

RIVERSIDE TO PIONEER PARKS MANAGEMENT PLAN

APRIL 2015



Prepared for

City of Kamloops 7 Victoria St W Kamloops, BC V2C 1A2

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PULL-OUT MAPS AT BACK

RIVERSIDE PARK CONCEPT PLAN
WATERFRONT & PIONEER PARKS CONCEPT PLAN

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Riverside Park, Waterfront Park and Pioneer Park are on the riverfront of downtown Kamloops near the junction of the North and South Thompson Rivers. Each park has a unique character and attracts visitors with distinct interests.

Riverside Park is a popular destination park visited by people of all ages; the main uses are walking, picnicking, play, beach activities, sports, and community events. Waterfront Park functions mainly as a corridor between Riverside and Pioneer Parks; the Rivers Trail through the park offers a quiet and relaxed atmosphere with benches and public art. Pioneer Park is a meeting place for youth and dog walkers; lounging on the grass, swimming, dog use, and informal play are the main activities. The boat launch at the east end of the park is heavily used.

There has never been a management plan to guide park development. The 2013 Parks Master Plan for the City of Kamloops recommends that a management plan for the three riverfront parks be prepared to address community interests such as safety, security, new activities, environmental concerns, social opportunities, universal design and alternative transportation.







The purpose of this project is to recommend improvements and possible additions to the activities, resources and amenities in the parks. The planning involved a comprehensive process with two phases of public engagement and multiple meetings with City staff. A site inventory and analysis identify existing conditions, and the opportunities and challenges for the parks. A vision and objectives provide guidance for the planning, design and management of each park. A program for each park identifies existing and potential amenities to be included.

Concept plan options show potential park layouts, and the preferred elements from the options were consolidated into the final management plan. The highly valued elements of the parks such as the open lawn and shade tree areas are being preserved and enhanced.

The plan for Riverside Park includes the following new or modified elements:

- A hierarchy of paths with improved connectivity, including designated bike routes
- A potential renovation or addition to Heritage House to include a concession and washrooms or a new concession building located near the pier out of the riparian zone
- New trees and plantings where appropriate, including vegetable plantings
- Beach access for those with disabilities
- Improved park entries, and more seating and picnic amenities in key locations
- Expanded play areas and water play to accommodate children of all ages
- A potential alternate use of the tennis practice area for basketball or pickle ball
- Space for mobile food vendors
- A potential outdoor skating track

The plan for Waterfront Park includes the following new or modified elements:

- A viewing platform over the river bank for viewing the river, riparian habitat and wildlife
- Seating and picnicking amenities with open views to the river
- Restored public art and heritage features, and new features considered where appropriate
- Improved park infrastructure including path upgrades and lighting

The plan for Pioneer Park includes the following new or modified elements:

- A new pedestrian path closer to the beach, providing a loop pathway route
- A new central hub including basketball hoops, beach volleyball court, picnic shelter and plaza
- Improved beach area with encroaching vegetation reduced
- Improved park entries, and more seating and picnic amenities in key locations
- Updated washroom building
- Improved layout for boat club storage

The elements of the management plan will be implemented in phases over time. Phasing will be based on the need to replace and update amenities, availability of funding, and the priorities expressed by the public. A class D cost estimate is included to support preliminary project approvals and budgeting. Refined cost estimates will need to accompany preliminary and detailed design of each element.







1.0 Introduction

1.1 SITE CONTEXT

There is a rich history of land use and recreation in these parks. It is thought that the first trading posts built in Kamloops by the American Pacific Fur Company and the rival Canadian North West Company may have been on the land of Riverside Park. The railway along the riverfront, south of the parks, predates the incorporation of the City by thirteen years, with the arrival of the first train in 1885. The Kamloops Heritage Railway now runs tour operations in July and August celebrating this history.

Pioneer Park was the site of James McIntosh's Shushwap Milling Company that was sold to the City for a park after he died in 1901. The area east of the mill has been used for swimming since long before it became a park. Many buildings, monuments and amenities have been built, moved or destroyed in these parks over the years, including a Rotary Rose Wheel, bathing pavilion, and Agriculture Hall.







The Parks Master Plan for the City of Kamloops was completed in 2013 to serve as a framework for decisions related to parkland, park development, outdoor recreation, and park management over the next 10 years. It recommends that park planning and design address community interests such as safety and security, new activities, environmental concerns, social opportunities, universal design and alternative transportation. The Master Plan also recommends that a management plan be prepared for the three riverfront parks. It proposes that recommendations specific to each park be considered in more detail in the Management Plan, including the following:

- Increase parking capacity at the boat launch
- Provide more beach opportunities for waterfront activities
- Increase winter use, provide a new concession, and improve gathering areas, entries and path loops at Riverside Park
- Manage vegetation along the shoreline in Pioneer Park
- Increase washroom hours in winter

The three parks form one continuous green space along the riverfront (Figure 1). The South Thompson River bank is the north boundary of the parks. Riverside Park, at 10.3 hectares, is hemmed in to the west where the railroad runs close to the riverbank. The southern boundary of the park follows the railroad and Lorne Street. To the east, the park borders the Interior Savings Centre (ICS), and connects to Waterfront Park under the railroad at the bridge. The 2.9 hectare Waterfront Park is bordered by the railroad on the west and south sides. The eastern boundary is at Mt. Paul Way Bridge ("red bridge") where Waterfront Park meets Pioneer Park. Pioneer Park, at 2.6 hectares, is bordered to the south by the railroad, private residential lots and the Kamloops Tennis Centre before it meets the river at the east end.

Downtown Kamloops is a few minutes' walk from the parks, though the railroad tracks are a barrier between downtown and the riverfront. The roads 1st Avenue, 2nd Avenue, and 3rd Avenue (with a pedestrian overpass over the railway) connect downtown to Riverside Park. Lorne Street is the only east-west road connecting the parks. To the east, 7th Avenue provides access from Lorne Street to Pioneer Park and the boat launch with an at-grade railway crossing. Mt. Paul Way brings vehicles and pedestrians to the parks from across the river. Rivers Trail is a major pedestrian and cycling route passing through the parks along the riverfront.



Figure 1: Context Map

Each park has a unique character, offering different amenities and attracts visitors with distinct interests (Figure 2). Riverside Park is the most diverse. The infrastructure of the park supports walking, jogging, picnicking, swimming, play, recreational sports, and community events. Waterfront Park offers a quiet and relaxed atmosphere with benches, public art and the Rivers Trail along the river. Its primary function is as a linking corridor. Pioneer Park is a vibrant park that attracts primarily youth and dog walkers. It is a place for lounging on the grass, swimming, dog walking, informal play, and launching boats from the heavily used boat launch.





Figure 2: Air Photo

1.2 Project Purpose and Process

The purpose of the management plan is to recommend improvements and possible additions to the activities, resources and amenities in the parks. The planning was accomplished through a comprehensive design and public engagement process (Figure 3). Input received during the planning process is summarized in Appendices A and B.



Figure 3: Public Engagement Process



2.0 SITE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

The site inventory and analysis are based on observations from site visits, supplemented by input from City staff and the public. The inventory information is contained in the text for each topic; the analysis is summarized in the strengths and challenges tables.



2.1 Surrounding Influences

Surrounding influences are the conditions external to the parks that affect experiences and potential plans for the park sites (Figure 4).

Railway – Two sets of railway tracks pass close to the parks . The CP rail lines south of Lorne St. are in frequent use. The train track north of Lorne St. and directly south of Waterfront Park has infrequent use; however the multiple tracks south of Waterfront Park occupy a significant amount of space. Rocky Mountain Rail Tours use the CP railway tracks and stop at the old train station six days weekly, an important economic benefit for the City, and there are three to four freight trains per week. The railroad bridge is sometimes used illegally by pedestrians, and the fences around it are often cut to accommodate this unsafe use.

Major Roads – Lorne Street is the major road providing access to all three parks . Three other main roads from downtown terminate at Riverside Park. At 3rd Avenue, a pedestrian bridge over the train tracks provides uninterrupted access to downtown.

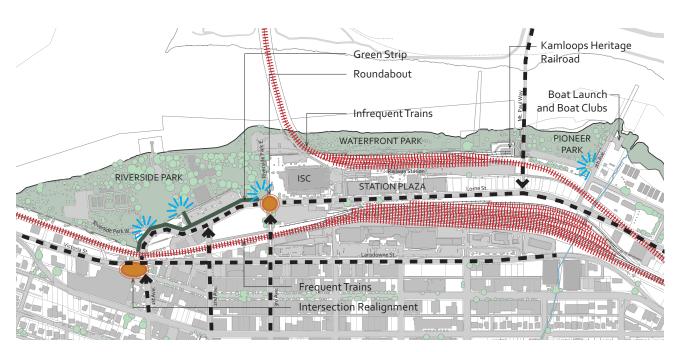


Figure 4: Surrounding Influences



Recent Lorne Street Improvements – Improvements to Lorne Street have provided the following features:

- A green strip south of Riverside Park, with a double row of street trees, a 2.5 m meandering sidewalk, planting beds, ornamental pedestrian street lights, and benches
- A landscaped green strip, with brick pavers and entry trellis, along the west boundary of the parking lot to provide a buffer and to allow space for a major entrance to the park in accordance with the City Centre Plan
- A courtyard/plaza in front of Cunliffe House
- A roundabout at the 3rd Avenue and Lorne Street intersection with widened brick sidewalks, street trees, and planting beds in the centre of the roundabout and on the sidewalks
- Realignment of the 1st Avenue/Lorne Street and Lansdowne Street intersection and replacement of the road lane that ran in front of City Hall with green space

Park Entries – The Lorne Street upgrades have improved the entries to Riverside Park. The entry to Pioneer Park is minimal and outdated.

Station Plaza – New developments with multi-family housing and retail uses (e.g., Station Plaza) are replacing older houses along the north side of Lorne Street.

Kamloops Heritage Railroad – This site, leased from the City to a non-profit group, is located between Waterfront Park and Pioneer Park. Short train trips with an old steam engine run three to four evenings weekly in the summer and during the Christmas season.

Boat Launch and Boat Clubs – East of Pioneer Park is a free public boat launch . The City leases adjacent land to the Canoe and Kayak Club and the Dragon Boat Club.







Strengths	Challenges
 The parks have a strong relationship with the river - long riverfront, riverviews, river access 	Entries to Pioneer are not appealing or sufficient for a park of this size and importance
Parks are centrally located near downtown	 Rail lines separate the park from the downtown core and divide Riverside and Waterfront Parks, trains also have noise impacts
Parks are generally separated from road traffic impacts, e.g., noise, sound, and smells	There is not enough space for parking near the boat launch
Lorne Street improvements provide a better interface with the downtown area	

2.2 CIRCULATION

This section describes the vehicular and active transportation infrastructure (Figure 5).

Road Access – There are two major road entries to Riverside Park – Riverside Park West and Riverside Park East. The road entry to Pioneer Park is located off of 7th Avenue.

There are other minor road entries that are sometimes used by park visitors. The Station Plaza road provides alternate access to the large public parking lot used mainly during ISC events, and to a small parking lot and service bays east of ISC used mostly by staff. Access to the Kamloops Heritage Railroad is through the Pioneer Park parking lot.

Service Road/Path – An asphalt service road crosses Riverside Park from the west parking lot north of the tennis courts to the concession stand and pier, terminating in a large cul-de-sac south of the concession stand. Service access to the concession stand is also provided along the asphalt pathway from the Lorne Street parking lot through a removable bollard.

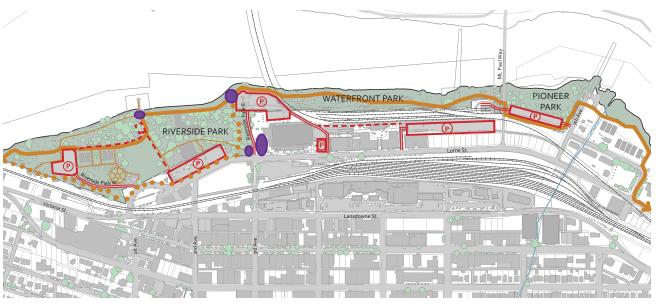


Figure 5: Circulation

Road Access
Plazas
Dog By-Pass Route

Parking
Rivers Trail - Multi-Use Pathway
Pedestrian Paths

Another service road runs north of the Station Plaza property. A portion of this is used by the buses that pick up and drop off Rocky Mountaineer passengers.

Parking – There are five parking lots – two in Riverside Park, one north of the ISC, one near Station Plaza, and one in Pioneer Park.

Trails and Paths – Rivers Trail is a major city-wide multi-use path that runs through all three parks mostly along the waterfront. A dog by-pass route for this pathway is located along the south and east perimeters of Riverside Park.

Two pedestrian paths connect Lorne Street to the pier and waterfront in Riverside Park. These paths and in Riverside Park are paved. Some of the paths have curbs, and paving types are variable.

The Rivers Trail between Riverside Park and Waterfront Park passes underneath the railway bridge. It has a retaining wall to mitigate flooding.

Plazas – The main entry plaza to Riverside Park is a large paved area in front of the ISC. Minor plazas are located at the southeast corner of Riverside Park near Lorne Street, at the foot of Riverside Park east by the river (High Water Plaza), and at the pier.







Strengths	Challenges
Rivers Trail animates the park and provides links along the waterfront to surrounding areas	 Riverside Park pedestrian network lacks a trail hierarchy based on the amount of use, loop trails, and consistent surfaces
Parks have some pleasant places for walking along the waterfront and under the mature trees	Pedestrian connections to downtown and City Hall are not strong
	Waterfront pathway is too narrow in some places for the level of importance and use
	Service roads are very dominant within Riverside Park
	Pioneer Park lacks a loop trail and a path along the river





2.3 BIOPHYSICAL AND LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

This section describes the biophysical conditions and resources in the parks and their landscape character (Figure 6).

Terrain and Slope – Riverside Park is fairly flat; a slope along the southern edge becomes steep at the western end of the park.

South of Pioneer and Waterfront Parks there is a steep slope from Lorne Street down to the public parking lots. Pioneer Park is fairly flat from the rail line to the waterfront. Berms have been added to Waterfront Park along the southern edge near the railway tracks.

Riparian Zone – There are fisheries and associated riparian habitat values along the waterfront, particularly where the shoreline and shallow waters have vegetation. There are also some structures and paved areas within this zone. A 30 metre wide riparian zone (inland from high water) with mostly native vegetation is ideal for protecting habitat; however, this is not usually possible in urban parks and where amenities have already been developed.

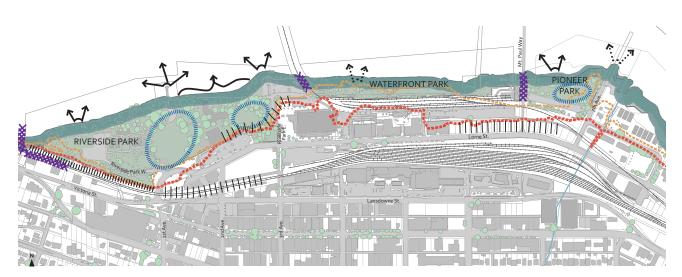
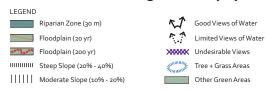


Figure 6: Biophysical and Landscape Character



Floodplain – Most of the park lands are within the 100-year floodplain. A monument in Riverside Park at High Water Plaza indicates the height of the four major historic floods . In 1984 and 1972 the floods were particularly high.

Views – There are excellent views of the river from the pier and the beach area in Riverside Park, with limited views of the river through openings in the vegetation west of the pier. It is difficult to see the river from Waterfront Park due to the dense riparian vegetation , but there are some limited views from the Rivers Trail and high points, especially in winter. In Pioneer Park, the best views are from the beach area and the boat launch.

Some less desirable views occur close to roads and the railway; at the west end of Riverside Park, under the railway bridge, and near Mt. Paul Way.

Landscape Character – Trees and other park vegetation provide habitat for small mammals, birds and insects. The many large mature trees in Riverside and Pioneer Parks create a park-like setting with an attractive character. The large open grass areas are important for recreation activities and special events.







Strengths	Challenges
Flat land in Riverside and Pioneer parks is easy to build on	The grade change between Lorne Street and Riverside Park poses some challenges to park accessibility
 Natural areas provide aesthetic and environmental values, potential for more nature interpretation 	The floodplain covers most of the parks, and existing buildings are within the floodplain
 Character of grassy treed areas draws people, especially for the relative coolness in the summer 	 Waterfront access and views are challenging to retain in relation to protecting environmentally sensitive riparian areas
The parks have attractive background views of the river and distant hills	Some park areas lack character due to large paved/gravel areas, lack of vegetation, e.g., concession area in Riverside Park



2.4 FACILITIES / FEATURES AND PARK USE

This section describes the facilities and features in the parks, with information about associated park uses (Figure 7). The facilities are all in Riverside Park, except where noted otherwise.

Recreation Buildings and Major Structures

- Washroom buildings (3) There are washrooms near the tennis courts and the water spray park in Riverside Park, and near the parking lot in Pioneer Park. All are in satisfactory condition. The washrooms near the tennis courts are open all year. The others are closed in the winter.
- Concession The concession is an older building with little potential for renovation, and it is located within the riparian area. It is open in the summer only.

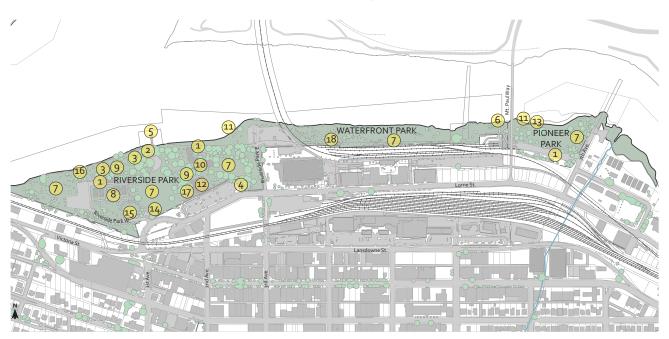


Figure 7: Facilities/Features and Park Use

Recreation Buildings and Major Structures

- 1. Washroom buildings (3)
- 2. Concession
- 3. Outdoor kitchens (2)
- 4. Cunliffe House
- 5. Pier
- 6. Search and Rescue Shed

Other Recreation Facilities and Areas

- 7. Grass areas
- 8. 4 tennis courts and practice court
- 9. Play areas
- 10. Water spray park
- 11. Waterfront swimming areas
- 12. Kamloops Lawn Bowling Green
- 13. Dog friendly waterfront area

Arts, Culture and Heritage

- 14. Rotary Bandshell
- 15. Peter Wing Rotary Rose Garden
- 16. Japanese garden
- 17. Heritage House
- 18. Kamloops Community Forest and public art

- Outdoor kitchens (2) These outdoor shelters with power and barbeque facilities are seasonally available for group gatherings for a fee.
- **4. Cunliffe House** This older building is rented on a rotating basis to community groups.
- **5. Pier** The pier is a relatively new structure within the park, and it is a popular destination for viewing, walking and fishing.
- **6. Search and Rescue Shed** This small shed on the shoreline is located in Waterfront Park.

Other Recreation Facilities and Areas

- 7. Grass areas There are three main grass areas in Riverside Park. The largest one is near the Rotary Bandshell and it is used for festivals and events, as well as unprogrammed recreation. All of the grass areas are used for picnics, sunbathing, casual play (e.g., frisbee, throwing ball), private boot camps, and programs such as Theatre in the Park, a summer camp for children. The east portion of Riverside Park is active and busy, and the far west portion has a more quiet atmosphere with berms and sculptures.
- **8. Four tennis courts and practice court –** The courts are in good condition, and they are well used.
- 9. Play areas There is an accessible play area for children 2 to 12 years of age built in 2009, which is very popular in the summer . An older play area close to the tennis courts is not well used.
- **10.** Water spray park The relatively new spray park is very popular in summer . An older portion of the spray park with a water tower feature, located near the shoreline, is not well used.
- **11. Waterfront swimming areas** Riverside Park and Pioneer Park have beaches that serve as swimming areas, with high use in the summer. At Pioneer Park and Riverside Park, private boats sometimes pull up to the beach.
- **12. Kamloops Lawn Bowling Green (at Heritage House)** The lawn bowling green is fairly well used in the summer, especially during evenings.
- **13.** Dog friendly waterfront area The beach in Pioneer Park is used as a dog off-leash swimming area.











Arts, Culture and Heritage

- **14. Rotary Bandshell** This historic park feature serves as a venue for music and other special events, e.g., Music in the Park every summer evening.
- **15. Peter Wing Rotary Rose Garden** Opened in 1982, the garden is used for weddings, other events, and for viewing, especially during rose blooming season.
- **16. Japanese garden** This garden is a tribute to Uji, the sister city of Kamloops. It is used for viewing and as a feature of cultural interest.
- 17. Heritage House The upper level of this house is used by an arts and crafts group, pottery group, floor curling, and for seniors programs. There is a multi-purpose room and lounge available for group rentals in the basement. The lawn bowling club also uses the basement. There are washrooms on both floors that are available for building user groups.
- **18. Kamloops Community Forest and public art** This area includes a labyrinth, sculptures and a seating area in Waterfront Park.

Other

The following are some other features in Riverside Park that are not specifically identified on Figure 7:

- Memorial benches and memorial trees (in all three parks).
- War memorial monument.
- Monument erected by the Dominion Historic Sites and Monuments Board in 1922 to recognize the fur traders.
- Old "Cunliffe" fountain, which is now used as a planter.
- Public art.

Strengths	Challenges
The parks include many popular recreation and cultural facilities and features	 Many elements and features have been placed in the park without an overall plan, which challenges circulation, views, etc.
 Grass areas are well used for picnics and informal activities 	 Some buildings and facilities are outdated and in poor condition
The bandshell and grass area are used for well- attended special events	 The integrity of some historic structures has been compromised (e.g., fountain now a planter)
	Opportunities to interpret the site's history and environment have not been fully realized

2.5 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Some of the key challenges and opportunities for the parks and their immediate surroundings are listed in the table below and identified on Figure 8.



Figure 8: Challenges and Opportunities

Amenity or Feature

- 1. Riparian Vegetation
- 2. Rivers Trail
- 3. Concession Area
- 4. Entry at Parking Lot
- 5. Heritage house
- 6. Parking Lot
- 7. Cunliffe House

- 8. Pay Parking Area
- 9. Crossing at Railroad
- 10. Pioneer Park Walkway
- 11. Triangle at 7th Ave.
- 12. Pioneer Park Grass Area
- 13. Pioneer Park Riparian Vegetation
- 14. Boat Launch

,	Amenity or	Challenges	Opportunities
	Features		
1.	Riparian Vegetation	 Limited views due to willows and other tall riparian vegetation 	Work with DFO to create view windows through the vegetation
2.	Rivers Trail – Multi-use Walkway	 Too narrow west of pier along waterfront Too narrow east of pier along waterfront to support the level of use No looped walkway system with markers 	 Widen pathway to 3 m width to match pathway from parking lot to west end Provide a pedestrian network with connecting loops throughout the park with marked distances
3.	Concession Area	 Building old and tired and blocks the sightline from entry at parking lot Large area of asphalt pavement for service turnaround 	 Provide a new concession building out of the riparian zone and away from sightline from parking lot entry. Consider renovation or addition to Heritage House Remove asphalt paving and replace with a terrace, ornamental paving for service access
4.	Entry at Parking Lot	 No park identification or sense of entry Vehicular access dominates Visual connection to waterfront blocked by vehicular gate and the concession building 	 Provide a pedestrian entry separate from vehicles Improve sense of entry and view to the river with a sign and other features Establish a new pathway connection to riverfront
5.	Heritage House	 Inefficient use of space on bottom floor Limited access and use by the general public given its key central location 	Explore feasibility to renovate or add to the building to provide concession and washrooms that are open to the public year round including a gender neutral washroom
6.	Parking Lot	Character does not integrate with park	Upgrade parking lot with more vegetation, potential rain gardens or bioswales
7.	Cunliffe House	 Building does not have high aesthetic value, looks outdated and worn from the park side The south side of the building was recently updated Landscape and log retaining wall at the rear of the building old and worn 	 Explore the possibility of removing the house or redeveloping it to be more compatible with the park Address the surrounding area to integrate with the park e.g., remove retaining walls

Amenity or	Challenges	Opportunities
8. Pay Parking Area	Huge bleak and underused parking area very close to Waterfront and Pioneer Parks and ISC Arena	Explore ways to make this lot free except for events, and better used with improved links
9. Crossing of Railroad under Mt. Paul Way	There is no controlled at grade crossing of the tracks to enable a safe connection under the Mt. Paul Way bridge between the pay parking area and Pioneer Park; this route has significant use when the Rivers Trail is blocked due to high water	Explore the opportunity for a controlled crossing to allow safe pedestrian access between the pay parking area and Pioneer Park
10. Pioneer Park Walkway	 Rivers Trail is behind the parking lot and not in a scenic location close to the waterfront 	Explore routing Rivers Trail for pedestrians through Pioneer Park with bikes using the existing path by the parking area
11. Triangle and Railway access road at 7th Ave.	 Random parking of equipment and vehicles with boat trailers in the triangle north of railway Access road on railway property south of tracks 	 Explore the development potential of this area with formalized parking and added green space. Direct parking to large lot south of Waterfront Park
12. Pioneer Park Grass Area	 Park has low use in the off season, except for dog walkers It is primarily a youth (and dog) area in summer 	Explore year round youth facilities in Pioneer Park
13. Pioneer Park Riparian Vegetation	Riparian vegetation has expanded beyond the DFO agreement area and limited the views, beach access and swimming/boating area	Work with DFO to reduce vegetation back to the original agreement area
14. Boat Launch	 Large demand for motor boat launches creating congestion and parking issues Only two other launches in the City – Valleyview and MacArthur Island Canoe, kayak and dragon boats also use the ramp 	 Work with DFO to clear some vegetation to widen ramp for the launching of three narrow boats Explore options for other boat launches Consider the purchase of the three residential lots (with one house) at the corner of 7th Ave. and Front St. for an expanded boating area with parking



3.0 GUIDING STATEMENTS

The vision and objectives establish a framework and guidance for the planning, design and management of the parks. The program identifies existing and potential amenities to be included in the management plan. The guiding statements are based on input from staff and the public. Visions are expressed in the present tense since it is hoped that this is how the parks will be described in the future.

3.1 RIVERSIDE PARK

Vision for Riverside Park

Riverside Park is a central community hub and provides a special identity to the City of Kamloops. It is a green oasis that is integrated with the downtown core, and provides connections to the river and other riverfront parks. The park offers a safe, secure, and family- friendly environment for a variety of year-round community gatherings, public events, sports and recreation activities that are accessible to people of all ages and abilities. Diverse park amenities, services and programs accommodate the needs of park visitors, and support healthy lifestyles for citizens and tourists.







Objectives for Riverside Park

- 1. Improve the overall quality of the amenities and landscape to enhance the park's identity.
- 2. Improve circulation through the park with consideration for universal design.
- 3. Increase opportunities for play, recreation, resting, gathering, art, cultural events, and year-round use.
- 4. Improve food and eating area choices and availability.
- 5. Improve views of and access to the river.
- 6. Increase connectivity from the park to downtown and other riverfront parks.
- 7. Protect, restore and enhance the natural environment, including trees.
- 8. Update, remove or replace older service buildings and their interfaces with the park.
- 9. Improve safety and security through CPTED, policing, By-laws, and social agencies.
- 10. Increase comfort for park visitors, such as sun and wind protection.

Program for Riverside Park

Retained and Enhanced Amenities

Paths – Widen and improve Rivers Trail. Provide a hierarchy of improved paths, with multiple loops and connections to surrounding destinations.

Trees – Manage trees to retain the significant tree canopy over time.

Natural areas – Manage and enhance riparian natural areas while also providing more view windows to the river.

Open lawn areas – Retain and improve large and smaller areas of lawn for informal recreation and gatherings.

Beach – Improve access to the beach area for those with disabilities.

Public art/ heritage monuments – Add additional art/heritage features over time where appropriate.

Park entries – Improve entries to the park that have not yet been upgraded with plantings, signage and public art .

Seating and Picnicking Amenities – Expand seating and picnic amenities in key locations.

Signage – Provide more interpretive signs.

Parking Lots – Increase the amount of vegetation and rainwater infiltration in and near parking lots.

Cunliffe House – Improve the landscape fronting the park for better integration.

Heritage House – Redesign the landscape fronting the park for better integration, and explore the feasibility to renovate or add to the building to include a concession and washrooms on the lower floor.

Concession / Food services area – Remove the concession building and build a new concession at Heritage House or in a location out of the riparian zone and away from sightlines to the riverfront. Establish an outdoor eating area near the new concession.

Bandshell – Update the structure and improve the interface between the park entry and the back of the bandshell.

Play areas – Increase play opportunities to accommodate children of different ages.

Spray park – Explore the feasibility of converting the water tower portion to a wading pool.

Bike racks - Install additional bike racks near park entries.

Tennis courts – Consider alternate uses of the practice area such as basketball or pickle ball.

Pier - Retain as is.

Outdoor kitchens – Retain as is.

Lawn bowling - Retain as is.











Potential New Amenities

Food Vendors – Provide a space for mobile food vendors.

Urban agriculture – Increase the number of vegetable plantings.

Gathering/seating areas – Provide more areas to accommodate small and large gatherings.

Outdoor skating track – Add a skating track, subject to the findings of a feasibility study.

Bike route – Provide a designated route through the park, separated from pedestrians where possible.

Wading pool – Construct a wading pool in place of the water tower feature next to the spray park.

Accessible path to river – Increase access to the water's edge.

3.2 WATERFRONT PARK

Vision for Waterfront Park

Waterfront Park is a linear greenspace that connects the riverfront parks. It offers access and views to the river and natural areas, and provides year-round pathway connections to Riverside Park, Pioneer Park and beyond. Public art and the community forest provide insight into the heritage and natural history of Kamloops. Open views and quiet places to sit contribute to a safe, secure, and peaceful atmosphere that is welcoming to all visitors.

Objectives for Waterfront Park

- 1. Increase connectivity to other riverfront parks.
- 2. Improve views of and access to the river.
- 3. Improve circulation through the park with consideration for universal design.
- 4. Improve safety and security through CPTED, policing, By-laws, and social agencies.
- 5. Protect, restore and enhance the natural environment, including trees.
- 6. Increase opportunities for art, nature and heritage interpretation.
- 7. Introduce more activity into the park.

Program for Waterfront Park

Retained and Enhanced Amenities

Paths – Improve the path, including lighting and way-finding signage.

Flood protection for path – Ensure the connection from Riverside Park accessible year-round.

Trees – Manage trees to retain the significant tree canopy over time.

Natural areas – Manage and enhance riparian natural areas while also providing more view windows to the river.

Open lawn areas – Retain large areas of lawn for informal recreation.





Public art/ heritage monuments – Add additional art/heritage features over time where appropriate.

Park entries – Improve the entries to the park with plantings, signage and public art.

Seating and Picnicking Amenities – Expand seating and picnic amenities in key locations.

Signage – Restore interpretive signs.

Potential New Amenities

Viewing platform – Construct a platform over the river edge for viewing the river, riparian habitat and wildlife.

Bike racks – Install bike racks near key recreation amenities.

3.3 PIONEER PARK

Vision for Pioneer Park

Pioneer Park is a beautiful riverfront greenspace with a beach. It offers a unique atmosphere that is open and relaxed as a complement to the high level of activity and amenities in Riverside Park. Pioneer Park is welcoming to all, and is a gathering place popular among dog owners and youth. It is the only park near downtown that provides launching for boats.

Objectives for Pioneer Park

- 1. Improve circulation through the park with consideration for universal design.
- 2. Improve views of and access to the river.
- 3. Increase connectivity to other riverfront parks.
- 4. Improve safety and security through CPTED, policing, By-laws, and social agencies.
- 5. Protect, restore and enhance the natural environment, including trees.
- 6. Increase recreation opportunities for youth.
- 7. Encourage responsible dog ownership.
- 8. Improve boat launching and parking infrastructure.







Program for Pioneer Park

Retained and Enhanced Amenities

Paths – Provide a new trail along the river for pedestrians.

Trees – Manage trees to retain the significant tree canopy over time.

Natural areas – Manage and enhance riparian natural areas while also providing more view windows to the river.

Open lawn areas – Retain large areas of lawn for informal recreation.

Beach – Work with DFO to reduce willows back to the original agreement area.

Park entries – Improve the entries to the park with plantings, signage and public art.

Seating and Picnicking Amenities – Expand seating and picnic amenities in key locations.

Signage – Provide more interpretive signs.

Washrooms – Update the building.

Dog off-leash area – Retain dog off-leash grass and beach areas.

Boat clubs' storage area – Improve layout of boat storage to increase its efficiency.

Potential New Amenities

Plaza/ basketball court – Provide an open (unenclosed) plaza with seating and basketball hoops.

Beach volleyball – Provide a beach volleyball court.

Picnic shelter – Construct a covered shelter for protection from sun and rain.

Bike racks – Install bike racks near park entries.



4.0 MANAGEMENT PLAN

The planning process involved the preparation of two concept plans for Riverside Park and one concept plan for Waterfront and Pioneer Parks (Appendix C). The concept plans presented options for amenities and park layout, and they were presented to the public for review at Canada Day and on the City's website.

The preferred elements from the design options were identified based on feedback from staff and the public, and they were consolidated into the Management Plan (pull-out at back of report). This section contains a description of the Management Plan. Amenities within the park that are not described below will remain as they are.

4.1 RIVERSIDE PARK

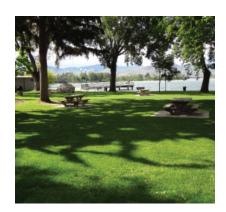
Paths

Rivers Trail will be a separated path built to a high urban standard for bicycles, pedestrians and other non-vehicular modes as follows:

 pedestrian side will be a minimum 2m wide path next to the river, with paving to be some combination of unit pavers, concrete, or similar quality material.







- bicycle side will be a minimum 3m wide path with asphalt surfacing over a granular base.
- separation between paths of up to 1 metre, which may be a grade change, curb, landscape strip, textured paving or similar.
- decorative lighting at a pedestrian scale.
- site furnishing will include benches, space next to benches for wheelchairs or scooters, and waste/recycling receptacles.

Shared multi-use paths will be minimum 4m wide, with asphalt surfacing over a granular base.

Primary pedestrian paths will be 2m to 3m wide constructed of granular or asphalt surface over a granular base.

Secondary pedestrian paths will be 1.5m to 2m wide constructed of granular surface over a granular base.

All paths will be built to fit around existing trees and will be aligned to provide more views to the river where possible.

Trees

Existing trees will be protected where possible. Any trees that must be removed will be replaced two for one.

New trees will be planted to line paths, define spaces and fill in natural areas.

Natural areas

The riparian setback area and existing natural areas will be protected and managed to enhance their habitat values.

View windows through riparian vegetation will be cleared at appropriate locations, along with compensation works that enhance the riparian vegetation elsewhere, identified in collaboration with and approval from DFO.

Open lawn areas

Areas of lawn will be retained for informal play and gathering, and trees will be planted at the edges of lawn areas to define the spaces and provide shade.

Grass will be restored where needed and shade tolerant grass species will be used to establish lawn under the tree canopy.

Beach

An accessible concrete ramp from Rivers Trail to the low water mark will be constructed to improve access to the water.

Public art / heritage monuments

New public art and heritage features will be installed in appropriate locations over time, particularly in prominent locations and in the west portion of the park.

Park entries

Park entries that have not yet been upgraded will be enhanced to welcome park visitors with separation of pedestrian routes from vehicles, clear and consistent signage, plantings, and temporary or permanent art installations. View corridors from park entries to the river will be preserved or improved.

Seating and picnicking Amenities

Seating, including benches, will be installed at park entries, gathering areas, recreation amenities and along paths. Picnic tables will be installed in areas suitable for picnics.

Signage

A consistent system of direction, identification, and regulatory signs conforming to City standards will be installed throughout the park. Interpretive signs will be installed at appropriate locations. All signs placed in parks must conform to City of Kamloops sign standards and bylaws. A full parks signage review audit will be conducted in conjunction with business and client services in 2015. The review will make recommendations of standards for 'information', 'regulatory' and 'way-finding signs'.

Parking lots

The parking lot on the west side of the park will be enhanced with planted islands and a rainwater infiltration garden or bioswales.

Cunliffe House

The landscape on the north side of the building will be redesigned to improve the interface with the park. The redesign will include planting beds and removal of the retaining wall.

Heritage House

If feasible, the building will be renovated or have an addition to include a concession and washrooms. An outdoor eating area will













be provided outside the west entrance that will have special paving, ornamental planting, decorative fencing, moveable tables and chairs, and a temporary cover. The concession will be open year-round to serve visitors to the outdoor skating track in the winter.

Concession / food services area

The existing concession building will be removed. A new concession will be provided at Heritage House or in a location outside of the riparian area and away from sightlines to the riverfront. A wide promenade will be constructed in the current concession location between the pier and the outdoor skating track. The promenade will be 9m wide, with special paving to match the outdoor eating area at Heritage House. There will be space on each side for impromptu performances and food vendors during special events.

Bandshell

The bandshell will be updated, and planting beds will be installed around the building to improve the interface with the park and screen the service access at the back of the building.

Play areas

The existing playground near Heritage House will be expanded with new features for ages 6 to 12.

The small playground north of the tennis courts will be updated with new features to replace the existing features when they reach the end of their lifespan.

Spray park

The water tower feature in the spray park will be removed, and a wading pool will be constructed in its place.

Bike racks

Bike racks will be installed at park entries and other suitable locations throughout the park.

Tennis courts

The amount of use of the tennis practice court area will be monitored and evaluated, and if appropriate, alternate uses for this hard surface area such as basketball or pickleball will be considered.

Urban agriculture

Vegetable plantings will be included in planting beds in the west end of the park.

Outdoor skating track

A skating track will be installed around the edge of the open grass area in front of the bandshell. It will be 4m to 5m wide, constructed of concrete with an imbedded chilling system. A small service building for the chilling equipment will be constructed west of the track or included in the bandshell building. A short loop on the east side of track will accommodate new skaters and connect to a staging area near the outdoor eating area. When not in use as a skating track, the path will be used as a walking loop.



4.2 WATERFRONT PARK

Paths

Rivers Trail will be upgraded and resurfaced where applicable. It will be a shared path for bicycles and pedestrians with adequate lighting. It will be a 4m wide path with asphalt surfacing over a granular base.

Flood protection will be constructed for Rivers Trail at the railroad underpass entrance to the park.

Trees

Existing trees will be protected where possible. Any trees that must be removed will be replaced two for one.

New trees will be planted to line paths, define spaces and fill in natural areas.

Natural areas

The riparian setback area and existing natural areas will be protected and managed to enhance their habitat values.

View windows through riparian vegetation will be cleared at appropriate locations, along with compensation works that enhance the riparian vegetation elsewhere, identified in collaboration with and approval from DFO.

Open lawn areas

Areas of lawn will be retained for informal play and gathering, and trees will be planted at the edges of lawn areas to define the spaces and provide shade.

Grass will be restored where needed and shade tolerant grass species will be used to establish lawn under the tree canopy.









Public art / heritage monuments

Public art and heritage features will be restored to their original condition. New features will be considered over time where appropriate.

Park entries

Park entries will be enhanced to welcome park visitors with separation of pedestrian routes from vehicles, clear and consistent signage, plantings, and temporary or permanent art installations. View corridors from park entries to the river will be preserved or improved.

Seating and picnicking amenities

Seating, including benches, will be installed at park entries, gathering areas, and along paths. Existing benches in the riparian area that have had their view obstructed by vegetation will be moved to more appropriate locations or view windows will be cleared with approval from DFO. Picnic tables will be installed in picnic areas.

Signage

A consistent system of direction, identification, and regulatory signs conforming to City standards will be installed throughout the park. Interpretive signs will be installed at appropriate locations. All signs placed in parks must conform to City of Kamloops sign standards and bylaws. A full parks signage review audit will be conducted in conjunction with business and client services in 2015. The review will make recommendations of standards for 'information', 'regulatory' and 'way-finding signs'.

Viewing platform

A viewing platform at the river's edge will be installed in consultation with DFO. It will be in the west end of Waterfront Park, where the path is nearest to the river bank. The platform will be about 3m wide and 5m long, constructed of wood.

Bike racks

Bike racks will be installed at park entries and other suitable locations throughout the parks.

4.3 PIONEER PARK

Paths

Rivers Trail will be upgraded and resurfaced where applicable. It will be a shared path for bicycles and pedestrians with adequate lighting. It will be a 4m wide path with asphalt surfacing over a granular base.

The Secondary pedestrian paths in Pioneer Park will be 2m wide, and constructed of granular surface over a granular base.

Trees

Existing trees will be protected where possible. Any trees that must be removed will be replaced two for one.

New trees will be planted to line paths, define spaces and fill in natural areas.

Natural areas

The riparian setback area and existing natural areas will be protected and managed to enhance their habitat values.

View windows through riparian vegetation will be cleared at appropriate locations, along with compensation works that enhance the riparian vegetation elsewhere, identified in collaboration with and approval from DFO.

Open lawn areas

Areas of lawn will be retained for informal play and gathering, and trees will be planted at the edges of lawn areas to define the spaces and provide shade.

Grass will be restored where needed and shade tolerant grass species will be used to establish lawn under the tree canopy.

Beach

The vegetation at the Pioneer Park beach area will be cut back to the original agreement area in consultation with DFO.

Park entries

Park entries will be enhanced to welcome park visitors with separation of pedestrian routes from vehicles, clear and consistent signage, plantings, and temporary or permanent art installations. View corridors from park entries to the river will be preserved or improved.

Seating and picnicking amenities

Seating, including benches, will be installed at park entries, gathering areas, and along paths. Existing benches in the riparian area that have had their view obstructed by vegetation will be moved to more appropriate locations or view windows will be cleared with approval from DFO. Picnic tables will be installed in picnic areas.





Signage

A consistent system of direction, identification, and regulatory signs conforming to City standards will be installed throughout the park. Interpretive signs will be installed at appropriate locations. All signs placed in parks must conform to City of Kamloops sign standards and bylaws. A full parks signage review audit will be conducted in conjunction with business and client services in 2015. The review will make recommendations of standards for 'information', 'regulatory' and 'way-finding signs'.

Parking lots

The parking lot in Pioneer Park will have space designated for food vendors during special events.

The parking lot south of Waterfront Park will be identified as overflow parking for the boat launch. With permission from CP Rail, a 2m wide granular path across the railroad tracks will connect the overflow lot parking lot to the Pioneer Park parking lot.

Washrooms

The washroom building will be updated.

Boat clubs' storage area

The storage area will be laid out to improve efficiency of use.

Plaza / basketball court

A small plaza will be provided near the washroom building. It will include special paving and asphalt surface for half-court basketball. A wood picnic shelter will provide weather protection for seating and picnic benches around two sides of the plaza.

Beach volleyball

A beach volleyball court will be provided near the plaza / basketball court and washroom building. It will have a sand surface with permanent posts for players to mount a volleyball net.

Bike racks

Bike racks will be installed at park entries and other suitable locations throughout the parks.





5.0 Management and Operations

During the planning process, a number of comments were received about the management and operations of the parks. Some of the proposed new amenities and uses will also require adjustments to the current management regime. This section identifies recommendations related to management and operations.

5.1 ALL THREE PARKS

Trees - Replace trees that must be removed.

Maintenance – Increase volunteer efforts to remove litter along shoreline.

Safety and security – Explore opportunities for expanding park oversight and legitimate park activities in order to deter inappropriate uses, e.g., park stewards, adopt-a-trail, planned activities for clubs or recreation programs and increased patrols by bylaw officers and RCMP.



5.2 RIVERSIDE PARK

Parking – Work with event organizers and require them to provide good signage to alternate parking areas and to provide a shuttle service from distant parking to events.

Washrooms - Increase the hours of operation in the winter.

Spray park - Increase the hours of operation in warm weather.

Tennis courts - Extend lit hours of use.

Heritage House – Maximize the potential use of Heritage House. Work with existing user groups to evaluate how the building can better serve the needs of the general public.



5.3 WATERFRONT PARK

Public art/ heritage monuments – Restore features to their original condition.

Infrastructure - Repair lights, water fountains, and benches.



5.4 PIONEER PARK

Food Vendors - Establish a designated space for mobile food vendors in the parking lot.

Beach - Improve maintenance of the beach area.

Washrooms - Increase the hours of operation in the winter.

Parking – Formalize overflow boat launch parking. Improve connections to the city owned parking lot south of Waterfront Park so it may be used for overflow boat launch parking.

Beyond Park Boundaries – Consider the following improvements that would enhance the access to and experience of Pioneer Park:

- Consider the purchase of the three residential lots (with one house) at the corner of 7th Ave. and Front St. for an expanded boat club storage area and parking for boaters.
- Consider consolidating the road right-of-way south of the Pioneer Park parking lot into the park.
- Improve connectivity to Pioneer Cemetery Park and explore improving the use of the green space.
- Enhance the Rivers Trail eastward with improved way-finding signage and amenities.
- Improve connections to the Kamloops Tennis Centre.







6.0 IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Phasing and Costs

The elements of the management plan will be implemented in phases over time. Phasing is based on the need to replace and update amenities, availability of funding, and the priorities expressed by the public. The phases are intended as a guideline for implementation.

Relative Costs will assist in project approval and budgeting. There are no major constraints affecting the order of construction, and priorities can change over time. Every item in each phase is contingent on the availability of funding. Items can therefore be juggled between phases based on funding opportunities and community interest.

		Phasing		Relative Cost			
	Short	Medium	Long	Low	Medium	High	Special
	Term	Term	Term				Project
	0-5	5-10	10-20	under	\$200,000 -	\$600,000 -	over
	years	years	years	\$200,000	\$600,000	\$1,000.000	\$1,000.000
Riverside Park							
Path connections and upgrades	~	~				~	
Park furnishing upgrades	~	~			~		
Tree planting	~			~			
Picnic area upgrades	~			~			
Concession building or addition to Heritage House			>				~
Cunliffe House landscape upgrades	*			~			
Bandshell building and landscape update		>			>		
Parking lot planting areas	~			~			
Play area expansion		>			~		
Wading pool			>		~		
Tennis practice court refurbishing		>		~			
Outdoor skating track			~			~	
Waterfront Park							
Park furnishing upgrades	~			~			
Tree planting	~			~			
Picnic area upgrades	~			~			
Viewing platform			~	~			
Pioneer Park							
Path connections and upgrades		~		~			
Park furnishing upgrades	~						
Tree planting	~			~			
Washroom building update		~		~			
Plaza and basketball court			~		~		
Beach volleyball court		~		~			

APPENDIX A: SUMMARY OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT #1

Community Input from Open House #1, Visioning Workshop and Comment Forms, June 2013

On June 11, 2013, an open house was held in Riverside Park from 4:00 to 6:00 pm and a visioning workshop was held from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at the Interior Savings Centre. The purpose of these sessions was to inform participants about the planning process, to present a preliminary site inventory and analysis, and to seek input about the existing park characteristics and use, vision and objectives, and potential amenities in the parks.

Comment forms were available at the open house, the visioning workshop, and on the City's website. The questions on the comment forms were the same as the topics discussed at the workshop. This document summarizes the input received at the workshop and on the comment forms.

VISIONING WORKSHOP INPUT

The following is the input from the workshop, attended by 19 participants, with each bullet representing an idea put forth during brainstorming for the topics identified. The numbered sections are lists that were compiled in a collaborative process with each group; these lists are in order of importance, as determined by "voting" using audience response technology ("clickers"). The unnumbered bullets are generally in order of importance based on the number of times a feature or idea was mentioned.

	Riverside Park
STRENGTHS	 Open green space, natural space Walking, long walks Public riverfront access Trees for shade and coolness in summer Music in the park Water view, beautiful views Variety of facilities Lawn bowling Proximity to downtown Everything as it is – do not change it Beaches for swimming Tennis courts Absence of commercial business Rose garden
CHALLENGES	 Walking access to Waterfront Park - underpass is under water, disconnect of all three parks in flood season Lack of continuous pathways Vehicle access and parking – not the highest and best use Lack of organization Way finding from downtown Lack of concession at music in the park West end sidewalks are narrow and cracked Not enough parking Occasional garbage in ravines Lots of undesirable people in the park Goose poo! Old grey buildings Weak edges Would like to be able to walk with my dog The old toilet building near water park Access to food, commercial tourism, and things to do Not enough upkeep

VISION/ OBJECTIVES

- 1. Replace, remove or upgrade old buildings toilets, concession
- 2. More comfort for seating, gathering rain and sun protection, wind
- 3. Higher quality finishing and maintenance
- 4. Safety and security
- 5. Stronger connection to City
- 6. More year-round use
- 7. Start/stop for River's Trail more identity, "Central Park" of Kamloops
- 8. Balance environmental and social objectives
- 9. Attract tourists
- 10. More diverse activities (equipment not needed)

Other Vision Ideas (from brainstorming):

- Protect and enhance green space
- Oasis for downtown residents

AMENITIES AND ACTIVITIES

- 1. Underpass between parks
- 2. Improve paths
- 3. Mobile food vendors
- 4. Central plaza/eating area/event space
- 5. Improve or replace concession
- 6. Roofed picnic shelter, BBQ area, winter shelter
- 7. Berming/flood management
- 8. Drinking fountain/water spout, interpretive signage
- 9. Nicer buildings
- 10. Public skating

Other Amenity Ideas (from brainstorming):

- Buskers permitted
- Public art events (both summer and winter)
- Create natural amphitheatre and/or small stage area
- Water park open when it's warm and not only by calendar
- Tubing, more food, commercial activities for tourists to do e.g., skating
- Flood the tennis court in winter
- Solar panels over parking areas to create energy for use in park facilities
- Year round washrooms
- Remove old concession and contract with three to four mobile food vendors
- Normal food/beverage prices not extortions
- More event parking
- Interpretive signage for natural and cultural history

	Waterfront Park
STRENGTHS	 Natural green river edge, riparian habitat Like the trail along waterfront Public art, labyrinth Good seats Good information signs It's a beautiful walk Collaborate with Tk'emlups on "greening shoreline"
CHALLENGES	Lack of year-round access to trail from both ends (under bridge) Cut trees have not been removed Benches cannot see water Can't get to the beach for winter use Integration with station plaza

	Pioneer Park
STRENGTHS	 Green space and openness, nature, trees Beach access Picnic tables Good paths Easy access and parking and it is free Fun and games Rivers trail Dogs are welcome Berms Well defined space
CHALLENGES	 Irresponsible dog owners and uncontrolled dogs— no bylaw enforcement Poor access to boat ramp, ramp is too flat to launch without wet feet, has potholes Lack of walkway through the park - above / close to beach Lack of access to Peterson Creek No food available Shoreline vegetation is encroaching on beach Noise from boats Nicer buildings — not necessarily new buildings Underpass at 7th — walking only No cooking facility / BBQ, roofed picnic shelter Rivers trail crosses roadway twice — conflict of vehicles vs. people/bikes Losing space to single use clubs Red bridge Parking

Pioneer Park

VISION, OBJECTIVES, AMENITIES AND ACTIVITIES

- 1. Allow and control dogs enforce
- 2. Preserve the beach manage brush
- 3. Focus on youth
- 4. Relaxed atmosphere
- 5. Leave it as it is maintain character
- 6. Space for gathering shelter, benches, drinking fountain
- 7. More activities beach volleyball, chess
- 8. Happy place for the whole family
- 9. No dogs
- 10. No structures, amenities

Other Vision Ideas (from brainstorming):

- Water taxi to other parks / North Shore
- It needs a beach despite Fisheries' protests
- Benches in a circle for visiting
- A safer tubing launch point than Thompson Drive and River Road move tubers to Dallas area (there's already a crossing over CPR there)
- More physical activities than Riverside Park
- Liquor management strategy should be allowed but managed
- Mobile food vendor
- Move boat ramp downstream for year-round water access (only needs to be 30 to 40 feet)

COMMENT FORMS

The following is a summary of the input from the comment forms that were completed at the open house, on-line, or submitted by mail or email. There were 192 comment forms submitted. The numbered sections are listed in order of priority, as determined by the number of respondents who selected that option. The per cent of respondents is provided in brackets for multiple choice questions, and the number of mentions is provided for open-ended questions. The bullets represent other suggestions given by respondents.

CURRENT USE

Activities

- 1. Walking (88%)
- 2. Music in the Park (85%)
- 3. Relaxing / picnicking (71%)
- 4. Other festivals or events (66%)
- 5. Nature appreciation (53%)
- 6. Swimming / beach use (46%)
- 7. Gathering / hanging out (41%)
- 8. Jogging (29%)
- 9. Dog walking (15%)
- 10. Recreation programs (5%)
- 11. Lawn bowling (2%)

Other:

- Cycling (20)
- Would like to walk dog (2)
- Photography (2)
- Bird watching
- Scooter / wheelchair
- Orienteering

Park Amenities

- 1. Rose garden (37%)
- 2. Water spray park (35%)
- 3. Pier (32%)
- 4. Concession (32%)
- 5. Japanese garden (31%)
- 6. Playground near water park (30%)
- 7. Monuments and heritage information (21%)
- 8. Playground near tennis courts (20%)
- 9. Tennis courts (16%)
- 10. Outdoor kitchens (6%)

Other:

- Use washroom
- Theatre

Riverside Park • Trees (39) **STRENGTHS** • Special events (33) • Variety of activities (19) • Open space / lawn (18) • Walking / jogging paths (15) • Friendly atmosphere / peaceful (15) • Access to river (13) • Beach (12) • Playgrounds (12) • Water park (11) • Location (8) • Shade (8) Views (7) • Nature (6) • Ornamental gardens (6) • Good maintenance (6) • Accessible (4) • No dogs (4) • Heritage monuments / public art (4) • Tennis courts (3) • Benches (3) • Washrooms (2) • Parking (2) Picnic tables • Sun Cycling • Heritage House • Lifeguards

CHALLENGES

- Deviant behaviour- vandalism, intoxication, vagrants (23)
- No dog access (15)
- Washrooms in poor condition (13)
- Concession is poor- hours, condition (11)
- Pay parking (11)
- Goose poo (7)
- Path surface condition (5)
- Crowded (5)
- Feels unsafe (4)
- Food vendor restrictions (3)
- Dogs in park (3)
- Poor maintenance (3)
- Bike path (3)
- Tennis court-lights (3)
- Difficult to access from downtown (2)
- Bugs (2)
- Trees cut down and not replaced
- No water access at west end of park
- Seagulls
- Heritage house is for limited use by members
- Bandshell needs update
- Water park
- Noise
- No park identity

VISION/ OBJECTIVES

- Family friendly (21)
- Many events / community gathering (14)
- Preserve greenspace / nature (12)
- Security / by-law enforcement (8)
- Increase commercial enterprise / food / drinks (7)
- Dog friendly (6)
- Access to river / swimming (6)
- Encourage healthy lifestyles / sports / recreation (6)
- Accessibility (6)
- Good management / maintenance (5)
- Improve circulation (4)
- Accommodate many people/activities (4)
- Attract tourists (3)
- Integrated with City (3)
- Safety (3)
- Limit commercial activity (3)
- Connect to other parks (3)
- Emphasis on heritage (2)
- Dog free (2)
- Improve park aesthetics
- Year-round recreation

NEW ACTIVITIES/ AMENITIES DESIRED FOR THE PARK

- 1. New / improved concession / café (55%)
- 2. Outdoor eating area at café (51%)
- 3. Make railroad underpass more accessible (46%)
- 4. More easily accessible washrooms (44%)
- 5. Outdoor skating (41%)
- 6. Wider path along shoreline (38%)
- 7. Looped paths (34%)
- 8. Path loop with marked distances (31%)
- 9. Redevelop Cunliffe House to integrate with park (30%)
- 10. More nature education / interpretation (30%)
- 11. New play area for older children (25%)
- 12. Improve park entries more identifiable (23%)
- 13. More waterfront views (21%)
- 14. More vegetable planting (20%)
- 15. More gathering areas (17%)
- 16. Remove Cunliffe House (3%)

Other:

- Swimming pool (5)
- Food vendors (3)
- Dog-walking path (3)
- Picnic tables (2)
- Covered shelters (2)
- Benches (2)
- More parking (3)
- Basketball courts (2)
- Bike racks (2)
- Paved paths
- Water sports kiosk
- Skateboard park
- Miniature golf
- Bouldering rock
- Outdoor exercise equipment
- Boat dock
- Heritage monuments
- Update washrooms / better hours
- Ornamental gardens
- Fountain
- Lighting
- Recycling bins
- Improve existing buildings
- More playground equipment

	Waterfront Park
CURRENT USE OF THE PARK	 Walking (91%) Nature appreciation (58%) Relaxing / Picnicking (42%) Kamloops Community Forest and public art (33%) Jogging (32%) Gathering / hanging out (30%) Dog walking (25%) Search and Rescue shed (0%) Other: Cycling (16) Use labyrinth (3) Viewing fireworks Bird watching
STRENGTHS	 Rivers Trail (43) Nature (19) Pleasant atmosphere /quiet (15) Public art / monuments (11) Labyrinth (9) Trees / forest (9) View (5) Connection to other parks (4) Hills / landscaping (3) Access to river (3) Maintenance and patrolling (3) Dog walking (2) Benches (2) Greenspace (2) Accessible Shade Grass area Area for gathering Location

	Waterfront Park
CHALLENGES	 Deviant behaviour – graffiti, vagrants (16) Poor access into park – flooded access (12) Feels unsafe (9) No river access (7) Vegetation overgrown (6) Dogs – irresponsible owners (6) Poor sight lines / obstructed views (4) Noise from boats on river (4) Invasive plants Not many facilities Congested paths Bugs No identity
VISION/ OBJECTIVES	 Easy access to park / connections beyond (14) Preserve / enhance greenspace / nature (9) Security / by-law enforcement (7) Safety (6) Peaceful atmosphere (6) Maintain views to the river (4) Access to the river (3) Care for / provide more public art (3) Encourage healthy lifestyles / sports / recreation (3) Welcoming to all ages (2) Good management / maintenance (2) Provide open space (2) Limit commercial activity
NEW ACTIVITIES/ AMENITIES DESIRED FOR THE PARK	 Improved path connections and accessibility (55%) More nature education / interpretation (40%) Community gardens (36%) Off-leash dog area (30%) More gathering / event spaces (28%) Other: More benches (4) Separated bike path (4) Signage (2) Pier / viewing platforms over river (2) Picnic tables Improve lighting Temporary art installations Railroad overpass Outdoor exercise equipment

	Pioneer Park
CURRENT USE OF THE PARK	 Walking (77%) Relaxing / Picnicking (54%) Swimming / beach use (50%) Nature appreciation (42%) Dog walking (38%) Gathering / hanging out (36%) Dog swimming (29%) Jogging (26%) Boat launch (20%) Other: Cycling (18) Scooter Washroom Kayaking / dragon boating
STRENGTHS	 Dog walking / swimming (42) Good atmosphere / relaxed, for youth (19) Paths (14) Beach (13) Open greenspace / grass (12) Boat launch (10) Swimming (7) Access to water (6) Trees (6) Free Parking (4) Sun (3) Washrooms (2) Nature (2) Views (2) Shade Brush planting Well maintained Location

	Pioneer Park
CHALLENGES	 Dogs- irresponsible owners (36) Deviant behaviour – vandalism, intoxication (32) Washrooms in poor condition (7) Feels unsafe (6) Beach getting overgrown (4) Parking (4) Poor connection to Rivers Trail (3) Noise (2) Poor maintenance (2) Poor views (2) Swimming Congested path Too busy Beach Peterson Creek Boat launch
VISION/ OBJECTIVES	Security / by-law enforcement (18) Balance multiple users interests – dogs, youth (10) Good management / maintenance (8) Accommodate families and youth (5) Provide access to river (5) Preserve / enhance greenspace / nature (4) Relaxed atmosphere (3) Safety (2) Beautify with ornamental plantings (2) Limit commercial activity Provide open space

Pioneer Park

NEW ACTIVITIES/ AMENITIES DESIRED FOR THE PARK

- 1. More washroom hours in winter (49%)
- 2. Expanded beach (46%)
- 3. Improved path connections and accessibility (46%)
- 4. More maintenance along river (43%)
- 5. Dog off-leash area (31%)
- 6. More transit or shuttle service (30%)
- 7. Sport court (23%)
- 8. Play area (22%)
- 9. More nature education / interpretation (21%)
- 10. Expanded parking for boat launch (21%)
- 11. More waterfront access (19%)
- 12. More waterfront views (19%)
- 13. More gathering / event spaces (18%)
- 14. Skateboard park (11%)

Other:

- Food vendors / concession (5)
- More beach volleyball courts (3)
- More parking (3)
- Picnic tables (2)
- Outdoor kitchen (2)
- Dock
- Outdoor basketball courts
- Outdoor exercise stations
- Boat rentals
- Benches and tables
- Pickleball court
- Event venue

APPENDIX B: SUMMARY OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT #2

Community Input from Open House #2 and Comment Forms, July 2014

On July 1, 2014, an open house was held in Riverside Park during the Canada Day festivities. The purpose of the session was to seek input on the draft vision and objectives, and plan options for the parks.

Comment forms were available at the open house, distributed by The City of Kamloops ECOSmart Team. The following is a summary of the input from the comment forms. There were 150 comment forms submitted. The numerical tally of responses is included for comparison, but does not have statistical significance. The following is a summary of the input from the comment forms.

Vision and Objectives				
What is your response to the draft vision and objectives	Great	Needs minor Revisions	Needs major revisions	
# of Responses in Support	100	37	5	

Riverside Park Concept Options			
Which option do you prefer in general	Concept Option A	Concept Option B	
# of Responses in Support	58	87	

Riverside Park Concept Option Elements					
ELEMENTS	Concept Option A	# of Responses in Support	Concept Option B	# of Responses in Support	
Pedestrian Paths	Additions to existing path network provide connections and short loops	69	Reconfigured paths provide connections and short loops, and reduce encroachment into riparian area	67	
Paths along Riverfront	Primary path along riverfront.	73	Primary path along beach area. Secondary paths access other areas in riparian zone	63	
Bike Route	Shared path follows route close to river	65	Shared path follows route close to south edge of park	70	
Trees	New trees line primary paths	57	New trees fill available areas, and surround open spaces	79	
Open Lawn Areas	Remains as is	64	Defined with tree planting	69	
Access to River	Accessible path to the water's edge	90	Remains as is	41	
Concession	Existing building renovated or rebuilt in current location. Patio for eating	51	New building outside of riparian area with plaza for small events and mobile food vendors	83	
Play Areas	New playground for ages 6 to 12	33	Existing playground expanded with features for ages 6 to 12	101	
Spray Park	Remains as is	42	Wading pool replaces the water-tank feature	94	
Urban Agriculture	Dedicated communal gardening area	56	Planting in existing beds	80	
Rainwater Management	Stormwater infiltration garden to collect water from parking lot	99	Remains as is	30	
Outdoor Skating	Skating rink near tennis courts, used as sport court in summer	67	Skating track in front of bandshell, used as walking loop in summer	78	

Waterfront and Pioneer Parks				
ELEMENTS Concept Option A		# of Responses in Support		
Paths	Shared path remains as is, new pedestrian path along beach area	109		
Flood Protection under Railway	Protection for year-round trail access to Waterfront Park	115		
Access to River	Viewing platform in Waterfront Park. Work with DFO to reduce vegetation encroaching on beach in Pioneer Park	106		
Trees	New trees line path and delineate open areas	96		
Plaza / Basketball Court	For pick-up games and small events	96		
Beach Volleyball	Sand court	113		
Picnic Shelter	Near washroom building	108		
Play Area	In east end of Pioneer Park, away from dogs and youth activities	86		
Boat Launch Overflow Parking	Improved access and configuration for boat trailer parking	95		

COMMENTS

Below is a summary of the public comments that are original ideas and relevant to the park. Each bullet represents a comment or suggestion given by a respondent. The numerical results in brackets count similar comments, and are included for interest, but these numbers have no statistical validity.

Vision and Objectives Comments	
Variety of activities (multipurpose)	 Focus should be family use of park by providing multipurpose activities More activity space for all ages
Accessibility of all ages and abilities	 Needs bus access for seniors and those unable to drive Transit access so seniors and young mother and disabled don't have to walk so far
Green Space	 Keep the trees – more trees (x5) Increase green space (x2) Bigger grass area Preserve as much as possible Keep some areas naturalized
River Access	More River access
Improve Safety	 Pioneer Park needs updating now, it is not really used by families 'scary' More park patrols, security office and first aid area More police Safety should be addressed
Events	We need more events in the parks

	Riverside Park Comments
Pedestrian Paths	 Wider walkways Perhaps put play area near loop, kids play parents skate I like how many paths there are for pedestrians in the middle of the park
Paths along Riverfront	A mixture! I like how the shared path is in option B however I like how the primary pedestrian path along the entire beach/river front in option A
Bike Route	 Not shared – can be dangerous (x2) Shared paths are great if they are more clear, two separate paths beside each other Would be nice for cyclists to see the river easier
Trees	 More trees (x4) Trees are great and I like the definition that they create in the park Still grassy areas
Open Lawn Areas	 I think there should still be lawn areas! Great for games More shade important
Access to River	 Need more beach (x2) This is a great idea! It'll be popular (x2) Fishing only pier/dock!
Concession	 Great idea (x3) Patio idea is needed (x2) Food truck parking spots available on busy days More seating would be super beneficial As long as its use doesn't disturb riparian zone, I don't see why it needs to be moved The existing concession has had its time. It looks old and dirty and I don't like eating food from there for that reason Enlarge concession New concession needed in Option A Add picnic tables Add cafe in Riverside

Riverside Park Comments		
Play Areas	 More play areas means healthier kids Create a 2nd playground for children under 6 The existing playground is awesome! It has history. Don't rip it down! Just expand 	
Spray Park	 Add wading pool in addition to spray park (x3) I love to see both because two just makes sense Way better use of the space! Keep the spray water park Make usable for all ages Rubber matting in spray park and kids park for better comfort and safer for kids 	
Urban Agriculture	 I would like to see way more communal gardens but not in the park/downtown (x3) Have gardens for low income families Great idea 	
Rainwater Management	 Great idea! More sustainable! (x3) "Reuse" if it's more natural Could we have stormwater gardens too? Stormwater utilized in Plan B As long as it's clean and filtered Asphalt may produce toxic runoff 	

Riverside Park Comments Outdoor Great idea! (x7) Skating Prefer skating track than rink – provides all season use (x6) Like the skating rink idea near tennis courts (x3) I don't like either (x3) Vendor site for hot chocolate, eating etc. (x2) Both are needed (x2) Use the tennis courts not park space (x2) I really like the addition of outdoor skating (x2) Again, maybe a mixture. I like the idea of a loop but not in the current location of concept B. I would be afraid that a rink would be hockey dominated More washrooms Sport court in summer is more useful than a walking loop Big loop will have speeders not little kid friendly Make skating loop as long as possible check loop built at High Level Alberta Skating rink attracts people in winter I think the skating park is better at McArthur Park. It's nice to have that sport have its own space Skate track is 'B' is not possible. Takes up too much green space I question the expense of artificial ice? Electricity and upkeep? No skating park by rose garden

Waterfront and Pioneer Park Comments	
Paths	 Separate pedestrians/ bike (X2) Path to link east and west part of town Don't like bikes in the park Need to ensure that it is properly lit, for safety, regular patrols as well More path definition at Pioneer is needed Shared paths are great but pedestrian only option is nice Separate path for dogs and owners
Flood Protection Under Railway	 Great idea – necessary (x6) Floods only occurs for a very short time and not every year – don't see the need to spend \$'s for that

Waterfront and Pioneer Park Comments		
Access to River	 Yes! The riverside is really popular (X2) Yes but keep as natural as possible. Better for animals/fish Money to protect fish habitat may be better spent on area with less disturbance This is important, takes away from park image Make it safe for evening jogs/visits Keep vegetation along waterfront and reduce vegetation near boat launch Yes, safety concerns so reducing vegetation good Should include another pier for fishing only. Major Cities have these and well used. Not everyone can get to rivers/lakes to fish! 	
Trees	 Need more trees (for shade) (x5) Yes, but along waterfront! Keep open at Pioneer Park – lawn is important (x2) Not really (x2) Ok with trees as is 	
Plaza/ Basketball Court	 Great idea - great addition to our community (x5) No, leave open space Move closer to red bridge to keep more open space As long as it does not dominate open space! 	
Beach Volleyball	 Great idea (x6) No, there are ones on the north (x2) Like the idea but put it on the edge of Pioneer Park and keep dog access Have more if you can as make healthier people BAD idea if it will remain an off leash dog area Room for two? Pickle ball court wanted 	
Picnic Shelter	 Yes! - great for rainy days (x4) Update them if financial allows No More washrooms available Not near washrooms Should include a briquette BBQ for use Also a reservation system for large groups (birthdays etc.) 	

Waterfront and Pioneer Park Comments Play Areas Keep for grownups/youth - Not really a kid friendly park - might be better using money at Riverside (x10) No - Not a place for kids! (x5) Dogs should have their own area. Kids will be safer (x2) Need one. Kid zones for families with dogs (x2) No, Pioneer Park is not a family area but rather a youth populated area and I think it should stay that way instead, maybe a band shell type building? Pioneer would be great for mini festivals such as the one Kelowna does Play area and dogs area (small) close, we have both This is not a family oriented beach so the playground will be wasted on the teens and most likely damaged Don't feel it's necessary Don't feel a playground is necessary for Pioneer Park. Like the half-court basketball and volleyball courts No playground in Pioneer. That is for dogs and grownups **Boat Launch** Definitely improve access! This would create less conflicts! (x5) Overflow No problems The only access other than Mac Island **Parking** Definitely need a boat launch, especially in not including a fishing pier! Needs more boat docking

	Additional Comments/ Suggestions
Parking	 More free parking Parking (very hard to find when events on)
Paths	 Enjoy the walkway along Riverside Park, like the separation of bicycles from walkers
Dogs	Restrict • We are getting better and better every year (we have to). Keep up the goals, no dogs
	 Include area for dogs Improvement on who to observe dogs in park. Who is responsible for enforcement? Love the idea to enhance the parks downtown. Hope change includes keeping access open for dogs Keep dogs in Park!
Washrooms	 A need for more washrooms (x4) Needs a second washroom to west of park
Walking paths	 Better paths, better walks Don't need walking loop, have nice walking path Too many pathways Like the plan but could use a larger waterfront walkway Make paths accessible during high water
Bike Paths	 Supports Separate Paths Bike paths and pedestrian paths together currently cause stress when we walk in the park. Riders often ride fast and swerve away at the last minute. I would like to see separate bike paths, I will stay off the bike paths Please separate bike and pedestrian pathways (like Stanley Park in Vancouver) Bike path along river sounds good
	Supports Mixed-use Paths I am a biker so please leave bike paths where they are. It is ok as it is. There is no safety concerns
Rainwater	Rainwater utilization excellent idea
Lighting	Increase lamp posts for night time activities

RESPONDENT PROFILE

The following is a tally of the respondent profile responses on the comment forms submitted for Open House #2. The numbers in front represent how many respondents selected that option. The numbers are included for interest, but are not statistically significant.

In which area of the city do you live?

- 56 North Shore, Brocklehurst, Batchelor Heights, Westsyde
- 26 City Centre, West End
- 25 -Upper and Lower Sahali, Aberdeen, South Gate, Mount Dufferin, Pineview Valley, Versatile
- 15 -East of City Centre (Valleyview, Barnhartvale, Dallas, Rose Hill, Campbell Creek, Juniper)
- 3 -Rayleigh, Heffley Creek
- 16 Other

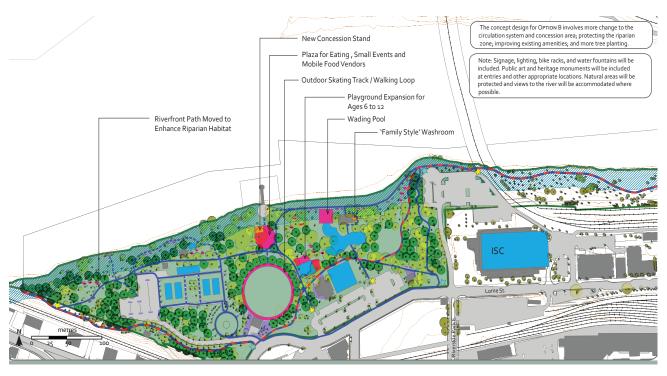
What is your age bracket?

- 6 @ 19 or younger
- 19 @ 20-29
- 30 @ 30-39
- 63 @ 40-59
- 11 @ 60-69
- 7 @ 70 or over

APPENDIX C: PARK CONCEPTS







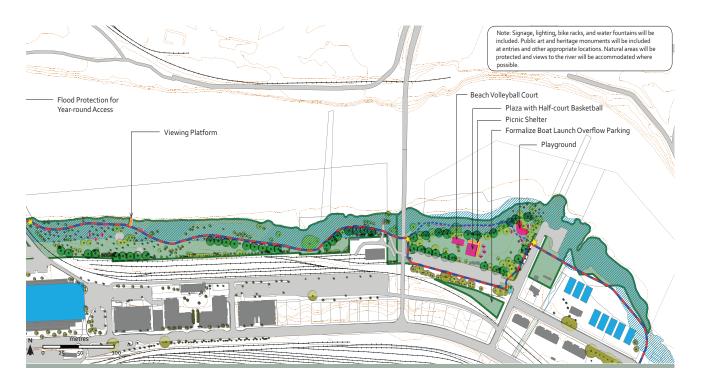
RIVERSIDE PARK CONCEPT OPTION B LEGEND Park Boundary Existing Structure Existing Park Entry Feature Open Grass Area Shared Bike / Pedestrian Path Proposed Park Entry Feature Primary Pedestrian Path Contour Lines (1m) Proposed Structure Planting Area Picnic Area Riparian Setback Area Existing Recreation Amenity Existing Tree ---- Secondary Pedestrian Path

Proposed Tree

Proposed Recreation Amenity

-- Seating / Viewing Area

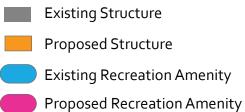
Parking / Driveway / Road

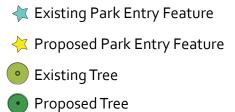




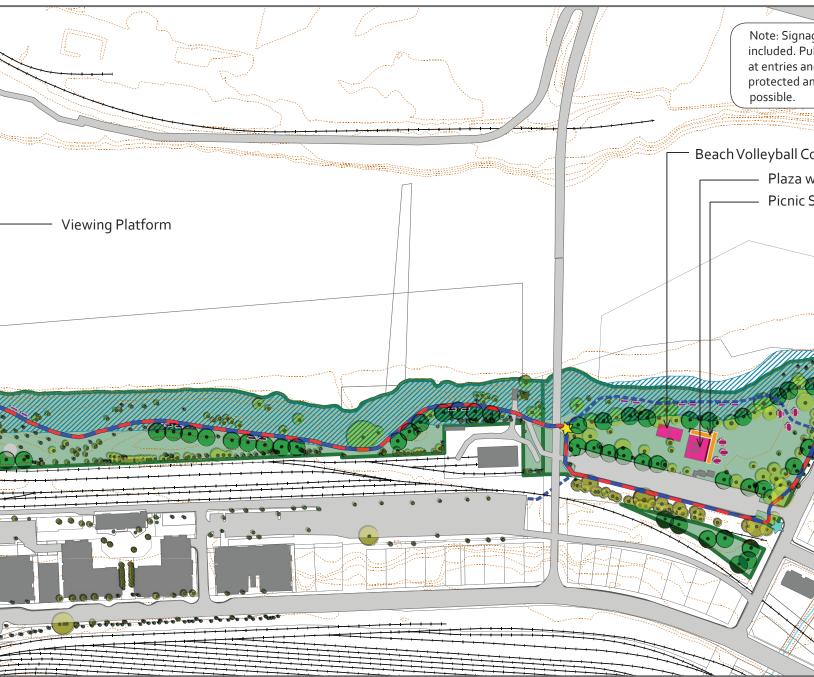


RIVERSIDE PARK COI









WATERFRONT & PIONEER PARKS

- Existing Structure
- Proposed Structure
- Existing Recreation Amenity
- Proposed Recreation Amenity
- **Existing Park Entry Feature**
- Proposed Park Entry Feature
- Existing Tree
- Proposed Tree

- Open Grass Area
- Planting Area
- Picnic Area
- Seating / Viewing Area

