



April 13, 2012

Re: Little Qualicum River Regional Park Management Plan & Meadowood Community Park Plan

Dear Stakeholder:

The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) is working on two planning projects for the adjacent *Little Qualicum River Regional Park* and *Meadowood Community Park*. Enclosed, you will find: 1) a background describing both of these parks and the different projects that will be underway over the next year; 2) the project timeline/flowchart and context maps, and; 3) an invitation to the first Workshop for these projects.

Your involvement throughout is important to ensure we receive detailed input from various perspectives across the community.

The management plan and park design projects were deliberately scheduled to unfold together so that staff and community time could be paired between the two. There will also be the potential for overlapping of site features in the two parks, which will be more easily explored and understood if they are considered in tandem.

In addition to seeking input from community stakeholders, the project will be guided by an Advisory Committee, with membership of elected representatives from across Electoral Area 'F', the City of Parksville, the City of Qualicum Beach and the Qualicum First Nation. The role of the Advisory Committee is to review draft material and to provide advice on materials produced for each project.

We have outlined a three-phased approach to implement these projects (see the attached Project Flowchart). Preliminary research and coordination for the projects began in January and the target completion date is December 2012.

Stakeholder Involvement

Your organization was identified as having interest in the future of the Little Qualicum River Regional Park, the Meadowood Community Park, or both. Recreation and Parks Staff invite your participation over the entire length of the projects – key points for involvement include two Workshops, an Open House, and online surveys that will be available with these other events. We value your input during this process and look forward to working together on these park projects.

We anticipate that your interest may fall more towards the Regional Park or the Community Park. Your main role as a Little Qualicum River Regional Park or Meadowood Community Park stakeholder is summarized in the table below. If you feel strongly about both parks, your input is welcome on both projects.

RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT

HEAD OFFICE:

Oceanside Place
830 West Island Highway
Parksville, BC
V9P 2X4
(250)248-3252
Fax: (250)248-3159
Toll Free: 1-888-828-2069

Ravensong Aquatic Centre
737 Jones Street
Qualicum Beach, BC
V9K 1S4
(250)752-5014
Fax: (250)752-5019

RDN Website: www.rdn.bc.ca



Your role as a stakeholder will be to provide input and feedback on:

Meadowood Community Park Interest

- Preliminary issues identified by Staff
- Vision statement, guiding principles
- Site design elements (park program)
- Goals and objectives
- Conceptual park design plans
- Preferred conceptual design plan
- Park development phasing plan & cost estimate

Little Qualicum River Regional Park Interest

- Preliminary issues identified by Staff
- Vision statement, guiding principles
- Goals and objectives
- Current & desired use of the park
- Management policies and action items
- Conceptual park master plan
- Park development phasing plan & cost estimate

How to Get Involved

There are several ways in which you can participate:

- 1) Join the RDN and consultants at the projects' first **Workshop** (invitation attached, RSVP required).
- 2) Visit the RDN website at www.rdn.bc.ca/LQR to review relevant information and complete the **online survey**.
- 3) Contact RDN Parks Staff directly with comments or questions:

Community Park Questions?

Contact: Elaine McCulloch,
Community Parks Planner

Email: emcculloch@rdn.bc.ca

Regional Park Questions?

Contact: Kelsey Cramer,
Regional Parks Planner

Email: kcramer@rdn.bc.ca

Phone: 250-248-3252 or Toll free: 1-888-828-2069

Should you be unavailable to participate, please share this information package with another person in your organization you think would be interested in helping shape the future of Meadowood Community Park and/or the Little Qualicum River Regional Park, and can adequately represent the interests of your organization.

We look forward to working with you at the Workshop in April!

Sincerely,

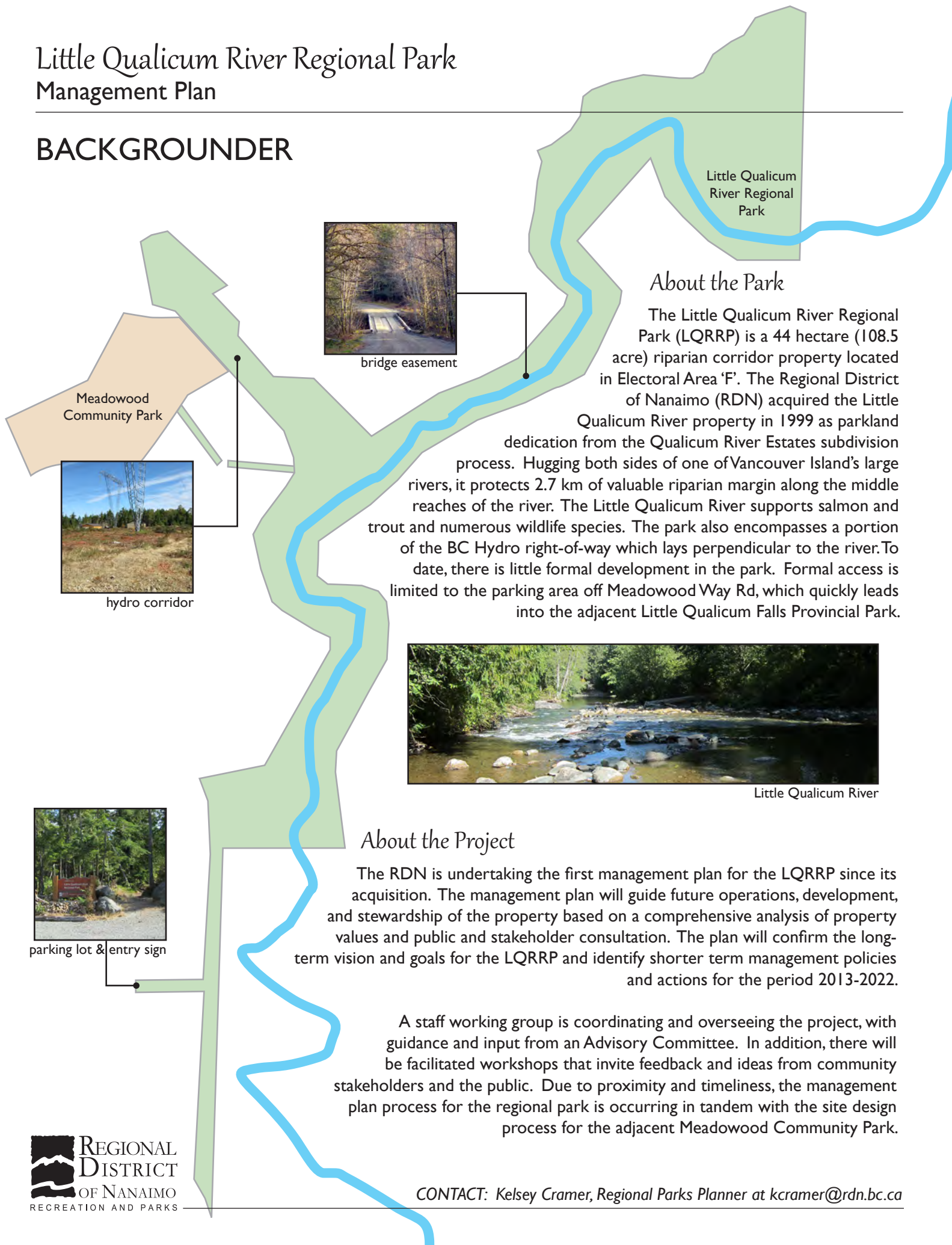
Kelsey Cramer
Regional Parks Planner

Elaine McCulloch
Community Parks Planner

Regional District of Nanaimo Recreation & Parks Department

Little Qualicum River Regional Park Management Plan

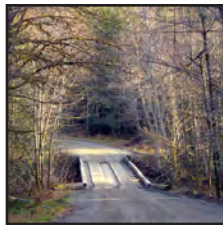
BACKGROUNDER



Little Qualicum
River Regional
Park

About the Park

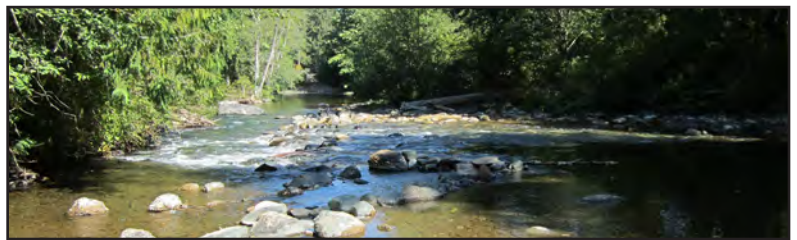
The Little Qualicum River Regional Park (LQRRP) is a 44 hectare (108.5 acre) riparian corridor property located in Electoral Area 'F'. The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) acquired the Little Qualicum River property in 1999 as parkland dedication from the Qualicum River Estates subdivision process. Hugging both sides of one of Vancouver Island's large rivers, it protects 2.7 km of valuable riparian margin along the middle reaches of the river. The Little Qualicum River supports salmon and trout and numerous wildlife species. The park also encompasses a portion of the BC Hydro right-of-way which lays perpendicular to the river. To date, there is little formal development in the park. Formal access is limited to the parking area off Meadowood Way Rd, which quickly leads into the adjacent Little Qualicum Falls Provincial Park.



bridge easement



hydro corridor



Little Qualicum River

About the Project

The RDN is undertaking the first management plan for the LQRRP since its acquisition. The management plan will guide future operations, development, and stewardship of the property based on a comprehensive analysis of property values and public and stakeholder consultation. The plan will confirm the long-term vision and goals for the LQRRP and identify shorter term management policies and actions for the period 2013-2022.

A staff working group is coordinating and overseeing the project, with guidance and input from an Advisory Committee. In addition, there will be facilitated workshops that invite feedback and ideas from community stakeholders and the public. Due to proximity and timeliness, the management plan process for the regional park is occurring in tandem with the site design process for the adjacent Meadowood Community Park.



parking lot & entry sign

Meadowood Community Park

Site Design

BACKGROUND

About the Park

Meadowood Community Park is a 9 hectare parcel located in Electoral Area 'F' of the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN). Approximately 60% of the site is covered with existing pine forest. The remaining lands have very little vegetation and consist of well drained aggregate materials. There are informal trails throughout, largely from unsanctioned ATV use. The site is bisected by the remnant access road to the gravel operation. A small portion of the park is taken up by the fire hall.

In late 2011, the RDN submitted a grant application for \$54,500 to the Province for Phase I park design works including: a playground, sport court, social space, pathways, restoration planting and a gravel parking area for 10 cars. Fortunately, the RDN was successful with this application! A preliminary concept plan for the relevant portion of the park was submitted with the grant request. This design is considered to be a draft plan and open to some change during the park planning process.



halloween in the park



gravel works



fire hall in park



inside the park's pine forest

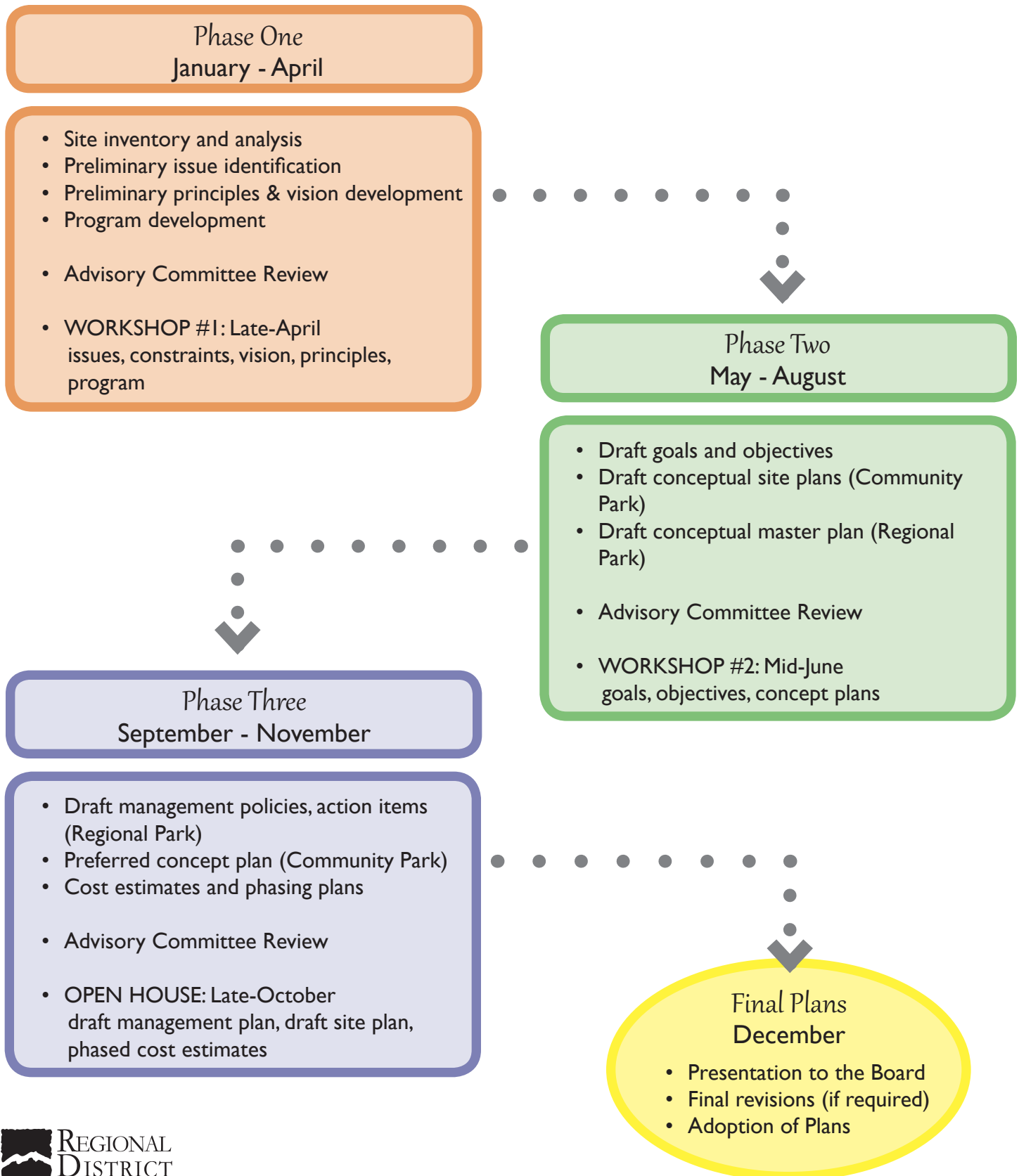
About the Project

The goal of the Meadowood Community Park Site Design project is to develop an overall master design plan for Meadowood Community Park through a comprehensive design process. This park planning process includes the entire community park site. The outcome will include construction phasing and detailed drawing for phase one of park development. Consultants have been retained to carry out the design work.

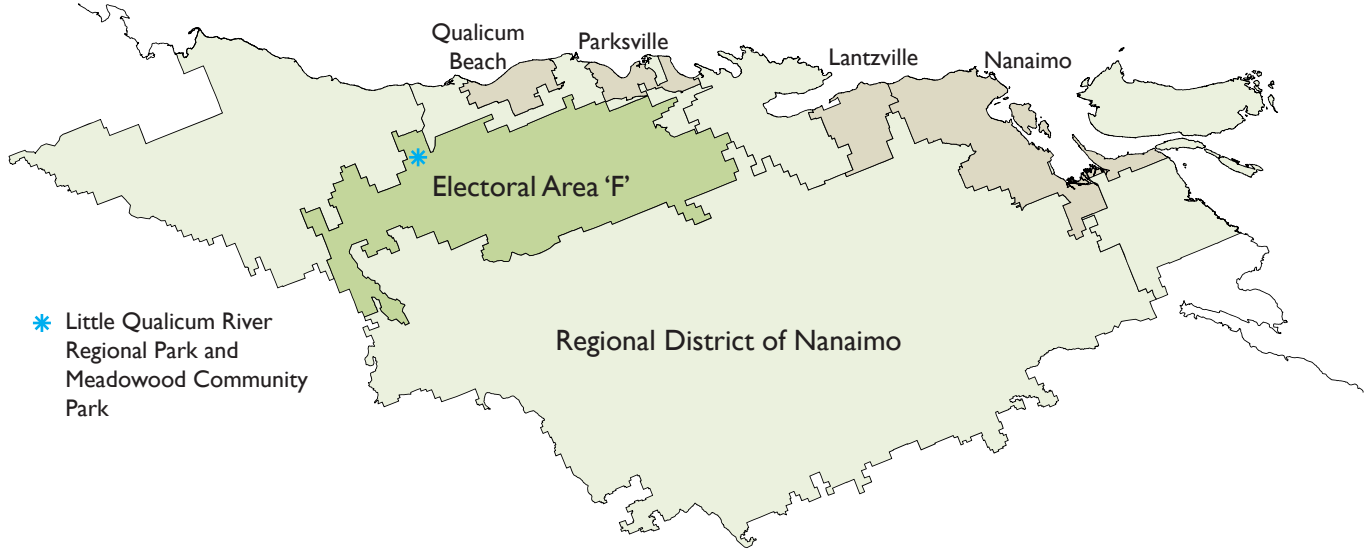
Due to proximity and efficient use of staff, consultant and stakeholder time, this park planning process will occur in tandem with the management plan process for the adjacent regional park. The overall process will be coordinated by a staff working group and guided by an Advisory Committee. Facilitated workshops will seek input on the site's future potential from community stakeholders and the public.



PROJECT FLOWCHART 2012



CONTEXT MAPS



* Little Qualicum River Regional Park and Meadowood Community Park





WORKSHOP #1 INVITATION

The Regional District of Nanaimo welcomes your participation to share ideas and provide feedback at the first Workshop for the Little Qualicum River Regional Park Management Plan and the Meadowood Community Park Site Design projects.

when: **SATURDAY APRIL 28, 2012**
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

RSVP - Pre-registration is required to enable event planning.

where: **QUALICUM BEACH CIVIC CENTRE**
747 Jones Street, Qualicum Beach, BC

respond by: **Friday April 20th** to recparks@rdn.bc.ca
or call **1-888-828-2069**.

share your vision



river corridor



hydro corridor



site remediation



community celebration