accepts no liability for actual cost which may vary from the estimated construction costs provided herein.

2) Cost estimate based on McElhanney drawings 12523-01-101-401 (50% Designed), dated April 16, 2018.



SECTION 1: GENERAL CONDITIONS SUBTOTAL	\$23,000.00
SECTION 2: ROAD AND SITE WORKS SUBTOTAL	\$644,827.50
SECTION 3: STORM WORKS SUBTOTAL	\$116,800.00
SECTION 4: LANDSCAPING SUBTOTAL	\$3,000.00
TOTAL CONSTRUCTED WORKS	\$787,627.50
CONTINGENCY (15%)	\$118,144.13
TOTAL PROJECT COST (LESS GST)	\$905,771.63

Benson View Road Residents Feedback Summary

compiled December 11, 2017

Feedback form distributed at Residents Meeting on-site October 17, 2017. Thirteen (13) residents signed in.

Number of Respondents: 8 feedback forms returned
3 emails with comments received

Question 1	Please share any general comments regarding the Regional District of Nanaimo Board's recent approval to purchase 2761 Benson View Road for the purposes of an off-road parking lot and trailhead amenities for Mount Benson Regional Park and surrounding lands.		
Responses	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE	Comments (# times noted if more than 1)
	9	2	Gate control at night to prevent partying (2)
			Security checks, animal control checks
			Retain as much existing vegetation as possible
			Install no parking signs on Benson View (2)
			Process is taking too long, waiting another year is unreasonable
			Great. Ensure veg. buffer between road and parking area
			Install 'tow-away zone', 'slow your speed' on BV Rd
			Parking upgrades required, build and retain as much as possible. Construction costs and demand will only increase in future. We'll be across from new parking lot and would prefer things did not change, but are aware this is unrealistic and support RDN efforts towards easing the congestion
			Install Parking Lot Full sign (2)
			Elated to receive news of designated parking lot
			Benson View Road is dangerous for vehicles, walkers, bikers (3)
			Excellent! Decommission existing parking and bridge (2)
			Install 'residents only' parking signs on BV Rd
			Not sustainable as sole access to Mount Benson (2)

Question 2	Depending on whether the adjacent Harrow Road allowance is incorporated, between 92 and 126 parking stalls are anticipated. Final design will include a fence between the parking lot and the neighbouring residence and will include an access-control gate.		
Responses	92 better than 126	126 better than 92	Comments
	0	8	126 will not be enough for future needs with more vehicles.

Question 3	Do you feel that phasing construction would be a suitable approach (e.g. build some stalls first and then build the remainder at a later date)?		
Responses	Yes	No	No response
	0	7	Staging the project will increase cost.

Question 4	Are there specific aspects of Option 1 or Option 2 that you prefer and would like to see reflected in the next stage of design?		
Responses			
	Option 2- we need to maximize parking now and in future.		

Benson View Road Residents Feedback Summary

compiled December 11, 2017

	Build out as much as possible with consideration for neighbourhood and environment.
	Make new trail to Witchcraft Lake and existing floating bridge so people not tempted to park at end of Benson View Rd.

Question 5	Please check all trailhead amenities that you feel should be integrated in the next stage of design:		
Responses	For	Against	Comments (# times noted if more than 1)
Kiosk	8	0	
Garbage	6	2	Must be emptied - bears will make a mess
Recycling	5	3	Must be emptied - bears will make a mess
Pit toilets	4	4	Area is on wells, pit toilets not compatible. Toilets essential - where do 8000 people from June to Aug go?
Directional Signs	8	0	
Interpretive Signs	7	1	
Other	2	0	Gate locked at night (2), sign warning of fines for littering

Question 6	Given the new proposed parking facility and trailhead development at 2761 Benson View Rd, what is your preference for the existing roadside parking lot?	
Responses	Count	Comments
Leave it as is and continue to maintain it as a secondary trail access point	3	Very disappointed to think access should be discontinued all together. Why demolish a unique amenity and reduce parking capacity by 24 stalls? Why reduce usage options for mobility constrained people?
Leave the floating boardwalk, but reduce parking area and remove kiosk	0	
Decommission parking area and remove floating boardwalk/ all amenities	5	Could the existing bridge be relocated to new trailhead as a pier to walk out onto? Decommissioning all is only sane plan for residents. If bridge is left, hikers will still park all up and down the road.
Other	1	Leave the bridge, but decommission parking area - people can walk to bridge from new parking area.

Additional Comments Received via Email
Residents expect quiet rural lifestyle and increase in traffic takes this away.
People undertaking 'midnight hikes' then early morning voices are loud when they return.
Unsavory characters drink and party in existing parking lot and police have had to be called.
Many visitors use the roadside as their garbage dump - how is RDN going to manage garbage issue.
Traffic safety on Kilpatrick and Benson View Road is most important factor. There have been two fatalities on the road. Road is disintegrating in places due to increased traffic, road wasn't intended for this level of traffic.
Road is treacherous in winter and heavier traffic will reduce safety.



April 18, 2018

To: Regional District of Nanaimo Board of directors.

RE: Witchcraft Lake and Benson View road parking.

This letter, written on behalf of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is intended to support the Regional District of Nanaimo with respect to the constructed parking area on Benson View road.

The parking area on Benson View road is currently being used by the public for the purposes of vehicle parking in order to access Benson View Park. Working in conjunction with the RDN the ministry has provided, by way of permit to the RDN to use the public road right of way and to construct and maintain the current parking area.

The ministry supports the continued use of this parking area located within the public road right of way. Working with local communities and Municipal governments as a whole, the Ministry supports the betterment and continual access of public rights of way.

In recognition of the cost and efforts to enhance the current access The Ministry would support the current parking area to remain, during the construction period of the new Benson View parking and trailhead. After the construction period and implementation of the new Parking lot and trailhead the ministry will, in conjunction with the RDN re-asses the use of the existing parking area.

Regards

Stefan Yancey

Operations Manager

CC: Michael Pearson, Vancouver Island District Manager.

