

THE WAY WE LIVE

QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK MASTER PLAN CONCEPT EVALUATION REPORT





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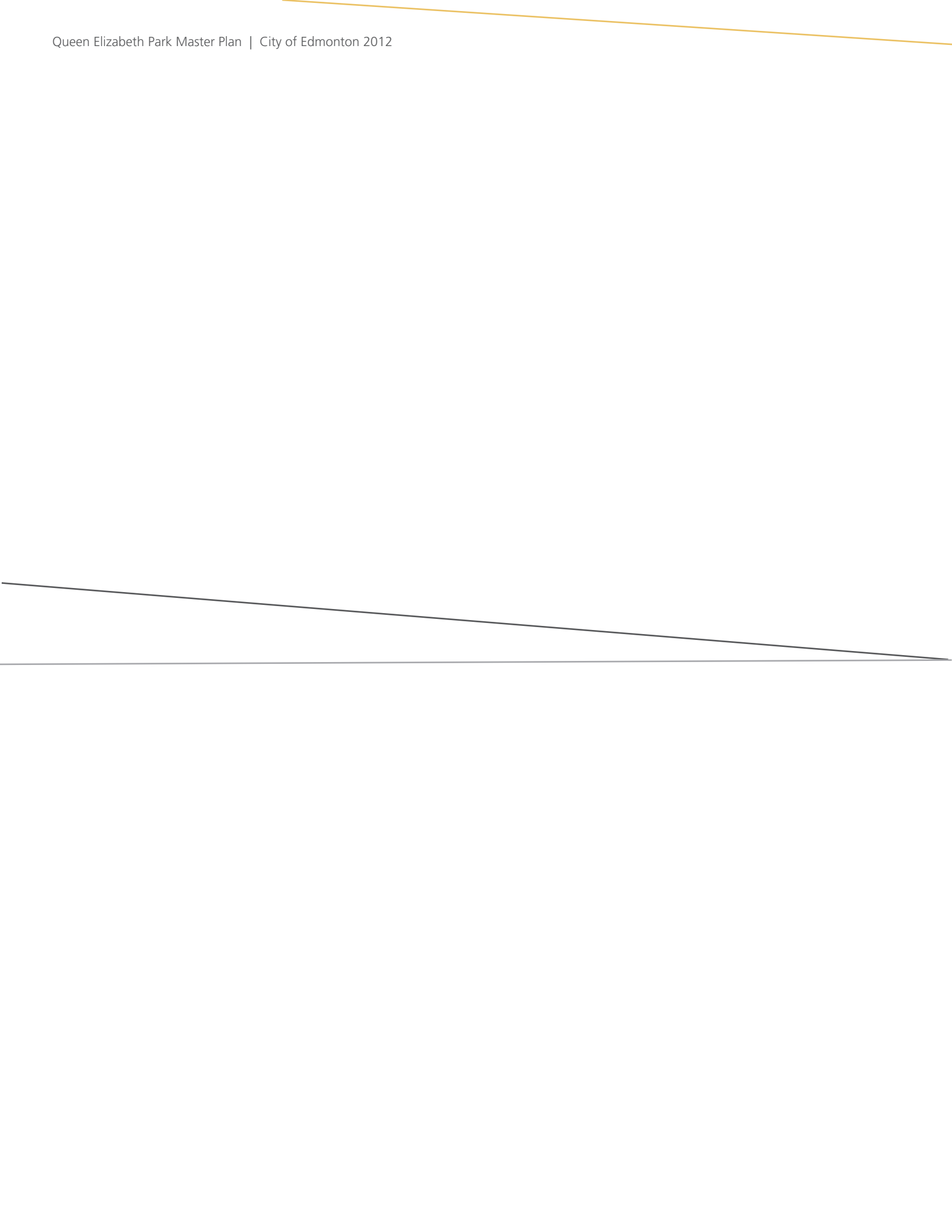
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01 PUBLIC CONSULTATION SERIES #2

1.1 SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

In the second round of public consultations, two design options were presented and evaluated by the public and City staff. Consultation events included public workshop #2, an internal (City of Edmonton staff) open house, public online survey #2, and the Aboriginal Community meeting #2.

FEEDBACK ON VISION, MISSION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The majority of participants supported the Vision Statement, Mission Statement, and Guiding Principles as presented. Some comments on the **Vision Statement** suggested adding language that expressed the importance of recreation in the park and removing the reference to the park being a “gateway.” Some participants felt that the **Mission Statement** was too generic and some people wanted to see language added regarding activity in the park. All of the **Guiding Principles** were supported but some participants wanted to see more emphasis placed on universal accessibility and on river access.

PREFERRED DESIGN ELEMENTS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE MASTER PLAN

The following are the priority design elements that received the highest amount of support during the second round of consultation events:

- IMPROVING ACCESS INTO THE PARK FROM THE SOUTH** was explored through several design options. The most preferred option (selected by 61% of online survey respondents as either #1 or #2 choice) was for a new park entrance and multi-use trail from Saskatchewan Drive near the north end of 106 Street. There was some support for improving access into the park along Fort Hill Road.
- IMPROVING NORTH-SOUTH MULTI-USE TRAIL CONNECTIONS** between Saskatchewan Drive and the new Walterdale bridge was strongly supported. There was good support for improved and expanded multi-use trail connections throughout the park.
- BUILDING A NEW PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS** over Queen Elizabeth Park Road received a high level of support. The overpass was identified by online survey respondents as a top priority.
- BUILDING A LARGE MOUND** (for tobogganing, viewpoint, landmark) in place of Dantzer’s Hill received a high level of support and was selected by two workshop groups as a top priority for implementation.
- FORMALIZING ACCESS TO THE RIVER** received a good level of support (75% support in online survey). This design element was selected as a top priority for implementation in the online survey.
- BUILDING A NEW MOUNTAIN BIKE SKILLS AREA** received very strong support (88% support in online survey). There was no clear preference for the bike park location.
- IMPROVING AND/OR EXPANDING SINGLE TRACK TRAILS** throughout the park or in selected areas of the park was supported by 59% of online survey respondents; however there were many people who were satisfied with the number of single track trails in the park today (32%), or who wanted to see fewer of these trails (9%).
- INCORPORATING ETHNOBOTANICAL PLANTINGS** throughout the park received a good amount of support (average score 4.3/5 in public workshop). Participants liked the idea of using interpretation to tell the stories about traditional uses of native plants.
- PROTECTING AND ENHANCING THE ECOLOGICAL HEALTH OF THE FOREST AND RIVERBANK** was identified as a top priority in the online survey (top priority for 30% of respondents), and there were many comments received throughout the public consultation in support of preserving the park’s natural qualities.
- INTERPRETATION OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY OF THE PARK** received a good level of support based on online survey comments.
- IMPROVING THE AT-GRADE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING** to improve pedestrian safety received a high level of support (average score of 4.8/5 at public workshop).
- ENHANCING PLAY AND PICNIC AREAS** received a good level of support (60% support for each in online survey).
- INCORPORATING “RUINS” FROM THE OLD WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT** received some support in the online survey (45% support, 25% neutral).
- IMPROVING AND ADDING NEW LOOKOUTS** received some support in the online survey (45% support, 21% neutral).

1.2 DESIGN OPTIONS

CONCEPT 1: TRANQUIL RIVERFRONT

OVERALL INTENT

The overall intent of Concept 1 is to create a quiet, natural setting close to the river's edge, where people can enjoy informal recreation in the large open field, or discover traditional uses of native plants at the ethnobotanical garden. The field and adjacent slope can also accommodate the occasional small event and winter activities. More active uses (bike skills area, river valley programming) are placed in the upper park by the old Queen Elizabeth Pool and picnic area, where they are easily accessed by existing parking and a new path along Fort Hill Road.

KEY FEATURES OF CONCEPT 1

PARK ACCESS

- New multi-use trail along Fort Hill Road, beneath Saskatchewan Drive. This route would be quite steep (15% slope) but would not require stairs.
- Potential new multi-use trail along Queen Elizabeth Park Road with moderate grades (8% slope). This path would require rebuilding part of Queen Elizabeth Park Road, which would impact adjacent slopes and vegetation.

TREATMENT OF DANTZER'S HILL

- New large open field to accommodate a range of activities year-round. A slope connects the south end of the field to Queen Elizabeth Park Road, providing a lookout point and tobogganing hill in the winter.

BIKE SKILLS AREA

- New bike skills area in the upper park at the site of the old Queen Elizabeth Pool. This site would have convenient access from the existing parking lot and, as a previously developed site, it avoids new disturbance to natural areas.

SINGLE TRACK TRAILS

- New single track trails are built and existing trails are upgraded in the upper park. The primary single track trails are kept in the lower park, but others are closed and naturalized.

RIVER BANK

- The single-track trail is retained and a new lookout is created. Interpretive elements are provided to identify

stories about wildlife and their habitat. The natural conditions of the river bank are enhanced.

ETHNOBOTANICAL PLANTINGS

- Ethnobotanical plantings (e.g. native species traditionally used by First Nations) are established at the site of the old wastewater treatment plant and storage compound. Some interesting "ruins" of the wastewater treatment plant will be left to tell the industrial history of the area.

NEW MULTI-USE TRAILS + TRAIL CONNECTIONS

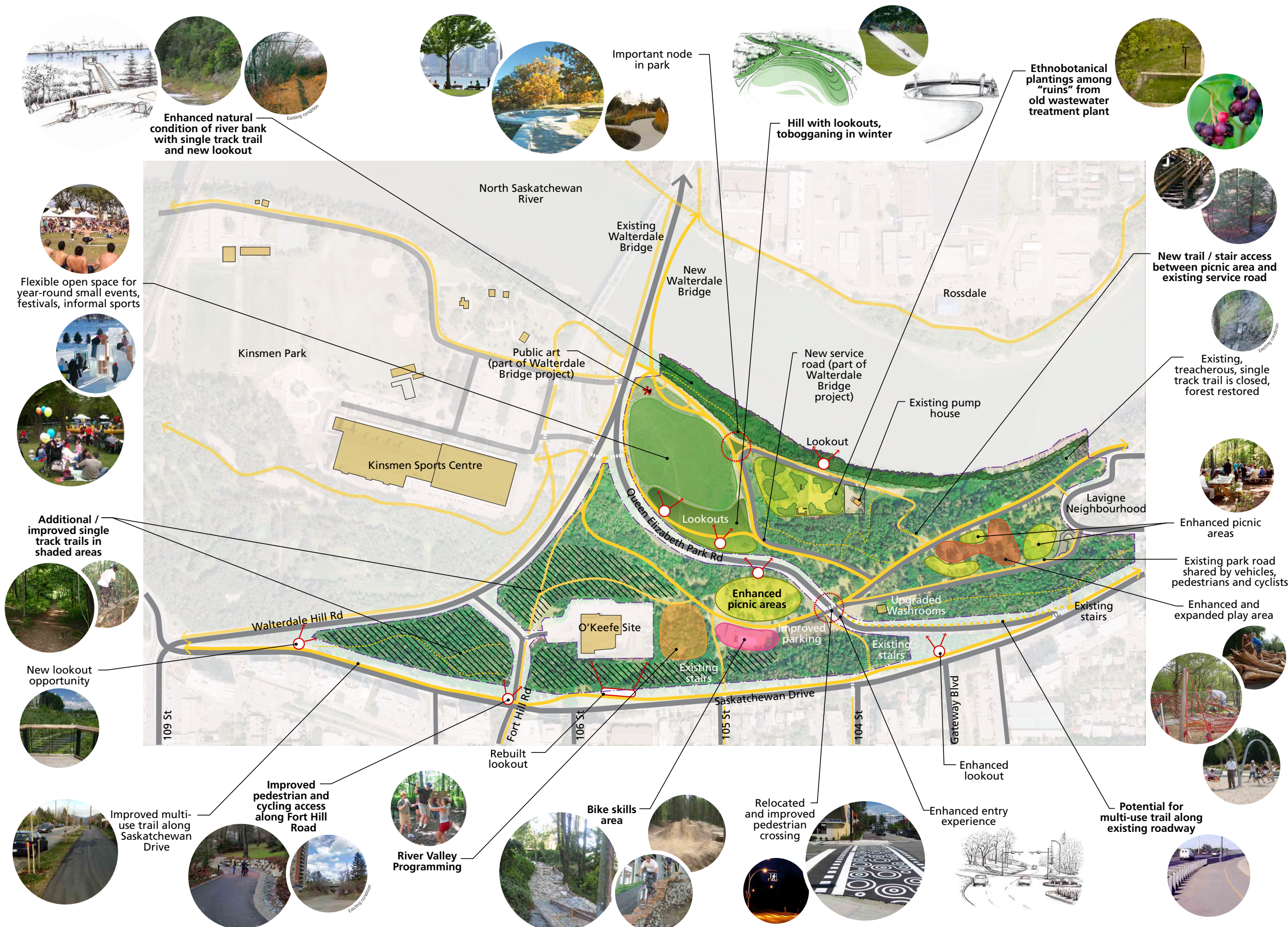
- New multi-use trail along the lower half of Queen Elizabeth Road to improve north-south pedestrian movement. A trail connection between the existing access road and picnic area is made using stairs and ramps.
- Potential new multi-use trail along Queen Elizabeth Park Road (Refer to Park Access)

RIVER VALLEY PROGRAMMING

- River Valley Programming is relocated to the upper park, where it can take advantage of the existing parking lot and the existing wall of the O'Keefe Yard for archery.

COMMON FEATURES IN CONCEPT 1 AND CONCEPT 2

- **Improved pedestrian crossing** mid-way down Queen Elizabeth Park Road
- **Expanded multi-use trail network** throughout the park.
- Improved quality, location, design and construction of **single track trails** to minimize impact on natural areas.
- **New lookouts and improvements to existing lookouts** to provide views of downtown and the river valley.
- **Enhanced play area** to provide a wider variety of play experiences.
- **Enhanced picnic areas.**
- **Improved habitat and ecological health** of the forest and river's edge.
- Removing the wastewater treatment plant, cleaning up the site and leaving some "ruins" that can be interpreted as reminders of the site's industrial history.
- New service road built as part of the new Walterdale Bridge project. This road will be a shared route for pedestrians, cyclists and service vehicles (no public vehicle access).



Queen Elizabeth Park | Concept 1: Tranquil Riverfront

CONCEPT 2: VIBRANT RIVERFRONT

OVERALL INTENT

The overall intent of Concept 2 is to create a vibrant riverfront by improving connections into the lower park and creating destination activities near the river bank. A north-south multi-use trail will lead visitors through the park from Saskatchewan Drive, connecting the upper and lower parks with an attractive pedestrian overpass and bold landform. A river access point is created near the new Walterdale bridge, and a new bike skills area is integrated with “ruins” from the old wastewater treatment plant by the river bank.

KEY FEATURES OF CONCEPT 2

PARK ACCESS

- New multi-use trail access into the park from Saskatchewan Drive (near old Queen Elizabeth Pool). This route would have a moderate slope (8%), and would involve regrading the south side of the O’Keefe site (some tree removal).
- Upgrade existing trail into the park from the existing stairs east of the hairpin turn onto Queen Elizabeth Park Road.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING OVER QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK ROAD

- Accessible and attractive pedestrian overpass connecting the upper park and lower park over Queen Elizabeth Park Road.

TREATMENT OF DANTZER’S HILL

- A large mound provides opportunities for elevated lookouts and tobogganing in the winter. The mound also provides a landing for the proposed pedestrian overpass.
- A smaller open field next to the mound can accommodate a wide range of activities. An east-west trail connects Kinsmen Park with the new bike skills area.

BIKE SKILLS AREA

- A bike skills area in the lower park at the site of the old wastewater treatment plant and storage compound. A bike park in this location could be integrated with ruins of the waste water treatment plant and would be less prominent in the park, but easily accessed by people using the river valley trail system.

SINGLE TRACK TRAILS

- New single track trails and upgraded existing trails in the lower park, around the old wastewater treatment plant and pump house. Closure and naturalization of all but

the primary single track trails in the upper park.

RIVER BANK

- New access to the river’s edge next to the new Walterdale bridge, with a path, seating, interpretive elements, and water access. Enhanced natural condition of the adjacent river’s edge to the east.

NEW MULTI-USE TRAILS + TRAIL CONNECTIONS

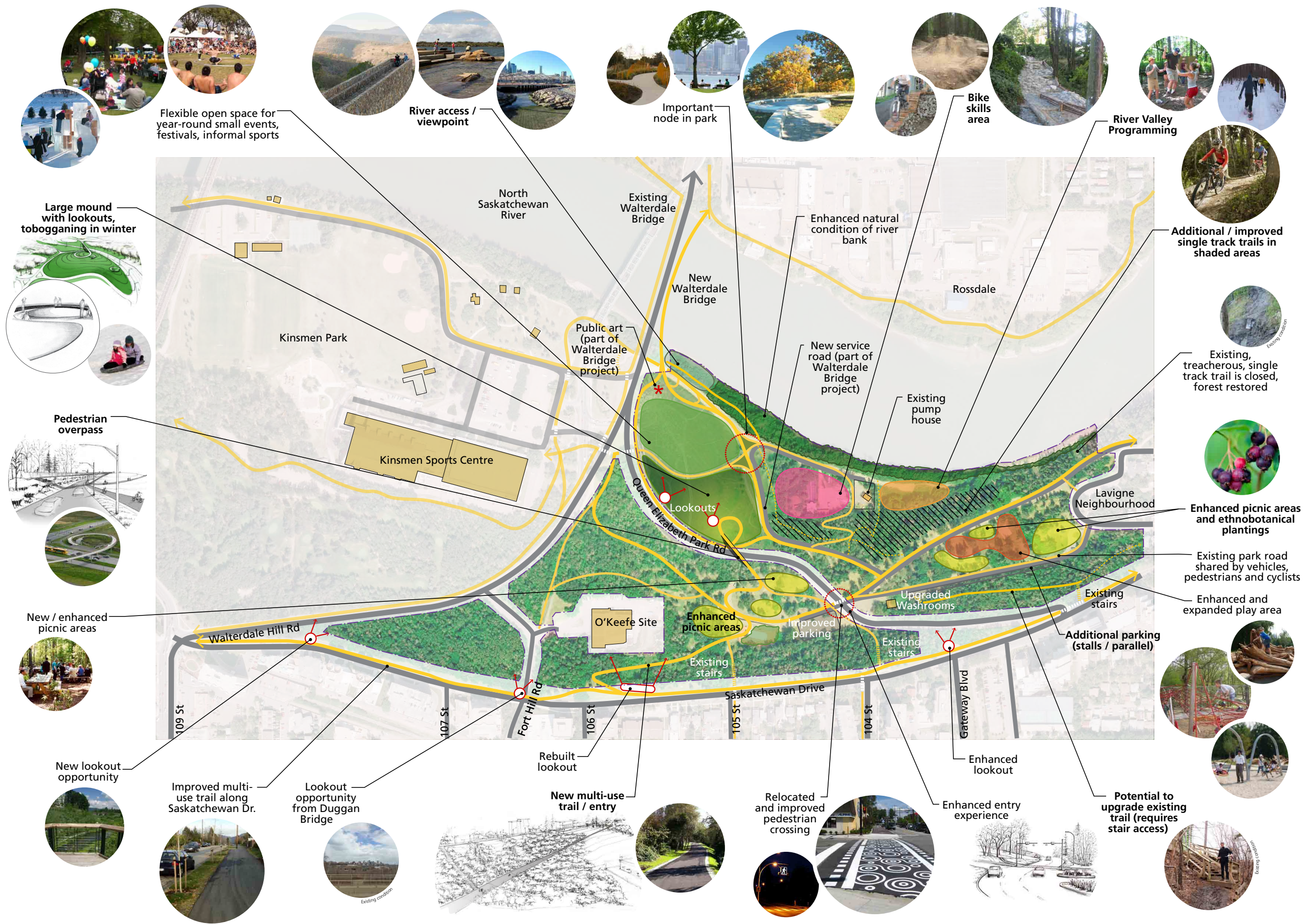
- From the new park access point (from Saskatchewan Drive), a multi-use trail would continue through the park to form a strong north-south axis.
- A multi-use trail connection near the new bike skills area improves access to the existing service road.
- Potential new trail into the park from the existing stairs east of Queen Elizabeth Park Road.

RIVER VALLEY PROGRAMMING

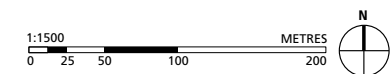
- River Valley Programming is relocated to the east side of the existing pump house, where it can be accessed by the service road.

COMMON FEATURES IN CONCEPT 1 AND CONCEPT 2

- **Improved pedestrian crossing** mid-way down Queen Elizabeth Park Road
- **Expanded multi-use trail network** throughout the park.
- Improved quality, location, design and construction of **single track trails** to minimize impact on natural areas.
- **New lookouts and improvements to existing lookouts** to provide views of downtown and the river valley.
- **Enhanced play area** to provide a wider variety of play experiences.
- **Enhanced picnic areas.**
- **Improved habitat and ecological health** of the forest and river’s edge.
- Removing the wastewater treatment plant, cleaning up the site and leaving some “ruins” that can be interpreted as reminders of the site’s industrial history.
- New service road built as part of the new Walterdale Bridge project. This road will be a shared route for pedestrians, cyclists and service vehicles (no public vehicle access).



Queen Elizabeth Park | Concept 2: Vibrant Riverfront



CIRCULATION LEGEND
 Single-track trails
 Multi-use trails, paved
 Shared trail / road
 Roadway



1.3 PUBLIC WORKSHOP #2

DATE: August 15, 2012, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

LOCATION: Old Timers' Cabin, 9430 Scona Road

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 20

MEETING PURPOSE:

The purpose of this workshop was to obtain public input on the alternative design concepts in order to help direct the development the preferred approach for the master plan. The vision, mission and guiding principles were presented for confirmation that they reflected input from the first round of public consultation.

MEETING OVERVIEW:

The meeting began with introductions, an overview of the process to date, and a review of opportunities for public participation. There was a presentation of the results from the first round of public consultations and a review of key opportunities and constraints of the park. The two preliminary design concepts were presented and key features and differences between the concepts were highlighted.

Participants were then divided into four groups (5 people each) to discuss the proposed vision, mission, guiding principles, and design concepts. Evaluation forms were used to direct the review of the concepts, but participants also had the opportunity to provide additional comments. Groups then presented their evaluations back to the rest of the workshop attendees.

COMMENTS ON VISION, MISSION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

The following are selected comments on the proposed park vision statement, mission statement, and guiding principles.

COMMENTS ON VISION STATEMENT:

"Queen Elizabeth Park is a well-loved destination in the heart of Edmonton where people come to connect with the natural world, have memorable gatherings with friends and family, discover the rich cultural heritage of the river valley, and experience a remarkable gateway into Downtown"

- The park should be a destination for all Edmontonians
- The park should stay natural, accommodate people, be special, and be safe
- The vision statement should recognize the range of

activity in the park (e.g. mountain biking, running, walking, orienteering, festivals, travel corridor)

COMMENTS ON MISSION STATEMENT:

"To provide a variety of ways for Edmonton residents and visitors to experience, understand, and connect to the river valley environment"

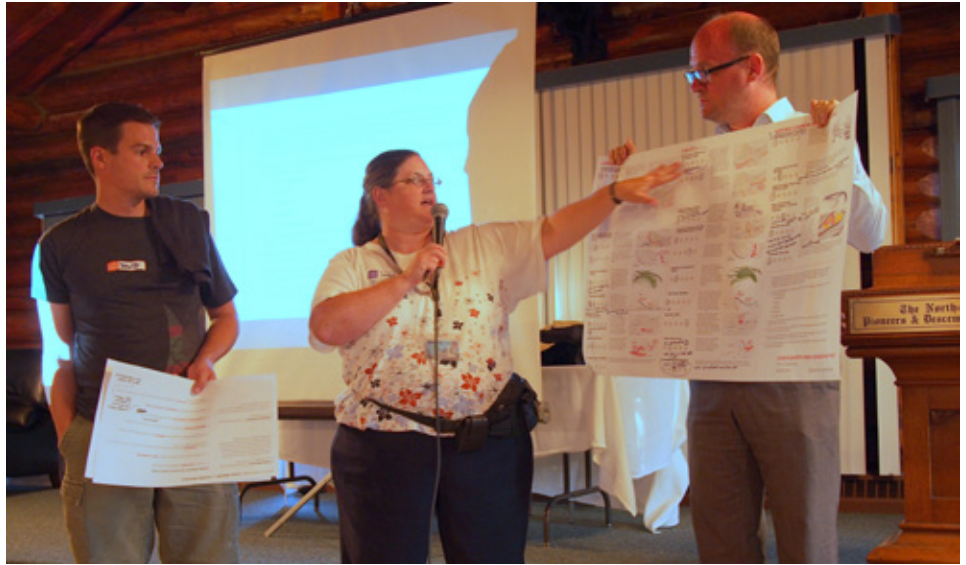
- The mission statement is somewhat generic, but good
- The mission should convey that the park provides ways for people to be active

COMMENTS ON GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- *"The park is accessible for pedestrians and cyclists"*
 - Statement should emphasize universal accessibility for all people, pedestrians and cyclists
 - The statement should be inclusive of all human-powered users, including non-motorized boat users.
- *"Amenities are provided to support user comfort (e.g. improved lighting and signage)"*
 - Amenities should support user safety as well
- *"The ecological character of the park is celebrated and enhanced"*
 - The ecological character of the park should be protected and restored as well








EVALUATION OF CONCEPTS:

The following table (Table 1-1) summarizes the group evaluations of the various design elements, organized by theme (e.g. connections, trails, field). Participants had been asked to score each element on a scale from "strongly disagree" (1) to "strongly agree" (5). Average scores (out of 5) are indicated. Participants were also asked to choose three elements that they felt were the highest priorities for the park. These are indicated by circled numbers.



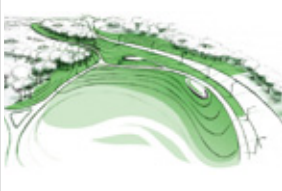
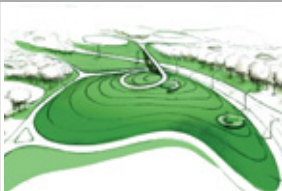










Groups reporting back to rest of participants, Public Workshop #2


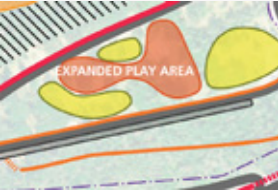
Table 1-1. Evaluation of design elements. Circled numbers represent priority elements for each group.

DESIGN ELEMENT THEME	DESIGN ELEMENT ALTERNATIVES (WHERE APPLICABLE)		GROUP NUMBER AND SCORE*				AVG	PARTICIPANT COMMENTS
			G1	G2	G3	G4		
NEW CONNECTIONS TO / FROM THE PARK	Fort Hill Road access (separated trail or on-street marking, quite steep ~15% slope)		5	5	3	5	4.5	• Would require small enhancements to make this an accessible park entry
	Trail along QE Park Road (north side of QE Park Road, significant impact on adjacent grades and forest, accessible slope ~8%)		1	1	3.5	1	1.6	• Too expensive; money better saved for other things
	New multi-use trail starting by 106 Street (accessible slope ~8%, some tree removal and regrading)		5	5	5	1	4.0	• Preference is for multi-use trail connection at this location
	Upgraded trail E of QE Park Road (requires stairs, some tree removal and regrading)		5	1	1	4	2.8	• Prefer unpaved path • Explore changing stairs to path (ramp)
PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS	The overpass connects the upper park and the field with a grade separated connection. The overpass also creates a gateway experience for people travelling along QE Park Rd.		5	5	5	–	5.0	• Location should be reviewed to minimize impact to trees • Overpass would be costly • Proposed design doesn't look "natural"
NORTH-SOUTH MULTI-USE TRAIL	New trail on north side of Queen Elizabeth Park Road, connecting the east-west multi-use trail to new bridge.		3	4	5	--	4.0	
	Accessible, multi-use, north-south trail from Saskatchewan Drive to the new Walterdale Bridge via the new overpass.		5	5	5	–	5.0	

*Scoring: 1 = Strongly disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Neutral 4 = Agree 5 = Strongly agree -- = No answer

DESIGN ELEMENT THEME	DESIGN ELEMENT ALTERNATIVES (WHERE APPLICABLE)		GROUP NUMBER AND SCORE*				AVG	PARTICIPANT COMMENTS
			G1	G2	G3	G4		
TRAIL CONNECTIONS TO THE RIVERBANK	A new connection between the picnic area and the lower park is proposed using combination of stairs and ramps.		5	5	4	--	4.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prefer option with ramps as stairs are not accessible
	Multi-use trail connection near the new bike skills area for improved access between the picnic / play area and the lower park.		5	2	5	--	4.0	
OPEN FIELD AND TOBOGGANING HILL / MOUND	The fill from Dantzer's Hill will be used in construction of the new bridge, leaving a open field. This will be bordered by lookouts and a tobogganing hill. Includes infrastructure for events and festivals.		4	5	4	2	3.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Like tobogganing hill Like idea of outdoor amphitheatre with some separation from the road Would like to see large open field area Disagree with proposal to remove hill, as it is well-used on Canada Day
	Large mound (landmark, lookout point, tobogganing hill) and open field for flexible programming in the area currently occupied by Dantzer's Hill. Includes infrastructure for events and festivals.		5	4	5	2	4.0	
RIVERBANK TREATMENT	The single-track trail is retained and a new lookout with interpretation areas are provided along the river edge. No direct access to the water is provided.		1	4	2	2	2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Like idea of lookouts
	River access is provided next to the new bridge, allowing people to get down to the water's edge. The single track trail is upgraded to a more defined trail, with seating, and interpretation.		5	5	5	5	5.0	

DESIGN ELEMENT THEME	DESIGN ELEMENT ALTERNATIVES (WHERE APPLICABLE)		GROUP NUMBER AND SCORE*				AVG	PARTICIPANT COMMENTS
			G1	G2	G3	G4		
BIKE SKILLS AREA	Situated in the upper park, at site of old Queen Elizabeth Pool. This will consist of dirt jumps and other bike skill features. This is accessible to the Strathcona neighbourhood and has parking nearby.		5	5	1	1	3.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location of skills area doesn't matter as long as there is one Skills area should be connected to single track trails Should be an area for kids
	Situated in the lower park at the site of the former wastewater treatment plant and storage compound. Bike skills area incorporates "ruins" from old wastewater treatment plant. Not directly adjacent to parking.		5	1	5	3	3.5	
SINGLE-TRACK TRAILS	Single track trails upgraded and expanded in upper park. All but primary single track trails in lower park are closed and naturalized.		5	4	1	--	3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Like naturalized trail by river Desire to see single-track trails in both upper and lower parks
	Single-track trails upgraded and expanded in lower park. All but primary single track trails in upper park are closed and naturalized.		5	4	5	--	4.7	
ETHNO-BOTANICAL PLANTINGS	Dedicated area for ethnobotanical plantings and a natural park experience in the lower park, with "ruins" from old wastewater treatment plant.		--	5	2	--	3.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Like idea Disagree with proposed location of plantings by old wastewater treatment plant Location for plantings doesn't matter
	No dedicated area for ethnobotanical plantings (incorporated throughout park). Traditional use of plants identified through interpretation.		5	3	5	--	4.3	
IMPROVED AT-GRADE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING	The pedestrian crossing midway down Queen Elizabeth Park Road will be moved north and better defined to provide a safer crossing of the roadway.		5	5	4	5	4.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should have lighting Safety should be improved

DESIGN ELEMENT THEME	DESIGN ELEMENT ALTERNATIVES (WHERE APPLICABLE)		GROUP NUMBER AND SCORE*				AVG	PARTICIPANT COMMENTS
			G1	G2	G3	G4		
EXPANDED MULTI-USE TRAIL NETWORK	Throughout the park the multi-use trail network will be upgraded to provide a variety of experiences and provide better connections to the neighbourhood and to all parts of the park.		5	4	5	--	4.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have a mix of trail types; not all trails should be paved Concern with environmental degradation; the amount of trees removed should be replanted
IMPROVED SINGLE TRACK TRAILS THROUGH FOREST	The quality, location, design and construction standards of single track trails will be improved to minimize impact on natural areas.		5	5	1	--	3.7	
NEW LOOKOUTS AND IMPROVEMENT TO EXISTING LOOKOUTS	New lookouts and improvements to existing lookouts to provide views of downtown and the river valley.		5	3	5	--	4.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lookouts nice to have, but not top priority
ENHANCED PLAY AREA	The playground will be designed and upgraded to provide a wider range of activities and play experiences for children. This will include nature-based play to help connect children to the natural environment.		5	5	4	3	4.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could incorporate water feature Prefer play area to not take over open spaces Include educational elements Concern with expanded parking area that may be required Concerned with road traffic and playground users Perhaps better to have smaller playground nodes instead of one large playground
ENHANCED PICNIC AREA	Upgrades to existing picnic facilities and more facilities throughout the park.		5	5	4	--	4.7	

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Additional comments and suggestions for the park design included the following:

- Incorporation of an outdoor chess board, cross-country ski trails, a water feature, and identification (interpretation) of archaeological sites.
- Greater clarity on how the park's ecological character will be protected and enhanced.
- Improvements to the multi-use trail along Saskatchewan Drive.
- Considerations for park management, including cleaning up garbage along the river path, incorporating reservable picnic sites, and developing a plan for snow grooming / clearing to allow pedestrian use and possible cross-country skiing.

1.4 INTERNAL OPEN HOUSE

DATE:

AUGUST 16, 2012, 10:30 - 11:30am

LOCATION:

CN Tower, 12th floor, Edmonton

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 21

MEETING PURPOSE:

The internal open house provided City of Edmonton staff with an opportunity to review the preliminary design concepts for Queen Elizabeth Park. The consultant team presented the concepts to attendees and attendees were then able to review the concept boards and ask questions of the project team.

ATTENDEES:

Members of City of Edmonton staff, including:
 Susan Holdsworth, Community Strategies
 Alan Otterbein, District Park and Facility Development
 Barry M Sawchuk, Contract Operations
 Jaimy Miller, Aboriginal Relations Office
 Christine Lachance, District Park and Facility Development
 Tyler Golly, Sustainable Transportation
 Darrell Reid, River Valley Operations
 Barry Lozinsky, River Valley Operations
 Kerry Kaboni, Playground / Utilities
 Marian Bruin, Community Strategies
 Tatenda Kwedza, Parks Land Planning
 Bill Bunker, Project Manager, River Valley Alliance
 Gary Chung, District Park and Facility Development
 Jenny Wheeler, Principal of Forestry
 Sandra Opdenkamp, River Valley Park and Facility Development
 Diana O'Donoghue, Communities of Interest
 Heather Crowe, Communities of Interest
 Erin Gillespie, District Park and Facility Development
 Corinne Bishop, District Park and Facility Development
 Mike Kuntz, District Park and Facility Development
 Roger Jevne, River Valley Park and Facility Development
 City of Edmonton Project team: Michelle Hartlaub and Rhonda Norman
 Project consultant team: Jeff Cutler and Mike Teed, space2place design inc.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

PARTICULAR FEATURES THAT PARTICIPANTS LIKED:

- Increased pedestrian safety that would be attained by adding an overpass over Queen Elizabeth Park Road
- River access (Concept 2)
- Winter concepts and warming huts

SUGGESTIONS FOR MASTER PLAN:

- Do not put in a boat launch as access would be difficult and there is a launch at nearby Emily Murphy Park.
- Explore adding a skating trail to park design
- Consider an additional washroom building in the lower park (e.g. at the 'node') to increase washroom access for a wider range of park users.
- Ensure removal of wastewater treatment plant.
- Provide universally-accessible amenities (e.g. washrooms, picnic tables, benches)

CONSIDERATIONS FOR DETAILED DESIGN AND PARK MANAGEMENT:

- Provide rentals for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing or toboggans at the park
- Incorporate lighting
- Consider having reservable picnic sites
- Consider whether all hard trails should be cleared of snow/ice
- Consider providing event area with (winterized) power supply, water supply, and access for vehicles to load / unload equipment
- Increase washroom capacity and make washrooms available year-round
- Provide signage to direct people to the park, direct people within the park, and provide information on trails.
- Ensure the toboggan hill is officially sanctioned by the City (official toboggan area) and built with a safe landing at the bottom
- Issue with pedestrians crossing Walterdale Hill Rd from Fort Hill Rd to Kinsmen Park; crossing unmarked and unsafe

1.5 PUBLIC ONLINE SURVEY #2

DATE: Survey period from August 16 to 31, 2012

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 309

SURVEY PURPOSE:

The purpose of the online survey was to complement Public Workshop #2, whereby the proposed vision, mission, guiding principles and alternative design concepts were presented to participants for feedback and evaluation.

The survey represents a “convenience” sampling of river valley park users, and is not scientific; thus, the results do not necessarily reflect general public opinion.

There were 309 people who participated in the survey. Respondents were not obliged to complete the entire survey, so the number of responses for each question was variable (268 - 308). The number of question responses is reported with the results.

For complete responses to the public online survey #2 see Appendix [A2](#).

OPINIONS REGARDING THE PROPOSED VISION, MISSION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

VISION STATEMENT:

“Queen Elizabeth Park is a well-loved destination in the heart of Edmonton where people come to connect with the natural world, have memorable gatherings with friends and family, discover the rich cultural heritage of the river valley, and experience a remarkable gateway into Downtown”

The majority of respondents (76%) agreed or strongly agreed with the vision statement as presented (Figure 1-2).

One percent of respondents suggested recreation be added to the vision statement in some way. Two percent of respondents questioned the idea of the park being a “gateway” into downtown. Three people (<1% of respondents) did not think the park should be positioned as a “destination” into Downtown.

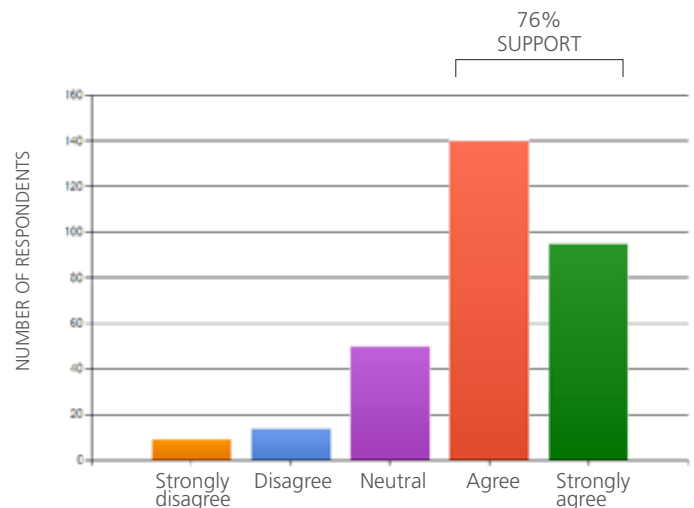


FIGURE 1-2. Degree of support for the vision statement.

Selected comments regarding the vision statement:

"...Vision needs to recognize the many active uses of the park for running, orienteering, paddling, cycling, etc."

"I like that connecting to the natural world is the first priority"

"... I don't understand the 'gateway into Downtown' aspect. I go to the river valley to escape the city. I don't want to be reminded of downtown while I'm there."

"...I want the park to be a destination, and integrated into the heart of the city. That means being a directly linked part of Strathcona and also an extension of the Downtown river valley area."

"Doesn't directly mention connect to the river, access the river."

"Live near the park and see many family picnics, church gatherings, scouts, etc."

MISSION STATEMENT:

"To provide a variety of ways for Edmonton residents and visitors to experience, understand, and connect to the river valley environment"

Most respondents (85%) agreed or strongly agreed with the mission statement as presented (Figure 1-3).

One percent of respondents suggested recreation be added to the mission statement in some way.

Two percent of respondents suggested that the statement was too generic and not specific enough to Queen Elizabeth Park.

Selected comments regarding the Mission Statement:

"Connecting is important. Over-developed access interferes with the natural part we hope to connect to."

"This could apply to any park in the city. It is not really specific to QE Park"

"I believe Aboriginal history (both First Nations and Metis) should form a key component of this"

"Mission statement needs to recognize the importance of providing infrastructure for physical activities..."

"...without destroying the natural habitat for birds and animals"

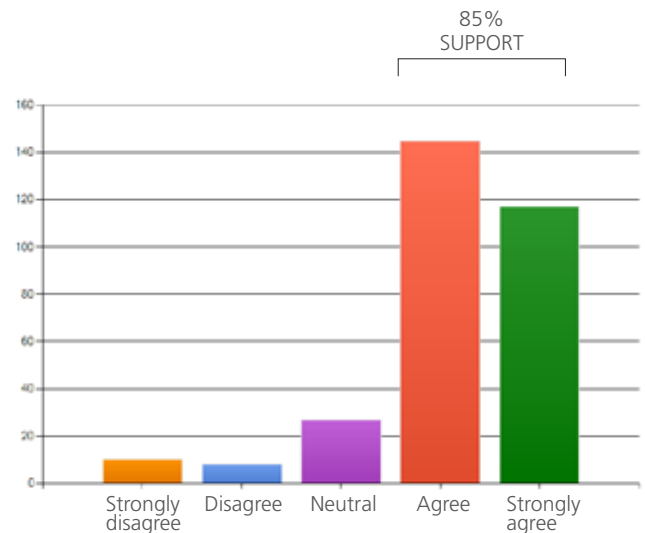


FIGURE 1-3. Degree of support for the mission statement

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

There was generally a good level of support for all of the guiding principles (Figure 1-4).

The principles that received the **highest level** of agreement were:

- **The park is accessible for pedestrians and cyclists** (94% agree + strongly agree);
- **The pathway network is well-connected** (90%);
- **The ecological character of the park is celebrated and enhanced** (75%); and
- **Opportunities are provided to experience the river's edge** (74%).

Three percent of respondents stressed the value of having river access, particularly for hand boat launching (5 comments). One person stressed that river access should be done sensitively, and another thought the river bank was too sensitive for any development to occur.

One percent of respondents emphasized that the park should be universally-accessible to all park users, including people with walkers, strollers, and wheelchairs.

Likewise, 1% of respondents did not understand the concept of having a "hierarchy" of spaces, and did not want this to translate into some users having priority over other users.

Several people (2% of respondents) did not agree with the concept of the park acting as a "gateway" into downtown. These respondents appeared concerned that a "gateway" experience would mean constructed infrastructure of some kind along the road, or that a gateway role would detract from the park providing an escape from the city.

Selected comments regarding guiding principles:

"Accessible to all citizens (disabled, young, old, mothers with strollers, etc.)"

"Not sure what you mean by ...'hierarchy'... a variety of uses is good but that implies some are more important than others..."

"I want to emphasize the importance I perceive in having the edge of river be accessible. Although Edmontonians have plentiful ... opportunities to engage with the river valley, opportunities to engage the river itself are relatively slim"

"I hope there will be a strong Aboriginal presence in the interpretation and sense of place"

"I really want to see Edmonton's profile enhanced, having a well-designed park that provides a 'gateway' experience"

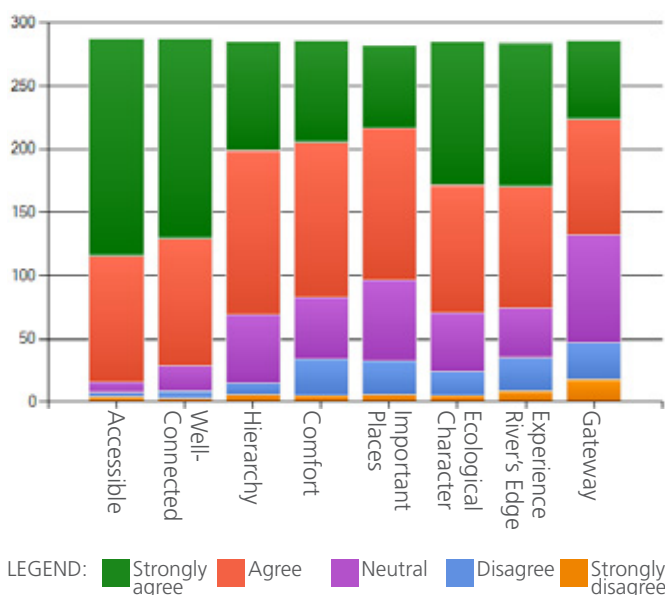


FIGURE 1-4. Degree of support for the guiding principles

FEEDBACK ON PROPOSED DESIGN ELEMENTS:

PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS:

Eighty-one percent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the idea of a pedestrian overpass over Queen Elizabeth Park Road (Figure 1-5).

ACCESS TO RIVER'S EDGE:

The majority of respondents (75%) supported or strongly supported the idea of having physical access to the river's edge (Figure 1-6).

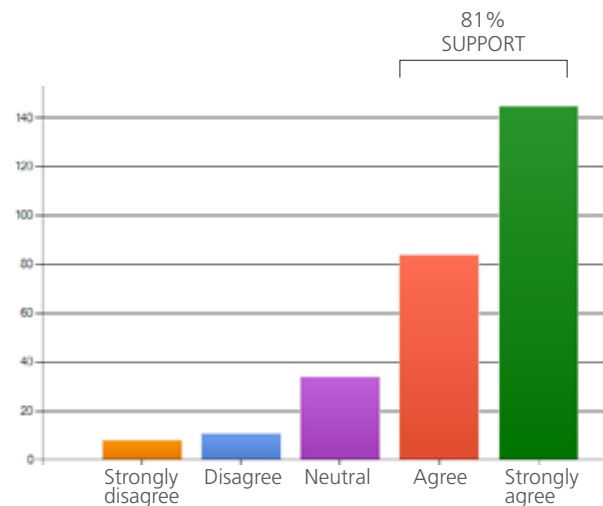


FIGURE 1-5. Degree of support for a pedestrian overpass

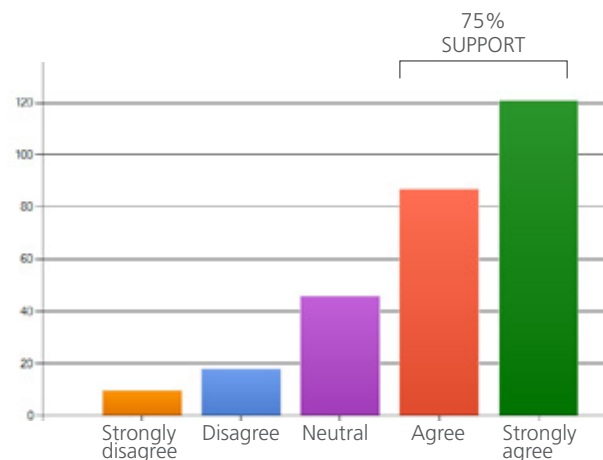


FIGURE 1-6. Degree of support for river access

IMPROVED ACCESS INTO THE PARK FROM SASKATCHEWAN DRIVE:

Survey participants were asked to rank four options for new pedestrian access into the park from the south (Strathcona neighbourhood / Saskatchewan Drive), and results are shown in Figure 1-7. Illustrations and additional descriptions of the different options are shown in **Table 1-1**.

The overall most preferred option was for a new multi-use trail entering the park from near the north end of 106 Street (selected by 61% of respondents as either #1 or #2 choice). This was followed by improvements to Fort Hill Road (selected by 54% as #1 or #2), and building a new trail along Queen Elizabeth Park Road (selected by 51% as #1 or #2). Improving the entrance east of Queen Elizabeth Park Road (selected by 39% as #1 or #2) was the lowest ranked entrance option.

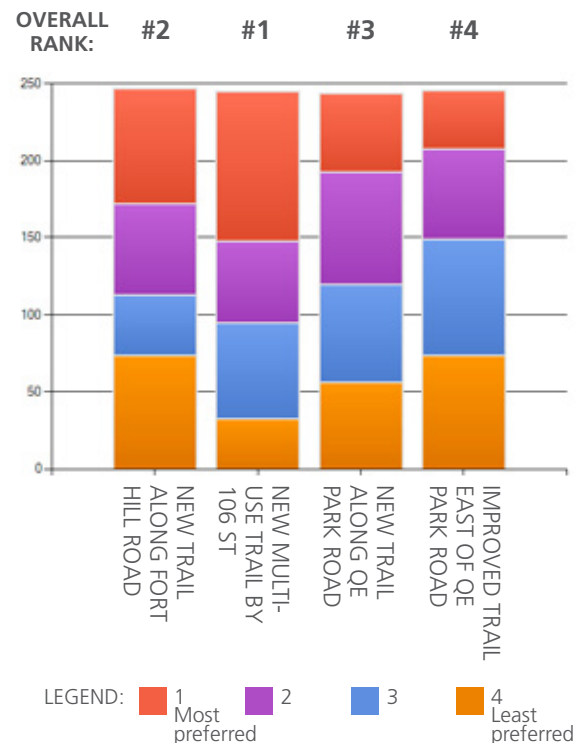


FIGURE 1-7. Degree of support for the four different access options

BIKE SKILLS AREA:

There was no clear preference for having the bike skills area in the upper or lower park (Figure 1-8). Twelve percent of respondents did not want to see a bike skills area in Queen Elizabeth Park. Thus, other factors will need to be considered to inform the location of the bike skills area.

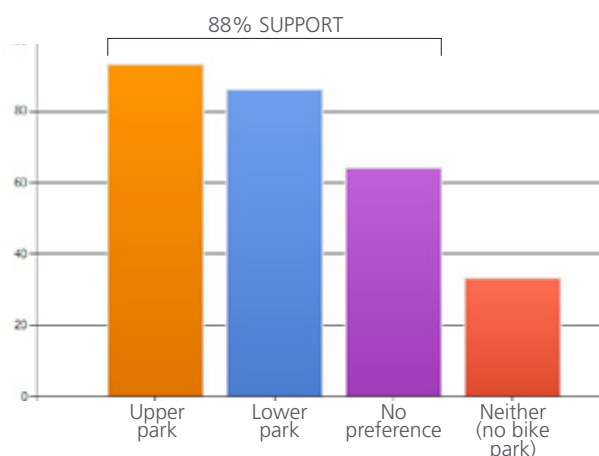


FIGURE 1-8. Degree of support for different bike skills area location options

SINGLE TRACK TRAILS:

Figure 1-9 illustrates the level of support for different single track trail options in Queen Elizabeth Park. **The majority of respondents (45%) are in favour more single track trails in the park**, but 32% are satisfied with the current number of trails. Twenty-three percent of respondents want some degree of trail closure (fewer single track trails overall or fewer single track trails in some areas of the park).

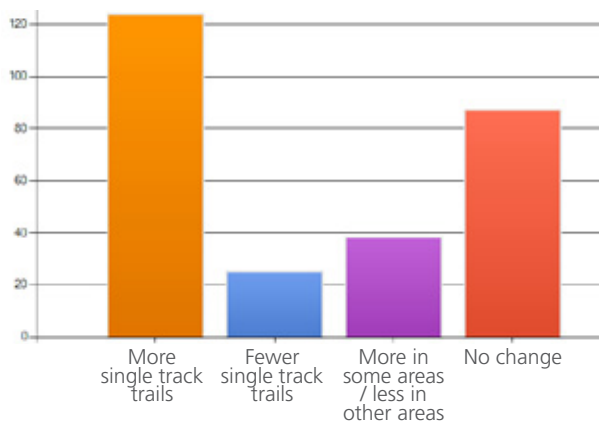


FIGURE 1-9. Degree of support for different single track trail options

MULTI-USE TRAILS:

The majority of respondents (61%) agreed or strongly agreed with the idea of an expanded multi-use trail network throughout the park (Figure 1-10). A fifth of the respondents (22%) were opposed to having an expanded multi-use trail network.

LOOKOUT POINTS:

Seventy percent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with having new lookout points and improved lookout points to provide views of downtown and the river valley (Figure 1-10).

ENHANCED PLAY AREA:

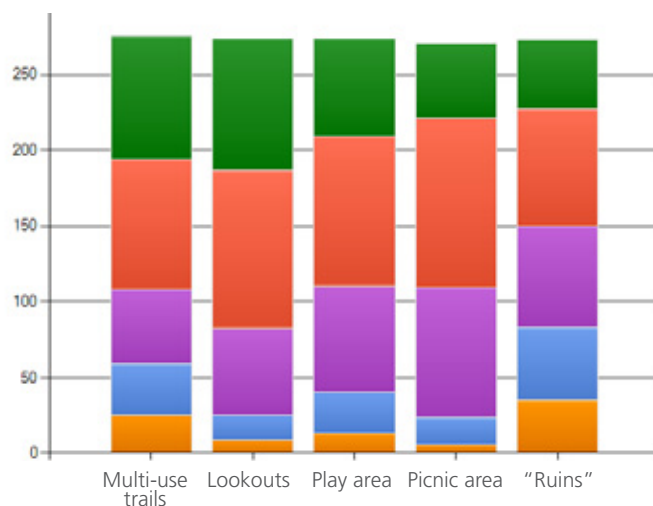
A majority (60%) of respondents agreed with the idea of an enhanced play area (Figure 1-10).

ENHANCED PICNIC AREAS:

Most respondents (60%) supported having enhanced picnic areas (Figure 1-10).

"RUINS" FROM WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT:

There were mixed opinions on keeping "ruins" from the old wastewater treatment plan, with **45% of respondents in favour of the idea**, and 30% of respondents opposed (Figure 1-10).



LEGEND: Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree

FIGURE 1-10. Degree of support for other proposed elements

PRIORITY ELEMENTS:

Survey respondents were asked to select three priority design elements from a list of 15 potential new or improved features (Figure 1-11). The top four elements were:

- **New / upgraded single-track trails** (selected by 38% of respondents)
- **Bike skills area** (selected by 37% of respondents)
- **Pedestrian overpass** (selected by 37% of respondents)
- **Opportunities for all-season activities** (selected by 35% of respondents)

The next most popular element was enhanced ecological health of the forest and river bank (30% of respondents).

Respondents were also given the opportunity to identify other well-liked concept features that were not on the list. The most popular response was for a hand boat launch / river access (3% of respondents).

Some respondents took the question as an opportunity to suggest new features for the park. The most popular suggestion for new features included a disc (frisbee) golf course (2% of respondents).

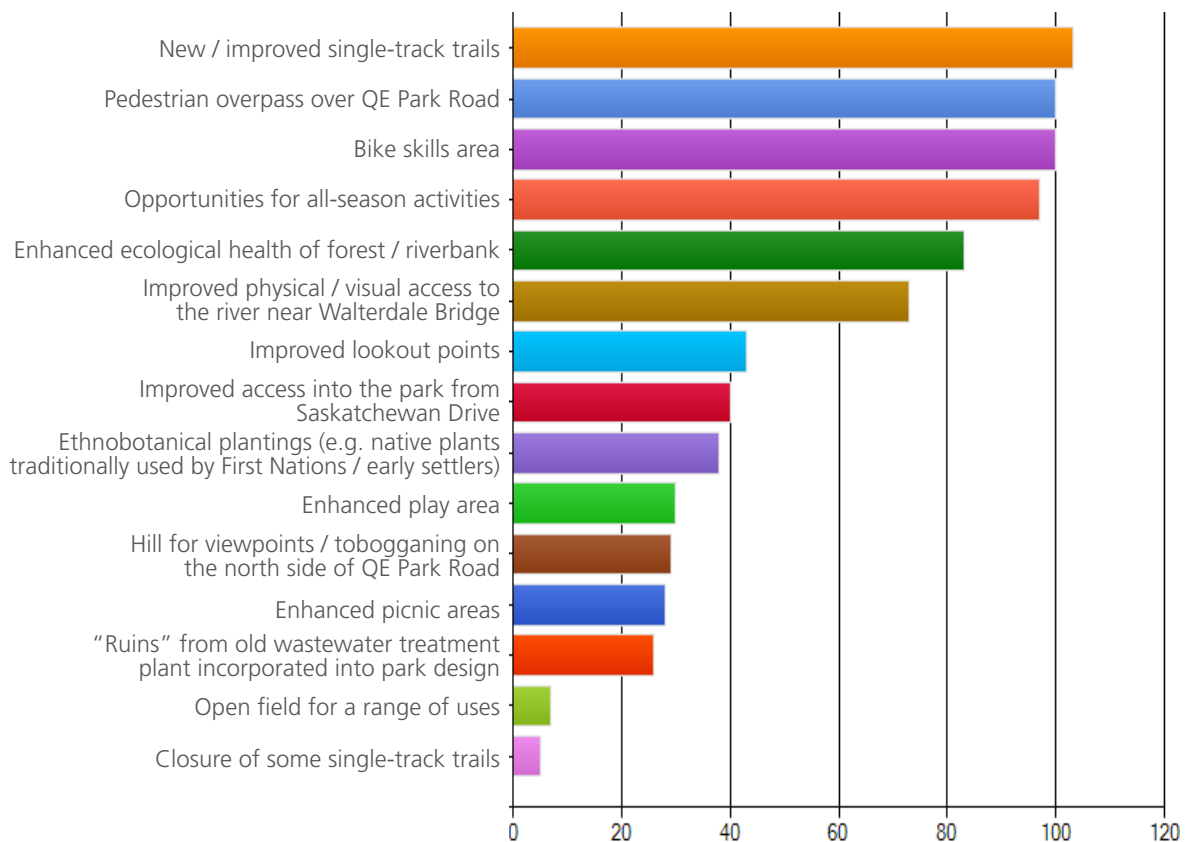


FIGURE 1-11. Most well-liked features (potential new or improved) for Queen Elizabeth Park

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Additional comments were given by 92 respondents. The following were some of the more widely-held ideas reported in these comments (Figure 1-12):

- Many people (18) emphasized their support for a bike skills park. A few people stressed that it should be highly visible in order to ensure it is safe for kids and families.
- Several people (16) expressed support for new or enhanced single track trails; six people stressed the importance of not turning these into gravel or paved paths. Many of these respondents were mountain bikers, but a few were hikers or trail runners.
- Many respondents (16) stressed the importance of keeping the park in a mostly natural / undeveloped state. Several comments were received expressing concern with the environmental impacts of new trail development.
- Twelve respondents emphasized the importance of ensuring the park has improved access for a wide range of users and mobility levels (universal accessibility).
- Many (11) respondents emphasized their support for the pedestrian overpass, and several others (5) stressed the importance of making the at-grade pedestrian crossing safer. A couple of people expressed concern that a pedestrian overpass would block views of downtown or that it could take up too much space in the park.
- River access and/or a potential hand boat launch proved to be popular ideas, mentioned by 7 respondents. A few people raised safety concerns with allowing better access to the river (e.g. people falling in the river and getting swept downstream).
- Several people (7) mentioned the importance of telling the history of the site, and several liked the use of the wastewater treatment site "ruins" to tell part of this story.

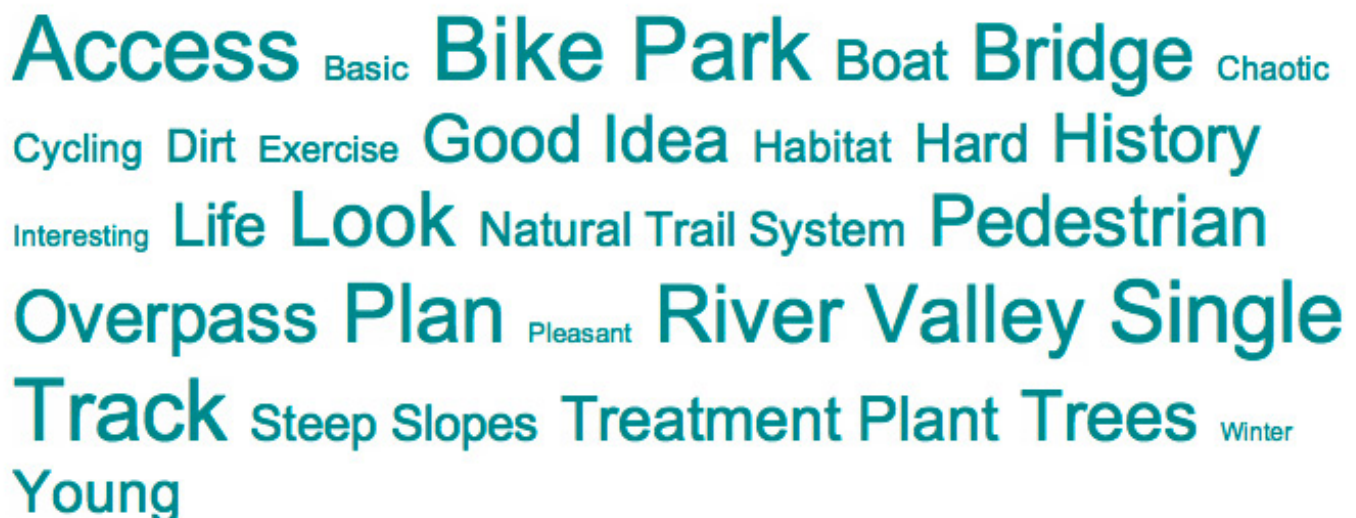


FIGURE 1-12. "Word cloud" generated from general comments. The size of the word is proportional to the number of times it was mentioned in the survey comments.

1.6 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY MEETING #2

DATE: August 28, 2012, 5:00-7:00pm

LOCATION: Wicahitowin Offices, Edmonton

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 11

ATTENDEES:

Aretha Greatrix – Wicahitowin Secretariat, Community Liaison

Beverly Crier – Samson Cree Nation Museum and Interpretive Centre

Helen Calahasen – Executive Director, Dreamspeakers Film Festival Society

Ed Lavalee – Wicahitowin Elders Circle

Calvin Bruneau – Chief of Papaschase First Nation

Harvey Buffalo – Samson Cree Nation

Marilyn Buffalo – Samson Cree Nation

Arthur Abel – Artist

Aboriginal Relations Office, City of Edmonton:

Leona Carter

Jaimy Miller

Gord Stewart

City of Edmonton Facilitators: Michelle Hartlaub and Rhonda Norman, River Valley Park and Facility Development

MEETING PURPOSE:

The purpose of this workshop was to obtain input on the alternative design concepts, and to confirm that the vision, mission and guiding principles reflected input from the first round of consultation. This meeting marked the second consultation with the Aboriginal community.

MEETING OVERVIEW:

The meeting began with introductions, an overview of the process to date, and a review of opportunities for public participation. There was a presentation of the results from the first round of public consultations, and a review of key opportunities and constraints of the park. The two preliminary design concepts were presented and key features and differences between the concepts were highlighted.

The facilitators then walked through the evaluation form with the group, and answers were provided by consensus. One participant elected to fill in their own evaluation form. Explanations for the choices made were documented on the evaluation form. Time constraints did not allow for all questions to be addressed. Participants were directed to individually complete the online survey.

EVALUATION OF DESIGN CONCEPTS:

In general, there was a high degree of support for many of the design elements shown in Concept 2 (Table 1-2). The following elements all received a score of 5 in the group evaluation exercise, indicating a **strong level of support**:

- **Park access from Saskatchewan Drive near 106 Street along a new multi-use trail.** Participants preferred this access route over the others for the following reasons: safer, accessible (grade can allow strollers and wheelchairs), can enjoy the scenery, meanders, touches more areas of the park, easier public access.
- **Pedestrian overpass.** Participants indicated their preference for having an overpass as it would provide views, interpretive opportunities, and safe access across Queen Elizabeth Park Road.
- **Accessible, multi-use, north-south trail** extending from Saskatchewan Drive to the new Waltherdale Bridge, via the pedestrian overpass.
- **Multi-use trail connection** that connects the new bike skills park to the main picnic area. Participants liked this option for its ability to provide an accessible connection to the lower park.
- **Large mound and open field** by the Waltherdale Bridge.
- **Provision for river access** near the new Waltherdale Bridge. Participants noted their preference for this to have a natural design, and for it to be kept small.

OTHER COMMENTS:

The following were recommendations or suggestions for incorporating Aboriginal stories and cultural values into Queen Elizabeth Park:

- Interpretive panel on bridge telling story about what was found during archeological dig (other locations possibly);
- Something underground for interpretation of site (underground museum, build into ground);
- Site map to tell story;

- Artisans selling goods;
- Statue on the south side of river - Statues/Art depicting aboriginal culture;
- Privacy for ceremonies;
- Strathcona Science Centre – historically famous for obsidian
- Hay Lakes Trail – Queen Elizabeth Park Road;
- Connect north and south side of river – possible interpreters on site;
- Want to see a designated space for Aboriginals (similar to Victoria Island in Ottawa)

Table 1-2. Evaluation of design elements. Cell colour provides a visual indicator of score.

DESIGN ELEMENT THEME	DESIGN ELEMENT ALTERNATIVES (WHERE APPLICABLE)	SCORES*		PARTICIPANT COMMENTS
		Group score	Scores from individual participant**	
NEW CONNECTIONS TO / FROM THE PARK	Fort Hill Road access (separated trail or on-street marking, quite steep ~15% slope)	1	--	• Too steep, will interfere with maintenance vehicle traffic
	Trail along QE Park Road (north side of QE Park Road, significant impact on adjacent grades and forest, accessible slope ~8%)	1	--	• Too much of an impact on trees/environment, too expensive.
	New multi-use trail starting by 106 Street (accessible slope ~8%, some tree removal and regrading)	5	5	• It's safer, accessible (grade can allow strollers and wheelchairs), can enjoy the scenery, meanders, touches more areas of the park, easier public access.
	Upgraded trail E of QE Park Road (requires stairs, some tree removal and regrading)	--	--	
PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS	The overpass connects the upper park and the field with a grade separated connection. The overpass also creates a gateway experience for people travelling along QE Park Rd.	5	5	
NORTH-SOUTH MULTI-USE TRAIL	New trail on north side of Queen Elizabeth Park Road, connecting the east-west multi-use trail to new bridge.	--	--	
	Accessible, multi-use, north-south trail from Saskatchewan Drive to the new Walterdale Bridge via the new overpass.	5	5	• Better views, interpretive opportunities, won't interfere with traffic, safer
TRAIL CONNECTIONS TO THE RIVERBANK	A new connection between the picnic area and the lower park is proposed using combination of stairs and ramps.	--	--	
	Multi-use trail connection near the new bike skills area for improved access between the picnic / play area and the lower park.	5	5	
OPEN FIELD AND TOBOGGANING HILL / MOUND	The fill from Dantzer's Hill will be used in construction of the new bridge, leaving a open field. This will be bordered by lookouts and a tobogganing hill. Includes infrastructure for events and festivals.	--	--	
	Large mound (landmark, lookout point, tobogganing hill) and open field for flexible programming in the area currently occupied by Dantzer's Hill. Includes infrastructure for events and festivals.	5	5	• Would have more impact
RIVERBANK TREATMENT	The single-track trail is retained and a new lookout with interpretation areas are provided along the river edge. No direct access to the water is provided.	--	--	
	River access is provided next to the new bridge, allowing people to get down to the water's edge. The single track trail is upgraded to a more defined trail, with seating, and interpretation.	5	5	• Ensure a natural design, keep it small

*Scoring: 1 = Strongly disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Neutral 4 = Agree 5 = Strongly agree -- = No answer

**Evaluation received from an individual participant after the meeting

DESIGN ELEMENT THEME	DESIGN ELEMENT ALTERNATIVES (WHERE APPLICABLE)	SCORES*		PARTICIPANT COMMENTS
		Group score	Scores from individual participant**	
BIKE SKILLS AREA	Situated in the upper park, at site of old Queen Elizabeth Pool. This will consist of dirt jumps and other bike skill features. This is accessible to the Strathcona neighbourhood and has parking nearby.	--	--	
	Situated in the lower park at the site of the former wastewater treatment plant and storage compound. Bike skills area incorporates "ruins" from old wastewater treatment plant. Not directly adjacent to parking.	--	5	
SINGLE-TRACK TRAILS	Single track trails upgraded and expanded in upper park. All but primary single track trails in lower park are closed and naturalized.	--	--	
	Single-track trails upgraded and expanded in lower park. All but primary single track trails in upper park are closed and naturalized.	--	5	
ETHNOBOTANICAL PLANTINGS	Dedicated area for ethnobotanical plantings and a natural park experience in the lower park, with "ruins" from old wastewater treatment plant.	--	--	
	No dedicated area for ethnobotanical plantings (incorporated throughout park). Traditional use of plants identified through interpretation.	--	5	
IMPROVED AT-GRADE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING	The pedestrian crossing midway down Queen Elizabeth Park Road will be moved north and better defined to provide a safer crossing of the roadway.	--	--	
EXPANDED MULTI-USE TRAIL NETWORK	Throughout the park the multi-use trail network will be upgraded to provide a variety of experiences and provide better connections to the neighbourhood and to all parts of the park.	--	5	
IMPROVED SINGLE TRACK TRAILS THROUGH FOREST	The quality, location, design and construction standards of single track trails will be improved to minimize impact on natural areas.	--	5	
NEW LOOKOUTS AND IMPROVEMENT TO EXISTING LOOKOUTS	New lookouts and improvements to existing lookouts to provide views of downtown and the river valley.	--	5	
ENHANCED PLAY AREA	The playground will be designed and upgraded to provide a wider range of activities and play experiences for children. This will include nature-based play to help connect children to the natural environment.	--	5	
ENHANCED PICNIC AREA	Upgrades to existing picnic facilities and more facilities throughout the park.	--	5	

A1

PUBLIC WORKSHOP #2 DETAILED RESULTS

PUBLIC WORKSHOP #2

DATE: August 15 2012, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

LOCATION: Old Timers' Cabin (9430 Scona Rd.)

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 20

COMMENTS ON VISION, MISSION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

COMMENTS ON VISION STATEMENT:

"Queen Elizabeth Park is a well-loved destination in the heart of Edmonton where people come to connect with the natural world, have memorable gatherings with friends and family, discover the rich cultural heritage of the river valley, and experience a remarkable gateway into Downtown"

- The park's role as a destination is important; it should be a destination for all residents, not just those in this area
- Valid that the park is an "entrance" to Downtown, but it is not Downtown in itself
- Want to see the park stay natural, be a people-park, be special, and be safe
- Statement misses mentioning the activity in the park (e.g. mountain biking, running, walking, orienteering, festivals, travel corridor) -- vision statement should recognize activity levels
- Should strive for a balance between natural systems and creating infrastructure for park users

COMMENTS ON MISSION STATEMENT:

"To provide a variety of ways for Edmonton residents and visitors to experience, understand, and connect to the river valley environment"

- Good
- As a gateway park, it opens up possibilities.
- Too generic, should reference all ages and abilities.
- Should convey that park provides ways for people to actively participate within [it]

COMMENTS ON GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- *"The park is accessible for pedestrians and cyclists"*
 - Should include accessible parking, access for people with disabilities
 - Accessible for all people, pedestrians and cyclists –

fully accessible, universally accessible

- Should be expanded to be more inclusive - e.g. human powered river users (hand launch, not motorized boat launch)
- *"Amenities are provided to support user comfort (e.g. improved lighting and signage)"*
 - Add safety
 - Consider night lighting
- *"The ecological character of the park is celebrated and enhanced"*
 - Ecological restoration should be included
 - The ecological character of the park should be protected as well
- *"The park provides a 'gateway' experience into the downtown core (i.e. feels like an important entryway into the city)"*
 - The park should also be a destination

COMMENTS ON CONCEPTS BY THEME:

NEW CONNECTIONS TO/FROM THE PARK

- Fort Hill Rd could become main park access route
- Fort Hill Rd would require little enhancement to make it an accessible entry to the park
- Building a trail along Queen Elizabeth Park Road would be too expensive (money better saved for other things)
- Disagree with proposal to create a multi-use trail along Queen Elizabeth Park Road
- Preference for multi-use trail connection near 106 St.
- Connect park to Whyte Ave (via 106 St connection)
- Preference for trail east of Queen Elizabeth Park Road (east of washrooms) to remain unpaved
- Explore whether stairs east of Queen Elizabeth Park Road can be changed to trail

PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS

- Location should be reviewed to make sure a location is found that would have the least trees impacted
- Overpass would be costly
- Proposed design for overpass doesn't look "natural"

MULTI-USE TRAILS AND TRAIL CONNECTIONS

- Prefer option with ramps (instead of stairs) to connect picnic area to riverfront as stairs are not accessible

OPEN FIELD AND TOBOGGANING HILL / MOUND

- Like tobogganing hill
- Like idea of outdoor amphitheatre with some separation from the road
- Would like to see more flat open field area
- Disagree with proposal to remove hill, as it is well-used on Canada Day

RIVERBANK TREATMENT

- Like idea of hand boat launch
- Disagree with proposal for boat launching
- Access to water should be via ramps, not stairs
- Any trees removed for river access should be replaced elsewhere in the park
- Like idea of lookouts [along riverbank]
- Consider whether dogs should be allowed to access river; whether there should be any off leash areas
- Better to add a boat landing area to the west side of the new Walterdale Bridge (north of John Walter museum).

BIKE SKILLS AREA

- Location doesn't matter as long as there is one
- Skills area should be connected to single-track cycling trails
- Should incorporate area for kids

SINGLE TRACK TRAILS

- Like naturalized trail by river
- Desire to see single-track trails in both upper and lower parks

ETHNOBOTANICAL PLANTINGS

- Like idea
- Disagree with proposed location by old wastewater treatment plant
- Location for plantings doesn't matter

IMPROVED AT-GRADE CROSSING

- Should have lighting
- Safety should be improved

EXPANDED MULTI-USE TRAILS

- There should be a balance in the types of trails; not all trails should be paved
- Concern with environmental degradation; the amount of trees removed should be replanted

IMPROVED AND NEW LOOKOUTS

- Lookouts nice to have, but not top priority

ENHANCED PLAY AREA

- Could incorporate water feature
- Prefer play area to not take over open spaces
- Should include educational elements
- Would provide respite (from urban environment) for inner city residents.
- Concern with expanded parking area that may be required.
- Concerned with road traffic and playground users.
- Perhaps it would be better to have multiple smaller playground nodes instead of one large playground.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

SUGGESTIONS FOR NEW FEATURES THAT SHOULD BE ADDED TO CONCEPTS

- Identification of existing archeological sites
- Chess board
- Cross country ski trails
- Water feature in new park to replace old pool

ECOLOGICAL CHARACTER

- Protection of the park's ecological character is addressed very poorly in both concepts (how is, or in what way, is the ecological character being enhanced?)

OTHER

- Connect / relate design to Rosedale (power plant, riverfront); good place to celebrate winter
- Enhance trail along Saskatchewan Drive

GENERAL COMMENTS

- Very impressed with both options! Well done. These options both address &/or incorporate most to the public feedback from Stage 1 / Workshop 1
- There should be greater focus on winter activities [respondent had not seen winter concept board yet]

- Presentation lacked clarity with providing a 'story' behind the names of the 2 options. If we have a hybrid option.... is it "tranquil(y) vibrant"?
- How will the entrance into the community from the park be treated?

SUGGESTIONS FOR MORE DETAILED DESIGN AND PARK MANAGEMENT

- Consider realigning Queen Elizabeth Park Road
- Add a bus stop at the pedestrian crossing, mid-way down Queen Elizabeth Park Road
- Should explore how cars get on and off road in more detail
- Road into Lavigne needs to be expanded, which may impact the playground
- Concern with bank on Lavigne side – if do anything with vegetation is vulnerable to deterioration of bank
- There is currently lots of "junk" along river path
- Should have reservable picnic sites
- Need policies regarding snow grooming/clearing as it relates to pedestrian use, cross country skiing



Figure A1-1. Evaluation form provided to participants

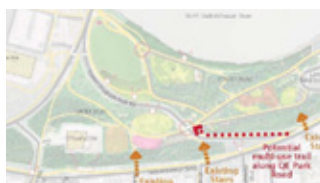
CONCEPT 1

PROVIDE NEW CONNECTIONS TO AND FROM THE PARK

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

New multi-use trail along Fort Hill Road connecting the park with Strathcona to the south of the site.



A potential option is to build a new trail along the north side of Queen Elizabeth Park Road connecting, Saskatchewan Drive to the Park.

This connection is likely the most challenging to build due to site conditions.

NEW MULTI-USE TRAILS AND TRAIL CONNECTIONS WITHIN THE PARK

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

A new trail is proposed to connect the multiuse trail that runs east of Queen Elizabeth Park Rd to connect to the pedestrian connections associated with the new Walterdale Bridge.



A new connection between the picnic area and the lower park is proposed using combination of stairs and ramps.



NEW FIELD AT WALTERDALE BRIDGE

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

The fill from Dantzer's Hill will be used in construction of the new bridge, leaving an open field. This will be bordered by lookouts and a tobogganing hill. Includes infrastructure for events and festivals.



RIVER BANK TREATMENT

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

The single-track trail is retained and a new lookout with interpretation areas are provided along the river edge. No direct access to the water is provided.



BIKE SKILLS AREA

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

Situated in the upper park, at site of old Queen Elizabeth Pool. This will consist of dirt jumps and other bike skill features. This is accessible to the Strathcona neighbourhood and has parking nearby.



SINGLE-TRACK TRAILS

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

Single-track trails upgraded and expanded in upper park. All but primary single-track trails in lower park are closed and naturalized.



ETHNOBOTANICAL PLANTINGS

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

Dedicated area for ethnobotanical plantings and a natural park experience in the lower park, with "ruins" from old wastewater treatment plant.

CONCEPT 2

PROVIDE NEW CONNECTIONS TO AND FROM THE PARK

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

Accessible multi-use trail entry from Saskatchewan Drive to the old Queen Elizabeth Pool site. This connects users of the Laurence Decor trail to Queen Elizabeth Park and establishes a north south connection through the Park.

Upgrade the existing trail and stairs into the park from Saskatchewan Drive, east of the hairpin turn onto Queen Elizabeth Park Road.

MULTI-USE TRAIL OVERPASS SPANNING QE PARK ROAD

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

The overpass connects the upper park and the field with a grade separated connection. The overpass also creates a gateway experience for people travelling along QE Park Rd.

NEW MULTI-USE TRAILS AND TRAIL CONNECTIONS WITHIN THE PARK

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

Accessible, multi-use, north-south trail from Saskatchewan Drive to the new Walterdale Bridge via the new overpass.

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

Multi-use trail connection near the new bike skills area for improved access between the picnic / play area and the lower park.

NEW FIELD AT WALTERDALE BRIDGE

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

Large mound (landmark, lookout point, tobogganing hill) and open field for flexible programming in the area currently occupied by Dantzer's Hill. Includes infrastructure for events and festivals.

RIVER BANK TREATMENT

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

River access is provided next to the new bridge, allowing people to get down to the water's edge. The single-track trail is upgraded to a more defined trail, with seating, and interpretation.

BIKE SKILLS AREA

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

Situated in the lower park at the site of the former wastewater treatment plant and storage compound. Bike skills area incorporates "ruins" from old wastewater treatment plant. Not directly adjacent to parking.

SINGLE-TRACK TRAILS

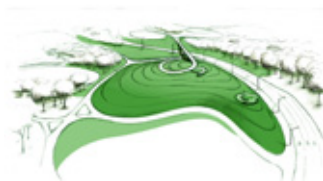
⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

Single-track trails upgraded and expanded in lower park. All but primary single-track trails in upper park are closed and naturalized.

ETHNOBOTANICAL PLANTINGS

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

No dedicated area for ethnobotanical plantings throughout park. Traditional t



otanical plantings; plantings incorporated
use of plants identified through interpretation

FEATURES COMMON TO BOTH CONCEPTS

IMPROVED AT GRADE CROSSING

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

The pedestrian crossing midway down Queen Elizabeth park road will be moved north and better defined to provide a safer crossing of the roadway.



EXPANDED MULTI-USE TRAIL NETWORK

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

Throughout the park the multi-use trail network will be upgraded to provide a variety of experiences and provide better connections to the neighbourhood and to all parts of the park.

IMPROVED SINGLE TRACK TRAILS THROUGH FOREST

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

The quality, location, design and construction standards of single track trails will be improved to minimize impact on natural areas.

NEW LOOKOUTS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING LOOKOUTS

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

New lookouts and improvements to existing lookouts to provide views of downtown and the river valley.



ENHANCED PLAY AREA

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

The playground will be designed and upgraded to provide a wider range of activities and play experiences for children. This will include nature-based play to help connect children with the natural environment.



ENHANCED PICNIC AREAS

⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

Picnic areas will be improved and located throughout the park to provide a variety of experiences and environments for passive park use. This includes upgrading the existing facilities in their current location.

1. In your groups review the project Vision, Mission and Guiding Principles that are provided on the handout. Discuss amongst your group if you support these statements and principles. Identify if you feel there are any principles that you feel strongly about or if there are any principles that are missing. Document your discussion.
2. Evaluate the elements of the 2 concepts presented using this sheet. Each element is to be rated on the following scale:
 - ⑤ Strongly Agree
 - ④ Agree
 - ③ Neutral
 - ② Disagree
 - ① Strongly Disagree
3. Once you have completed rating each of the elements please circle the 3 elements that are the highest priority for your group.
4. Discuss amongst the group if there is a preference for one concept over the other. Identify the reasons why one concept is preferable.
5. Discuss amongst the group if there is anything missing from the concepts that you feel should be included in Queen Elizabeth Park. Document your discussion.
6. There will be 45 minutes allocated for the group activity. Following this activity each group will report back to the larger group.

QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK WORKSHOP TWO

CITY OF EDMONTON

AUGUST 2012

prepared by: space2place

A2 PUBLIC ONLINE SURVEY #2 DETAILED RESULTS

PUBLIC ONLINE SURVEY #2






DATE: Survey period from August 16 to 31, 2012

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 309

DETAILED RESULTS: The following pages provide the detailed results of the public online survey #2.

1. A 'VISION STATEMENT' is intended to describe how we want the park to be in the future. What is your level of agreement with the following vision statement for Queen Elizabeth Park?

"Queen Elizabeth Park is a well-loved destination in the heart of Edmonton where people come to connect with the natural world, have memorable gatherings with friends and family, discover the rich cultural heritage of the river valley, and experience a remarkable gateway into Downtown."

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly disagree		2.9%	9
Disagree		4.5%	14
Neutral		16.2%	50
Agree		45.5%	140
Strongly agree		30.8%	95
Comments (optional)			49
answered question			308
skipped question			1

Comments about vision statement:

1	It is quite natural and should not be overdeveloped	Aug 31, 2012 9:53 PM
2	Never been	Aug 31, 2012 5:34 PM
3	Why is this park unique among all of the other city parks?	Aug 31, 2012 2:45 PM
4	I like that connecting to the natural world is the first priority.	Aug 31, 2012 2:43 PM
5	Love Concept 1 - tranquil concept in keeping with current feel of the park. I think that bike skills area is awesome!	Aug 31, 2012 1:52 PM
6	It's well-loved by my family and I, though it's a bit of a hidden gem. Not sure how well it's known/loved outside the community.	Aug 31, 2012 11:33 AM
7	I don't really see it as a gateway to Downtown. That seems like a stretch for me and just an obvious and somewhat strained attempt to incorporate it into the big picture of revitalizing downtown. Calling Rosedale a Gateway to downtown and doing some to fix up that area would probably be better on that front.	Aug 31, 2012 9:23 AM
8	Live near the park and see many family picnics, church gathering, scouts etc	Aug 31, 2012 8:49 AM
9	This is true for some people but should be true for more people	Aug 31, 2012 8:14 AM
10	Aboriginal Groups under various agencies and common businesses and companies use the River Valley programs. We hope to keep the green space that is there currently. Disagree with expanding a new bridge and moving the bikes from where they are stored currently. Keep the green!	Aug 31, 2012 8:00 AM
11	I especially enjoy the new Queen Elizabeth outdoor swimming pool.	Aug 31, 2012 7:38 AM
12	I would add something about "history" as Edmonton, especially this area of Edmonton, is full of a rich history of the city and it's forebearers.	Aug 30, 2012 9:14 PM
13	I would strengthen the language around the connection to the natural world.	Aug 30, 2012 4:54 PM
14	Sounds too peaceful. I go to have fun riding the trails with my friends on my mountain bike.	Aug 30, 2012 4:54 PM
15	natural world should be nature - connect with nature as well could add something in there where one can connect to the trails, accessible for all could be something to consider as well.	Aug 30, 2012 4:45 PM
16	Not yet! for us runners and cyclists it is heaven and easily accessible but that cultural piece is missing!	Aug 29, 2012 9:15 AM
17	NEED TO ADD THE PHYSICAL PART: ..."where people come to recreate, play, be active and have fun"	Aug 29, 2012 9:01 AM
18	How is this a "gateway" to downtown? Because paths connect it to some far-off location? I disagree with that part.	Aug 28, 2012 4:14 PM




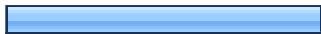

19	We have many signature parks in the river valley - I like that this park is not a destination park ... it is a thoroughfare for many people to run, bike and walk there way through the river valley. It should provide opportunities for people watching and for transit.	Aug 28, 2012 10:31 AM
20	This is pretty inoffensive and, as a result, may be too vague to be helpful in defining how Edmontonian's connect with each other and the natural world. What does 'connect with the natural world' mean? How is it a gateway yo downtown?	Aug 28, 2012 9:51 AM
21	This statement has nothing negative about it, seems positive and conducive to safeguarding the natural environment as much as possible, but is very general and leaves much room for interpretation.	Aug 28, 2012 9:23 AM
22	To me, this park and the experience should also include recreation. The Edmonton river valley system is a great network for staying active and healthy - 12 months a year.	Aug 28, 2012 8:49 AM
23	It's been a quiet park where people come to have picnics, run, etc., I don't think it has been seen as a "remarkable gateway into Downtown," except one has to use the bridge there to get across the river!	Aug 28, 2012 8:48 AM
24	This is a sacred site to many of our Elders here at the Samson Cree Nation & there is no "historical section" marker along the route where all of our Ancestors lay to rest & were yet "bothered" over the years. Suggest a annual feast and/or celebration be held & sponsored by the City of Edmonton with Samson Cree Nation	Aug 28, 2012 8:41 AM
25	Please change gatherings to 'activities that promote a healthy lifestyle and vibrant community' .	Aug 28, 2012 7:44 AM
26	The Queen Elizabeth Park is a beautiful place that I really enjoy.	Aug 25, 2012 9:13 PM
27	I am not convinced that Queen Elizabeth Park needs to be described as a "destination" park. Edmonton has several of these (e.g. Hawrelak, Rundle, Louise McKinney, Terwillegar, Victoria, Kinsmen). Except for Hawrelak, they are over-built and under-used. Queen Elizabeth Park doesn't need to be another "destination" park. I am not convinced that Queen Elizabeth Park can or should be our gateway to Downtown. While Ezio Farone, Louise McKinney, Railtown, and the Leg. Grounds provide this feel up above... I don't think Queen E. should be play this role lower down.	Aug 24, 2012 4:50 PM
28	The parks is not a destination, the trail system is. The location (the park) is not and I don't see it being one even after development	Aug 24, 2012 1:28 PM
29	BUT... vision needs to recognize the many active uses of the park, for running, orienteering, paddling, cycling, etc.!	Aug 24, 2012 8:57 AM
30	Interestingly, here "connect with the natural world" is listed first whereas in the Vision and Concepts Report it's listed last. I think this difference matters and I think it should be listed first, emphasizing Queen Elizabeth Park as first and most	Aug 23, 2012 7:12 AM

	importantly a natural area. Also, I don't understand the "gateway into Downtown" aspect. I go to the river valley to escape the city. I don't want to be reminded of downtown while I'm there.	
31	May be difficult to convince suburbanians to come downtown and feel this is remarkable. Given that the city is overly fond of suburbia over downtown living. Plans for this park Need to be considered as part of and integrated into all river valley plans to hold true.	Aug 22, 2012 5:02 PM
32	I believe most Edmontonians would relate the park to the now relocated Queen E. Pool.	Aug 22, 2012 3:06 PM
33	Queen Elizabeth park has a rich history in Edmonton, and it's unique location is a remarkable gateway to Downtown Edmonton.	Aug 22, 2012 1:44 PM
34	I tend to enjoy the north bank of the River Valley in the Oliver area, and do not frequent Elizabeth Park too often, but plan too more now.	Aug 21, 2012 8:39 PM
35	I've been going there for 60 years to picnic, cycle, walk, swim, and in recent years to participate in Ceyana Canoe Club activities.	Aug 21, 2012 8:23 PM
36	doesnt directly mention connect to the river, acces the river.	Aug 21, 2012 8:49 AM
37	A vision statement is something we want to accomplish. This is written in past tense - Queen E Park has been abandoned I would think we want to send a message of what it will become - if if are trying to say this is what we currnetly I have you are not being honest. Edmontonians are not stupid - don't try to bullshit them - you won't win them over.	Aug 21, 2012 8:24 AM
38	Really full of fluff and bullshit, honestly Queen Elizabeth Park is a park, it doesn't need to be more complicated than the fact that it is a beautiful place to be and spend time	Aug 20, 2012 7:36 PM
39	Queen Elizabeth park is used largely by small family groups for a natural setting for picknicks and relaxed gatherings. It is also a green open space with trail access that is used as part of the walking and cyling river valley system. It is also a green space that is away from traffic for the high density residences along the top of the south river bank along Saskatchewan Drive. It has nothing to do with a gateway to downtown. all the downtown traffic either uses the main roads and do not stop, or use QE park road as a short cut from Scona / 99th Street to Walterdale hill, or many times used as a circuit joy ride road.	Aug 20, 2012 1:25 PM
40	Mentions nothing about being active or recreation opportunities. We have plenty of parks and picnic areas.	Aug 20, 2012 1:06 PM
41	How is this different from every other park on the face of the entire planet?	Aug 20, 2012 1:04 PM
42	The statement is fine in general, but I disagree with the idea of a gateway park. That implies that the park should look pretty for cars to drive through. I want the park to be a destination, and integrated into the heart of the city. That means being a directly linked part of strathcona...and also and extension of the	Aug 20, 2012 12:54 PM

	downtown river valley area. I suspect that my view is shared by the community and planners (based on what I've heard), and so I suspect that what needs change is the vision statement wording.	
43	The park is too small to have "memorable gatherings". Save those for Hawrelak. I don't think you can have all of those things in a single park of this size.	Aug 20, 2012 12:31 PM
44	Seems to exaggerate the type of use the park currently has	Aug 20, 2012 12:19 PM
45	This park is not well known to me	Aug 20, 2012 12:06 PM
46	Used to frequent many years ago with young family but am a bit out of touch day to day. It is in a neighbourhood/area I have lived in, love, feel connected to, and enjoy passing through on walks and bike rides	Aug 17, 2012 3:13 PM
47	The transients scare off a lot of people.	Aug 17, 2012 10:04 AM
48	Saying the river valley has a cultural heritage seems weird. It's part of Edmontonian's cultural heritage, but the river valley itself doesn't really have a culture.	Aug 16, 2012 11:40 AM
49	"remarkable gateway into Downtown" is the weak point. Sounds weird.	Aug 16, 2012 8:25 AM

2. A 'MISSION STATEMENT' is intended to describe the aim of the overall plan. What is your level of agreement with the following mission statement for Queen Elizabeth Park?

"To provide a variety of ways for Edmonton residents and visitors to experience, understand, and connect to the river valley environment."

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly disagree		3.3%	10
Disagree		2.6%	8
Neutral		8.8%	27
Agree		47.2%	145
Strongly agree		38.1%	117

Comments (optional) 32

answered question	307
skipped question	2

Comments about mission statement:

1	Connecting is important. Over developed access interferes with the natural part we hope to connect to.	Aug 31, 2012 9:53 PM
2	What is unique?	Aug 31, 2012 2:45 PM
3	never start a mission statement with a to: statement, it either is or it isn't, the statment is what it is now and not something you wish it to become	Aug 31, 2012 1:53 PM
4	A little bland.	Aug 31, 2012 12:10 PM
5	Respect and honor must recognize the First Peoples and the history of this area. I vot Lewis Cardinal Speaker on behalf of us all. His designs for Monito should be in the forefront.	Aug 31, 2012 8:00 AM
6	I agree with experience and connect.....understand, that is a big not so necessary cost!	Aug 31, 2012 6:23 AM
7	This seems a bit thin... provide, variety could both be strengthened.	Aug 30, 2012 4:54 PM
8	You forgot the word 'enjoy'.	Aug 30, 2012 4:54 PM
9	needs accesible in here so that members of Edmonton who do not frequent the parks and trails realize that they too can utilize the park	Aug 30, 2012 4:45 PM
10	Other than athletics, the river valley is not interesting or accessible to most.	Aug 29, 2012 9:15 AM
11	To provide a variety of ways for Edmonton residents and visitors to experience, understand, play and be active while connecting to the river valley environment."	Aug 29, 2012 9:01 AM
12	Now you're talking. Delete the word 'variety' because there is excess baggage.	Aug 28, 2012 4:14 PM
13	It is not a park for out of town visitors. Too small. Parking is inadequate. There are very few stopping points in the river valley for just resting ... stepping off the path and sitting and enjoying the trees. Most of the paths are too narrow for stopping, and the other parks are parks for spending an entire day. Make this more of a transition park ... leading to Kinsmen or to the other side of the river.	Aug 28, 2012 10:31 AM
14	I think that this could be stronger and connect to the way we green, and the way we move. For instance, it could reference the walkability strategy and underline the need for activities such as running, walking and cycling.	Aug 28, 2012 9:51 AM
15	I like the level of usage it has now...not too busy or commercialized.	Aug 28, 2012 8:48 AM
16	along with the addition of First Nations Historical Markers - legends, oral traditons & Pictures of our Proud & rich History	Aug 28, 2012 8:41 AM
17	The River Valley needs to be updated as it is one of the highlights of our city. Enhancements to the River Valley and The QE park will surely attract more visitors.	Aug 25, 2012 9:13 PM
18	I believe Aboriginal history (both First Nations AND Metis) should form a key	Aug 24, 2012 1:05 PM

	component of this.	
19	A variety of activities for all seasons :)	Aug 24, 2012 9:25 AM
20	AGAIN... mission statement needs to recognize the importance of providing infrastructure for physical activities... especially the type of individual and usually small group activities that take place in the park... see above.	Aug 24, 2012 8:57 AM
21	Not sure that it needs to be so varied....	Aug 23, 2012 7:49 PM
22	This could apply to any park in the city. It is not really specific to QE Park	Aug 23, 2012 7:04 AM
23	This is pretty general and doesn't provide enough to distinguish this from any other park. Doesn't specifically bring the vision to life.	Aug 21, 2012 12:41 PM
24	To provide a variety of opportunities for Edmonton residents and visitors to experience, understand, and connect with the culture of the river valley environment.	Aug 21, 2012 8:24 AM
25	suggest adding "... in the heart of the city" !	Aug 20, 2012 10:07 PM
26	The park has always been a small park with limited vehicle access and used by pedestrian (parks benches) and part of a cycling route along the river valley. It is not intended to be used in a variety of ways as suggested in the statement.	Aug 20, 2012 1:25 PM
27	How is this different from every other park on the face of the entire planet?	Aug 20, 2012 1:04 PM
28	pretty generic - could apply to any park in the city	Aug 20, 2012 12:33 PM
29	Presuming the "river valley environment" is maintained. Too many parks have too little environment and far more... parking.	Aug 20, 2012 12:31 PM
30	It was suggested at the Aug15/12 meeting that this would be the ideal time to improve the road down to Kinsmen hill road , by straightening the road and running it through the old QE Pool site. I thought this would be an excellent idea.	Aug 18, 2012 9:51 PM
31	Without destroying the natural habitat for birds and animals	Aug 17, 2012 10:04 AM
32	I would add something about the Edmonton community to the "river valley environment" or replace the "river valley environment" with a message about the Edmonton community instead.	Aug 16, 2012 1:56 PM

3. What is your level of agreement with each of the following GUIDING PRINCIPLES identified for the design of Queen Elizabeth Park?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Response Count
The park is ACCESSIBLE for pedestrians and cyclists	1.4% (4)	1.4% (4)	2.8% (8)	34.8% (100)	59.6% (171)	287
The pedestrian and cyclist pathway network is WELL-CONNECTED	1.0% (3)	2.1% (6)	7.0% (20)	34.8% (100)	55.1% (158)	287
There is a HIERARCHY of active and passive spaces for year-round use (i.e. variety in the type, size and intensity of uses in the park)	2.1% (6)	3.2% (9)	18.9% (54)	45.6% (130)	30.2% (86)	285
Amenities are provided to support user COMFORT (e.g. improved lighting and signage).	1.7% (5)	10.1% (29)	17.1% (49)	42.7% (122)	28.3% (81)	286
IMPORTANT PLACES are identified within the park for site stories and viewpoints	2.1% (6)	9.2% (26)	22.7% (64)	42.6% (120)	23.4% (66)	282
The ECOLOGICAL CHARACTER of the park is celebrated and enhanced	1.8% (5)	6.7% (19)	16.5% (47)	35.1% (100)	40.0% (114)	285
Opportunities are provided to EXPERIENCE THE RIVER'S EDGE	3.2% (9)	9.2% (26)	13.7% (39)	33.8% (96)	40.1% (114)	284
The park provides a "GATEWAY" experience into the downtown core (i.e. feels like an important entryway into the city)	6.3% (18)	10.1% (29)	29.7% (85)	31.8% (91)	22.0% (63)	286
Comments (optional)						46
answered question						288
skipped question						21

Comments about guiding principles:






1	Nothing herer is unique!	Aug 31, 2012 2:46 PM
2	I prefer an escape from the city in the city rather than another gateway to downtown.	Aug 31, 2012 2:46 PM
3	I just want to emphasize the importance I perceive in having the edge of river be accessible. Although Edmontonians have plentiful (and enviable) opportunities to engage with the river *valley*, opportunities to engage the river itself are relatively slim--from most of the river valley, it is shielded by a band of vegetation that obstructs views and obfuscates contact. I think that this is one of the final pieces of the puzzle to fully actualizing the river valley's potential.	Aug 31, 2012 1:11 PM
4	I think having access to the river's edge is okay, but I worry that it will be taken too far eg. Calgary or in Louis McKinney park with that cement boardwalk. I like the quiet natural access to the river	Aug 31, 2012 9:25 AM
5	I do not agree that it is important for visitors to experience the river's edge given that the river bank is subject to erosion. High traffic activities should be AWAY from the river's edge.	Aug 31, 2012 8:06 AM
6	Respect First Nations history, keep the area green. Unnecessary to move current supplies found west of the bridge to the east green natural area. As long as First Nations people are consulted(Lewis Cardinal) before decisions are made and natural areas are left undisturbed as much as possible.	Aug 31, 2012 8:03 AM
7	Not clear what 'hierarchy' of active and passive spaces means. Does this mean that spusers get preference? Variety makes sense, but hirarchy does not. I would like to see more details on the intention of this language.	Aug 30, 2012 9:42 PM
8	I think sound/noise should also be considered in that the park should be a "tranquil and peaceful retreat" in Edmonton	Aug 30, 2012 9:22 PM
9	I think the cross walk halfway down QE Park Rd is highly dangerous for pedestrians and traffic. It should be removed and merged into the pedestrian overpass. Perhaps the overpass a bit higher on the hill to facilitate this.	Aug 30, 2012 8:33 PM
10	I hope there will be a strong Aboriginal presence in the interpretation and sense of place	Aug 30, 2012 6:20 PM
11	Native species, permaculture, local food production, activities that connect generations.	Aug 30, 2012 4:56 PM
12	Not sure what you mean by "a Hierarchy of active and passive spaces." Sure a variety of uses is good but that implies some are more important than others. Identifiers for important places and a "Gateway" sounds like a theme park with signs everywhere. In my view the less done to the space the better.	Aug 30, 2012 4:40 PM
13	Please unlink "pedestrians and cyclists". In the river valley, they don't necessarily co-exist well. Suggest dedicated pedestrian/bike trails for at least part of the area. Will have to physically exclude bikes but more desireable bike trails might help. Basically, in areas of high bike and pedestrian traffic, it's really dangerous. Bikes moving fast on joint-use trails cannot be stopped or excluded.	Aug 30, 2012 4:13 PM

14	I love the development of more single lane trails in number 2	Aug 29, 2012 12:33 PM
15	We need innovative ways to enjoy this space. Look at the Forks in Winnipeg as an example. Or the restaurant in the heart of Calgary's river valley. We need some careful development- a restaurant, a few shops etc to let people connect to the river valley in different ways.	Aug 29, 2012 9:17 AM
16	I think the current "treacherous single track" should remain open. I think you overlooked the many mountain bikers, trail runners and families which use those trails on a weekly basis to experience the trail in a natural state. Although I realise it would be beneficial to some to have a more assessable trail I think it is also important to have natural single trail and not take the fun away from the park by closing an amazing trail.	Aug 28, 2012 6:05 PM
17	It isn't a gateway, it's a park. But if you need to say it's a gateway to downtown in order to get funding, by all means say so.	Aug 28, 2012 4:16 PM
18	please note accessible does not always mean pave every inch of trail! maintain single track and off road areas! these can be utilized in winter a cross country ski and snowshoe areas. amenities could be washroom, water fountains for drinking and lighting for safety: not huge buildings and structures.	Aug 28, 2012 11:52 AM
19	It will be important to maintain the single track for the enjoyment of cyclists and trail runners	Aug 28, 2012 11:39 AM
20	As mentioned previously, the park is a transition area ... not a destination. It should be designed as such to support users comfort in terms of washrooms, water, etc. How does this park support single people which are the dominant population in the area ... i.e. boomers downsizing into high rise condos, young people starting out. The schools in the area are under threat of closing due to low enrolment. I don't agree with the expanded playground ... there is a huge playground beside Kinsmen. Why repeat the effort. This park is much more for adults ... to sit and enjoy a treed setting, though the traffic noise is substantial.	Aug 28, 2012 10:36 AM
21	It is hard to disagree with any of these points, but their implementation is important and could be more contentious. For instance, for point two, what is the hierarchy of activities and spaces? Does improved lighting imply more light pollution? What is the ecological character of the park? Finally, parks are known as a respite from an urban experience (see Collins and Kearns, 2007), do we need to reference the downtown? Perhaps people come to the park to get away from the downtown (research tends to support this).	Aug 28, 2012 9:56 AM
22	An possible overpass was mentioned in the 2nd planning meeting in August. This would cross the road and block the view of the highlevel bridge and river as the road bends and this vista is revealed. This overpass is a BAD idea. To block this view is very short-sighted and a terrible plan. A huge, concrete (or otherwise) obstruction (overpass or otherwise) covering the natural beauty of the area is counter-productive to the entire purpose of the project. A pedestrian crossing with push-button crosswalk is all that is needed. The volume of pedestrians here does NOT warrant ruining this view. The discussion of creating a "gateway experience into downtown core" is redundant as the current changing landscape as the roads bends and turns is already a perfect,	Aug 28, 2012 9:27 AM






	<p>picturesque framing of the natural beauty of the river valley and the entry into the downtown core. Plus, once the new Walterdale Bridge is built, this will feature prominently in the drivers view as they descend along the road. This bridge - especially when it's lit up at night - will be so striking a sight that to block it with an ugly overpass is ridiculous. Thanks!</p>	
23	<p>More First Nations History required & also the Environmental & Ecological Significance (I.e. ID of First Nations herbs, Traditional Land Use of the Area, etc) to bring in wildlife in & along the water - will also assist as a long term reclamation project - University & Samson First Nation to find a project to implement based on FN's traditional land use of the areas</p>	Aug 28, 2012 8:44 AM
24	<p>The park should connect by pedestrian bridge to Rossdale flats...Pyramids...downtown. And heck why not make Rossdale flats and park space too. Finally, what is the historical significance of this area. Will there be plaques or areas to preserve the parks history (ie. aboriginal)?</p>	Aug 28, 2012 7:46 AM
25	<p>The park is accessible for paddlers to launch canoes and kayaks and to arrive by canoes and kayaks and to park vehicles so they can go paddling.</p>	Aug 27, 2012 8:16 PM
26	<p>a "hand boat launch" below the new bridge would be much appreciated by the local paddling community, and would certainly increase the use of the river for recreational purposes</p>	Aug 25, 2012 11:27 AM
27	<p>Edmonton has many parks that provide a "river's edge" experience: Louise McKinney, Henrietta Muir Edwards, and Emily Murphy (in Central Edmonton) with other parks further out. Adding another purpose-built park adds unnecessary expense, surveillance, and maintenance costs. Building this into the Queen E. Master Plan marginally increases access to the river in central Edmonton. Meanwhile. The benefits don't out-weigh the costs.</p>	Aug 24, 2012 4:55 PM
28	<p>Improved parking on the pdf, is it a bigger parking lot? Only one public washroom? Will be interested to see the finer details for Hort planting bed vs naturalized areas.</p>	Aug 24, 2012 9:31 AM
29	<p>River Edge access need to mean/include hand launch opportunities for canoes, kayaks, and dragon boats.</p>	Aug 24, 2012 8:58 AM
30	<p>To make QE park unique to the many parks in Edmonton it must have 'The River's Edge' a major experience.</p>	Aug 23, 2012 3:20 PM
31	<p>Again, the river valley is great way to escape the city. I don't want it to be a gateway to the city nor do I want to be thinking about or aware of the city while I'm in the river valley. To the extent that accessible means paved, I'm not very in favor of accessible. (Some accessibility is good so that people using wheelchairs can also enjoy the park, but too much paving takes away from the natural environment.)</p>	Aug 23, 2012 7:15 AM
32	<p>A concern on both designs is the pedestrian cross walk and its location half way down Queen E. Park Rd. This is and always has been a dangerous location. The number of near misses and rear end collisions warrants an entirely new location for any crossings. The two major roads are major arteries and need to be</p>	Aug 22, 2012 3:10 PM

	considered as such in this redevelopment.	
33	I would like a gateway to the river to be included and a canoe dock or boat launch put there.	Aug 22, 2012 7:20 AM
34	boat access is also important	Aug 21, 2012 11:01 PM
35	While all items are important, I really want to see Edmonton's profile enhanced, having a well-designed park that provides a "gateway" experience as the survey suggests.	Aug 21, 2012 8:41 PM
36	could be a beter "entry way", a liittle more grand	Aug 21, 2012 8:32 PM
37	There is a staircase on Saskatchewan Drive, right across from 10135 Sask Dr, that seems like it is supposed to go down to the park. But in reality it only goes half a flight down and then on to dirt trails, past a hobo encampment, and then a very steep/slippery slope down into the park's east end. Can we please complete the stairs so I don't risk broken bones, or being mugged, to get to the park.	Aug 21, 2012 6:00 PM
38	Unless the new park establishes or creates a unique ecological component the ecological principle is not relelvant. This was a dumping ground and will be a bridge landing area! What character is being enhanced?	Aug 21, 2012 12:44 PM
39	It is important to consider accessibility for all pedestians and cyclists - for example, individuals using mobility aids should have full access to all areas of the park, including an opportunity to experience the rivers edge.	Aug 21, 2012 12:22 PM
40	What is Ecological Character? Again fluff	Aug 20, 2012 7:37 PM
41	Accesible to all citizens (disabled, young, old, mothers with striollers, etc.)	Aug 20, 2012 1:19 PM
42	User comfort should also include water fountains, washrooms and benches.	Aug 20, 2012 1:13 PM
43	I would replace the word "comfort" above, with safety. Improving the safety is very important to my family. We use the park daily, and we feel that safety can be improved. This includes pedestrian safety with shared bike paths; safe structures and spaces for kids; and also safety from being confronted by drunks. As for "gateway", I am not in favor of that. It sounds like the park is to be a pretty driving route for cars to the downtown. And I think that misses the point. I hope I just mis-interpret the statement.	Aug 20, 2012 12:58 PM
44	Parking should be improved so that people can use this park as a starting point to enjoy the river valley	Aug 20, 2012 12:08 PM
45	As a resident of the " lavigne " neighborhood directly east I fully support the city's vision and would love to share and encourage more residents of the city to experience this park	Aug 20, 2012 7:16 AM
46	The term 'accessible' has been used very vaguely in a lot of the supporting documents, as well as in the first statement above. Yes the park should be accessible to pedestrians and cyclists, but my main concern is that it is accessible to EVERYONE which includes the above two groups AS WELL as those with accessibility needs. There are very few parks in this city that wholly support outdoor experiences and activities for those who use mobility aids including wheelchairs. It's frustrating however, the re-design of Queen E park is a great opportunity for the city to really go above and beyond to ensure that all of it's citizens are able to enjoy the park.	Aug 17, 2012 3:27 PM

4. In order to improve pedestrian connections between the upper and lower parks, one of the concepts proposes a pedestrian overpass over Queen Elizabeth Park Road. How much do you agree with the idea of a pedestrian overpass?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly disagree		2.8%	8
Disagree		3.9%	11
Neutral		12.1%	34
Agree		29.8%	84
Strongly agree		51.4%	145
answered question			282
skipped question			27





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Neutral		12.1%	34
Agree		29.8%	84
Strongly agree		51.4%	145
answered question			282
skipped question			27





6. Both concepts include new or improved ways of getting into the park from the south (Strathcona neighbourhood / Saskatchewan Drive). Which of the following four access options do you prefer? Please rank the options below by your order of preference with (1) being most preferred and (4) being the least preferred.

	1 - Most preferred	2	3	4 - Least preferred	Response Count
A. Improved access along Fort Hill Road	30.1% (74)	24.0% (59)	15.9% (39)	30.1% (74)	246
B. New trail east of 106 Street	39.3% (96)	21.7% (53)	25.4% (62)	13.5% (33)	244
C. New trail along QE Park Road	20.6% (50)	30.0% (73)	26.3% (64)	23.0% (56)	243
D. Improved trail east of QE Park Road	15.1% (37)	24.1% (59)	30.6% (75)	30.2% (74)	245
answered question					268
skipped question					41

7. The concept plans show a bike skills area in two different locations. The bike skills area would be a collection of challenging features (e.g. jumps, ramps) for mountain bike / BMX users. Both areas are within previously developed sites. Which location do you prefer for the bike skills area?

		Response Percent	Response Count
A. Upper park - Old QE Pool site		33.7%	93
B. Lower park - Old wastewater treatment site / storage compound		31.2%	86
No preference (either A or B)		23.2%	64
Neither (I don't want to see a bike skills area in QE Park)		12.0%	33
answered question			276
skipped question			33







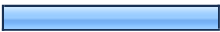








8. Both concepts propose changes to the existing single track trail network. Single track trails are narrow (~0.5 m) dirt trails that wind through the forest and are often used by hikers, trail runners, and mountain bikers. Which of the following statements regarding single track trails do you most agree with?

		Response Percent	Response Count
I want more single track trails		45.3%	124
I want fewer single track trails (trails closed and restored to forest)		9.1%	25
I want more single track trails in some areas of the park, and fewer single track trails in other areas		13.9%	38
I am satisfied with the number of single track trails in the park today		31.8%	87
		answered question	274
		skipped question	35

9. The following are proposed features that are common to both design concepts. What is your level of agreement with each of the following?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Response Count
Expanded MULTI-USE TRAIL NETWORK throughout the park (min. 3 m wide paved path)	9.1% (25)	12.4% (34)	17.8% (49)	31.3% (86)	29.5% (81)	275
New LOOKOUTS and improved lookouts to provide views of downtown and the river valley	3.3% (9)	5.8% (16)	20.8% (57)	38.3% (105)	31.8% (87)	274
Enhanced PLAY AREA to provide a wider variety of play experiences	4.7% (13)	9.9% (27)	25.5% (70)	36.1% (99)	23.7% (65)	274
Enhanced PICNIC AREAS	2.2% (6)	6.6% (18)	31.4% (85)	41.3% (112)	18.5% (50)	271
"RUINS" from the old wastewater treatment plant after it is decommissioned and cleaned up in order to tell the industrial history of the site.	12.8% (35)	17.6% (48)	24.5% (67)	28.2% (77)	16.8% (46)	273
answered question						276
skipped question						33

10. The following is a list of potential new or improved features for Queen Elizabeth Park. Which 3 features do you like the most? Select 3 of the following or list additional items below.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Improved access into the park from Saskatchewan Drive		14.6%	40
Pedestrian overpass over Queen Elizabeth Park Road		36.5%	100
Improved physical / visual access to the river near the new Waltherdale Bridge		26.6%	73
"Ruins" from the old wastewater treatment plant incorporated into park design		9.5%	26
Open field for a range of uses		2.6%	7
Hill for viewpoints and tobogganing on the north side of Queen Elizabeth Park Road		10.6%	29
Bike skills area		36.5%	100
Enhanced picnic areas		10.2%	28
Enhanced play area		10.9%	30
New / upgraded single-track trails		37.6%	103
Closure of some single-track trails		1.8%	5
Ethnobotanical plantings (e.g. native plants traditionally used by First Nations and early settlers)		13.9%	38
Enhanced ecological health of the forest and river bank		30.3%	83
Opportunities for all-season activities		35.4%	97
Improved lookout points		15.7%	43
Other (please specify)			52
answered question			274
skipped question			35

Comments about preferred features in proposed concepts

Note: several respondents interpreted this question as an opportunity to suggest new features that were not in the proposed concept plans

1	Frisbee golf	Aug 31, 2012 11:27 PM
2	Disc Golf	Aug 31, 2012 8:21 PM
3	frisbee golf area	Aug 31, 2012 5:36 PM
4	More information about Edmonton's natural areas and ecological services provided by river valley.	Aug 31, 2012 2:58 PM
5	I also think it's important to have the pedestrian bridge over QE Park Road but I could only pick 3!!	Aug 31, 2012 2:03 PM
6	Edible forest garden!!!	Aug 31, 2012 1:18 PM
7	Edible forest garden!!	Aug 31, 2012 1:15 PM
8	Frisbee golf	Aug 31, 2012 12:15 PM
9	Enhanced mountainbike singletrack	Aug 31, 2012 11:38 AM
10	Frisbee golf course	Aug 31, 2012 11:00 AM
11	Please consult First Nations people! Keep the history of that space! Keep it green!	Aug 31, 2012 8:13 AM
12	There needs to be Aboriginal interpretation at this site	Aug 30, 2012 6:23 PM
13	Disk Golf?	Aug 30, 2012 6:12 PM
14	Perhaps frisbee golf set up around the park??	Aug 30, 2012 6:03 PM
15	Accessibility is a key here. Waters Edge must be accessible to all.	Aug 30, 2012 4:52 PM
16	I think safe access across QE Pk Rd is important but would prefer an UNDERPASS. Less visually intrusive and more pedestrian/disabled friendly.	Aug 30, 2012 4:22 PM
17	Enhanced locations for Native ceremonies and events.	Aug 30, 2012 3:41 PM
18	More/improved paved trails around the area	Aug 30, 2012 10:07 AM
19	I would like to see the public washrooms located way up on the hill at kinpark be moved to a more safer area. The washrooms, especially the women's washroom, seem hidden and isolated from the park. I feel unsafe when I go there alone. This is true especially for women and children using the facility late in the day. Sincerely	Aug 29, 2012 6:08 PM
20	Our summer season is so short in Edmonton. We really need other ways to enjoy the river valley year-round. The options above only present "more of the same" ideas for development. Be innovative! Put a restaurant/cafe whatever it takes to bring people there year round. I am an avid runner but understand that many people are intimidated by our series of trails and we need to create more destinations within the river valley.	Aug 29, 2012 9:24 AM

21	more trails, ski areas, snowshoe areas, play areas, spontaneous areas	Aug 29, 2012 9:07 AM
22	More single track but no upgrading of the lovely old single track.	Aug 28, 2012 6:10 PM
23	once again improved does not necessarily mean paved... more single track and gravel trail.... how about a dog area? I love to run trails with dog, be nice to connect to mill creek and kinsmen through the park on gravel path	Aug 28, 2012 12:37 PM
24	Clearly there are many good features such as incorporating the old treatment plant in the design.	Aug 28, 2012 9:41 AM
25	Off leach dog area	Aug 28, 2012 8:54 AM
26	Connect the park to the downtown and the "Ruins" or historical significance.	Aug 28, 2012 7:52 AM
27	Better vehicle access to new walterdale bridge through the park. Hey rid of hairpin turn at top of hill and improve the traffic flow so visitors driving to Edmonton have quick and easy access to the heart of our city. We can combine the ecological recreation and transport needs here with this park.	Aug 27, 2012 9:51 PM
28	sidewalk width canoe/kayak launch at the eastern edge of the park accessed from the east end of the road that leads to the old water plant.	Aug 27, 2012 8:22 PM
29	a "hand boat launch" below the new bridge would be much appreciated by the local paddling community, and would certainly increase the use of the river for recreational purposes	Aug 25, 2012 11:35 AM
30	Measured Running Loop: Both proposals include a loop at the northwest edge of the park. This would be perfect for folks training at/near Kinsmen Centre. Create a measured & marked loop (e.g. 500m with 100m markings). It will get used.	Aug 24, 2012 5:19 PM
31	SPORTYING EVENT LOCATION FOR YEAR ROUND USE.	Aug 24, 2012 12:32 PM
32	Cross-country skiing trails.	Aug 23, 2012 5:07 PM
33	by pedestrian access over QE road I assume you mean the north/south bike bridge - not the troubled crosswalk further up the road - that can be fixed with pedestrian lights.	Aug 23, 2012 7:12 AM
34	How about creating an outdoor hot pool? Full year round access- ie- Miette-style feel, overlooking downtown-- might this be a destination experience for Edmontonians and visitors? Unique and fun.	Aug 22, 2012 7:48 AM
35	hand boat launch would be excellent	Aug 22, 2012 7:45 AM
36	Boat launch	Aug 22, 2012 7:29 AM
37	Canoe access to river	Aug 22, 2012 7:21 AM
38	want to be able to cross country ski through here in winter so don't want entire trail cleared of snow for joggers. Share the trails	Aug 21, 2012 11:07 PM
39	Access to the river under the new bridge for canoeists and kayakers would	Aug 21, 2012 8:50 PM

	facilitate more quality use of the river valley.	
40	a hand boat/canoe/kayak launch area	Aug 21, 2012 8:40 PM
41	A skateboard park would be most preferred. With bowls and transitions, as there are none in the central parts of the city (only suburbs).	Aug 21, 2012 10:24 AM
42	A canoe dock is essential	Aug 21, 2012 9:24 AM
43	Downhill Mountain Bike Trails from Saskatchewan drive	Aug 20, 2012 7:55 PM
44	As a wheelchair user I would love to be able to use this park once it is redeveloped and I would like to be able to use the entire park and not just a portion of it.	Aug 20, 2012 2:50 PM
45	Improved connection from scona road area towards downtown. There are several routes for pedestrians near the high level but very few for those coming from mill creek/bonne doone unless you go along a major roadway. A seperate pedestrian bridge would encourage areas with many walkers to walk to downtown for work, etc.	Aug 20, 2012 2:43 PM
46	Water access	Aug 20, 2012 1:20 PM
47	Accessible features to allow all individuals regardless of ability level to enjoy river valley	Aug 20, 2012 12:54 PM
48	As someone who enjoys orienteering, I appreciate having a mix of all things, some areas with a trail network, some areas of more unspoiled forest.	Aug 20, 2012 12:39 PM
49	Parking at the old pool site.	Aug 20, 2012 12:15 PM
50	Accessibility for those using wheelchairs or other mobility aids. I can't stress this enough! I run several outdoor programs for people with disabilities and it's extremely difficult to find parks that are accessible and include fully accessible washrooms that are year round. The interest in outdoor activities by this group is increasing drastically and we need more spaces to participate in. Activities that could be included in this park are hand cycling, adapted x-country skiing, adapted paddling (with an accessible boat launch area), and off road hand cycling (on gravel trails, not single track).	Aug 17, 2012 3:40 PM
51	I have safety concerns about waterfront access at this site.	Aug 17, 2012 3:39 PM
52	protected habitat reserve for birds and animals.	Aug 17, 2012 10:19 AM

11. Feel free to provide any additional feedback or comments on the concept plans.

1	Single track trails are all strong point that should be leveraged further. They have a more natural feel than wide pavement, which is special about Edmonton. Do not pave paradise.	Aug 31, 2012 10:01 PM
2	For the residents who live just above the new devel	Aug 31, 2012 5:26 PM
3	Love the idea of a large mountain bikes skills park. Great for Edmonton to have one like Hinton - great featurea plus tied to trails in the area	Aug 31, 2012 3:11 PM
4	I love the increased bike components, single track skills, pedestrian bridge that is keeping with the current feel of the area. I also feel that it is extremely important to highlight the historical resources of the area and it's former industrial land use along the river at the beginning of the century. Combining the natural environmental reserve and the historical indutrial land use will make this a amazingly unique river valley park.	Aug 31, 2012 2:03 PM
5	I live near the park and love it, visiting at least once a week. It is one of the reasons I chose to buy in the area. Currently it manages to be both peaceful and vibrant. There are enough people using the park it feels fun but it is rarely overcrowded or chaotic the way some parks, such as Hawrelak, are. I fear too much development would change this. More picnic sites might be nice and love the idea of the ethnobotanical plantings among the "ruins". I would definitely attend sessions on edible and medicinal plants of the area. I have never had issues crossing QE Park Road, and I use that entrance frequently. Of the two plans I much prefer the Tranquil Riverfront.	Aug 31, 2012 12:42 PM
6	This seems like the perfect location for Edmonton to provide and much needed skills bike park. and a great opportunity to enhance the single track trails already there and currently being established by the local riding community.	Aug 31, 2012 12:26 PM
7	I strongly support a bike / jump park	Aug 31, 2012 12:19 PM
8	Very much looking forward to the changes here, we love to spend time in this area and I'm thankful for the opportunity to give input. I really don't think a pedestrian overpass is required if there are safe and clearly marked spots to cross QE Park Road. I like the design that puts the bike skills area in the old QE Pool site, so there can be better lookout spots closer to the river.	Aug 31, 2012 11:45 AM
9	Edmonton's river valley boasts the most urban mountain biking single track in Canada, but has not one bike skills park. On behalf of the HUNDREDS of official mountain bike club members, and thousands of others, I fully support the enhancement of our current singletrack network (with major support from the Edmonton Mountain Bike Alliance), and the construction of a bike skills park.	Aug 31, 2012 11:38 AM
10	There is already good access through existing, well maintained trails into the park. I see no need to spend \$ on new trails to access the park, other than using the east of 106 St existing paved road. The proposed pedestrian bridge over QE road would make that new access the best route, while still maintaining the existing natural trails. I do not want to see yet more pavement, nor gravel trails. that is not in character with the park. As an avid hiker and occasional cyclist, I want a natural experience in the city park. Paved and wide gravel trails do not give that experience and also cost a lot of money to build and maintain. Keep the park the way it is, with the exception of the overpass that is badly	Aug 31, 2012 11:00 AM

	needed.,	
11	I like the access improvements to the park itself, however, there needs to be consideration for safer access across Walterdale Rd. to the Kinsmen Pool, and area. I am not an advise bike user of the trail and do not mind them on the trail, and I like the idea of a bike skills area.	Aug 31, 2012 10:10 AM
12	I think a pedestrian overpass is a great idea, as long as it doesn't intrude too much into the park. In the pictures provided it seems like it could be big and bulky, taking up a lot of ground alongside QE road.	Aug 31, 2012 10:05 AM
13	I vote for the tranquil design.. I like it as it is..	Aug 31, 2012 9:32 AM
14	Prefer focus on green space rather than activities like bike skills area. Move the latter to Kinsmen Park. Avoid access to North Saskatchewan River.	Aug 31, 2012 8:18 AM
15	Lewis Cardinal has been involved in our great city for many years. His current work on the future of our city respects the history, the land and the First Peoples. Please allow him to speak on our behalf. I wish the natural area to stay the same. Am slightly dissapointed that they need a new bridge and will infringe on the green space.	Aug 31, 2012 8:13 AM
16	A bike skills area somewhere is a good idea, but not in any secluded out of sight area. If not clearly visible at all times it will become nothing more than a location for graffiti, gangs and drug dealers selling to teen-age kids.	Aug 31, 2012 6:37 AM
17	The photos attached to the varrious questions (ie the bridge) were not viewable on this site, so I was unable to view them. This is a great idea! I just think better paved pathways, more history incorporated -not just the history of the water plant, but history of Edmonton and that area in general. Historic/educational panels along the pathway would be great! with photos!	Aug 30, 2012 9:44 PM
18	The existing access stairs near 104 St are generally kept in a poor state of cleanliness. They are surrounded by garbage, one step is burned right now. All access points and especially this one needs to be open to view with trees cut well back and well lit. I'd prefer that the 104 St stairs be opened up and pathways to it be widened. Otherwise they might as well be taken out and the 105 St stairs be made the main access. I worry that too many accesses means none get used enough to prevent them from becoming a hangout and litter site. This same problem will definitely transfer to an access east of QE Park hill if it is not made really open for all to see.	Aug 30, 2012 8:51 PM
19	Pretty happy with how the park is now. However, the city has been talking about making a mountain bike skills park for 10 years so it would be nice to finally see one. Other cities (and small towns) see the value in them so I can't see why it wouldn't be a good thing especially in a city the size of Edmonton. It has a nice mix of forested and developed areas now. I'd prefer the developed areas don't get any bigger. Other than that, thanks for asking our opinion.	Aug 30, 2012 7:52 PM
20	I would not like to see wider trails at the expense of trees and other current features.	Aug 30, 2012 7:05 PM
21	I think the city should be careful to not break to much new ground or large paths	Aug 30, 2012 6:03 PM

in the park. Try to use what is already there and improve on those trails first. The vegetation/ecosystem is important and should only be impacted if it needs to be. To have the bike skills park in the upper QE park I believe it will be more visible and easier to access. If it is easier to access and more visible, would this not allow for a better sense of security for families with young kids in the bike park?? If it is tucked away out of sight (lower park) then it would only allow for the "less desirables" (kids or adults) to take advantage of the secluded location and potentially become unattractive in the long run. This way it is also a bit closer to the picnic areas where families can enjoy one thing while the kids are in the bike park as opposed to being so far down the hill tucked away. Edmonton is known world wide for its single track mountain bike/running trails. To take these trails away would be a shame. There is world cup race that takes place every year on these trails in this area. It would be sad to see this race moved to a different city if the trails are removed. Racers from around the world come here and comment that it is the best urban course on the circuit!

22	Great mountain bike trails! Keep up the good work. Need more maps of the area and names on the trails though...	Aug 30, 2012 5:00 PM
23	Accessible - all areas must be accessible to Queen E. There is an increased number of hand cycles utilizing our river valley and they need to be able to reach all areas of Edmonton	Aug 30, 2012 4:52 PM
24	I think ecological integrity is important and will become more so. There are already open/crowd friendly parks nearby (Hawrelak). This one should do something different and positive - like the ethnobotanical garden and attention to ecological health. I worry that the bike skills area might prove incompatible, if the bikers stray from their area, so these should be carefully separated (whichever side they go on). One other point - the river access idea could be really dangerous - especially in spring/fall. It's a swift river! No drowned toddlers please!	Aug 30, 2012 4:22 PM
25	As a born and raised Edmontonian, I have always taken pride of the natural parks we have in the middle of the city. I feel anywhere in the River Valley is a place to gather and celebrate with one another.	Aug 30, 2012 3:41 PM
26	Keep the single track! For a large city Edmonton has a great series of trails for single track lovers right in the heart of the city. It is one of the reasons I get outside year round and a feature that makes Edmonton special.	Aug 30, 2012 9:38 AM
27	Bike trails and skills area are essential	Aug 30, 2012 9:20 AM
28	There are already plenty of areas along the river valley with expanded multi-use trails and excellent views of the river. There are however very few areas close to downtown with good runnable single track. As an active person whom greatly enjoys running single track trails as well as mountain biking the river valley I would very much like to see a larger bike play area and more single track trails.	Aug 29, 2012 3:57 PM
29	I don't think closure of the single lane tracks is a good idea. People use them and will continue to use them even if they are closed down.	Aug 29, 2012 12:39 PM
30	Let's have an ACTIVE plan...ie plan B, not a tranquil plan.	Aug 29, 2012 9:07 AM

31	The Vibrant Riverfront plan is much more conducive to promoting a healthy active lifestyle in Edmonton.	Aug 28, 2012 8:16 PM
32	Please do not improve the single track. It is natural and a thrill from runners and mountain bikers.	Aug 28, 2012 6:10 PM
33	Just more separation of bike and pedestrian traffic by having More "bike" trails to accomplish that. Cycling is only going to more popular as a means of transportation and exercise. Lets get with the times and help this along.	Aug 28, 2012 4:15 PM
34	This is awesome, thank you for you time and hard work.	Aug 28, 2012 3:40 PM
35	When we pave our trails, we disconnect from our ecosystem. Furthermore, we weaken our tendons and muscles that keep us strong through natural trail system use. I have three young girls who confidently manoeuvre dirt and roots and rocks. I would expect that level of skill from them. They should be learning to be strong and to embrace nature in its most natural state, which preserves life and beauty.	Aug 28, 2012 2:07 PM
36	over all 2 except the water access. (people drowning not a concern? just saying, sometimes people are stupid) i am not convinced more picnic areas and more viewpoints are needed, as a regular park user i see most users congregate to the big parks such as hawreluk with better vehicle access. i don't often see a lot of people picnicing in the existing area. it would be nice to have washroom and water fountains, lights, maybe a couple benches... so that if you run or bike you have the facility to use. kinsmen is ok IF they are open to dart in and grab water but if you run/bike early morning say, not open... i like the idea of incorporating a bike park and maybe ski / snowshoe area for winter. Sorry but kinsmen XC area is LAME flat open (exposed) loop with no challenge... if you could link it to trails on the mountain bike area that would make it more interesting. (ie how strathcona science park/ rundle/capilano/goldbar all linkable on trail and you can make it a nice big loop to ski or bike) please make it an extension of the natural trail system, improve but don't overdevelop it. I run & bike trail to get away from the city traffic, that is what makes our River valley so great!! make it safe and accessible, but not into a groomed manicured park. thank you!!	Aug 28, 2012 12:37 PM
37	Keep as many single track trails as possible- they mimic the experience of being in the mountains, and are superior to paved/wide trails- a totally different experience.	Aug 28, 2012 11:35 AM
38	I really like the idea of a pedestrian overpass - it will allow a safer transition from one side of the road to the other.	Aug 28, 2012 11:22 AM
39	I think the plan ignores the fact that this park is an island ... with downhill commuting auto traffic making it a challenge to access and enjoy. Make it a great transition space with adequate access to water and shade and benches for resting. We don't need another playground and John Walter covers the history of the river valley. I like the idea of a bike skills area where the pool used to be. It would provide adequate separation from passive park users. While there's always a de facto push for more picnic sites, don't forget the 'single' person(s), who wants to sit and watch the bike traffic go by or read a book.	Aug 28, 2012 10:56 AM
40	I like plan 2 - the more vibrant one. I use the single track trails, plus the paved	Aug 28, 2012 10:43 AM

	walking trails inside that whole section, plus the top trail on Saskatchewan Drive on a weekly basis...all seasons.	
41	The important thing with this proposed new development is that we keep, and even continue to develop the single track for trail runners. There's a huge amount of trail runners in Edmonton and further development in this area would be a smart move for everyone.	Aug 28, 2012 10:26 AM
42	Clean out a lot of the dead trees, have more areas where you can actually see the river, make the old treatment plant into shops, market, coffee/ hot chocolate places, cafes.	Aug 28, 2012 10:11 AM
43	I feel that we need to enhance the feeling of this park as an escape from the city, and allow for a variety of activities that provide a foundation for exercise and recreational activities. Connecting the single track of this park west through the Kinsmen, Emily Murphy and ultimately Hawrelak (and on to Laurier) would really impact this park and the overall user experience with the 'ribbin of green'. I am not certain if this exists, but I would also be interested to see the plan the connects all of the parks. Ribbon of green implies a contiguous experience through the park system - what does this look like? Please feel free to contact me - Matthew Dance, matt@matthewdance.ca	Aug 28, 2012 10:10 AM
44	The idea of the pedestrian path along QE Road isn't a good idea. It poses a danger to the pedestrians bc of the proximity of the path to the roadway. If you want better access for pedestrians into the park then the other options presented (using stairs or existing un-used roads) present a safer option by separating the pedestrians from the roadway entirely. A push-button crosswalk would suffice to get them across the road when needed. With all the open space and possibilities available, placing this pedestrian access along side a road is a poor choice. Invariably, over the life of the road accidents will happen. All in all, I think the updating (not re-development) of this area is a good idea but it needs to be done carefully and with a light touch. The new Walterdale Bridge will bring modernity and interest into this rugged natural space and will serve as the main point of interest. As such, the updates to the QE park area should be subtle with the goal to enhance the nature and parkland - NOT to cover it with concrete paths, overpasses, amphitheatres, and bike skills parks. In Europe, they successfully blend the new with the old by adding modern structures like the new Walterdale bridge in with the natural wilderness - creating a nice juxtaposition. The park is currently enjoyed for picnics, quiet gatherings, cyclists, pedestrians, families who come to watch the Canada Day fireworks. With the large Kinsmen fields across the road to the West, there is no need to create more sporting fields, bike parks, etc. The best idea is to ENHANCE the ways in which the park is ALREADY used by Edmontonians. I understand that the consulting group on this project is from Vancouver. While they have done a great job, they ultimately would have a difficult time completely understanding the community and culture of the Edmonton river valley. This area functions well already - it only needs to be cleaned up, picnic sites updated, a few paths added in the wooded areas to grant users easier access (mostly from the West). Edmontonians DON'T want to use this space as a multi-tiered walkway, viewpoint, bike park, concrete labyrinth. They want to use it as they always have - to run, bike, walk their dogs, picnic - all surrounded by the natural beauty of the ravine system. We want updates to the area that aren't visually glaringly obvious - but rather hidden by the natural beauty of the environment and not the other way around! thanks!	Aug 28, 2012 10:02 AM

emma@clearwatermedia.com		
45	Single unpaved trails are probably the most important feature in terms of enjoyment, and opportunity to enhance the park. I agree strongly with building more single track in all areas of the park. I agree strongly with building more single track in all areas of the park, and with enhancing the more dangerous existing track. By dangerous, I mean the eroding muddy exposed track with steep slopes that becomes treacherous when wet.	Aug 28, 2012 9:41 AM
46	was just at the hinton bike park, and it is amazing. trails that are fun for all skill levels, and something to keep the kids busy.	Aug 28, 2012 9:08 AM
47	I really do not want to see any loss of they single track trails. This 'unofficial' network of trails is part of what makes recreation in the river valley so enjoyable. If anything these trails should be increased and upgraded for safety of the ecology of the area - no expanded to pea gravel or paved trails. We need to protect this asset!	Aug 28, 2012 8:54 AM
48	I want to emphasize the importance of the development and enhancement of single track trails. One of the most disturbing activities City Parks does is to plow single track trails and lay pea-gravel. This is wasteful, dangerous and destructive. As part of the planning process please invest the time to bring in experts on how to build proper single track that is fun and safe for Mtb Bikers, Trail Runners and walkers. The IMBA and local Edmonton Mountain Bike Alliance can assist with this. The reality is Edmonton is 15 years behind other communities like North Vancouver, Canmore and Fernie. Even Hinton does a better job with only volunteer help.	Aug 28, 2012 7:59 AM
49	The plans look great! Great job to all the people involved. Let's hope the city can take this approach with more of their parks.	Aug 28, 2012 7:52 AM
50	Companion access to the river for paddle craft launching on the north shore should also be built up as side walk wide trails to the water from the roads in Rossdale.	Aug 27, 2012 8:22 PM
51	Make the bike park solid!!! Edmonton lacks huge here!!	Aug 25, 2012 2:48 PM
52	I am disappointed with how this Master Plan describes ecology. This plan involves basic costs. We cannot built any trails without degrading habitat: not 3m multi-use trails, and not even single-track trails. Exactly how do we "improve" lookout points? We cut down trees. Result: degrading habitat. These proposals go against City plans for more tree canopy and maintaining biodiversity. City Planners must meet goals of both The Way We Live AND The Way We Green. To top it off, the webpage is dishonest to suggest "Both concept plans include... Improved habitat and ecology". Where is the evidence to support this claim? PS. The last time that the City used "native plants traditionally used by First Nations and early settlers" was at the Fort Edmonton Park Cemetery & Traditional Burial Grounds. It's not working out and Parks staff don't have the training, time, or resources to manage it properly.	Aug 24, 2012 5:19 PM
53	THE EDMONTON 4 WALL HANDBALL ASSOCIATION WOULD PROPOSE A LOCATION [OLD POOL] TO ERECT A 1 WALL AND 3 WALL OUTDOOR ALL WALL HANDBALL COURT THAT COULD BE USED FROM AGES OF 8 TO 80. HANDBALL HAS BECOME A SINGULAR SPORT FOR A LIFE TIME. CLINICS	Aug 24, 2012 12:32 PM

	AND COACHING WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE. SCHOOLS AND CLUBS COULD USE THE FACILITY. RAQUETBALL WOULD BE AVAILABLE, WITH TENNIS WARM UP AS WELL.	
54	If enhanced access to the river for hand launched craft is provided, then storage space for such craft and the clubs (Ceyana Canoe Club, North West Voyageurs, Edmonton Dragon Boat Festival) needs to be included in the park plan. Each of these groups with appropriate storage and access to the river would be able to better provide on river educational and training programs... and thus increase the recreational use of the river for most of the summer... all river users and programmers must recognize that we do lose 3-6 weeks of river access most years due to high water... out of our 20+ weeks of summer each year.	Aug 24, 2012 9:08 AM
55	It seems like you guys are on the right track. The QE park road crossing is sorely needed, either with or without an overpass. Also, I like the idea of river access, an element that is surprisingly limited in the city's park system. Finally, I feel that Kinsmen has sufficient play areas and that QE should focus more on trail, picnic and river use. However, the toboggan hill could be pulled off! Thanks.	Aug 23, 2012 5:07 PM
56	New and improved lookout points are important. QE park will be a destination for walkers, runners and bikers if there are amazing views of downtown and the new bridge. That means that the lookout points must have ample seating and a clear view. That involves removing a few trees that are blocking the view. The key to a good lookout point is the view. If trees are not cut down to show how amazing downtown looks, don't build a look out point. There is way too many lookout points in Edmonton that as you sit down all you see are trees with a little of the river valley poking through. This needs to be reversed.	Aug 23, 2012 3:42 PM
57	I'd really love to see an enhanced WINTER park. A park that really makes for a place to bundle everyone with their skates and toboggans and mittens and take them to. I don't really feel Edmonton has that.	Aug 23, 2012 11:04 AM
58	I strongly support Concept 2- vibrant river front. I feel that keeping the River Valley program site on the bottom part of Queen Elizabeth park is the ideal location for this site. If this location was to move I could see several issues with the move of this site that would also put public or bystanders into significant range of arrows and therefore public safety is at risk.	Aug 23, 2012 9:46 AM
59	Would still like to see concession or at least encouragement and support for food truck area with close access to other features, particularly if open field is approved. Could be used for folk fest like area.	Aug 22, 2012 5:09 PM
60	Looks great. We are very excited!	Aug 22, 2012 7:29 AM
61	An opportunity for hand boat launch from this site would improve the amount of use and off a better entry and exit point for non motorized boats	Aug 21, 2012 8:40 PM
62	Overall I am very satisfied with the park. My only issue would be the "completed" stairs immediately east of QE Park road on Sask Dr (across from 10135 Sask Dr). I live near these stairs and would use the park much more if they were properly completed and allowed safe access to the park. It really is dangerous using that path, as there is a hobo camp there and a very	Aug 21, 2012 6:10 PM

	steep/slippery/muddy slope at the bottom.	
63	More aboriginal features - a must. Otherwise, the area won't be as interesting as everyone thinks it will be.	Aug 21, 2012 2:14 PM
64	Accessibility is key for ALL Edmontonians and tourists to be able to enjoy our beautiful river valleys and parks. Keeping accessibility and involving persons experiencing disability in the planning process can assist with ensuring that the park is suitable and enjoyable for everyone.	Aug 21, 2012 12:35 PM
65	you use the word 'pedestrian' but i'm sure it encompasses bicyclists as well. i find that being a 'pedestrian' in city parks is not a particularly safe and tranquil endeavor. Since the city (yes- a long time ago) has opened up the former dirt walking trails to mtn bikers, walkers and hikers are constantly looking over our shoulders to get out of the way for fast mtn bikers who have little regard for public safety. it's not a pleasant experience to walk in mill creek park anymore. mtn bikers cause erosion to the trails, they widen the trails and they create new trails, disturbing the forest vegetation. the single lane dirt trails are for those slowing down and viewing nature, enjoying trees and birds, unwinding from work etc. mtn bikers are on the dirt trails for fun- its exciting to careen down steep slopes on your bike- i get it- just do it someplace else please- like terwilligar, not mill creek or queen e park	Aug 21, 2012 12:00 PM
66	Touching the water is good, this city also needs more docks, access points for being active on the water. An associated parking area would be necessary then too. I dont mean a dock for motor boat access. they have greater range and enough access points already.	Aug 21, 2012 9:24 AM
67	Since the existing Waterdale bridge is being demolished, would it be possible to incorporate one of the steel arches into the park (perhaps as a repurposed deck for a lookout point)?	Aug 21, 2012 8:46 AM
68	Thank you for the wonderful concepts. There may be a need to consider accessibility. Where do you plan to have vehicle parking? Although the park is meant for biking and pedestrian traffic, will there be additional parking nearby for those that wish to drop in, ie: on the north side of the river, or somewhere near Saskatchewan Drive? Or will there be enhanced bus/public transportation to this site? Consider that tourists may be quite attracted to this feature park.	Aug 20, 2012 10:23 PM
69	Don't be afraid to put real bike park elements in as well as ones that are difficult	Aug 20, 2012 7:55 PM
70	Orienteering is a non-destructive, self propelled, multi-generational activity that could use a pedestrian overpass over the traffic to reach and utilize the SW section of this park.[as we have done for 30 years on the NE side of the road	Aug 20, 2012 3:59 PM
71	I volunteer with my bike club to clean up and maintain single track trails in QE park, and would be very sorry to see the trails closed. I feel they are a valuable part of the park, and do not detract from other uses of the park.	Aug 20, 2012 3:21 PM
72	Again, as long as it's accessible for wheelchair users I am happy. Many of the parks are semi accessible but still difficult to use fully.	Aug 20, 2012 2:50 PM
73	I think this is a good opportunity to add pedestrian access to downtown between	Aug 20, 2012 2:43 PM

	cloverdale and the university. There are currently numerous trails near the high level (and a few near cloverdale) but very few near the mill creek and bonne doone areas. A new pedestrian bridge would be great for daily use and for events such as canada day where viewing on the bridge would be the best area in the city...	
74	Berming and other barriers to separate what is going to become a freeway road on Walterdale Hill, and measures to avoid short cutting and high speed traffic thru the park which occurs now and is a safety issue for pedestrians and a negative impact on the enjoyment of the park setting. There is already excessive speeding along the park roadway. Every effort should be made in the design aspects not enforcement later to limit vehicle access and ensure the park is for what parks are intended for which are for people not cars.	Aug 20, 2012 1:39 PM
75	Please ensure that all additions/changes take into consideration the accessibility needs of persons with all types of disabilities.	Aug 20, 2012 1:34 PM
76	Any thoughts on including a basic plaza for a variety of uses or bookings. Imagine a concert there or wedding.	Aug 20, 2012 1:20 PM
77	All of the concepts for improvement are good. As a nearby resident of the park, I look forward to the results. My family's top priorities are improved safety (especially road crossings to the park and within the park); direct interaction with the river (it is after all, a river city!); and enhanced play space for kids. Thank you for working hard to improve our city!	Aug 20, 2012 1:07 PM
78	great job with the concept plans - ideas for the park are innovative and exciting! Nice to see the natural/relaxing part of the park will be kept - that's the best part of the park - it's generally a peaceful, relaxing place to be. I hope there are plans to improve sightlines/safety at the existing pedestrian road crossing on QE hill. Under/over pass not needed just better signage - ped crossing lights would be good too - esp half way up QE hill to warn cars about people on the road below.	Aug 20, 2012 12:43 PM
79	Build the bike park stop dragging you heels on this one. All the other cities are doing this we are so behind the eight ball.	Aug 20, 2012 12:41 PM
80	Preservation of the First Nation history in the area. Or at least a memorial or monument to tell users of the history of the area.	Aug 20, 2012 12:40 PM
81	Although I like the pedestrian bridge being there, I feel that the look of the current bridge design does not fit with the concept of the park. It looks out of place, too modern and not natural enough.	Aug 20, 2012 12:39 PM
82	For gods sake don't make any part of it an off-leash area. That turns a pleasant, calm park into a dirty, chaotic mess.	Aug 20, 2012 12:39 PM
83	I am concerned that both of the concepts presented involve closing single track trails in different parts of the park. This is arbitrary and unnecessary in order to achieve the goals of either concept and existing single track should be maintained and improved in both	Aug 20, 2012 12:28 PM
84	I am very excited to hear that cycling is a big factor in the re-development plan.	Aug 20, 2012 12:14 PM

	<p>I am also very happy to see an overpass being incorporated into the plan. Right now it is very hard to access the 'Island' where the old Queen Elizabeth pool was. The pedestrian overpass will help open up this park to a variety of users. As a park user and cyclist, I'm excited to hear that the 'ruins' of the old waste water treatment plant will now be turned into a park that can be accessed for many different activities. Right now, no one ever goes in there... It would provide many more areas for residents to 'play' in.</p>	
85	<p>Wish I could've made it to this previous meeting. Accessibility (eg. pedestrian overpass) to connect upper and lower parks sounds fantastic. To have a physical/visual access to the river sounds great to get families out straight from Kinsmen ctr. I am for a bike skills area. I would like to stay in Edmonton as opposed to giving my time to other counties/towns, when Edmonton itself has a great backdrop for such a place. This I feel would provide an area of confidence from beginners to experts to gain skills prior to having an adventure on our trail system, plus would be a benefit to the downtown area, to get people back to the core.</p>	Aug 20, 2012 12:13 PM
86	<p>As a long time lavigne neighborhood resident I will always encourage the city to further make accessible it's beautiful river valley and entice and encourage more of Edmonton's residents to use this gem we have. I lament the movement of the old pool grounds down to kinsman park as its old site redevelopment would have integrated beautifully into to this new vision. My preference is concept 2. I can be reached for further comment at 780.699.7526 (ruwan)</p>	Aug 20, 2012 7:26 AM
87	<p>I like the idea of the treatment plant ruins. Really unique and cool!!!!</p>	Aug 19, 2012 7:22 PM
88	<p>I like the vibrant option the best. We have a lot of natural spaces for a city, and not that we want to ruin those spaces, but I do think with a growing city, we need more spaces that are conducive to getting people active. We all know people need to be significantly more active than they are, and I think we need to design spaces with this in mind. Considering we are a fairly northern city, we need to make it as appealing as possible for people to get out in all weather to participate in activities. I also plan a lot of events and know that event space is at a premium in the city, so more event space is desirable!</p>	Aug 17, 2012 3:40 PM
89	<p>I am pleased by both plans, preferring the vibrancy of option 2. The location of this park presents unique potential to encourage and enhance citizen enjoyment of a central, urban, river valley park. We are so lucky to have this. Not as iconic perhaps, but the idea of plan 2 reminds the role parks can play in bringing people together outdoors for enjoyment. I think Edmonton has a chance to make a statement here, accommodating access to year round outdoor activities and interests. On a grander scale, Millennium Park in Chicago is an excellent example!</p>	Aug 17, 2012 3:39 PM
90	<p>The concept plan has too many new multi use trails, which would be dissecting the existing forest and disturb wildlife that currently takes shelter in this park, especially around the O'Keefe building. Leave some space for wilderness! Don't "enhance" this park to death, it is beautiful as it is now.</p>	Aug 17, 2012 12:40 PM
91	<p>The bikers have destroyed much of the habitat for the birds and animals to raise there young free from human disturbances. We need to fence off areas to protect the wildlife, so the bikes cannot enter certain areas.</p>	Aug 17, 2012 10:19 AM

92 I love the concept of a pedestrian overpass, but I think it should be further up the grade/hill and closer to Saskatchewan drive. I don't think there should be parking at all. It should be a pedestrian park.

Aug 16, 2012 2:20 PM