



Cecelia Ravine Park Improvement Plan

Summary Report

April 2018

Table of Contents

Purpose & Objectives.....	05
Project Background.....	07
Neighbourhood Context	
Land Acquisition	
Cecelia Ravine Park: Existing Features	
Cecelia Ravine Park: New Properties	
Design Process.....	13
Guiding Documents	
Public Engagement Process	
Park Concept Plan.....	19
Playground	
Outdoor Fitness Equipment	
Community Amenities	
Parking	
Accessible Public Washroom	
Cecelia Road Pathway	
Implementation.....	28
Budget	
Timeline	
Next Steps	



Purpose & Objectives

Purpose of this Project

The objective of this project is to develop a plan to incorporate an expansion of Cecelia Ravine Park to serve the needs of the community, to offer engaging and inclusive experiences, and to complement and integrate with existing park features.

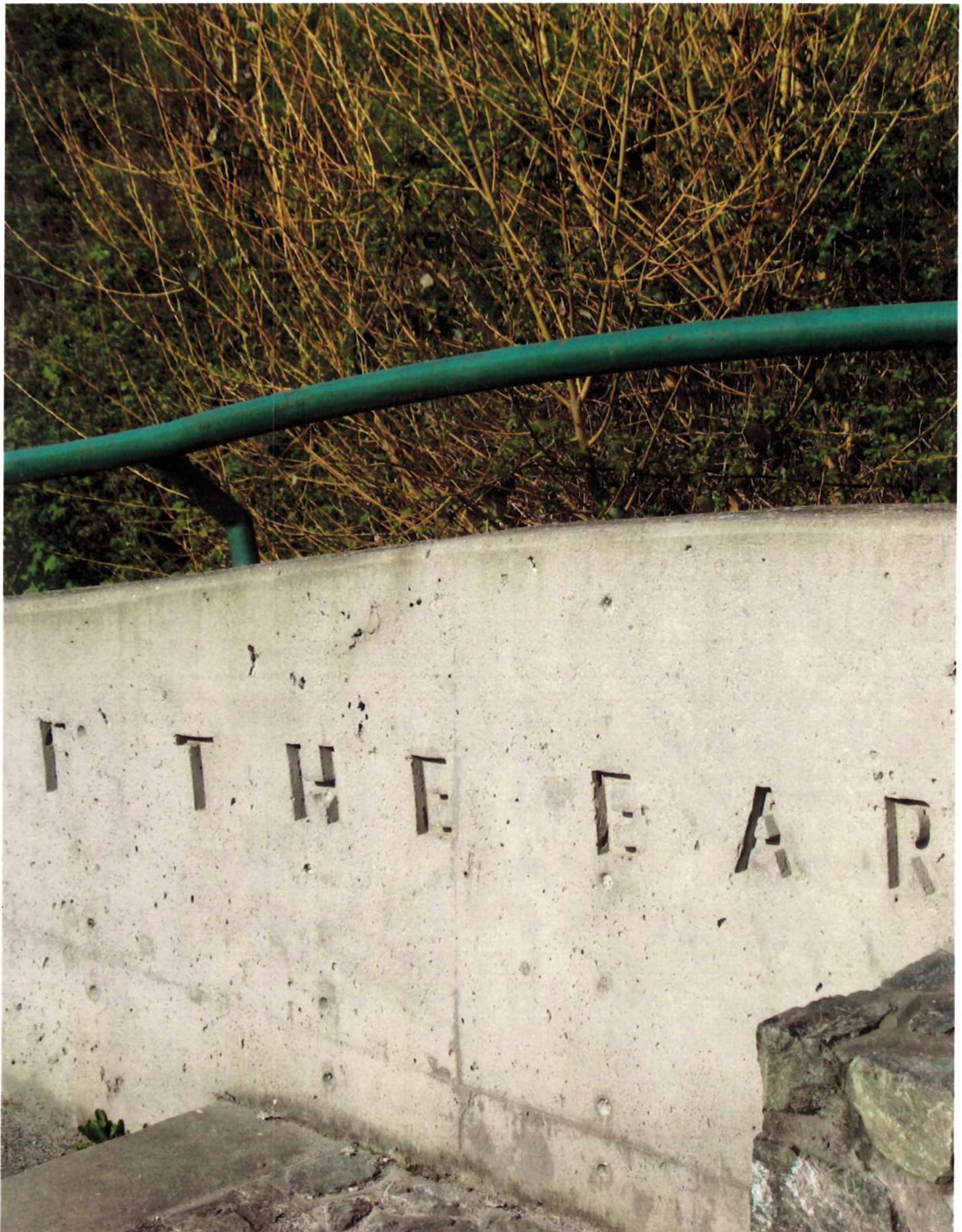
In 2016, the City of Victoria purchased new properties to add 0.22 hectares (0.5 acres) to Cecelia Ravine Park. This new parkland was acquired using reserved funds from the disposition of the Ellice Street Playlot. The location of this parcel of land offers the opportunity to deliver expanded public spaces and amenities for the Burnside Gorge neighbourhood.

In 2017, City of Victoria worked closely with the community to create a design for the new properties. The elements included in the design address key goals and guiding principles in City strategic documents as well as responding to community feedback from two phases of public engagement.

This report outlines the project background, site conditions, public engagement process, and the final proposed design for this park improvement.

"Cecelia Ravine Park provides a safe and unique natural green space. The busy Galloping Goose Regional Trail corridor is a key public amenity adjacent to the west side of the park. People return to the park to enjoy its restored natural areas and to participate in active outdoor recreation. Others visit the park to meet their neighbours, tend garden plots and watch their children play with friends. There is a variety of activities and facilities that keep park visitors interested and engaged and encourage them to visit the park throughout the year."

Vision for Cecelia Ravine Park (Cecelia Ravine Management Plan, 2011)



Project Background

Neighbourhood Context

Burnside Gorge is a diverse neighbourhood unique in its mix of residential, commercial, and industrial areas. This neighbourhood is home to approximately 6,000 residents in 2,800 households.

Most residents in the Burnside Gorge neighbourhood live within walking distance (400 metres) of at least one park, but the neighbourhood overall lacks a broad variety of easily accessible, quality green spaces. With 75% of housing units in multi-family buildings, access to a variety of open space and activities is essential.

The block pattern in Burnside Gorge does not easily facilitate pedestrian access to the Galloping Goose, urban villages, and parks. The steep-sided ravine of Cecelia Ravine Park separates a primarily residential neighbourhood to the east from the mixed use village areas to the west, making accessibility through, across and around this park an issue of key importance not only for park users, but also for the sustainable transportation goals of this neighbourhood. (See Fig. 1)

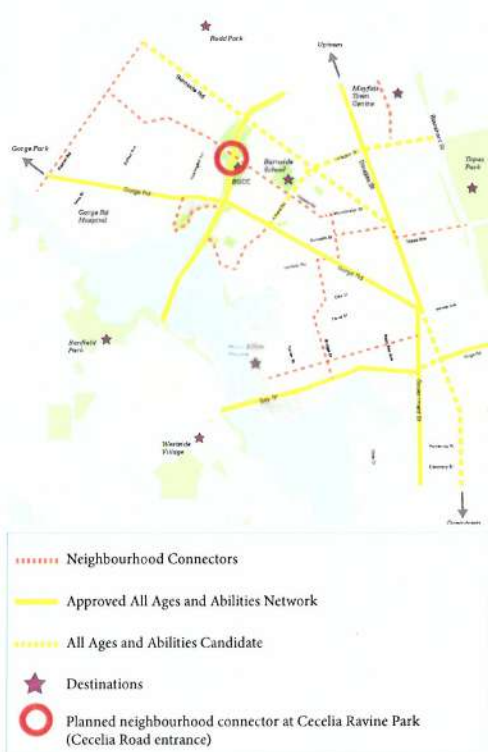


Fig 1: Priority cycling routes through the Burnside Gorge neighbourhood (Burnside Gorge Neighbourhood Plan, Map 5)

Land Acquisition

In May 2009, the City entered into a long term lease agreement with BC Housing and the Victoria Cool Aid Society to enable the construction of the Rock Bay Landing shelter on Ellice Street Park in the Burnside Gorge neighbourhood. In response to the loss of this green space, Council authorized staff to pursue a 'no net loss' of park space for this neighbourhood. A total of \$2,000,000 for land acquisition and park development in this neighbourhood was approved by Council.

In 2016, Council authorized staff to proceed with the purchase of 416 Cecelia, 3119 Washington and a portion of 3103 Washington, located adjacent to Cecelia Ravine Park for \$950,000. The location of this parcel of land was considered strategically valuable from the perspective of parks and recreation in this neighbourhood. This quality green space is adjacent to the popular Galloping Goose Trail, close to the Burnside Gorge Community Centre, and offers an opportunity to deliver expanded public spaces and amenities for this community within Cecelia Ravine Park. Acquiring additional land adjacent to this park to expand the park boundary was also a recommendation of the Cecelia Ravine Management Plan.

Cecelia Ravine Park: Existing Features

At 3.85 hectares, Cecelia Ravine Park is the largest park in the Burnside Gorge Neighbourhood. The park offers a variety of leisure opportunities for surrounding residents, and also contains one of the largest natural areas in the City of Victoria park system. Cecelia Ravine Park has several key features which include steep sided ravines, woodland areas, open meadows, a creek, numerous secondary trails and stairs, a playground and a busy community centre. The Galloping Goose Regional Trail (GGRT) which is managed by the Capital Regional District (CRD) traverses through the park.

The Burnside Gorge Community Centre opened in the park in 2007 and today offers a wide variety of programming and community support.

In 2011, the City of Victoria approved the Cecelia Ravine Park Management Plan to guide continued investment in to the park. Since that time, the City has made ongoing investment into the park including the addition of a bike skills area, basketball court, a community garden, and ongoing work to restore the natural areas within the park. (See Fig. 2)

Key park access points include:

- Galloping Goose Regional Trail (pedestrians/cyclists)
- Cecelia Road West (steep paved trail, pedestrians/cyclists)
- Stairs from Burnside Gorge Community Centre (pedestrians)
- Paved pathway off Napier Lane (pedestrians/cyclists)
- Gravel parking lot off Burnside Rd (vehicles/pedestrians/cyclists)



Fig 2: Cecelia Ravine Park existing amenities



Bike Skills Park



Community Garden



Burnside Gorge Community Centre



View from community centre stairs to Cecelia Road



Cecelia Creek



Existing condition of new properties



Existing condition of new properties



Existing Cecelia Road pathway connection



Existing playground and fitness equipment

Cecelia Ravine Park: New Properties

The additional lands are 0.22 hectares (0.5 acres) and expand the total size of Cecelia Ravine Park to 4.07 hectares. The new property is predominantly flat and consists of an old driveway. There are a few small fruiting trees. The house that used to sit on the site was demolished after the city took possession of the property. There are several properties that do not currently have perimeter fencing. (See Fig. 3)

Site Opportunities:

- **Playground upgrade:** The existing playground is 30 years old and has exceeded its service life. The new properties offer the opportunity to replace and modernize the play equipment, improve accessible play opportunities, include natural play elements, and provide high quality and creative play features.
- **Improve health and wellness activities:** Two outdoor fitness stations were installed in this park in 2014 to support the use of this park for circuit training and other fitness activities. The new properties provide the opportunity to expand the fitness area with new types of equipment and further strengthen the opportunity to use this space for fitness circuits.
- **Improve site amenities:** The new properties offer the opportunity to consider new types of site amenities within this park, including a public washroom, improved furnishings, bike parking, perimeter fencing, and pathway lighting.
- **Improve accessibility:** The new properties offer multiple opportunities to improve accessibility for the park and neighbourhood, including offering more accessible site amenities and improving site access. Upgrading the Cecelia Road pathway would remove a large accessibility barrier for this park, and also improve overall neighbourhood connectiveness.

Site Challenges:

- **Location of service utilities:** There are a number of service utilities running along and across the ravine embankment that must be accommodated in an upgraded Cecelia Road pathway connection.
- **Pathway encroachment:** Achieving a more accessible grade on the Cecelia Road pathway connection will require encroaching on land owned by Transport Canada and operated by the CRD. A right-of-way agreement with the CRD has been initiated.



Fig. 3: Existing Conditions of New Properties



Design Process

Guiding Documents

In developing the preliminary materials for this project, staff reviewed a variety of guiding documents. The following is a summary of some of the guiding principles or objectives that have helped frame the proposed improvements to the new lots.

Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan (2017)

- Identify opportunities to daylight or celebrate culverted streams (1.2.3);
- Identify opportunities to incorporate more support amenities such as washrooms, drinking fountains, lighting and food services at select parks (2.1.5);
- Incorporate a variety of spaces for socializing and group gathering into park spaces (2.2.2);
- Identify new health and fitness cluster locations where outdoor fitness amenities, walking areas, playgrounds, and sports amenities are located near each other (2.3.1);
- Establish a target for the provision of play spaces within an 800 meter walking distance of 99% of households (2.3.2);
- Establish and maintain standards of care to ensure safe, high quality and creative play features (2.3.3); and,
- Prioritize the development of active transportation linkages and infrastructure that connects residents and visitors to parks (2.6.4).

Burnside Gorge Neighbourhood Plan (2017)

- Improve the connection of Cecelia Ravine and Cecelia Road through pathway improvements (e.g. grade, signage and lighting) (*Sections 14.7.1(d), 12.10.6*)
- Work to remove invasive species and to improve native habitats in the ravine. Continue restoration of the creek and watershed. In addition, opportunities to make the mouth of Cecelia Creek more fish-friendly should be explored (*Sections 13.7.1(a), 12.17.1*)
- Enhance the park's function for events through improvements to the amphitheatre function, collaboration with the Burnside Gorge Community Association on programming, and consideration of a shelter, seating, or other features to support music performances, block parties, live theatre, or casual neighbourhood gathering (*Sections 13.7.1(b), 12.13.2*)

Urban Forest Master Plan (2013)

- Maximize community benefits from the urban forest in all neighbourhoods (*Goal 4*)
- The urban forest contributes significantly to the beautification and local character of the public realm
- The urban forest is part of the social fabric of the city, providing a safe place for festivals, smaller social gatherings and the enjoyment of nature
- Residents enjoy significant health and recreational benefits from the public urban forest
- Favour the planting of larger growing tree species wherever practical
- Expand and enhance the urban forest on public and private lands

Cecelia Ravine Park Management Plan (2011)

- Consider acquisition of additional park lands to expand the park boundaries (*Recommendation 5*)
- Create new facilities and amenities to attract more destination users who visit for longer periods of time (*Goal 3*)
- Improve secondary trail safety with better intersections and connections to the Galloping Goose Regional Trail (*Goal 4*)
- Consider location of outdoor fitness equipment (*Recommendations 14, 16*)

- Upgrade the playground at 400 Cecelia Road (*Recommendation 17*)
- Conduct trail improvements to connect 400 block of Cecelia to the Galloping Goose Regional Trail (*Recommendation 20, Appendix 5*)

Public Engagement Process

In development of the improvement plan, the City hosted two rounds of public engagement in 2017. The first round was to collect general feedback and ideas about improvements to Cecelia Ravine Park and the new lots. The second was to solicit input on a proposed draft plan that had been developed based on the input from the first round of engagement. The summary of all engagement is included as Appendix A of this design report.

Phase One Public Engagement

From July 20 – August 20, 2017, the City hosted the first phase of public engagement to collect general feedback and ideas about improvements to Cecelia Ravine Park. Through a variety of mechanisms including an online survey and in-person events, the City heard feedback from over 200 residents including:

- Over 60 local residents attended an open house in Cecelia Ravine Park
- 122 residents completed the online survey
- 30 seniors, and over 100 parents and children attended events at the Burnside Gorge Community Centre during three ‘pop up engagement stations’
- 40 people stopped by the ‘pop up engagement station’ at the Selkirk Waterfront.

Building on the results of public engagement from neighbourhood planning and the Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan, residents were asked to provide feedback on proposed improvements including a renovated playground, community gathering space, small parking area, relocated outdoor fitness area, and a new perimeter fence. In addition, they were asked to prioritize potential new park activities, with the results from engagement from highest to lowest, an expanded fitness area, community garden, picnic area and an open, grassy area.

Common feedback received on the improvement plan included:

- Support for all proposed improvements, especially a bigger, better playground.
- Safety for visitors of all ages, including multiple access points, lighting and clear views.
- Playground should offer a combination of play structures and natural play areas. Climbing was the most requested type of play feature.
- Consider a public washroom at this location.
- An expanded fitness area, new community garden space, and open grassy areas for picnicking and informal recreation were all popular potential new amenities for this park space.
- Improvements are needed to make the Cecelia Road pathway connection more accessible.

Residents were also asked to help prioritize the types of play equipment they would like to see in the park. In order of selected priority these included:

- Things to climb on
- A zipline
- A natural play area
- Water play
- Swings
- Slides
- Things that spin

Phase 2 Public Engagement

In conjunction with the guiding principles, site analysis and feedback received in Phase 1, staff prepared a proposed improvement plan for the park. During October 2017, the City hosted the second phase of public engagement to collect feedback on the proposed park improvement plan. In all, the City collected feedback during this phase from approximately 80 residents, through an online survey and an open house hosted at the Burnside Gorge Community Centre.

Overall, feedback received indicated widespread support for the improvements included in this plan. Community feedback included:

- Strong support for natural play elements and water/creek

themed play elements

- Strong support for outdoor fitness equipment
- Improvements should feel safe for everyone with multiple access points, good lighting and clear sightlines
- Strong desire to complete the Cecelia Road right-of-way pathway as a priority



Park Concept Plan

The final proposed park concept plan is based on feedback received during the community consultation process, as well as key deliverables and objectives in City planning documents. An illustrative plan is shown in Fig. 4.

The park concept plan includes the following key park components:

- Larger, more accessible, playground
- An improved outdoor fitness area
- A new parking lot for vehicles
- Enhanced furnishings including bike racks, shade structure, pathway lighting and seating
- Community gathering areas, picnic facilities and open green space
- New public washroom
- An upgraded, accessible pathway connecting the western area of the park to the Galloping Goose Regional Trail and eastern Cecelia Ravine Park
- Enhanced tree canopy coverage and native planting areas



Fig 4: Park Concept Plan

Park Components

Playground



Key Plan: Playground

A larger, more accessible playground with a mix of natural and structured play opportunities is envisioned. Drawing inspiration from the nearby Cecelia Creek, the play area includes “creek-themed” play opportunities, which may include elements such as creek-inspired imaginative play, or a play water channel and pump. Structured play will include climbing opportunities and accessible surfacing. Natural play opportunities and climbing were both high priorities from the public engagement. A zipline was also frequently requested, however a review of available space and siting requirements for play equipment determined this would not be feasible.



Playground Examples



Key Plan: Outdoor Fitness Equipment

Outdoor Fitness Equipment

An expanded outdoor fitness area is located adjacent to the Cecelia Road pathway in order to allow for continued use of the ravine slopes and existing equipment within the park to continue as a fitness circuit. The area will include a wider range of equipment and rubber surfacing to complement the activities provided at the community centre. Rubber surfacing and a greater range of equipment (especially stationary equipment such as horizontal and parallel bars) were both requests that were recieved during public consultation.



Outdoor Fitness Equipment Examples



Key Plan: Community Amenities

Community Amenities

The concept plan includes a variety of community amenities including new internal pathways linking to Cecelia Road and the existing Washington Avenue connection; a community picnic area with a shade structure, new furnishings, an enhanced urban canopy and native planting areas, and an open grass area for community gathering and informal recreation. This new land provides the only opportunity within Cecelia Ravine Park for a flat lawn area for unstructured play. Providing opportunities for community gathering was an important consideration received from residents through public engagement for this project, and also through the Burnside Gorge Neighbourhood Planning process. Retaining an existing apple tree (near where the existing playground sits) was also important to the community. This tree is planned to be retained and will enhance the nearby picnic area.



Example of seating elements



Example of shade structure



Example of community green



Key Plan: Parking

Parking

Making use of the existing driveway, the concept plan includes a small parking area with space for 4-5 cars to serve the expanded park and to improve accessibility to the site.

Bicycle parking facilities will also be provided on-site.



Example of parking area





Key Plan: Public Washroom

Accessible Public Washroom

Public feedback indicated that the City should consider including a public washroom adjacent to the improved playground site. The design of this facility would be contemplated during detailed design but would be a small built structure. Exterior walls could be animated with mural painting.



Examples of public washrooms



Key Plan: Cecelia Road Pathway



Existing pathway conditions
(Top: from GGRT; Bottom: from Cecelia Rd.)

Cecelia Road Pathway

The block pattern in Burnside Gorge does not easily facilitate pedestrian access to the Galloping Goose, urban villages and parks, making neighbourhood cohesion a key concern for residents of this neighbourhood.

A cycling and pedestrian connection through Cecelia Ravine Park connecting the western side of Cecelia Road to the Galloping Goose and the Burnside Gorge Community Centre was identified as a priority active transportation improvement for this neighbourhood through the Burnside Gorge Neighbourhood Plan (5.4.2). This connection is also identified as part of the City's Greenways Plan and the Cecelia Ravine Park Management Plan.

The existing pathway at this location is steep, narrow and difficult to navigate for those with mobility challenges, on bicycles, or pushing strollers. The priority for this improvement was reiterated by the neighbourhood through public engagement for this project.

The redesigned pathway included in this project will be wider and less steep (with a maximum grade of 8%), making this pathway connection more accessible, and greatly improving east-west active transportation connections through the Burnside-Gorge neighbourhood. Completion of a pathway that meets accessible grades will require agreement from the Capital Regional District as a portion of the pathway would fall outside lands owned by the City. Preliminary conversations with CRD staff indicate support for this approach as it would also help improve sightlines from the pathway onto the Galloping Goose Regional Trail.



Implementation

Budget

The City of Victoria has worked with an external costing consultant to prepare a preliminary (Class D) cost estimate for the proposed park improvements. The total anticipated construction budget for this project, including 10% design costs and 25% contingency, is \$1,568,700.

CLASS D (PRELIMINARY) COST ESTIMATE	
Park Hard and Soft Landscaping (paving, fencing, bollards, plantings, etc.)	\$167,000
Park Amenities (furnishings, playground/fitness equipment)	\$290,000
Lighting	\$70,000
Washroom (including servicing)	\$250,000
Cecelia Road Pathway	\$384,000
Construction Cost	\$1,162,000
Design Services (10%)	\$116,200
Construction contingency (25%)	\$290,500
TOTAL 2018 Estimated Costs	\$1,568,700

Timeline

This project is being presented to Council for approval at the beginning of the detailed design phase. Construction is scheduled to start in the third quarter of 2018 and is anticipated to be completed by December 2018.





Cecelia Ravine Park: Phase 1 and Phase 2 Engagement Summary

July – October 2017

Table of Contents

Cecelia Ravine Park Improvements Overview

What We Heard: Phase 1 and 2

Appendix

- A. Engagement Feedback: Phase 1
- B. Engagement Feedback: Phase 2
- C. Survey: Phase 1
- D. Survey: Phase 2



Cecelia Ravine Park Improvements Overview

In 2016, the City of Victoria purchased new properties to add an additional 0.5 acres of parkland to Cecelia Ravine Park, providing the opportunity to provide new and improved amenities to this park. The City is developing an improvement plan to guide the park renovation. Two rounds of community engagement in the summer and fall of 2017 contributed to the creation of the park improvement plan. Construction of park improvements is scheduled to begin in 2018.

Phase 1

From July 20 to August 20, 2017 residents in the Burnside Gorge neighbourhood were asked for feedback regarding a new playground and other park amenities at Cecelia Ravine Park. The feedback received was used to inform a draft improvement plan that was shared with the community during the second round of engagement.

- Over 60 local residents attended an open house in Cecelia Ravine Park
- 122 residents completed the online survey
- 30 seniors, and over 100 parents and children attended events at the Burnside Gorge Community Centre during three 'pop up engagement stations'
- 40 people stopped by the 'pop up engagement station' at the Selkirk Waterfront.
- One email was submitted.

Phase 2

In October the draft park improvement plan was shared with the community. The draft plan included a new, more accessible playground, pathway improvements, lighting, a picnic area and an improved fitness area. Residents were invited to share feedback through an online survey and an open house on October 24.

- Approximately 35 people attended the open house
- 49 residents completed the survey
- 4 emails were submitted

What We Heard

Phase 1

This is a summary of what we heard about the new land at Cecelia Ravine Park:

- Support for all proposed improvements, especially a bigger, better playground.
- New property should feel safe for visitors of all ages, including multiple access points, lighting, and clear views.
- Playground should offer a combination of play structures and natural play areas. Climbing was the most requested type of play feature.
- The City should consider a public washroom at this location.
- An expanded fitness area, new community garden space, and open grassy areas for picnicking and informal recreation were all popular potential new amenities for this park space.

Here's a summary of what we heard about future improvements to the rest of Cecelia Ravine Park:

- Improvements are needed to make the Cecelia Road pathway connection more accessible for people walking and on bikes.
- Other pathway improvements are needed throughout the park, including improving the Tom Arkell trail, adding a bike gutter to the staircase connecting the Community Centre, and adding additional pathway lighting (especially along the Galloping Goose).
- Strategies to improve the health of Cecelia Creek, including structural changes to improve creek function and raising watershed awareness, should be explored.
- Park maintenance should focus on keeping natural areas pruned and feeling safe.
- More wayfinding signage to and within the park would make navigating the park easier.

Phase 2

This is a summary of what we heard about the proposed improvement plan:

- General support for all proposed improvements in the new park area.
 - Strong support for natural play elements and water/ creek themed elements
 - Strong support for outdoor adult fitness equipment, affordable fitness popular
 - Concerns that open green space and washroom could attract more sheltering
 - Some concerns about keeping sand in play areas safe (free of needles)
 - New spaces should feel safe for everyone- multiple access points, good lighting and sight lines
 - good maintenance
 - Interest in having a rain shelter for picnic area
 - Please also include bike parking, including some that provides space for bikes with trailers for families
 - Please consider limited hours for washroom- don't want to attract more campers
 - Addition of a mural would add life to the area
 - Wheelchair accessible washroom and pathways please
- Comments about other areas of the park included:
 - Many requests for improvements to Cecelia Ravine pathway proceed as a priority in 2018, important safety improvement. Neighbourhood cycling connections also need attention.
 - Tom Arkell Trail not seen as a top priority, but it does need to be improved and cleaned, needs better lighting
 - General support for native plants, wild spaces, improvements to creek, removing invasive species
 - Needs a good maintenance plan to address current amount of sheltering

Appendix A: Engagement Feedback- Phase 1

What We Heard

In-Person Events

Sounding boards were used to collect feedback at all in-person events. This is what we heard.



PROPOSED PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Based on the results of public engagement from neighbourhood planning and the Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan, residents were asked to provide feedback on proposed improvements including a renovated playground, community gathering space, small parking area, relocated outdoor fitness area, and a new perimeter fence. Feedback we heard:

- 1) Please put a bench at top of path (end of Cecilia Rd) for seniors to rest on at the top of the hill. Access for 3115 Washington (dump bin, etc).
- 2) No more parking lots (2)
- 3) Need path to access from Balfour
- 4) Please keep apple tree. Don't remove for parking

NEW PARK ACTIVITIES

Residents voted for their first, second third choices for potential new park activities. Three points were awarded for first place votes, two for second and one for third.

- 1) Expanded Fitness Area (101 points)
- 2) Community Garden (73 points)
- 3) Picnic area (65 points)
- 4) Open Grassy area (38 points)

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Residents voted for their first, second third choices for potential types of play activities. Three points were awarded for first place votes, two for second and one for third.

- 1) Things to Climb On (100 points)
- 2) Zipline (66 points)
- 3) Natural Play Area (56 points)
- 4) Water Play (54 points)
- 5) Swings (24)
- 6) Slides (20)
- Things that Spin (16)

OTHER FUTURE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Residents were asked to prioritize other future improvements for Cecilia Ravine Park identified through the Burnside-Gorge Neighbourhood Plan and Cecilia Ravine Park Management Plan.

- 1) Explore opportunities to make the mouth of Cecilia Creek more fish friendly
(High/Medium: 27, Low/Not a Priority: 0)
- 2) Improve the Cecilia Road pathway connection for walking & cycling
(High/Medium: 22, Low/Not a Priority: 4)
- 3) Enhance the park's function for community events through improvements to the amphitheater
(High/Medium: 16, Low/Not a Priority: 3)
- 4) Install staircase on Gorge Rd Overpass (NW side)
(High/Medium: 13, Low/Not a Priority: 6)
- 5) Install staircase on Gorge Rd Overpass (NW side)
(High/Medium: 13, Low/Not a Priority: 6)
- 6) Develop a woodland interpretive area
(High/Medium: 8, Low/Not a Priority: 6)
- 7) Improve wayfinding signage to and within the park
(High/Medium: 7, Low/Not a Priority: 9)
- 8) Decommission the Tom Arkell Trail & move to woodland interpretive area
(High/Medium: 2, Low/Not a Priority: 14)

ARE THERE OTHER IMPROVEMENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE AT CECILIA RAVINE PARK IN THE FUTURE, OR DO YOU HAVE OTHER COMMENTS ON THIS PARK?

- Keep & improve Arkell trail (thin out and make safer) (3)
- Cecilia Creek
 - o Keep the water clean please!
 - o Get to the meat and potatoes problem with Cecilia Creek. Clean up the silt and contaminants in the water. It's polluting the Gorge Waterway big time.

- Fix cross – contamination issues from sanitary sewer which still has not been solved (odour)
- cleaning of the stream
- The small stream is really polluted. I hope that will be fixed.
- Cecilia creek still needs a massive overhaul – update infrastructure that is no doubt contributing to the stench
- The creek is an odd colour I've never seen in nature and I think there must be a broken sewer pipe dumping raw sewage into the Gorge. Love to see / smell some clean up improvements.
- Clean the creek and expand the paths beside the creek. Natural fresh water is needed.
- Let's see a public sandy beach extending from creek mouth out to middle of trestle. Two barge loads should do it!
- Playground
 - Splash park would be nice
 - Water park, pool, orchards
 - Make a giant metal car for people to climb.
 - Larger play equipment
 - A playground expansion would be better
 - Zipline for kids and small splash pad or water park
- Park Maintenance
 - Smelly sewage smell needs to be addressed
 - Fix drainage on south side.
 - More garbage pick-up and
 - Hire 2 more staff (double!) for CoV natural areas maintenance and do more work – parties with volunteers
 - Brown grass & overgrown bushes are not a good look.
 - Work on making Area 3 more useable and attractive before entertaining an interpretive area.
 - Make the “plaza” in the center attractive and colourful. Hanging flower baskets throughout would be nice. More planters.
- Bike Park
 - Expand the bike park or add skate park.
 - Bike park is great, but could use some additional trails (multi-way) would be great
- Fitness equipment
 - stationary bike
 - stepper
 - Relocate outdoor fitness
 - pull up bars, parallel bars
- Food Production
 - More community gardens (2)
 - Plant food bearing trees and shrubbery herbs etc. within or along the boundaries of the park

- Cut pathways into the blackberries for easier picking.
- Facilities
 - Replace the chain link fence along Burnside with something attractive that doesn't scream "ghetto"
 - Washrooms would be great (3)
 - Any plan for a play / picnic area where people actually are expected to spend time makes no sense without a washroom
- Sheltering
 - Build a trail network through south side on both sides of the Goose to make camping impossible.
 - Any changes or developments that minimize "campers / overnights"
 - Deter camping in park
 - #5 improvement not necessary and will only increase access for campers.
 - Hire 2 staff for cleaning up garbage and donate-able items from abandoned campsites
- Bike friendly / pedestrian improvements
 - #5 on "other future park improvements" add a bike rail to the stairs
 - Bike push rail on the staircase
 - Would love to see walkway / bikeway between Washington & Balfour. Walkers & cyclists can then avoid Gorge & W. Burnside. Walkers are the priority.
 - Our kids can't access the park safely. We live on Maddock Ave East and there's no path between Balfour & Washington. Not safe to walk on Gorge or Burnside. Path is #1 priority.
 - Pedestrian & bicycle bridge to connect East & West sides and out of the path of the Goose.
 - Expand (widen) Galloping Goose trail as too congested and unsafe.
 - Open up the trail for better visibility between path & Goose.
 - Improve signage to have cyclist slow down through the Ravine.
 - Traffic calming needed on Cecilia Rd (between Jutland & Burnside)
- Safety
 - More police presence
 - People keep safe when there's lots of activity around. Lighting & changes that encourage more people to be in the park later in the day would be great.
 - Open up the flat meadow, increase visibility so that people enter & use it.
- Amphitheatre
 - Build an amphitheater in the designated area or reassign that area and put a bandshell in Area 3 for events.
 - Amphitheatre with seating and cool benches
 - Take down shrubs blocking sight lines to amphitheater. Make it feel safe.
- Wayfinding
 - Create an obvious entrance to the park. Signage, something grander!
 - The park has no signs with maps to tell people what is here and where.

Social Media

We reached approximately 1,872 people through social media and had 2 comments and 3 shares. 51 people were interested in the Facebook event.

Letters/Emails

One email was received during the first phase.

From: Jacques Sirois [<mailto:Personal info>]

Sent: Friday, July 28, 2017 5:12 PM

To: Engagement <engage@victoria.ca>

Subject: Plan for Cecelia Ravine Park

Dear Victoria Parks,

Please take this opportunity to highlight historic Victoria Harbour Bird Sanctuary (est. Oct. 27, 1923) and the new (July 12, 2107) Greater Victoria NatureHood. Two great assets and stories rooted in history.

Cecelia Creek estuary and mud flats provide great urban, wildlife habitat, feeding into the Gorge Waterway and the bird sanctuary.

NatureHoods are meant to connect urban Canadian to "Nearby Nature" - where they live - already happening there informally. Please help this make formal.

For example, we need bird blinds along the bike trail where Cecelia Cr. enters the Gorge Waterway. Good birding there all the time.

More details available if interested.

Thanks,

Jacques Sirois
chair, Friends of Victoria Harbour Bird Sanctuary
rep., Greater Victoria NatureHood
member, Victoria Natural History Society