

CITY OF NANAIMO
THE HARBOUR CITY

Loudon Park Improvement Plan



CITY OF NANAIMO
THE HARBOUR CITY
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

CITY OF NANAIMO
THE HARBOUR CITY

Plan Development Process

October 2005	Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission approved the concept of an accessible fishing float at Loudon Park but neighbourhood input was sought.
February 2006	Fishing float is put on hold due to neighbourhood concerns.
April 2006	Parks Committee reviews site issues and approves the park and trail improvement process and timeline.
May 2006	Parks Committee and staff meet with stakeholder groups (residents, Canoe & Kayak Club, Rowing Club, accessibility group, Mid-Island Marine Modelers) to discuss issues and ideas about park improvements and receive input on the draft improvement plan. Parks Committee and staff begin to create a draft improvement plan based on stakeholder input.
May to June 2006	Interim improvements to the park are explored by the Parks Department including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring the implementation of park gating (proposed hours 6 am to 9 pm April 1 to September 30 and 6 am to 8 pm October 1 to March 31). • Reviewing traffic flows and drop-off areas at the entrance to the park. • Meeting with the Canoe and Kayak Club and Rowing Club to review guidelines for noise levels and hours of use. • Reviewing options for dealing with drainage to improve soil conditions and aesthetics. • Meeting with RCMP and Bylaw Services to review patrols and enforcement issues. Brenda Grice of Archadia Landscape Architecture Ltd. was hired to develop site planning options.
July 2006	A public open house was held on 2006-JUL-06 from 2 pm to 7 pm in the park's multi-purpose court. Three draft concepts were presented (A-C). Public input into the draft improvement plan was gathered through both a written survey and verbal comments.
September 2006	The draft park plan was refined based on public input and a revised plan was presented to stakeholder groups again. The draft park plan was presented to the Parks Committee for consideration (2006-SEP-19 & 27).

CITY OF NANAIMO THE HARBOUR CITY	
October 2006	Second open house was held to present the draft park improvement plan to the public (2006-OCT-19). Three draft concepts were presented (A-C). Public comments were received and summarized. The Parks Committee reviewed the Improvement Plan on 2006-NOV-09 and determined that Concept C was most suitable for implementation. They recommended that the plan be received by the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission. The draft plan was refined into a final improvement plan.
November 2006	The Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission approved the improvement plan with Concept C as the preferred boathouse location on 2006-NOV-22.
Spring 2007 Plan Adopted	Several interim improvements identified in Section 4.0 were implemented including soft surface and hard surface trail improvements, tree removal and vegetation pruning, signage, circulation and parking controls, a new accessible fishing float, dock relocation and gate, and creation of a new temporary boat storage structure. In addition, a new parking lot as identified in Section 4.0 as a permanent improvement was also implemented.
October 2009 Review of Concept Plan Started	Initiated by the rowing and paddling clubs, a third open house was held in the new parking lot to present a fourth Concept, "D" (same location as existing washroom building as a location for the new boathouse). Public comments on the new location as well as Phase 1 improvements were welcomed as input.
January 2010	The Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission approved Concept D as the preferred location for the boathouse and new washroom building.
December 2011	Discussions begin again to find practical and affordable solutions to the design and construction of a multi-purpose boathouse facility and to address safety on the lake.

CITY OF NANAIMO THE HARBOUR CITY	
<h4>4. PLAN IMPLEMENTATION</h4> <p>This section outlines plan recommendations in order of priority for implementation. Implementation is dependent on Commission direction and available resources.</p> <p>Interim Improvements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in the presence of park control, including bylaw services, animal control, RCMP and private security companies (began 2007) Drainage and facility maintenance upgrades. (completed 2008) Potential relocation (if feasible) of access door for Rowing Club in their existing building (completed 2008) Loudoun Trail vegetation removal and upgrading of trail to park standards (completed 2007) Installation of directional signage between the highway rest-stop and Loudoun Park with an overall Loudoun Park and Trail system map (completed 2007) Hardening of main trail to beach to facilitate access for general park users, paddlers and physically challenged individuals. (completed 2008) Development of a fishing float in Loudoun Park. Timing and location will depend on relocation of the existing paddling dock (completed 2009) In conjunction with the fishing float development, universal accessibility upgrades to park and float will be implemented. Some of these may be temporary until the parking lot is relocated and circulation is formalized. (completed 2008) Potential gate installation to limit vehicular park access after hours. Gate can be relocated to the new parking area when needed (completed 2008) Enhancement of park signage including a park entrance kiosk, information about Bill Loudoun, and organization of signage throughout the park. New signs will clarify currently confusing park regulation signage. Signs can be relocated as park plan implementation moves ahead. No parking (resident exempt areas) on adjacent streets. (completed 2009) Temporary boat storage in a fenced compound (completed 2008) 	
 <p>New accessible walkway leading to beach, dock, picnic facilities and the Loudoun walkway.</p>	 <p>Accessible parking in new parking lot with temporary boat storage and buffer planting visible.</p>
 <p>New temporary boat storage adjacent to playground and beach. The original dock was washed up by the receding tide.</p>	 <p>New gate to restrict access outside of park hours.</p>
 <p>Deck in new location for rowers and paddlers.</p>	 <p>Accessible fishing float installed in deeper waters.</p>







