

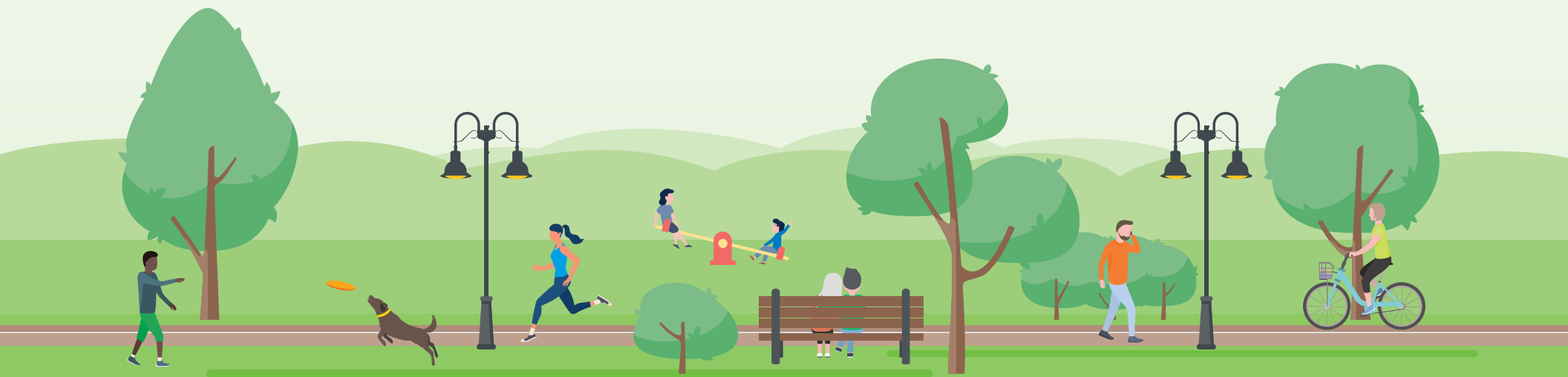


TOWN OF CRESTON

PARKS

MASTER PLAN

APRIL 2025



CRESTON PARKS MASTER PLAN

APRIL 2025

Prepared for



TOWN of CRESTON

Prepared by



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CRESTON PARKS MASTER PLAN BIG MOVES

1



Improve funding and maintenance to ensure a high quality of Town parks

Identify operational needs, allocate resources, and establish an enhanced maintenance plan to ensure high-quality Town parks.

2



Improve existing Town parks and create additional passive and active recreational opportunities

Incrementally redevelop existing parks and create additional passive (e.g., trails, natural areas) and active (e.g., soccer, tennis) opportunities to better serve the community.

3



Identify and add new park space in North Creston

Seek opportunities to add new park space in North Creston to ensure equitable distribution of parks in the community.

4



Improve accessibility in parks

Ensure the park system meets the needs of all ages and abilities through accessible pathways, signage and information, restrooms and facilities, seating, safety, and lighting.

5



Develop clear communication for Town parks and programming

Ensure residents and visitors are informed about available amenities, events, activities, and park space booking through updated information, maps, signage, wayfinding, and processes.

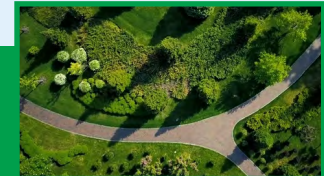
6



Work with the local partners (e.g., RDCK, SD8, Province of BC, local interest groups) to improve parks and recreation

Improve communication and collaboration between local partners to foster collaborative partnerships, enhance facilities.

7



Create better connections between Town parks, adjacent open spaces, and natural areas

Identify and create better connections between the Town and adjacent areas such as Goat Mountain, and nearby rivers.

1.0 OVERVIEW



1. OVERVIEW

1.1. INTRODUCTION

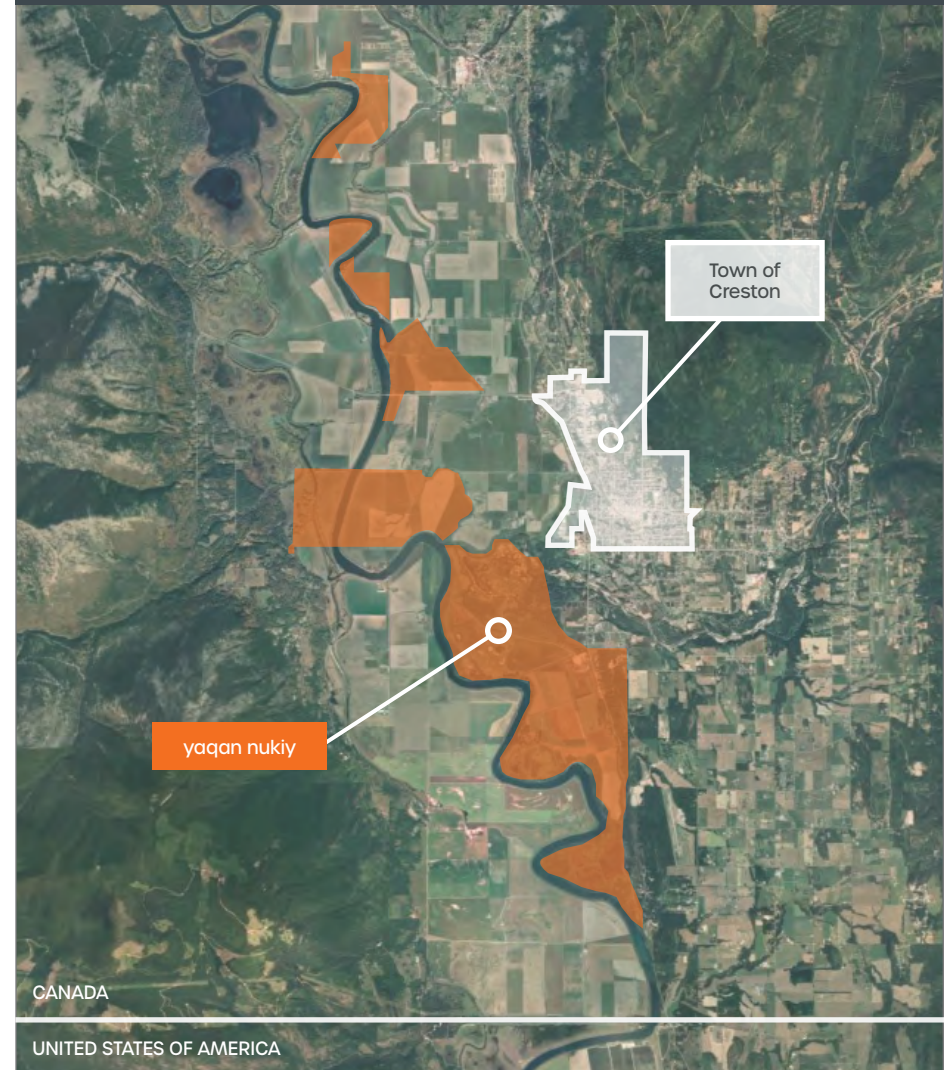
The Town of Creston Parks Master Plan (TCPMP) is designed to shape the future of Creston's parks and open spaces by establishing clear priorities, policies, and actions to support community needs and sustainability goals.

The TCPMP stems from a growing need to address maintenance and accessibility challenges, improve recreational access and assets, and balance recreational and ecological functions. Guided by key planning documents, including the Official Community Plan and the Trails Master Plan, the TCPMP integrates technical analysis with input from residents, stakeholders, and Town staff to create a plan that aligns with community needs and values.

Through this plan, the Town aims to inventory existing park assets, assess current and future needs, and provide recommendations for new amenities, park acquisition, and enhanced park maintenance. Additionally, the TCPMP addresses important themes like climate resilience, accessibility, and community inclusion, ensuring that Creston's parks can serve as spaces for recreation, ecological conservation, and community connection.

With input from the community and staff and guidance from existing planning documents, the TCPMP will help Creston maximize the long-term community benefit of its park system.

*The Town of Creston recognizes, acknowledges, and respects that the lands in this plan are located on the unceded traditional territory of the **yaqan nukiy** within the **Ktunaxa Nations**. Since time immemorial the yaqan nukiy stewarded these lands. It is with gratitude that the Town of Creston plans on them.*



1.2. PROJECT CONTEXT

The TCPMP is driven by a community desire to improve the quality, distribution, and usability of parks within the Town of Creston. The TCPMP addresses key issues and opportunities identified through previous Town processes, as well as background analyses and community consultations, including:

KEY ISSUES:

- Cost, management, and jurisdiction complexities with the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK).
- Park maintenance and asset management (e.g., replacement of playgrounds nearing the end of life).
- Lack of park space in north Creston.
- Limited ecological areas in some parks; low urban habitat/forest value.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES:

- Improve recreational and management relationships/roles with RDCK.
- Invest in and enhance existing parks and amenities.
- Diversify large parks to support a wide range of user groups.
- Use parks to foster community connection and restore habitat.
- Improve accessibility.
- Identify and create new amenities to serve community needs.
- Leverage parks for habitat restoration and urban forestry.



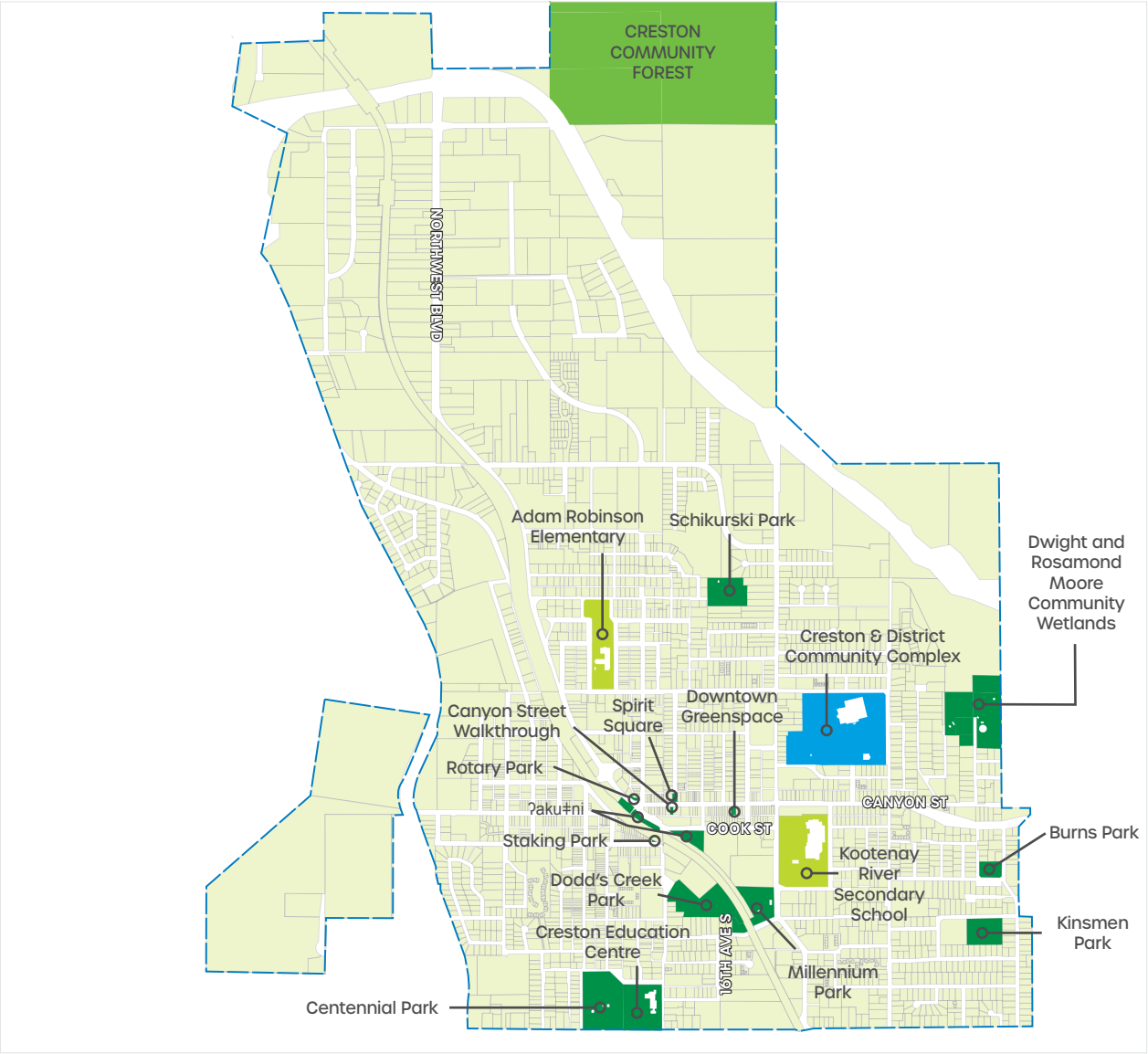
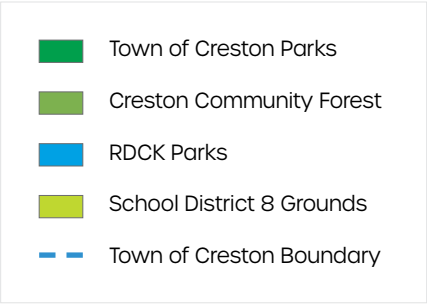
1.3. PARKS NETWORK OVERVIEW

1.3.1 CRESTON PARKS

Within the Town of Creston municipal boundaries, parks and open spaces are owned and operated by the Town, the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK), and School District 8 (SD8).

The Town of Creston operates 13 municipal parks, including Spirit Square, which provides a temporary area for celebrations and festivals in the heart of downtown Creston, in addition to two cemeteries (not shown). RDCK operates the Creston & District Community Complex building and various sub-parks (e.g., skate park) on the grounds. SD8 operates both Adam Robinson Elementary and Kootenay River Secondary School.

The Parks Master Plan will only provide policy direction for Town-owned parks and open spaces (dark green areas on the adjacent map).



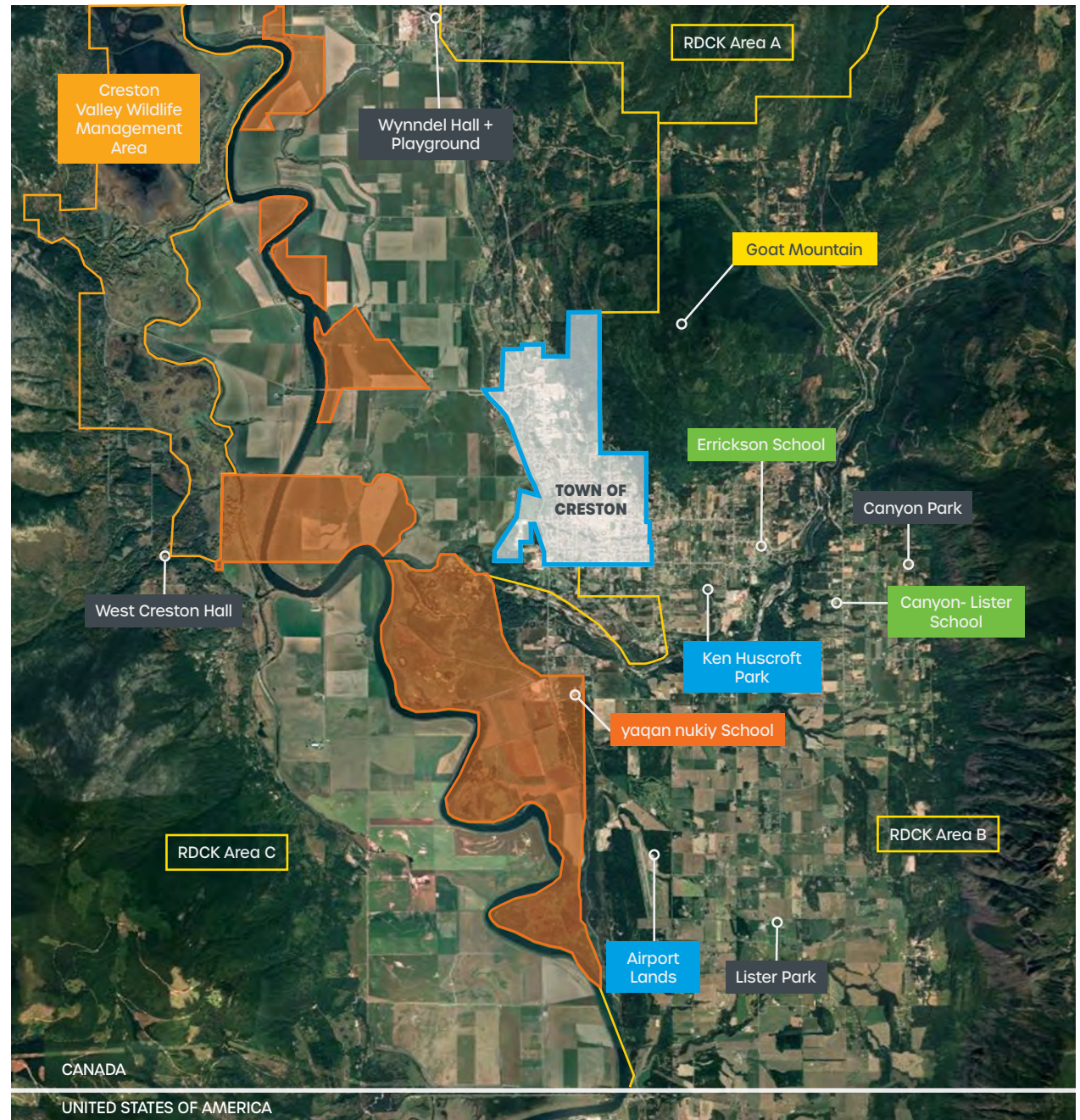
CRESTON PARKS OVERVIEW MAP

1.3.2 REGIONAL PARKS

Outside of the Town of Creston, there are numerous parks, schools, and open spaces operated by various community groups, formal and informal organizations and governments.

These parks and open spaces are outside the scope of the TCPMP. However, a separate process is currently underway for regional parks and open spaces – the development of an RDCK Parks, Trails, and Water Access Strategy (PTWAS). The two plans are intended to work together to provide recreational opportunities throughout the Creston Valley.

-  School District 8
-  yaqan nukiy
-  Creston Valley Wildlife Mgmt Area
-  Creston Community Forest
-  Town of Creston Lands
-  Various Organizations



REGIONAL PARKS OVERVIEW MAP

1.3.3 CRESTON PARKS + OPEN SPACE GALLERY



Schikurski Park



Dwight and Rosamond Moore Community Wetlands



Creston & District Community Complex (RDCK)



Downtown Greenspace



Spirit of Creston Square



Takutni



Millennium Park



Centennial Park



Dodd's Creek Park

1.4. PROJECT PROCESS & COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

1.3.1 CRESTON PARKS

The TCPMP process involves three primary phases:

1. Startup and Background Analysis
2. Community Consultation
3. Plan Development

The diagram to the right illustrates key project and consultation milestones.



BACKGROUND ANALYSIS

FEBRUARY / MAY >>> PROJECT TEAM

Technical analysis of existing conditions to identify challenges and opportunities and outline a policy framework to inform the project. Outcomes will inform the content of the Ideas Fair, Pop Ups, and online discussions.



IDEAS FAIR + SURVEY

MAY / JUNE >>> PUBLIC

An interactive consultation event to harvest public feedback and generate high-level directions and early directions for the future of Creston Parks.



WORKSHOP + INTERVIEWS

MAY / JUNE >>> STAKEHOLDERS

An intensive workshop will be used to refine values, issues, and opportunities. Targeted interviews will then be used to fill any information gaps. From there, a set of key elements and scenarios will be developed for use at the Public Gallery.



ONLINE DISCUSSION

JULY >>> PUBLIC

Online discussions will extend the reach of the Ideas Fair to the wider community.



ONLINE PUBLIC GALLERY + POP-UPS + SURVEY

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER >>> PUBLIC

A second public event and corresponding online survey will allow residents to share feedback and comment on the directions generated from the workshop and Ideas Fair. The Project Team will then synthesize the public input and begin to develop a draft Plan.



OPEN HOUSE (DRAFT PLAN)

WINTER 2025 >>> PUBLIC

The draft Parks Master Plan will be presented to the public and Council with a corresponding comment period. A final draft will then be iteratively refined with staff.



COUNCIL PRESENTATION

SPRING 2025 >>> PUBLIC

The final Parks Master Plan will be presented to Council at a public meeting.

Community and stakeholder engagement was a key part of the TCPMP process. Round 1 Engagement was used to [a] build on the Project Team's background analyses by further identifying key issues and opportunities; and [b] generate high-level ideas and a vision for Creston Parks.

Round 2 Engagement events were used to [a] check in with the community on what we've heard; [b] gauge levels of support for different ideas; and [c] help us "course correct" in any given direction, before developing the full TCPMP.

ROUND 1 ENGAGEMENT INCLUDED:

Public Idea Fair | June 6, 2024

A large-scale, widely advertised interactive public event at the Creston and District Community Complex.

Online Engagement | June 6 - 20, 2024

The Town's online "Let's Talk" platform was utilized throughout Round 1 to advertise events, share documents (e.g., Background Summary Report), and host the Issues and Opportunities Survey.

Stakeholder Workshop | June 6, 2024

A focused issues and opportunities workshop was held with key stakeholders (e.g., sports and recreation groups, Regional District of the Central Kootenay representatives, interest groups, and Town staff).

ROUND 2 ENGAGEMENT INCLUDED:

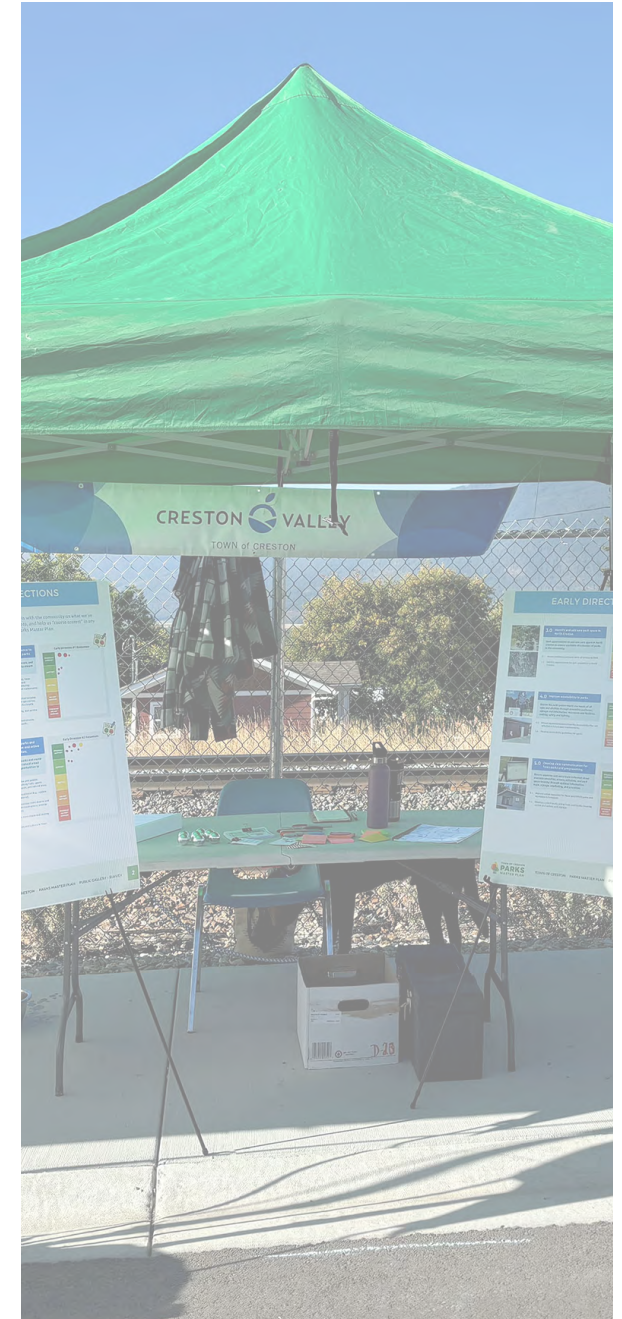
Early Directions Survey | Aug 22 - Sep 13, 2024

The Town's online "Let's Talk" platform was utilized throughout Round 2 to advertise events, share documents, and host the Early Directions Survey.

Pop-up events | Aug / Sept 2024

In August and September, Town Staff facilitated pop-up engagements at the 8th Ave Walkthrough and the Creston Valley Farmers Market.

Please see the What We Heard Report in Appendix D.



2.0

PARK INVENTORY + ASSESSMENT



2. PARK INVENTORY + ASSESSMENT

2.1. INTRODUCTION

This section provides a detailed inventory and assessment of existing parks and park amenities in the Town of Creston. The work helps to inform the TCPMP’s policies, recommendations, and action plan.

2.2. PARKS TYPE OVERVIEW

The Town of Creston contains the following types of parks. Classifying and defining these park types helps to determine the distribution of parks and park functions within the Town.



Field

Open area or space, often grass-covered, designed for recreational activities, sports, or general leisure.



Greenspace

Open space with a mix of manicured and natural spaces that supports a variety of uses and functions.



Natural

Areas that preserve natural environments and landscapes, often featuring ecosystems that are relatively undisturbed by human activity, along with low-intervention trails.



Play

Parks specifically designed for people to play and engage in physical activities.



Seasonal Open Space

Open space designed to be versatile and adaptable, featuring elements that can be modified or enhanced to suit seasonal events, weather conditions, and community needs.



Urban Pocket

Small parks designed for use in the public realm around urban areas (e.g., seating, community gardens).

2.3. PARKS INVENTORY

Town of Creston Park	Size (approx.)	Park Type	Recreational Activities / Amenities	Seating	Drinking Water	On-site Bicycle Parking	Wash-room	Waste Receptacles	Lighting	Shade	Drainage Area
ᑭᐱᕐᓂᐱ	6,930 m ²	Greenspace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Multi-use Path » Cultural Garden » Information kiosks » yaqan nukiy Amakis » Seasonal Farmers Market 	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Burn's Park	4,438 m ²	Greenspace / Play  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Basketball Hoop » Children Climbing Wall » Playground 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Canyon Street Walkthrough	267 m ²	Urban Pocket 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Public Art » Stage area 	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Centennial Park <i>Includes the Green Gym and Rotary Splash Park</i>	33,265 m ²	Field / Play  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Baseball Diamond » Change Rooms » Splash Park » Green Gym 	✓	✓ (seasonal)	✓	✓ (seasonal)	✓	✗	✓	✗
Creston & District Community Complex Grounds <i>Includes the Skate Park</i> <i>Note: Complex operated by RDCK</i>	83,033 m ²	Field / Play  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Baseball Diamond » Pickleball Courts » Volleyball Courts » Basketball Courts » Skate park » Playground » Soccer Field » Horseshoe Pit 	✓	✓ (indoors)	✓	✓ (indoors)	✓	✓	✗	✓
Creston Education Centre	22,258 m ²	Field / Play  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Baseball Diamond » Playground » Soccer Field 	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗

Town of Creston Park	Size (approx.)	Park Type	Recreational Activities / Amenities	Seating	Drinking Water	On-site Bicycle Parking	Wash-room	Waste Receptacles	Lighting	Shade	Drainage Area
Dodd's Creek Park <i>Includes the Dog Park and Bike Park</i>	24,362 m ²	Natural / Play 	» Public Art » Bike Park » Dog Park » Trail	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Downtown Greenspace	929 m ²	Greenspace 	» Public Art	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Dwight and Rosamond Moore Community Wetlands	38,608 m ²	Natural 	» Information/Map kiosks » Pavilion	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗
Ken Huscroft Park	60,784 m ²	Natural 	» N/A	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Kinsmen Park <i>(Town of Creston portion)</i>	10,198 m ²	Field 	» Sports Field	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓
Millennium Park <i>Includes the Japanese Garden</i>	14,209 m ²	Garden 	» Covered Band Stand » Cultural Garden » Water Feature	✓	✓ (seasonal)	✓	✓ (seasonal)	✓	✓	✓	✗
Rotary Park	250 m ²	Urban Pocket 	» Public Art	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Schikuski Park	13,508 m ²	Natural 	» Walking Trails	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Staking Park	295 m ²	Greenspace 	» N/A	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Spirit of Creston Square	490 m ²	Seasonal Open Space 	» Public Art	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
Total Parks Area	313,824 m²										

2.4. PARKS ASSESSMENT

ʔakuᑎi



Community Concerns / Ideas

Note: This park was currently under development at the time of community engagement.

Burns Park



Community Concerns / Ideas

- » The bathrooms are often closed, even when they are supposed to be open.
- » The basketball court is unusable or impractical, offering little value to visitors.
- » The playground equipment feels outdated and in need of upgrades. Additionally, the picnic tables are placed far from the playground, making it inconvenient for families.
- » The park lacks native plants and flowers, which could enhance its natural beauty and support local biodiversity.

Canyon Street Walkthrough



Community Concerns / Ideas

- » The area is not well maintained and requires regular upkeep.
- » There are issues with religious soliciting in the space.
- » This is sometimes used by unhoused individuals.
- » It is situated too close to the highway, which can be a concern.
- » There is a lack of native plants and trees in the vicinity.
- » More seating, shade, and activities are needed to enhance the space.

Centennial Park

Includes the Green Gym and Rotary Splash Park



Community Concerns / Ideas

- » The splash park is left on even when it rains or at night.
- » The playground lacks variety and could be improved to accommodate different age groups.
- » There is a need for more accessibility features, such as accessible trails.
- » The ground rubber, which may be toxic, should be removed.

» *Note: the ground rubber is not toxic*

Creston & District Community Complex Grounds - Includes the Skate Park



Community Concerns / Ideas

- » Shaded areas are needed for resting and comfort.
- » More entry points for pedestrians should be created to improve accessibility.

Note: complex operated by RDCK

Creston Education Centre



Community Concerns / Ideas

- » The area could benefit from a proper soccer field.
- » There is a lack of shade, which could make the space more comfortable for visitors.

Dodd's Creek Park

Includes the Dog Park and Bike Park



Community Concerns / Ideas

- » There are general concerns about safety and the presence of unhoused individuals.
- » The bike park is not frequently used.
- » The natural area has great potential and could benefit from rewilding efforts.
- » The dog park is too small, and the fence surrounding it is too low.
- » The area needs more shade and seating for comfort and convenience.

Downtown Greenspace



Community Concerns / Ideas

- » There are safety concerns, as the area is frequently used by unhoused individuals.
- » The laneway feels unsafe and is intimidating for some visitors.

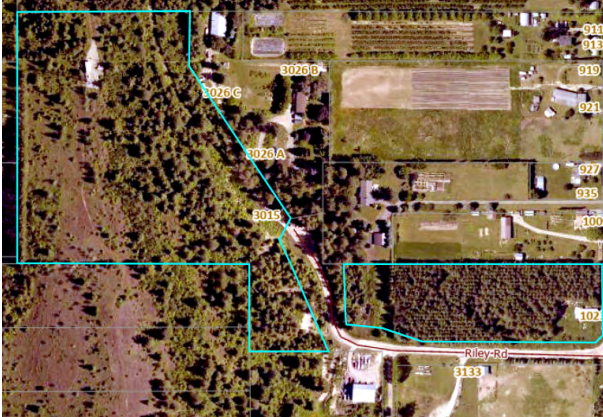
Dwight and Rosamond Moore Community Wetlands



Community Concerns / Ideas

- » The area is underdeveloped; it has potential but lacks infrastructure.
- » It needs to be connected to a wider trail network to improve accessibility.
- » Additional seating is needed throughout the area.

Ken Huscroft Park



Community Concerns / Ideas

Note: This park was currently under development at the time of community engagement.

Kinsmen Park (Town of Creston portion)



Community Concerns / Ideas

- » The area could benefit from a proper soccer field or a multi-use sports field or court(e.g., tennis).
- » A nature playground would be a valuable addition.
- » Additional amenities are needed, including washrooms, shaded areas, picnic tables, and an ice rink.

Millennium Park *Includes the Japanese Garden*



Community Concerns / Ideas

- » More events and regular upkeep are needed to keep the area engaging and well-maintained.
- » Adding a proper fountain would enhance the space.

Schikuski Park



Community Concerns / Ideas

- » A paved path should be considered to improve accessibility.
- » Covered shelters and picnic tables would make the space more usable.
- » There is concern that the north end of the area might be developed.

Staking Park



Community Concerns / Ideas

- » There is an opportunity to create more naturalized space in the area.

Spirit of Creston Square



Community Concerns / Ideas

- » The new mural and trees are well-loved and appreciated by the community.
- » More car-free days would be beneficial for the area.
- » The space lacks a distinct identity unless there is an event taking place.

3.0

PARKS PLANNING FRAMEWORK



3. PLANNING + DESIGN ANALYSIS

3.1. OVERVIEW

This section provides a framework for future park planning, improvements, and maintenance in Creston Parks. Based on the first background analysis and community consultation phases of the project, this framework was created to build the resulting recommendations and actions. The project goals and principles inform all the subsequent plan content.



3.2. GOALS

Project goals are specific objectives that a project aims to achieve. They serve as a roadmap for project planning and execution, helping to ensure that the plan stays focused and aligned with its intended outcomes. The following goals were developed to represent the key objectives that the project seeks to achieve.

Enhance Park Quality and Maintenance

Establish a comprehensive maintenance plan and funding strategies to ensure high-quality upkeep and improvements for Town parks.

Increase Accessibility and Inclusivity

Improve the accessibility of parks and recreational facilities, ensuring they meet the needs of all community members.

Expand Recreational Opportunities

Develop and acquire new parks and recreational amenities, including passive and active options, to better serve the community.

Promote Environmental Sustainability

Implement sustainable landscaping practices and ecological considerations in park design and maintenance.

3.3. PRINCIPLES

Project principles are fundamental guidelines or values that inform the approach, decision-making, and execution of a project. They serve as guiding ‘rules’ that the recommendations and priority actions should speak to achieve the project goals.



Sustainable Resource Management

Prioritize the identification of operational needs, allocation of resources, and establishment of a dedicated Parks Reserve Fund (see section 5.2) to ensure the long-term maintenance and enhancement of Town parks.

Community Collaboration

Leverage internal, external, and community funding opportunities, fostering partnerships to improve park maintenance, development, and recreational offerings.

Accessibility and Inclusivity

Commit to improving the accessibility of parks and recreational facilities, ensuring that enhancements align with community needs and incorporate best practices for inclusive design.

Cultural Integration and Celebration in Public Spaces

Ensure meaningful collaboration with Indigenous peoples, specifically yaqan nukiy, to honour cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and practices in the design and management of public spaces.

Environmental Stewardship

Integrate sustainable landscaping practices and ecological considerations into park planning and maintenance, emphasizing the use of native species and Fire Smart principles.

3.4. OBJECTIVES, POLICIES, & ACTIONS

The policies and actions of the TCPMP are organized under each objective.

1. Identify operational needs, allocate resources, increase budgets, and establish an enhanced maintenance plan to ensure high-quality Town parks.

- a. Explore internal (e.g., amenity contributions, Town budgeting), external (e.g., grant funding), and community funding (e.g., partnership, community groups) opportunities to support improved park maintenance, improvements, and acquisition.
- b. Develop a planting/landscaping strategy that includes the use of native and adaptive non-native species (i.e., low-maintenance, drought tolerant).
- c. Conduct an interdepartmental review of Town Parks budgeting, resourcing, and service levels on an ongoing basis.
- d. Establish a Parks Reserve Fund, in which amenity contributions can be allocated, to support the maintenance, improvement, and acquisition of Town parks.
- e. Create a Parks-specific Development Cost Charge (DCC).
- f. Consider an Amenity Cost Charge (ACC) for Town parks.

2. Incrementally redevelop existing parks and acquire new parks to better service the community.

- a. Establish additional passive (e.g., trails and natural areas) and active (e.g., soccer, tennis) recreational amenities within Town parks.
- b. Conduct additional community consultation to inform detailed park designs and improvements.
- c. Offer interconnected activities and storytelling opportunities that create a cohesive and engaging experience across multiple locations (e.g., introducing elements that link parks—whether through recreational features, cultural narratives, or shared themes)
- d. Integrate amenities such as drinking fountains and washrooms in the revitalization of Town parks.

e. Identify opportunities for park acquisition (see Proposed Park Network in Section 3.5):

- i. In North Creston (see opportunities in Section 3.5).
- ii. New parks and open spaces as identified in the Creston Downtown Revitalization Plan (CDRP).
- iii. Other town-owned properties.

f. Incorporate Fire Smart best practices in the landscape design and maintenance of new and existing parks.

3. Improve the accessibility of town parks and trails.

- a. Ensure recommendations from the Accessibility Plan are reflected in future park improvements, such as through accessible pathways, signage and information, restrooms and facilities, seating, safety and lighting.
 - i. See Appendix B for Accessibility Design Guidelines for Parks.

4. Improve communication about available amenities, events, activities, and park space booking through updated information, maps, signage, wayfinding, and processes.

- a. Improve online resources for Town (and RDCK) parks and recreation information.
- b. Develop a user-friendly online Parks and Facility booking system.

5. Provide a diverse range of recreational opportunities that reflect the interests, cultures, and needs of all populations.

- a. Regularly seek input from diverse populations to understand their recreational needs and preferences.
- b. Collaborate with cultural and community groups to identify activities and features that reflect the interests and traditions of different populations.
- c. Introduce multipurpose spaces and amenities that can support a variety of activities and sports.

- d. Incorporate unique and nontraditional recreational opportunities to inspire new forms of engagement and play.
- e. Ensure park features are designed to be welcoming and inclusive for all cultural and social groups.
- f. Use public art, design features, and programming to reflect the cultural and historical identity of the local community.
- g. Stay informed about emerging recreational trends and consider their integration into future park developments.

6. Leverage partnerships (e.g., with RDCK, SD8, Province of BC, and local interest groups) to improve parks and recreation opportunities for the community.

- a. Explore the development of a year-round indoor sports facility with local partners (e.g., School District, sports groups).
- b. Improve the condition, maintenance, and availability of key active recreation amenities (e.g., baseball fields, tennis courts, disc golf, soccer fields).
- c. Work with the Province and other partners to explore the development of the Highway Bypass corridor as a recreational amenity (e.g., multi-use trail with other amenities). See the Creston Trails Master Plan.
- d. As part of large-scale projects (e.g., infrastructure, land development), work with partners to pursue opportunities to incorporate parks and recreational amenities.
- e. Work with the RDCK to review recreation fees to support maintenance of parks.

7. Identify and create connections between the Town and adjacent areas such as Goat Mountain, and nearby rivers.

- a. Secure a public trail connection to Goat Mountain with clear wayfinding and signage (e.g., from 20th Avenue).
- b. Work with the RDCK, yaqan nukiy, and local diking districts to establish better water access while maintaining ecological integrity.
- c. Facilitate the development of the trail network identified in the Creston Trails Master Plan and Multi-modal Transportation Plan.

8. Work with yaqan nukiy and community members to incorporate Indigenous stories, welcomes, and cultural significance into place names, public art, and interpretive elements.

- a. Research and reintroduce traditional games and play into park designs, creating interactive spaces that reflect and celebrate cultural practices.
- b. Consult on native plant species and incorporate traditional maintenance practices that align with ecological and cultural values.
- c. Design safe and welcoming gathering spaces, inspired by structures such as the tipi in ?aku#ni, to provide areas for connection, reflection, and community events.
- d. Use subtle yet meaningful artistic and design elements to foster a sense of place and belonging for all while showcasing Indigenous perspectives.

9. Make specific park improvements consistent with identified community needs.

a. Burns Park

- i. Ensure park restrooms are open, clean, and well-maintained.
- ii. Consider redevelopment of the basketball hoop area for something more usable by the community.
- iii. Place some picnic tables closer to the playground for greater convenience.

b. Canyon Street Walkthrough

- i. Consider additional park elements to increase use (e.g., covered structures, seating, drinking fountain).
- ii. Ensure no soliciting (e.g., religious groups) through education and enforcement.

c. Creston Education Centre

- i. Consider the development of a proper soccer field.
- ii. Consider additional park elements to increase use (e.g., disc golf course, covered structures, seating, drinking fountain).

d. Creston and District Community Complex Grounds

- i. Work with the RDCK to provide more shade and seating on the CDCC grounds.
- ii. Consider additional entry points for pedestrians to increase connectivity.

e. Centennial Park

- i. Revitalize the Centennial Park playground (e.g., replace rubber surfacing with natural material).
- ii. Consider additional play elements to accommodate different age groups.

f. Downtown Greenspace

- i. Consider additional safety elements (e.g., lighting) to ensure community safety and comfort.
- ii. Pursue public art opportunities in the alley to revitalize the space, enhancing safety and comfort.

g. Dodd's Creek Park

- i. Consider the redevelopment of the Bike Park.
- ii. Consider rewilding larger grass areas.
- iii. Provide additional shade elements (e.g., trees, covered structures).

h. Dwight and Rosamond Moore Community Wetlands

- i. Consider additional park elements to increase use (e.g., covered structures, seating, drinking fountain).

i. Ken Huscroft Park

- i. Develop in accordance with covenant.
- ii. Explore opportunities for passive recreation (e.g., disc golf, trails).

j. Kinsmen Park

- i. Redevelop Kinsmen Park with active and passive recreational amenities, informed by the directions of this plan.
 - » See Appendix A for a conceptual design of Kinsmen Park.

k. Millennium Park

- i. Revitalize Millennium Park to encourage more diverse and active use, informed by the directions of this plan.
 - » See Appendix A for a conceptual design of Millennium Park.

l. Northern End Park - proposed

- i. Develop a new park in North Creston, informed by the directions of this plan.
 - » See Appendix A for a conceptual design of Northern End Park.

m. Schikurski Park

- i. Through private redevelopment, seek to acquire additional parkland north of Schikurski Park.
- ii. Consider redevelopment of park paths to ensure firm, stable, and slip-resistant surfaces to increase accessibility and mitigate stormwater impacts (e.g., a raised, compacted gravel path).
- iii. Consider additional park elements to increase use (e.g., covered structures, seating, drinking fountain).

n. Staking Park

- i. Redevelop the park to create a more naturalized space including native and drought-tolerant plantings that require little maintenance.

o. Spirit of Creston Square

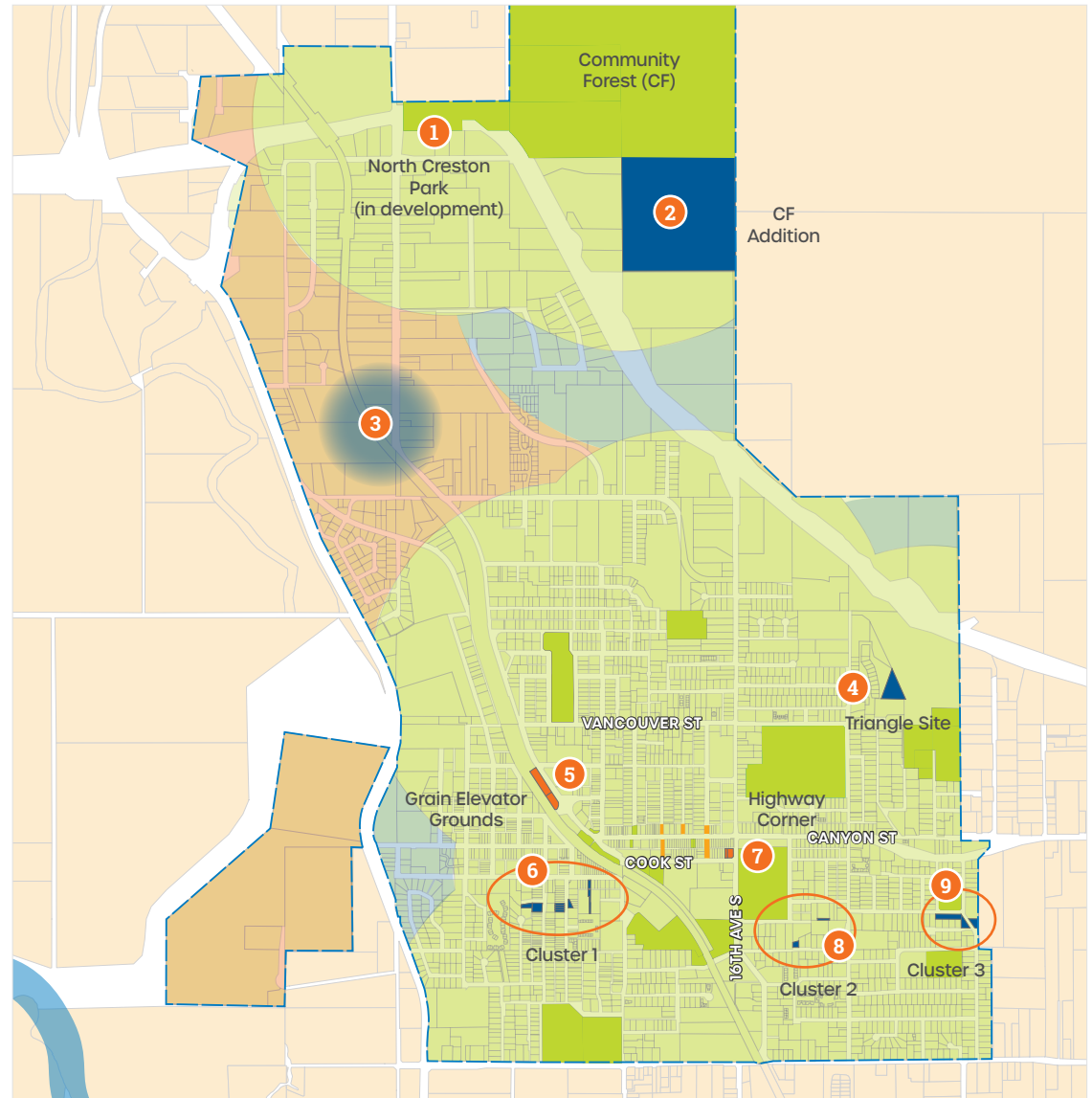
- i. Consider additional opportunities for the park including:
 1. Closing the square more often to vehicle traffic;
 2. Creating a temporary or permanent public plaza; and,
 3. Adding additional elements (e.g., seating, tables).
 4. Adding signage and cohesive designs park amenities (e.g., seating, landscaping)

3.5. PARKS AND OPEN SPACE OPPORTUNITIES

There are numerous opportunities for future parks and open space in Creston and the surrounding area, including both permanent and temporary options.

In Creston, sites show on the map to the right were identified through planning efforts like the Creston Downtown Revitalization Plan (CDRP), the draft Analysis of Key Sites for Redevelopment (an appendix to the CDRP), and staff identification of town-owned land.

Future park and open space opportunities in Creston will focus on identifying and supporting spaces that align with the evolving needs of the community, ensuring these areas contribute to recreation, environmental sustainability, and the goals and principles of this plan.



TOWN OF CRESTON OPPORTUNITIES

While the Town does not directly manage or oversee regional parks and open spaces, understanding there are no RDCK regional parks in the Creston Valley, it acknowledges their significance in supporting recreation, environmental stewardship, and community well-being. By collaborating with regional partners, community groups, and other stakeholders, the Town can explore opportunities to advocate for, support, and complement efforts to expand and enhance regional spaces. Through strategic actions such as promoting connectivity, identifying gaps, and encouraging sustainable practices, the Town can contribute to the broader vision of creating accessible and vibrant outdoor spaces in the region.

Shown below, some of these sites include:

- Goat Mountain (securing public access)
- Old Ferry Landing (securing public access)
- Creston Valley Regional Airport Lands (improvement to existing opportunities)
- Riley Road (improvement to existing opportunities)
- Various points of the Goat River (securing public access)



3.5.1. PARKS AND OPEN SPACE OPPORTUNITIES TABLE

Park and Open Space Opportunity		Ownership	Park Type Opportunity					
			Field	Greenspace	Natural	Play	Seasonal Open Space	Urban Pocket
1	North Creston Park (in development)	Province	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
2	Community Forest Addition	Town	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
3	Additional Park Space In North Creston <i>In the area identified in the map above and OCP Map #9</i>	TBD	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	Triangle Site	Town	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
5	Grain Elevator Grounds	Columbian Basin Trust	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
6	Cluster 1	Town	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
7	Highway Corner	Private	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
8	Cluster 2	Town	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
9	Cluster 3	Town	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
10	Creston Valley Regional Airport	Town / Province	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
11	Ken Huscroft Park	Town	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗

4.0

PARK MANAGEMENT



4. PARK MANAGEMENT

A thriving parks network encompasses the physical and natural assets and the ongoing management of programmed and naturalized spaces by Creston staff and community volunteers. The Town of Creston is recognized for its abundant public areas, particularly large parks in South Creston, which the community takes great pride in. However, maintaining the Town's high standards for park management is increasingly challenging due to growing demands, such as a growing population, increased park usage, and climate change (e.g., drought). Additionally, the community has heightened aspirations which are reflected in this plan.

This section, along with the entire plan, seeks to tackle these challenges by providing a high-level overview of the management of the parks network and exploring strategies to enhance the stewardship of natural areas, including the Town's urban forest.

4.1. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE POLICIES

1. Conduct regular evaluations of Parks staff and equipment resources to ensure that current standards for parks and open spaces are consistently met, even as the scope of work expands.
2. Ensure that adequate staff capacity and equipment resources are available to uphold high landscaping and beautification standards, fostering an attractive and welcoming environment for residents and visitors alike.
3. Ensure Town budgeting and strategic planning adequately account for Parks staffing, capital improvement, and operational needs.
4. Periodically analyze the distribution of staff resources across different areas to ensure that the needs of both growing and underserved areas and demographics are effectively addressed.
5. Explore opportunities to expand park amenities – such as restrooms and drinking fountains – and improve accessibility following established guidelines (refer to Appendix B for Accessibility Guidelines) to better serve community needs.
6. Establish a Park Asset Management Framework as outlined in Section 4.1.1.



4.1.1 PARK ASSET MANAGEMENT

A strategic approach to park asset management ensures that Creston's parks remain safe, functional, and accessible while optimizing long-term costs and service levels. Below are key recommendations based on industry best practices.

1. Establish a Park Asset Management Framework

A structured asset management framework helps ensure systematic tracking and decision-making. The framework should include:

- **Inventory & Condition Assessment:** Regularly update the asset inventory, classifying assets by type, age, material, and condition.
- **Lifecycle Costing:** Estimate the total cost of ownership for each asset, including maintenance, renewal, and replacement.
- **Risk-Based Prioritization:** Assess asset risk levels based on safety, likelihood of failure, and consequences of failure.

2. Utilize a Multi-Dimensional Approach to Asset Management

Instead of relying solely on time as an indicator, incorporate other key factors:

a. Safety-Centric Asset Management

- Establish a proactive inspection schedule for high-risk assets (e.g., playgrounds, bridges, trails).
- Adopt a risk-based maintenance program that prioritizes repairs based on hazard levels.
- Implement a public reporting system for safety concerns via a mobile app or website.
- Align with CSA standards for playgrounds and recreational assets to minimize liability.

b. Time-Based Management

- Continue tracking asset age and manufacturer-recommended replacement cycles.
- Use predictive analytics to estimate deterioration rates.
- Incorporate historical maintenance data to refine replacement schedules.

c. Integrity-Based Asset Management (Structural & Aesthetic)

- Establish maintenance cycles for aesthetic assets (e.g., benches, landscaping).
- Monitor infrastructure components like pathways, lighting, and drainage systems.
- Implement a proactive sealcoating and resurfacing program for trails and paved areas.



3. Optimize Preventive and Predictive Maintenance

- **Condition-Based Monitoring:** Utilize sensors or inspections to track real-time performance of key assets.
- **Digital Work Order System:** Adopt a software system for tracking maintenance requests and work orders.
- **Preventive Maintenance Guidelines:** Establish annual maintenance targets per asset type (e.g., playgrounds inspected quarterly, irrigation systems checked monthly).

4. Data-Driven Decision-Making

- Integrate GIS and asset management software for tracking and mapping park infrastructure.
- Establish key performance indicators (KPIs), such as:
 - » Percent of assets meeting service level targets
 - » Number of unplanned repairs vs. planned maintenance
 - » Safety-related incidents per year

5. Sustainable and Cost-Effective Renewal Strategies

- Prioritize adaptive reuse of park elements instead of full replacements.
- Explore low-maintenance materials to reduce lifecycle costs (e.g., composite wood for benches).
- Implement stormwater-friendly designs (e.g., permeable pathways) to reduce erosion and maintenance.

6. Funding and Long-Term Financial Planning

- Develop a 10–20-year capital renewal plan based on lifecycle analysis.
- Implement a Reserve Fund Strategy to address long-term capital needs.
- Identify opportunities for grants, partnerships, and sponsorships to offset costs.

7. Community Engagement and Public Feedback

- Establish a system for community feedback on park conditions (e.g., public surveys, QR codes for asset reports).

4.1.2 IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

Action Item	Short-term (0-2 years)	Medium-term (3-5 years)	Long-term (5+ years)
Asset Inventory & GIS Mapping	✓	↻	↻
Condition Assessments	✓	↻	↻
Predictive Maintenance System	✓	✓	↻
Capital/Parks Reserve Fund	✓	✓	↻
Community Reporting System	✓	↻	↻

✓ = Initiate ↻ = Ongoing Review

4.2. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES

1. Explore the use of natural and integrated stormwater management amenities, such as rain gardens and swales, to create multifunctional landscaping features that effectively address drainage issues (while capturing and filtering stormwater) as well as offering other functions where appropriate (e.g., beautification, seasonal recreation).
2. Identify regulatory requirements and promote the expanded use of composting as a waste management strategy and a natural fertilizer to support sustainable practices.
3. Investigate opportunities to enhance pest and weed management practices by adopting an integrated, environmentally friendly approach that minimizes chemical use.
4. Explore grant opportunities to facilitate the restoration of native ecosystems within local parks, promoting biodiversity and ecological health.
5. Prioritize the development of an inventory of environmentally sensitive and significant lands, or conduct an environmental overview of each park, to identify areas that require restoration or protection.
6. Emphasize sustainability and ecological integrity in landscaping and vegetation management by prioritizing the use of native and adaptive non-native plants wherever possible.
7. Collaborate with partners to create environmental interpretive programs that encourage volunteerism and provide educational resources, including signage, brochures, and online content, to raise awareness about local ecosystems.
8. Implement and promote FireSmart principles through public education, vegetation management, fire-resistant infrastructure, emergency preparedness, community engagement, and strategic partnerships to reduce wildfire risk and enhance community resilience.

URBAN FOREST

9. Strengthen the Town's commitment to enhancing the urban forest through targeted tree plantings in local parks. Ensure that adequate operational funding and staff resources are allocated to support these initiatives.
10. Create a strategic plan for the urban forest that encompasses the following components:
 - a. Conduct a thorough assessment of current parks to identify priority areas for additional tree plantings, focusing on both visitor needs (such as shade trees) and ecological requirements (such as native species).
 - b. Define short-term planting priorities funded by the park operational budget, alongside long-term planting goals supported by replacement trees from development processes or larger natural area restoration projects.
 - c. Consider conducting an inventory of existing trees and tree cover to establish ambitious planting targets aimed at achieving significant increases over a 5 to 10-year timeframe. This could be integrated into a Town-wide Urban Forest Strategy.



4.3. USE OF PARKS POLICIES

1. Enhance community access to public spaces, streamline the park booking process, and promote local entrepreneurship by enabling small vendors to operate within parks with fewer administrative barriers.
 - a. Broaden the scope of the park booking system to include all public spaces, ensuring equitable access for community members and organizations.
 - b. Simplify the booking process with user-friendly online and in-person options to improve accessibility and reduce administrative burden.
2. Conduct a review of existing park policies and consider adjusting fees for events and park usage. These changes should align with sustainable park operations, ensuring that financial practices support the ongoing maintenance and improvement of park facilities (e.g., waste removal, power, noise, traffic, staff overtime)
3. Use a combination of signage, education, and appropriate barriers (e.g., split rail fencing) to limit public access to protect sensitive areas, with trail systems provided for recreational use.
4. Consider the development of a Town-wide signage and wayfinding strategy
 - a. Ensure signage clearly demonstrates park uses and permitted activity.
5. Work with local groups to ensure desired community park uses are met, including special interest groups associated with activities such as:
 - a. Disc Golf
 - b. Tennis
 - c. Mountain Biking
 - d. Pickleball
 - e. Baseball
 - f. Soccer
6. Review and update relevant bylaws (e.g., Parks, Trails, and Public Spaces) to be consistent with the policies and objectives of this plan



5.0

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY



5. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The Action Plan translates the key policies of the plan into tangible actions for implementation. The Action Plan is meant to inform Council strategic planning, staff project priorities, and Town budgeting.

5.1. ACTION PLAN

ON-GOING ACTIONS			
Actions	First Steps	Policy	Roles
Assess Funding Opportunities to support Park Acquisition and Improvements Explore internal (e.g., amenity contributions, Town budgeting), external (e.g., grant funding), and community funding (e.g., partnership, community groups) opportunities to support enhanced park maintenance, improvements, and acquisition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Begin by cataloging current internal budgets, exploring external grants available for parks, and identifying potential community partners or groups interested in supporting park initiatives. » Establish a Parks Reserve Fund to support the maintenance, improvement, and acquisition of Town parks. When developed, ensure amenity funds are allocated to support plan objectives. 	3.4 - 1 (a) 3.4 - 1 (d) 3.4 - 2 (e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Town of Creston » Legal and planning consultants
Acquire and Develop New Town Parks Acquire new lands for Town Parks based on identified community needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Establish a clear framework for prioritizing maintenance, improvements, and acquisitions based on available resources. » Conduct a thorough assessment of potential sites (outlined below) including analyzing suitability based on community needs, opportunity/availability, feasibility, environmental considerations, and alignment with municipal plans, for areas/sites including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional park space in North Creston (e.g., through private acquisition) • New parks and open spaces as identified in the Creston Downtown Revitalization Plan (CDRP). • Town-owned properties. • Strategic privately/crown-owned parcels identified in the OCP <p><i>See Parks and Open Space Opportunities in Section 3.5</i></p>	3.4 - 2 (e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Town of Creston » Province of BC » RDCK

SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

Actions	First Steps	Policy	Roles
Implement Park Improvements Based on Community Needs Make specific park improvements consistent with identified community needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Undertake specific park improvements that align with the needs and desires of residents. » Prioritize projects that enhance accessibility, amenities, and overall user experience, ensuring improvements are responsive to evolving community priorities. <i>See section 2.5 for community feedback on existing parks</i>	3.4 - 9	» Town of Creston
Ongoing Parks Budget and Service Review Review Town Parks budgeting, resourcing, and service levels on an ongoing basis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Establish a regular review process to evaluate Town Parks' budgeting, staffing, service levels, and booking fees.. This includes analyzing expenditure trends, resource allocation, and community feedback to ensure services align with evolving needs and financial sustainability. » Engage with the RDCK on additional booking fees to support park maintenance. <i>See section 4 for policies and actions for Park Management</i>	3.4 - 1 (c) 3.4 - 1 (e)	» Town of Creston
Engage the Community on Park Redevelopment Conduct additional community consultation to inform detailed park designs and improvements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Develop a simple online feedback process through letstalk.creston for the conceptual designs of Kinsmen, Millennium, and North Creston Park. » Update concepts as needed before moving forward with detailed designs. <i>See Appendix A for conceptual park designs.</i>	3.4 - 2 (b)	» Town of Creston
Collaborate on Highway Bypass Development Work with the Province and other partners to explore the development of the Highway Bypass corridor as a recreational amenity (e.g., multi-use trail with other amenities).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Initiate discussions with the Province to clarify jurisdictional responsibilities and explore shared objectives for the Highway Bypass corridor. » Identify funding opportunities, conduct preliminary feasibility studies, and establish a working group with key stakeholders to guide the development of a multi-use trail and related amenities. <i>See the Creston Trails Master Plan for further details.</i>	3.4 - 6 (c)	» Town of Creston » Province of BC » RDCK
Incorporate Indigenous Perspectives and Cultural Practices in Park Designs Design safe and welcoming gathering spaces for connection, reflection, and community events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Identify and establish a regular communication and consultation channel with yaqan nukiy to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore opportunities to design safe, welcoming gathering spaces that foster connection, reflection, and celebration. • Integrate meaningful artistic and design elements to promote a sense of place and belonging, while respectfully showcasing Indigenous perspectives. • Explore opportunities to reintroduce traditional games and play into park designs, creating interactive spaces that reflect and celebrate cultural practices. 	3.4 - 8 (a) 3.4 - 8 (c) 3.4 - 8 (d)	» Town of Creston » yaqan nukiy

SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

Actions	First Steps	Policy	Roles
Assess Park-Specific DCC and ACC Create a Parks-specific Development Cost Charge (DCC). Consider an Amenity Cost Charge (ACC) for Town parks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Conduct a feasibility study for introducing Parks-specific Development Cost Charges (DCCs) and Amenity Cost Charges (ACCs). » As needed, consult legal and planning experts, review case studies from other municipalities, and engage stakeholders to ensure alignment with community needs and development plans. 	3.4 - 1 (e) 3.4 - 1 (f)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Town of Creston » Legal and planning consultants
Create a Planting Strategy Develop a planting/landscaping strategy that includes the use of native and adaptive non-native species (i.e., low-maintenance, drought tolerant).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Work with subject matter experts (e.g., Landscape Architect / Creston Parks Staff) and yaqan nukiy to assess local ecological conditions and develop a Landscaping Plan for Creston Parks 	3.4 - 1 (b) 3.4 - 8 (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Town of Creston » Subject matter experts (e.g., Landscape Architect, Consultant) » yaqan nukiy
Explore Partnerships Explore the development of a year-round indoor sports facility with local partners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Convene a working group with stakeholders (e.g., RDCK, School District, sports groups) to discuss and assess the feasibility of developing a year-round indoor sports facility, including potential funding and shared-use agreements. 	3.4 - 6 (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Town of Creston » Local Partners (e.g., RDCK, School District, sports groups)
Enhance Online Resources and Booking Improve online resources for Town (and RDCK) parks and recreation information and develop a user-friendly online park and facility booking system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Collaborate with the RDCK, Information Technology (IT), and communications teams to improve online accessibility to park and recreation information by creating an intuitive, centralized platform including an online booking system for parks and facilities. 	3.4 - 4 (a) 3.4 - 4 (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Town of Creston » RDCK » Communications / IT Consultant
Establish a Park Asset Management Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Work with various departments including Engineering and Planning to establish a park asset management framework as detailed in section 4.1.1. 	4.1 - 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Town of Creston
Review and Update Relevant Bylaws Review and update relevant bylaws (e.g., Parks, Trails, and Public Spaces) to be consistent with the policies and objectives of this plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Review and update relevant bylaws (e.g., Parks, Trails, and Public Spaces Bylaw) by conducting research on existing regulations, identifying gaps and inconsistencies with current plans, consulting stakeholders (staff, council, public, and partners), and reviewing best practices. 	4.3 - 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Town of Creston

MEDIUM-TERM ACTIONS

Actions	First Steps	Policy	Roles
Establish a Trail Connection to Goat Mountain Secure a public trail connection to Goat Mountain with clear wayfinding and signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Identify the preferred route(s), engage with landowners and relevant stakeholders, and allocate funding to secure access to a public trail linking Goat Mountain to key entry points, such as 20th Avenue. » Develop clear wayfinding and signage to enhance accessibility and guide users, ensuring alignment with local trail planning initiatives. 	3.4 - 7 (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Town of Creston » Local Landowners
Enhance Water Access with Ecological Integrity Work with local stakeholders to establish better water access while maintaining ecological integrity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Establish a working group to engage with the RDCK, Province of BC, local diking districts, private landowners, and yaqan nukiy to identify opportunities and initiatives for improving water access points. 	3.4 - 7 (b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Town of Creston » RDCK » Province of BC » Diking districts » Private landowners » yaqan nukiy

5.2. PARK FUNDING MECHANISMS

The TCPMP outlines an ambitious vision to enhance parks, open spaces, recreational facilities, and green infrastructure. To realize this vision, a strategic approach to funding is essential. This section outlines diverse funding mechanisms available to the Town of Creston, balancing traditional methods with innovative solutions that align with the community's priorities and long-term planning goals.



5.2.1. PARK FUNDING RESOURCES AND STRATEGIES

5.2.1.1. Municipal Funding & Strategies

General Tax Revenue

General tax revenue remains a primary source of funding for park development and maintenance. A portion of annual property taxes can be allocated to support parks, ensuring consistent investment in these vital community assets.

Development Cost Charges (DCCs)

DCCs may be levied on new developments to fund infrastructure needs, including parks and recreational facilities. Reviewing and adjusting DCC rates to reflect the actual costs of planned enhancements can provide a reliable funding stream.

Parks Reserve Fund

The creation of a dedicated parks reserve fund, financed through annual budget allocations or surplus funds, can provide a flexible resource for capital projects and maintenance during budget shortfalls.

Strategic Asset Management

Proactive asset management ensures efficient use of resources, minimizing costs while extending the lifespan of park infrastructure. Investing in energy-efficient lighting, drought-resistant landscaping, and durable materials can reduce long-term expenses.

Rental and Usage Fees

Introducing or revising user fees for park facilities, such as sports fields or community centers, can generate revenue while maintaining affordability. Fee structures should be equitable and reflect operational costs.

Events and Programs

Hosting community events, workshops, and recreational programs can provide supplementary income while fostering community engagement.

5.2.1.2. Partnerships and Collaboration

Public-Private Partnerships

Engaging private sector partners can leverage additional resources for large-scale projects. Examples include sponsorships, naming rights, or shared investments in multi-use facilities.

Community and Non-Profit Partnerships

Collaborations with local non-profits, service clubs, or community groups can unlock volunteer resources, donations, and access to specific funding pools targeted at community development.

Regional Collaboration

Working with neighbouring governments (e.g., Province of BC, RDCK, yaqan nukiy) on shared recreational opportunities (e.g., highway bypass lands, water access points) can reduce costs and improve service delivery.

5.2.1.3. Other Funding Mechanisms

Community Fundraising

Working with partners to harness the power of social media and digital platforms for crowdfunding campaigns can engage residents and foster a sense of ownership in park projects.

Environmental Offsets

Collaborating with businesses to develop environmental offset programs can fund conservation and restoration projects within Creston's parks.

Donations and Legacy Giving

Encouraging philanthropic contributions through individual donations, corporate sponsorships, or legacy giving programs can create a sustainable funding base. Initiatives such as commemorative benches or tree-planting programs can also enhance community involvement.

Government Grants and Programs

Various government grants and programs are available to support diverse projects, including outdoor recreation, urban forestry, active transportation, and community infrastructure. See Appendix C for more information

See Appendix C for a curated list of grant programs and funding initiatives available to local governments (and others).

APPENDIX A

PARK CONCEPT DESIGNS



KINSMEN PARK



- 1 Additional parking
- 2 Bicycle parking
- 3 Washroom
- 4 Sport courts
- 5 Loop path with distance markings
- 6 Lawn / play field (soccer, cricket)
- 7 Seating & gathering space
- 8 Seasonal stormwater retention pond / disc golf area
- 9 Feature playground
- 10 Landscape buffer

MILLENNIUM PARK



- 1 Improved gathering space with shade and seating
- 2 Pickleball court(s) & petanque/bocce
- 3 Playground
- 4 Multi-purpose water feature and gathering space
- 5 Enhanced entries and paths
- 6 Additional parking / bicycle parking
- 7 Controlled vehicular access (e.g., maintenance, food trucks)
- 8 Improved dog park (small and large dog area, shade, water, grass)
- 9 Sport court & relocated fitness area
- 10 New paved pump track
- 11 Climbing / bouldering Area

NORTH END PARK



- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Access and day-use parking (with RV and truck stalls) | 6 Campground amenities (playground, washrooms, picnic area) |
| 2 Day use amenities (washroom, seating, playground, shade) | 7 Camp sites |
| 3 Golden Centennaires Tutor Jet Display | 8 Additional parking / amenities (washrooms) |
| 4 Wetland / stormwater management | 9 Nature trail and play area |
| 5 Campground and day use trail | 10 Trail connection (e.g., to Glaser Trail and Billy Goat Bluff) |

i Note: This intersection will require a traffic impact study and has not been approved by the Ministry of Transportation

APPENDIX B

ACCESSIBLE PARK GUIDELINES



ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES

The following accessibility guidelines were developed based on several accessible best practice documents, including some developed directly for park spaces. These best practice resources included:

- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards for Accessible Design
- Creating Parks and Public Space for People of All Ages Guide, AARP
- Guidelines for Designing for Persons with Low Vision, National Institute of Building Sciences, June 2011



GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR ACCESSIBILITY IN PARKS



1. UNIVERSAL ACCESS

Ensure that all areas of the park, including paths, facilities, and recreational spaces, are accessible to people with disabilities.



2. INCLUSIVE DESIGN

Consider the needs of people with a variety of disabilities, including mobility, sensory, and cognitive impairments, from the outset of design.



3. MAINTAINABILITY

Accessibility features must be durable and easy to maintain over time to ensure continued access.

GUIDELINES

1. Develop accessible paths, trails, and routes to facilities including:

- a. Providing firm, stable, and slip-resistant surfaces for all paths and trails.
- b. Ensuring pathways are at least 1.5 meters wide to accommodate wheelchairs and mobility devices.
- c. Cutting curbs at intersections with ramps that do not exceed 8.33% slope (1:12 slope ratio) to allow easy access for people using wheelchairs or scooters.

2. Provide accessible parking and drop-off zones including considerations for:

- a. Providing designated accessible parking spaces close to park entrances, including van-accessible spaces that are at least 2.4 metres wide.
- b. Ensuring clear signage that identifies accessible spaces.
- c. Positioning accessible parking spots with at least a 1.5-metre aisle for users to get in and out of vehicles, accommodating wheelchairs or mobility devices.
- d. Designating specific drop-off zones near key park amenities to support visitors with mobility impairments who may require assistance.
- e. Ensuring drop-off zones are close to paths that connect to key features of the park.

3. Provide accessible restroom facilities including considerations for:

- a. Marking washrooms with appropriate signage.
- b. Located restroom near popular amenities, such as playgrounds or sports courts.
- c. Ensuring restrooms include at least one accessible stall with adequate space (at least 1.5 meters wide and deep).
- d. Ensure grab bars around toilets and in other accessible areas (e.g., sinks)
- e. Provide accessible sinks, soap dispensers, and paper towel dispensers at accessible heights.

4. Ensure playgrounds are designed to be inclusive and include sensory and cognitive considerations:

- a. Ensuring playgrounds feature a mix of accessible play equipment that accommodates people with a range of disabilities (e.g., ramps, swings designed for wheelchairs, tactile or sensory play elements).
- b. Using soft, wheelchair-accessible surfacing like rubber or synthetic turf around play equipment to ensure safety and ease of movement.
- c. Ensuring that playgrounds are within reach for people in wheelchairs or those with limited mobility, ensuring access to at least a portion of the equipment.
- d. Including sensory play equipment that engages different senses, such as tactile panels, auditory devices, and visual elements.
- e. Ensuring clear signage with large, easy-to-read fonts and pictograms to help people with cognitive disabilities navigate the playground.

5. Provide accessible picnic and recreation areas with considerations for:

- a. Installing picnic tables that are accessible for people in wheelchairs, with clear space under the table (at least 69 cm high, 76 cm wide, and 48 cm deep).
- b. Providing moveable chairs or seating in addition to fixed tables so that visitors with disabilities can enjoy flexible seating arrangements.
- c. Ensuring that accessible seating areas are available in places such as amphitheaters, sports courts, or event spaces.
 - i. For sports fields and courts, accessible seating should be available on elevated platforms or near the playing area.

6. Provide accessible signage and wayfinding with considerations for:

- a. Installing clear, readable signs that use large fonts, contrasting colours, and pictograms to help guide all park users.
- b. Providing braille signage at key locations, such as restroom entrances, trailheads, and park entrances.
- c. Placing signs at a height that is accessible to people in wheelchairs (approximately 1.2 meters to 1.5 meters from the ground).
- d. Providing tactile maps or digital solutions for people with visual impairments.
- e. Providing audible signals or announcements for key areas or events within the park.

7. Provide drinking fountains and other amenities including considerations for:

- a. Installing at least one accessible drinking fountain in areas where people gather (e.g., playgrounds, picnic areas).
- b. Ensuring drinking fountains have a lower spout and clear space beneath it for wheelchair users to approach.
- c. Ensuring benches and seating areas are accessible, with backrests and armrests.
- d. Providing shaded areas or weather-protected spaces for those who may require shelter from extreme temperatures.

8. Ensure safety and emergency access in park spaces including considerations for:

- a. Ensuring that all areas of the park are easily accessible to emergency vehicles in the event of an emergency including wide, smooth paths that can accommodate wheelchairs and emergency vehicles.
- b. Including emergency call stations in parks that are equipped with clear instructions and accessible buttons for those with disabilities.
- c. Ensure adequate lighting – particularly on paths, in and around washrooms and other high-use areas.

9. Provide education and training for Town staff including:

- a. Providing regular training for park staff on accessibility guidelines and how to assist park visitors with disabilities.
- b. Ensuring staff are trained in emergency procedures and in how to use assistive devices such as all-terrain wheelchairs is available in the park.

10. Performing regular evaluation and feedback on park accessibility including consideration for:

- a. Performing regular audits to ensure that accessibility features are maintained and functional.
- b. Including feedback mechanisms for park visitors to report accessibility issues or make suggestions for improvement.



Maffeo Sutton Playground in Nanaimo designed with accessibility features.

APPENDIX C

GOVERNMENT GRANTS AND PROGRAMS



GRANT PROGRAMS AND FUNDING INITIATIVES

Below is a curated list of grant programs and funding initiatives available to local governments (and others). These programs support diverse projects, including outdoor recreation, urban forestry, active transportation, and community infrastructure. Each entry provides an overview of, where information is available, the grant, eligible projects and applicants, and links for more detailed information.

Grant	Funding	Description	Link
Outdoor Recreation Fund of BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Matching contribution of up to \$10,000 » \$25,000 applications may be considered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » The Outdoor Rec Fund provides funding for community-based projects that aim to enhance outdoor recreation and contribute to the protection and restoration of natural spaces. » Eligible applicants include local governments. » Projects must focus on natural outdoor settings (e.g., parks, trails) and have all necessary authorizations in place. 	Outdoor Recreation Fund of BC – Outdoor Recreation Council of BC
TD Friends of the Environment Foundation Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Under \$100 000 » The majority of TD FEF grants are between \$2,000 and \$8,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » TD FEF funding supports various environmental initiatives, focusing on environmental education and green space programs. » Eligible projects include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Park revitalization ▪ Community gardens ▪ Park programming » There are several ineligible costs including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Infrastructure and capital costs (sheds, solar panels, low flush toilets, water refill stations, etc.) ▪ Playground equipment (traditional plastic play structures) ▪ Ornamental landscaping or beautification ▪ Land acquisition » Eligible applicants include local governments. 	FEF Grant

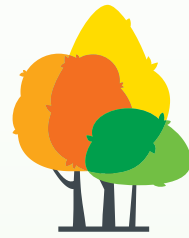
Active Transportation Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » For capital projects contributions up to \$50 million with a maximum contribution rate between 40-100% depending on recipient and project location 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » The ATF supports the development of infrastructure that encourages active transportation, such as cycling paths, pedestrian trails, and other recreational park amenities. » Municipalities and regional districts can apply to improve park connectivity and access through active transportation initiatives. 	Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada Active Transportation Fund
Tree Canada's Treemendous Communities Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Up to \$10,000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Treemendous Communities provides funding to cover the cost of purchasing and planting trees and shrubs, site preparation, tree maintenance, planting materials and developing education materials » Eligible projects can receive funding up to \$10,000 for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchasing and planting trees and shrubs • Site preparation and tree maintenance • Planting materials and developing educational materials » Project types include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heat island mitigation • Biodiversity corridors • Invasive species control • Riparian planting • Park and street tree plantings » Eligible applicants include local governments. 	Treemendous Communities Tree Canada
Green Municipal Fund's Growing Canada's Community Canopies (GCCC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Funding for up to 50% of eligible costs with a maximum of \$1 million in infrastructure activity funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » GCCC funds planting trees in communities across Canada with the purpose of carbon sequestration, enhancing biodiversity and better climate resilience. » Eligible projects include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community-wide urban planting • Forest restoration in naturalized areas • Localized planting projects » Eligible applicants include local governments. 	Tree planting Green Municipal Fund

Columbia Basin Trust's Community Development Program	» N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » The Community Development Program supports initiatives that address community challenges and opportunities in the Columbia Basin region » Eligible projects include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strategic community projects, capital projects (e.g., facility renovations or construction), ▪ Community-based research and planning. » Eligible applicants include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Non-profits ▪ Local governments ▪ Indigenous communities, public organizations ▪ Businesses (depending on project impact). 	Community Development Program Columbia Basin Trust
Columbia Basin Trust's Land Acquisition Grants	» Funding for up to 60% of any individual acquisition up to a maximum contribution of \$750,000 per project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » The Land Acquisition Grants support local governments, First Nations communities and non-profit organizations to acquire property for public purposes. » Examples of eligible acquisitions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Providing public access to and enabling the pursuit of recreational opportunities; ▪ Creating a space to facilitate program delivery; ▪ Addressing other identified community priorities; and/or ▪ Addressing one or more of the Trust's Focus Areas. 	Land Acquisition Grants Columbia Basin Trust
Columbia Basin Trust's Resident Directed Grants	» The Town of Creston has an anticipated funding amount of \$75,689	» Funding supports local projects that provide additional value to Columbia Basin communities and that benefit the broad community and public good. The ReDi Grants are intended to be flexible and incorporate community-based funding decisions.	Columbia Basin Trust Resident Directed Grants Regional District of Central Kootenay

APPENDIX D

WHAT WE HEARD REPORT





TOWN OF CRESTON

PARKS MASTER PLAN

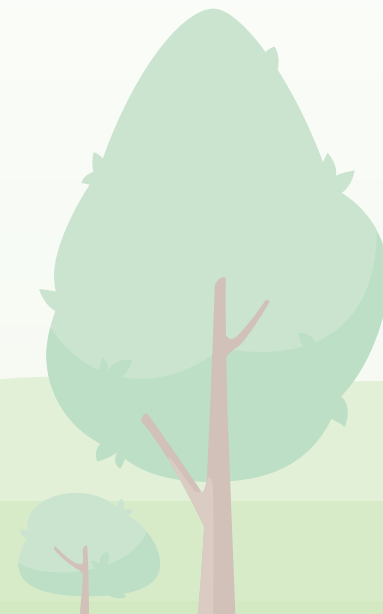
WHAT WE HEARD REPORT

ROUND 1 & 2 ENGAGEMENT



OCTOBER 2024

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1. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Community and stakeholder engagement is a key part of the Town of Creston Parks Master Plan (TCPMP) process.

Round 1 Engagement was used to [a] build on the Project Team's background analyses by further identifying key issues and opportunities; and [b] generate high-level ideas and a vision for Creston Parks.

Round 2 Engagement events were used to [a] check in with the community on what we've heard; [b] gauge levels of support for different ideas; and [c] help us "course correct" in any given direction, before developing the draft TCPMP.

ROUND 1 ENGAGEMENT INCLUDED:

Public Idea Fair | June 6, 2024

A large-scale, widely advertised interactive public event at the Creston and District Community Complex.

Online Engagement | June 6 - 20, 2024

The Town's online "Let's Talk" platform was utilized throughout Round 1 to advertise events, share documents (e.g., Background Summary Report), and host the Issues and Opportunities Survey.

Stakeholder Workshop | June 6, 2024

A focused issues and opportunities workshop was held with key stakeholders (e.g., sports and recreation groups, Regional District of the Central Kootenay representatives, interest groups, and Town staff).

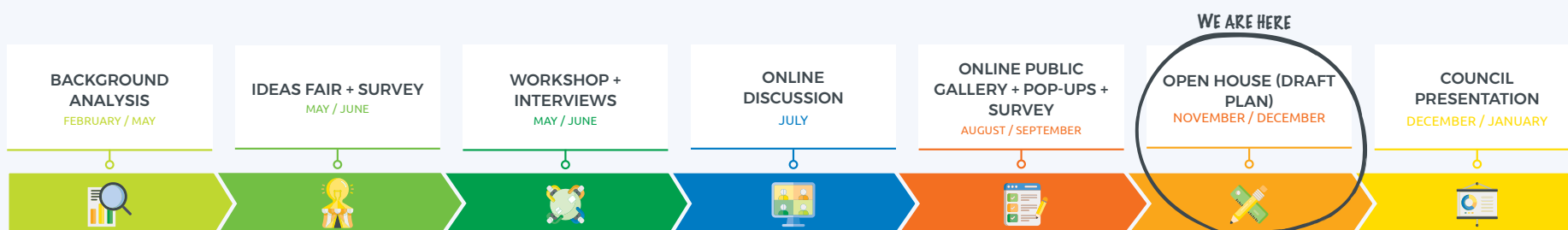
ROUND 2 ENGAGEMENT INCLUDED:

Early Directions Survey | Aug 22 - Sep 13, 2024

The Town's online "Let's Talk" platform was utilized throughout Round 2 to advertise events, share documents, and host the Early Directions Survey.

Pop-up events | Aug / Sept 2024

In August and September, Town Staff facilitated a pop-up engagement at the 8th Ave Walkthrough and the Creston Valley Farmers Market.



1.1. CONSULTATION AT A GLANCE



623

TOTAL VISITS TO PROJECT
WEBPAGE



118

ENGAGED VISITORS



30

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE
ISSUES + OPPORTUNITIES
SURVEY



6

STAKEHOLDERS AT
THE WORKSHOP



25

PARTICIPANTS AT
THE IDEAS FAIR



85

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE
EARLY DIRECTIONS SURVEY



2. ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

2.1. ROUND 1 - ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

From June 6th -20th, 2024, the community was invited to participate in the Issues and Opportunities Survey hosted on the Town's engagement platform ([letstalk.creston](https://letstalk.creston.ca)). An Ideas fair and Stakeholder workshop was also held on June 6th to kick off this first round of engagement. The following provides a representative sample of the feedback and themes heard.

2.1.1. ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES SURVEY & IDEAS FAIR

Issues and Opportunities for Creston Parks

The following issues and opportunities were identified for each park in Creston by survey respondents.

Park	Issue and Opportunity Themes from Respondents (counts)
Burns Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Bathrooms are not open when they say they are» The basketball court is useless» Dated playground features» Picnic Table and playground disconnected» Lack of native plants and flowers
Canyon Street Walkthrough	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Not well maintained - needs regular maintenance» Issues with religious soliciting (3)» Issues with use by homeless (4)» Too close to the highway» Lack of native plants and trees» Needs more seating, shade, and activity
Centennial Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Splash park on when it rains and/or in the evening» Playground is lacking - could use variable age» Needs more accessibility (e.g., accessible trails)» Remove toxic ground rubber (2)» Great park just needs improvement (3)
Creston Education Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Desire for proper soccer field» Lack of shade
Downtown Greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Issues with use by homeless» Safety issues with laneway

Park	Issue and Opportunity Themes from Respondents (counts)
Dodd's Creek Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Concerned about safety and encampments (3) » The bike park is not used often » Great natural area opportunity - consider rewilding » The dog park is too small and the fence is too low » Some big kid playground features - netted structure » Needs shade and seating
Dwight and Rosamond Moore Community Wetland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Underdeveloped - interesting area but no infrastructure » Needs to connect to wider space - trail network to/from » Covered shelter areas - cant bring kids in bad weather » Needs more seating
Kinsmen Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Could use proper soccer field / multi-use sports field » Nature Playground » Washrooms and shade, picnic tables, ice rink
Millennium Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Need more events and upkeep » Consider a proper fountain
Schikurski Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Consider a paved path (2) » Covered shelter and picnic tables » Fear that north end would be developed » Great wild nature park
Spirit of Creston Square	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Love the new mural and trees » More car-free days » Doesn't have an identity unless there is an event
Staking Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Opportunity for more naturalized space
Rotary Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » How is this even a park? (5)
Creston & District Community Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Shaded areas to rest (4) » Uninviting to community meetings » More entry points for pedestrians



Survey Summary

In addition to perceived issues and opportunities for each Creston Park, the survey asked respondents various questions about the quality and quantity of parks, preferred park types and amenities, and whether the current level of risk and accessibility is appropriate for Creston Parks. This section provides a summary of the survey results.

- 1. Respondents were split on whether there are currently enough parks and whether they are well-maintained.** When asked where new parks should be located, respondents indicated that North Creston is missing parks and amenities, especially along Northwest Boulevard.
- 2. Natural Areas** (e.g., natural areas with trails), **Urban Parks** (e.g., parks and plazas in the downtown), and **Play Areas** (e.g., playgrounds for children or adults, splash pads) were the most desired by survey respondents.
- 3. Respondents wanted to see or see more activities in parks** including free play, playgrounds, soccer fields, hiking, biking, walking trails, pickleball, and arts and community spaces.
- 4. Trails, covered picnic areas, drinking fountains, and washrooms** were the most cited park features and amenities that respondents wanted to see more of in parks.
- 5. Respondents want to see a variety of new uses and activities in Kinsmen Park** including a playground, sports field, natural areas, splash pad, shade trees, and a walking track.
- 6. The majority of respondents indicated that there is currently the right amount of risk in the right areas** (e.g., mountain biking in designated areas).
- 7. Most respondents indicated that Creston parks are moderately accessible to various users and activities but improvements are needed.** Respondents cited a desire for additional accessible trails, connections, and washrooms.
- 8. Respondents had various concerns and input regarding how recreation in Creston is managed.** Input included a desire for the Town to:
 - a. Lead parks and recreation programming, not the RDCK
 - b. Play a more passive role in programming by supporting more initiatives from other organizations
 - c. Provide better communications around parks and programming
 - d. Provide more children's programming



2.1.2. STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

On June 6th, 2024, a focused issues and opportunities workshop was held with key stakeholders (e.g., sports and recreation groups, RDCK representatives, interest groups, and Town staff). This workshop presented an opportunity to hear directly from key stakeholders for parks in Creston. The workshop was facilitated in person and via an online collaborative program called Miro. The following feedback was heard.

How can the Town do better to meet the needs of your group? What are the key needs or challenges in Creston's parks?

- Provide more tennis courts and disc golf opportunities in the Town
- Undertake proper maintenance of Baseball fields and new amenities such as an indoor facility, storage sheds, and lighting
- Consider investment in sports and recreation facilities and take advantage of Creston's location in the valley to attract tournaments and out-of-town groups
- Provide better online information and communication around Creston Park's recreation programming and opportunities
- Leverage large infrastructure projects (e.g., highway realignment) to provide additional parks and amenities.

What opportunities exist in Creston Parks and how can the town better facilitate collaboration among groups and organizations?

- Lack of indoor recreation spaces for local groups
- Opportunity for indoor multi-use facility in Kinsmen Park or as part of highway realignment
- Opportunity to secure park space north of Schikurski Park for community use.
- Provide better connections between the Town and nearby recreational spaces - issues include barriers from private property to crown land and other open spaces.

One small change tomorrow, one big change for the future.

- Provide better connections to/from parks in the Town
- Better access to the community forest and mountain biking
- Better information on parks in Creston including user feed, manuals, and directories
- Create a multi-use indoor facility
- Proper maintenance of sports fields (e.g., baseball infields)
- Simplify the Town park's booking system
- Provide disc golf in the community forest
- More year-round washrooms in parks



2.2. ROUND 2 - EARLY DIRECTIONS

From August 22 to September 13, 2024, the community was invited to participate in an Early Directions Survey hosted on the Town's engagement platform (letstalk.creston). Town staff also provided in-person pop-up engagement opportunities in the Canyon Street Walkthrough and at the Creston Valley Farmer's Markets. The following provides a representative sample of the feedback heard.

2.2.1. EARLY DIRECTIONS

All 7 Early Directions for Creston Parks were highly supported through the Early Directions Survey and in-person pop-up engagement. Each Early Direction receives the following level of support through the Early Directions survey.



EARLY DIRECTION #1

Improve funding and maintenance to ensure a high quality of Town parks

Identify operational needs, allocate resources, and establish an enhanced maintenance plan to ensure high-quality Town parks.

Level
of Support
84%

Specific Actions

- 1.1. Explore internal (e.g., amenity contributions, Town budgeting), external (e.g., grant funding), and community funding (e.g., partnership, community groups) opportunities to support improved maintenance and park improvements and acquisition.
- 1.2. Develop a planting/landscaping strategy that includes the use of native and adaptive non-native species (i.e., low-maintenance, drought tolerant, and FireSmart).
- 1.3. Review Town Parks budgeting, resourcing, and service levels on an ongoing basis.
- 1.4. Establish a Parks fund to support the maintenance, improvement, and acquisition of Town parks.

Qualitative Comment Themes from Participants (e.g., what is missing from the Early Direction?)

- Strong desire for better maintenance of existing parks
- Seek grants/funding and or contributions from service clubs
- Clarity around how money would be spent or level of tax increase

EARLY DIRECTION #2

Improve existing Town parks and create additional passive and active recreational opportunities

Incrementally redevelop existing parks and create additional passive (e.g., trails and natural areas) and active (e.g., soccer, tennis) opportunities to better serve the community.



Specific Actions

- 2.1. Redevelop Kinsmen Park with active and passive recreational amenities, such as walking trails, sports amenities, seating areas, playgrounds, and natural areas.
- 2.2. Revitalize the Centennial Park playground (e.g., replace rubber surfacing with natural material).
- 2.3. Revitalize Millennium Park to encourage more diverse and active use (e.g., remove the fence, increase access, provide more recreational opportunities).
- 2.4. Work with the RDCK to provide more shade and seating on the CDCC grounds.

Qualitative Comment Themes from Participants (e.g., what is missing from the Early Direction?)

- A desire for more active transportation and trails

EARLY DIRECTION #3

Identify and add new park space in North Creston

Seek opportunities to add new park space in North Creston to ensure equitable distribution of parks in the community.



Specific Actions

- 3.1. Secure additional parkland north of Schikurski Park.
- 3.2. Identify opportunities for park acquisition in North Creston.

Qualitative Comment Themes from Participants (e.g., what is missing from the Early Direction?)

- Need to take better care of what we already have
- Support for securing park space north of Schikurski

EARLY DIRECTION #4

Improve accessibility in parks

Ensure the park system meets the needs of all ages and abilities through accessible pathways, signage and information, restrooms and facilities, seating, safety and lighting.



Specific Actions

- 4.1. Ensure recommendations from the Accessibility Plan are reflected in future park improvements.
- 4.2. Develop accessibility guidelines for parks.

Qualitative Comment Themes from Participants (e.g., what is missing from the Early Direction?)

- General support for accessibility in parks
- Strong desire for more washrooms

EARLY DIRECTION #5

Develop clear communication for Town parks and programming

Ensure residents and visitors are informed about available amenities, events, activities, and park space booking through updated information, maps, signage, wayfinding, and processes.



Specific Actions

- 5.1. Improve online resources for Town (and RDCK) parks and recreation information.
- 5.2. Develop a user-friendly online Parks and Facility booking system and update park signage.

Qualitative Comment Themes from Participants (e.g., what is missing from the Early Direction?)

- Support for strong communication in parks and online tools

EARLY DIRECTION #6

Work with the local partners (e.g., RDCK, SD8, Province of BC, local interest groups) to improve parks and recreation

Improve communication and collaboration between local partners to foster collaborative partnerships, enhance facilities, expand programming, and create meaningful experiences that benefit the entire community.



Specific Actions

- 6.1. Explore a year-round indoor sports facility with local partners.
- 6.2. Improve the condition, maintenance, and availability of key active recreation amenities (e.g., baseball fields, tennis courts, frisbee golf, soccer fields).
- 6.3. Work with the Province and other partners to explore the development of the Highway Bypass corridor as a recreational amenity (e.g., multi-use trail).
- 6.4. As part of large-scale projects (e.g., infrastructure, development), work with partners to pursue opportunities to incorporate parks and recreation improvements.

Qualitative Comment Themes from Participants (e.g., what is missing from the Early Direction?)

- Support for working closer with RDCK
- Desire to secure funding for improvements (e.g., no tax increase)

EARLY DIRECTION #7

Create better connections between Town parks and adjacent open spaces and natural areas

Identify and create better connections between the Town and adjacent areas such as Arrow / Goat Mountain, and nearby rivers.

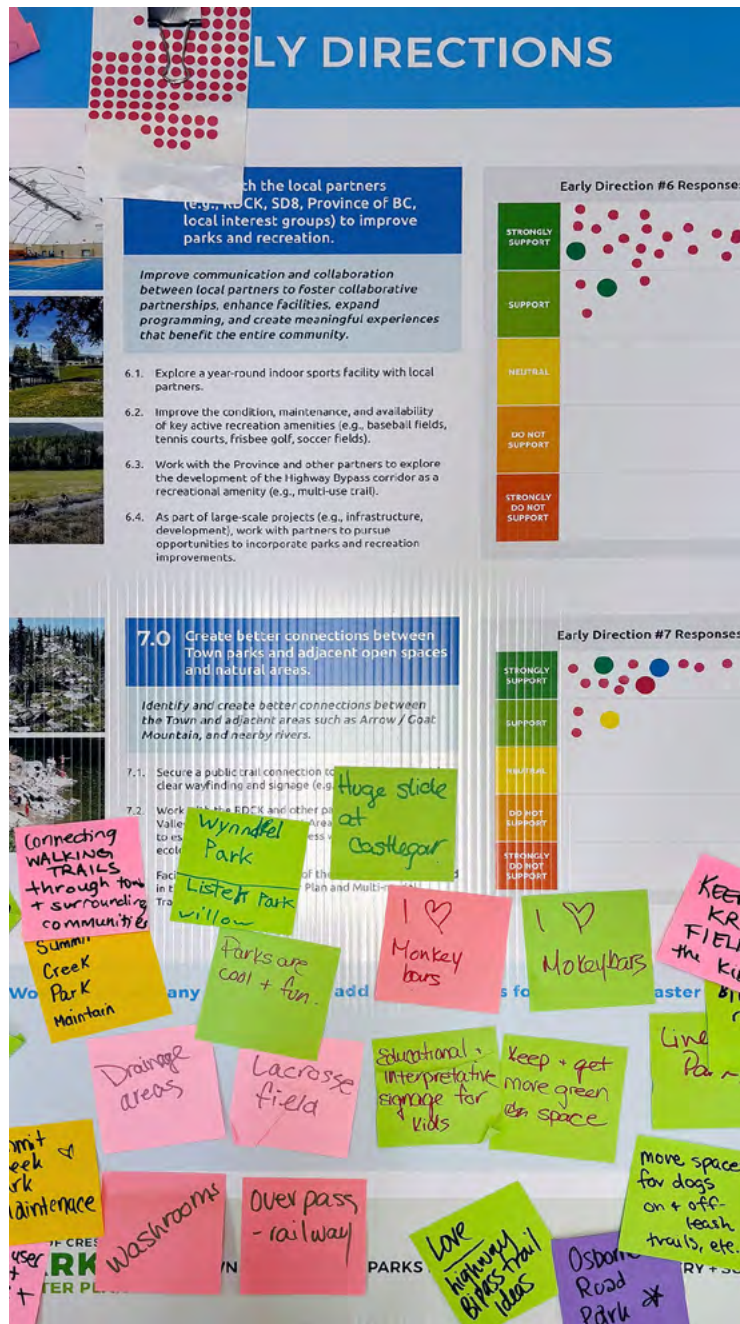


Specific Actions

- 7.1. Secure a public trail connection to Goat Mountain with clear wayfinding and signage (e.g., from 20th Avenue).
- 7.2. Work with the RDCK and other partners (e.g., Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area, Diking Districts) to establish better water access while maintaining ecological integrity.
- 7.3. Facilitate the development of the trail network identified in the Creston Trails Master Plan and Multi-modal Transportation Plan.

Qualitative Comment Themes from Participants (e.g., what is missing from the Early Direction?)

- Strong support for increased connections, including to Goat Mountain, dykes, and rivers.



3. NEXT STEPS



The next step in the process is for the Project Team to draft the Creston Parks Master Plan.

After that, the community will be invited to comment on the Plan, and from that, final changes will be made before the draft Master Plan is presented to Council, which is scheduled for late 2024 or early 2025.





Town of Creston Parks Master Plan
April 2025

