



REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: **Mayor and Councillors**

Subject: Parks, Recreation and Culture Plan

File #: [Required]

Doc #:

From: Kim Hilton
Director of Recreation, Culture and Community
Services

Date: July 3, 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT City Council endorse the Parks, Recreation and Culture Plan.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the report is to provide City Council with the background context, process, and next steps in the implementation of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Plan.

POLICY:

N/A

COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:

As much of the 2013 Parks, Recreation and Culture Masterplan was completed, the purpose of this project was to provide direction to City Council and staff on the acquisition and development of parks and open spaces, recreation and cultural facilities, and the delivery of services to best meet the needs of the growing and changing community.

The first phase of the plan development included a document review of Langley City's key plans and strategies; a visioning workshop; a community survey; several workshops with the public, stakeholders, and staff; and interviews. Additional public participation was encouraged through signage along trails, in facilities and online.

The second phase of the plan development focused on refining and confirming the priorities, goals and recommendations moving forward. In total, there were over 1620 touch points.

Through this work, the Vision, Goals and Recommendations were developed.

The Vision: Langley City is “the Place to Be” for diverse parks, recreation activities, and cultural experiences. These opportunities strengthen community connections, support healthy and active lifestyles, protect, and enhance the environment, and welcome everyone.

To support the vision five goals were established: inclusive, accessible, affordable; safe community; quality infrastructure; healthy natural environment; and improved connectivity.

Through the development of the vision and goals, some of the key recommendations were established in 7 categories.

Key Recommendations – Parks

- Acquire new parkland within developing areas.
- Major Park upgrades to City Park, Buckley Park, Douglas Park, Nicomekl Floodplain, BC Hydro Corridor, Penzer Park, Uplands Dog off-leash Park, Innes Corners Plaza, Conder Park, Rotary Centennial Park, Sendall Gardens, Brydon Park

Key Recommendations – Outdoor Amenities

- Upgrade Park amenities – older multi-sport courts, shade at playgrounds, washrooms
- Add Park amenities – accessible washrooms, community gardens, dog off-leash area, picnic facilities, tennis courts, skate park, beach volleyball courts, bike pump track, adventure play area.

Key Recommendations – Trails

- Acquire land to support trail connectivity.
- More trails, paving and infrastructure.
- Increase wayfinding signs, especially in Nicomekl Floodplain

Key Recommendations - Recreation and Culture Programs and Services

- More fitness classes, lifestyle, and social programs for all ages, and visual and performing art classes.
- More outdoor programs, events
- Childminding with fitness facilities
- More partnership, more focus on equity, diversity and inclusion

Key Recommendations - Indoor Recreation Spaces

- Upgrade and expand Timms Community Centre
- Replace or significantly renovate/expand Douglas Recreation Centre

Key Recommendations - Aquatic Facilities

- Plan and build a new indoor aquatic facility.
- Upgrade Al Anderson Memorial Pool to improve the energy use and recreation opportunities for the interim or long term.

Key Recommendations - Culture and Multi-Use Facilities

- Explore opportunities for a Public Private partnership in the development of a Performing Arts Centre
- Explore opportunities for a fundraising campaign.
- Replace Sendall House with an environmental and multi-use facility.
- New multi-use community building to replace the again lawn bowling facility.

A phased implementation plan with costs and DCC eligibility will be part of the yearly budget cycles and departmental work plans moving forward. Many of the projects will involve community engagement as they are implemented. Staff will look for a variety of funding sources including federal and provincial grants to help support the work, recognizing that collaboration and partnerships are a key component to the success of this plan.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

The Parks, Recreation and Culture implementation plan will be incorporated into the 5-year financial plan and be part of each year's financial plan deliberations. The project implementation will be evaluated against other competing needs in the community. While the plan has a 10-year lifespan, it does provide a road map beyond that time. The plan will assist staff in developing the DCCs; long range planning in future land acquisition and future park development to meet the needs of the growing community.

SUMMARY:

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Plan identifies proposed phasing and relative costs associated with the recommendations based on community priorities. These priorities will be brought forward to council on a yearly basis during the annual budget cycle and will be implemented through this process. The work carried out will continue to support Langley City's vision of "the Place to Be"

ALTERNATIVES:

NA

Respectfully Submitted,



Kim Hilton
Director of Recreation, Culture and Community Services

Attachment:

1. Parks, Recreation and Culture Plan

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S COMMENTS:

I support the recommendation.



Francis Cheung, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer