

## **DRAFT VISION**

*Bordering both sides of the Little Qualicum River, the Regional Park provides protection for a forest and river wildlife corridor within the greater watershed. Recreational activities minimize environmental impact and promote balance between park use and ecological integrity. Open communication encourages partnerships, stewardship, and long-term support for the park's vision.*

## **INPUT RECEIVED:**

- Everyone at the Regional Park table felt that this vision statement meets the needs of the management plan and the Regional Park.
  - No revisions were suggested.
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## **DRAFT MANAGEMENT GOALS**

1. The park's river, forest and shrubland ecosystems are protected and enhanced.
2. Outdoor recreation within the park limits environmental impact. Park users respect each other and nature.
3. A cooperative management approach ensures collaboration on park access, development, stewardship and maintenance activities.

## **INPUT RECEIVED:**

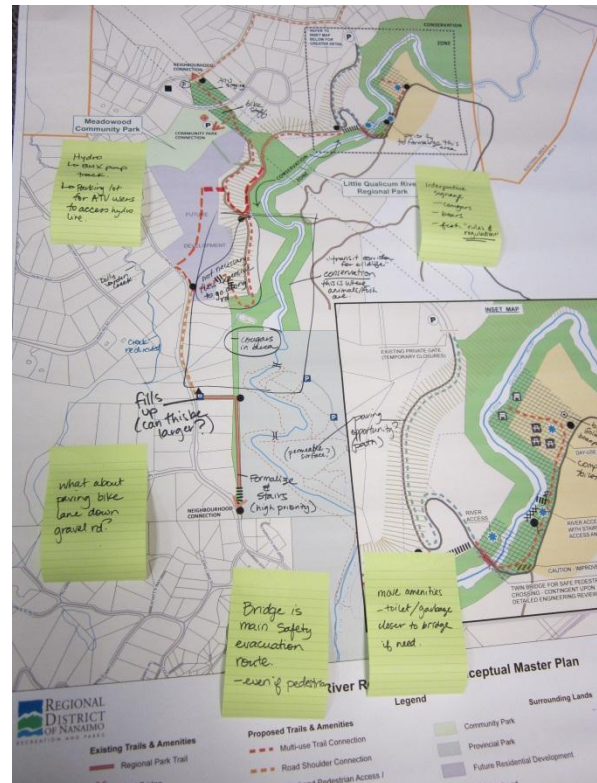
- Goal #2 – could it be reworded to avoid the negative connotation of environmental impacts due to recreation? For example: *Outdoor recreation within the park protects environmental assets.*
- Table discussion: Participants felt that there is an impact to the environment from recreation, and suggested changing the word “limits” to “minimizes.” Also consider changing “impact” to “footprint.”
- RDN Parks staff to revise Goal #2 with these comments/suggestions in mind.

## PRELIMINARY REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

### INPUT RECEIVED:

#### Park Zoning

- Agreement with Conservation Area and Active-Use Areas (Hydro corridor and near river)
- Desire to see Conservation Area expanded in south portion of park, meaning, avoid locating trails in this area, but work with future development to ensure trail connections along new roads that may go in (eg. Sidewalks).
- Include a short trail connection to the switchback trail.



#### Site Amenities/Improvements

- Interpretive signs will be important to communicate about wildlife in the area and how to avoid conflicts (cougars, bears, fish – need to post fishing regulations if fishing permitted)
- Majority of amenities (picnic tables, benches, garbage can, and toilet) should be close to where people will use them (near the river in Active-use area).
  - Park maintenance access to this area will affect what amenities can go there, may need to locate garbage and toilets on west side of river for more direct access).
- Garbage cans need to be wildlife proof, consider “big belly” garbage can to reduce maintenance needs
- Consider composting toilet for reduced maintenance needs
- Trail development (with stairs) along narrow band at southwest arm of regional park is a high priority, as is formalized day-use near the Glory Hole.

#### Park Access and Parking

- Parking off Meadowood Way is not big enough – consider expanding if possible.

- It would be more accessible if parking could go near the bridge on the west side of the river – this will require looking at the safety requirements of the gravel road to the bridge. For the short term, parking at the end of Corcan Rd may have to suffice.
- An engineering study to examine the requirements for making the haul bridge safe for pedestrian crossing is important.
- For ATVs to pass through the park at designated crossing locations (eg. The bridge), a review of the parks Bylaw is required to permit this use in parks. Main implication is liability/safety within the park.
- If the gravel road within Stat. Right of Way from the end of Corcan no longer provides for gravel trucks, could it be partially paved to allow for a more accessible bike/pedestrian route to the river?
- Most important aspect of the haul bridge is as a pedestrian crossing in the case of fire or other emergency. People need to be able to cross the river, which would hopefully serve as a natural fire break and allow for emergency pick up on the east side.

#### **Uses better suited/shared with Community Park**

- Washroom facilities
- Parking if needed
- Bike park was suggested for area under hydro corridor, but this use appears to be accommodated within Community Park – hydro corridor to strive for revegetation with native species.
- ATV staging area, provided parks Bylaw amended to permit this use.

#### **Partnerships/ Stewardship**

- Work with BC Hydro to revegetate the hydro corridor with native species
- Clarify the easement over the bridge and whether another gravel operator could continue extraction works if /when Ozero discontinues operation.

#### **Priorities**

- Trail development (with stairs) along southwest arm of regional park is a high priority, as is formalized day-use near the Glory Hole.