



HORSESHOE BAY PARK

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE 1 SUMMARY

PREPARED BY PWL PARTNERSHIP
26 JANUARY, 2018

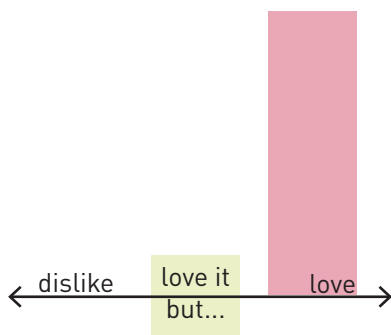


PWL partnership

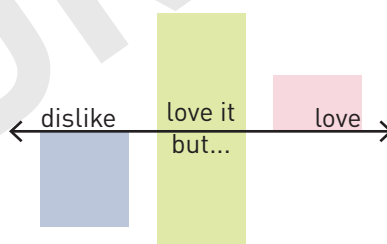

west vancouver

WE ASKED: "WHAT MAKES THIS PLACE GREAT?"

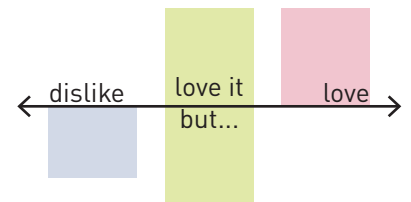
Participants were asked to place a sticker on the aspects of the park that they disliked, liked but needed improvement, and liked in their current state. Participants' feedback is below:



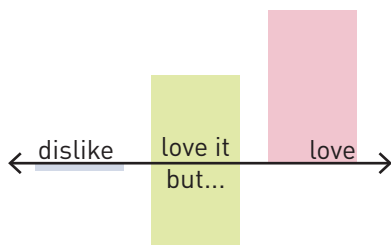
Views of the harbour



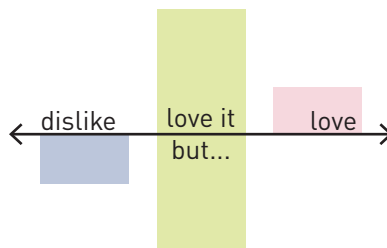
Existing plaza for events and gatherings



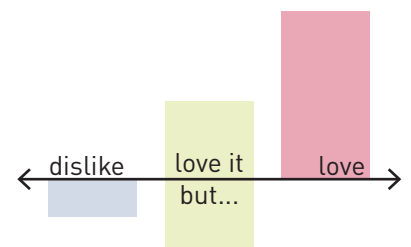
Existing access to the beach



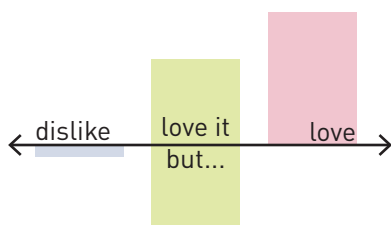
Existing connection to village and retail



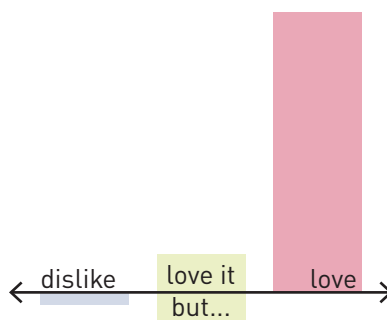
Existing playground



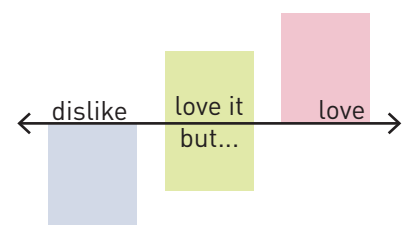
Existing working harbour and marine activities



Existing open, multi-use lawn



Existing mature trees



Propeller water feature

"WHAT MAKES THIS PLACE GREAT?" [Cont'd]

"Washroom - needs re-location or significant upgrade!"

"Don't waste money moving washroom, just upgrade"

"Pier under utilized - has great potential."

"Boat launch great where it is. Why spend the \$?"

"Whale structure"

"Priority should be enhancing village and attracting more interesting retailers/businesses. Park is pretty good."

"Better year-round activities/retail/restaurants for locals. Village itself needs a face-lift. Work on this before park"

"The park is great. It doesn't need a lot of enhancement. Just bring in more activities/events"

"Plaza needs more events"

"Canada Day concert"

"Like the plaza the way it is but it is currently underutilized."

WHAT WE HEARD:

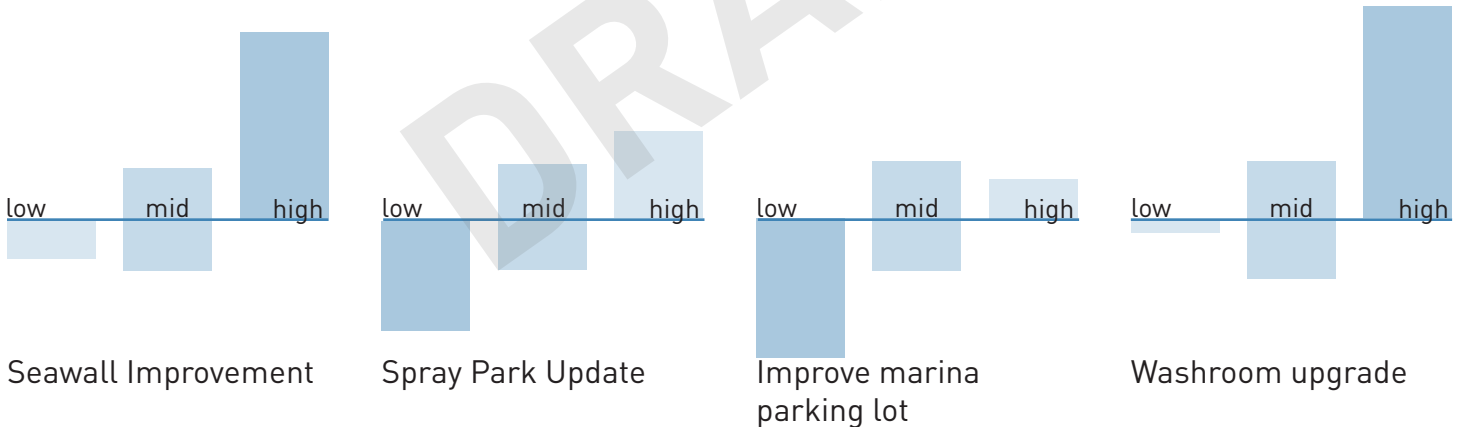
The top three positive aspects of the existing park noted by participants were views of the harbour, working harbour and marine activities, and existing mature trees. Feelings for the multi-use lawn were of lower importance. Responses were mixed for the various park features, such as the existing plaza, playground, and water feature; in general, these items were either disliked by participants or require improvement in their current state.



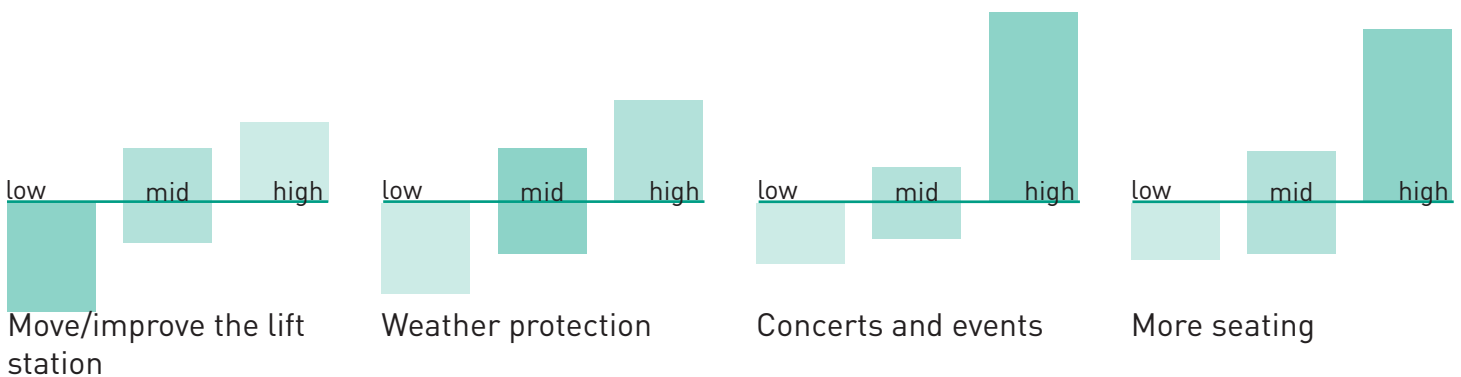
OPPORTUNITIES & PRIORITIES

Participants were asked to place a sticker stating what they thought were the critical priorities for improving, adding, or creating new features of the park. Participants' feedback is below:

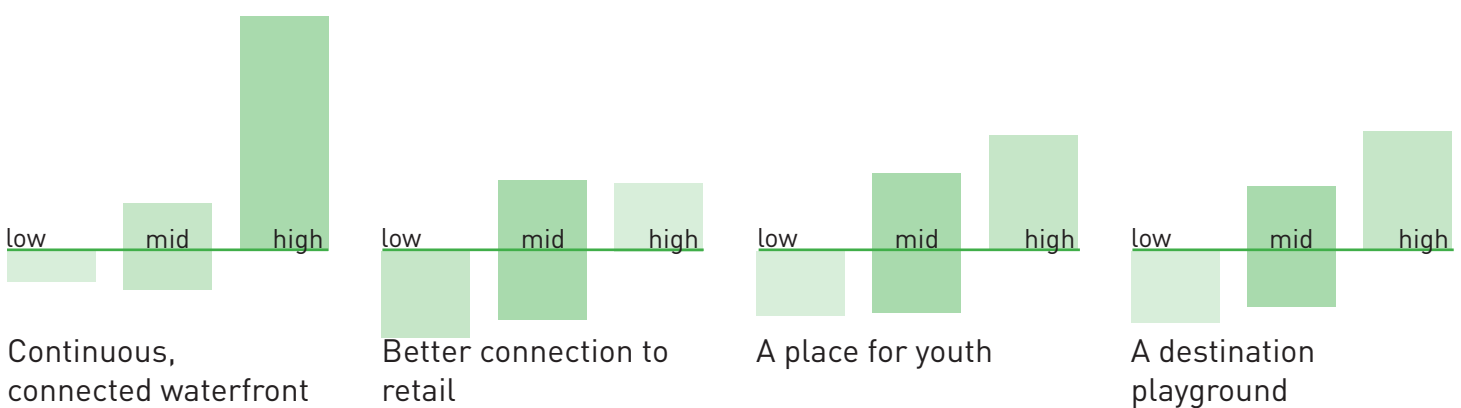
IMPROVE:



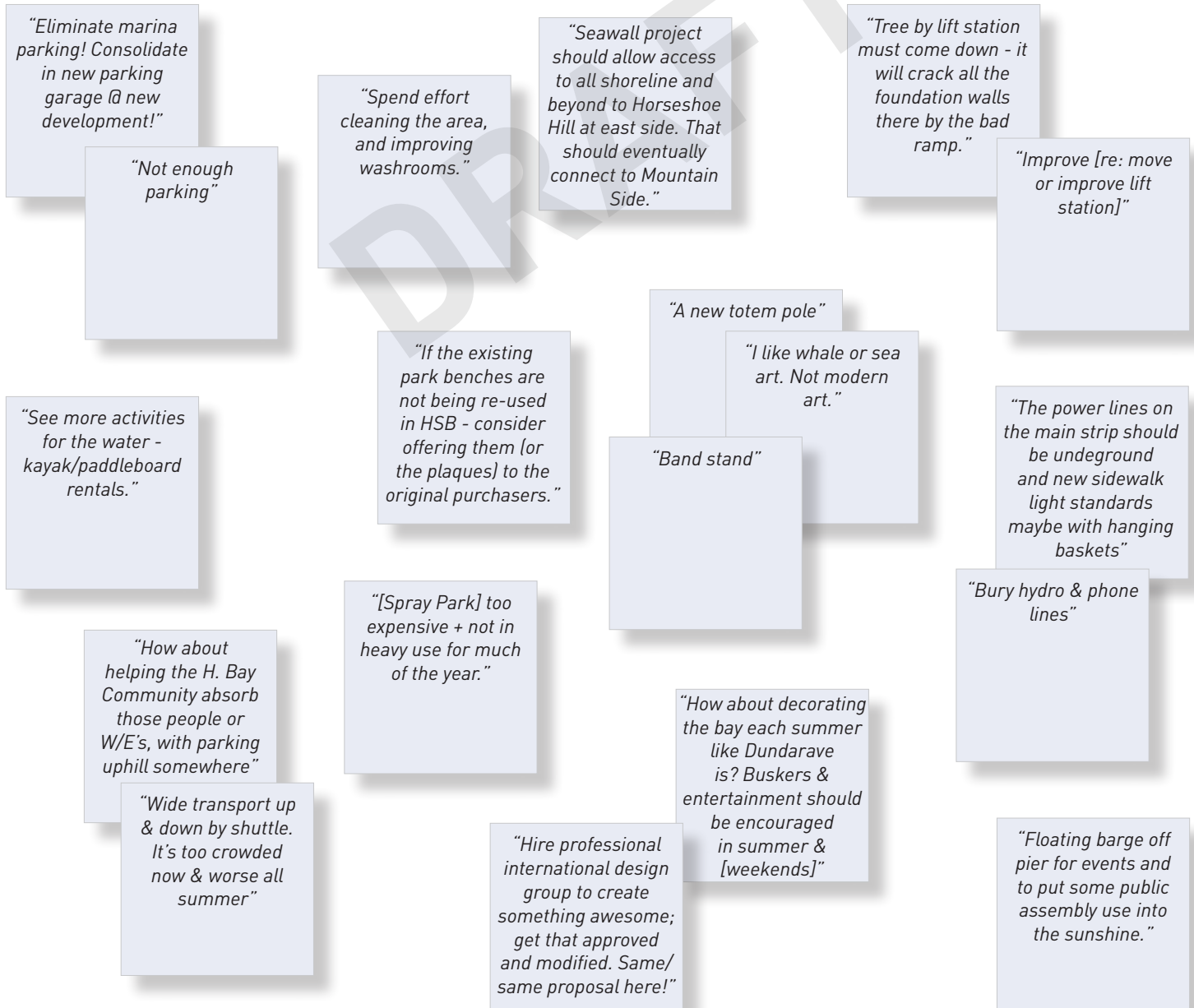
ADD:



CREATE:



OPPORTUNITIES & PRIORITIES [Cont'd]



WHAT WE HEARD:

High priorities for the park include seawall improvement, washroom upgrade, additional concerts and events, more seating, and to create a continuous and connected waterfront. Participants were ambivalent about a spray park upgrade, improvements to the lift station, a better connection to retail, and the creation of a place for youth or destination playground. The lowest priorities noted by participants were improvements to the marina parking lot and the addition of a structure for weather protection within the park.

WE ASKED: “WHAT COULD THE PARK BE?”

Of six themes relating to stakeholder workshops and studies, participants were asked which of these themes most resonated with them. In addition, participants were encouraged to leave their own comments on what they would like to see happen in the park space or how it could be improved.



A local meeting spot for community members to visit daily. A place for special events and celebrations. Bring your family and dogs!



In colder months, this place has a charm all its own, whether it's a winter activity or its calm beauty. At night, the park still bustles with activity. Local businesses and the park support one another.



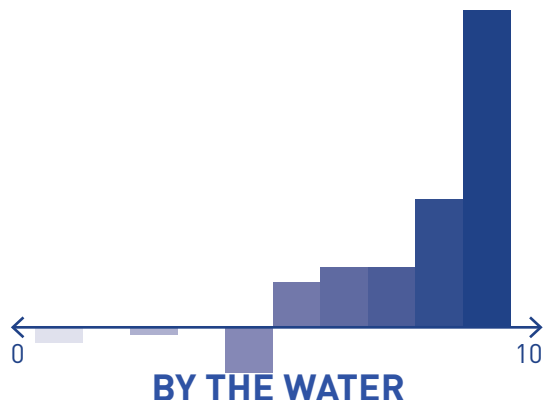
Located at a traveller's hub, this place offers something memorable. With rarely-seen installations, themed events or just its own inherent charm, people visit from all over.



Making the most of the natural setting, the park can facilitate a sense of serenity and refreshment, especially for stressed ferry travellers.



Building a framework upon which natural processes can thrive and be resilient, this park allows visitors to get a glimpse of BC flora, fauna, and marine life.



Located on a beautiful bay, there are many ways the park can be designed to express the ocean. A working waterfront, a marine habitat, a historic harbour village.

WE ASKED: "WHAT COULD THE PARK BE?" [Cont'd]

Of six themes relating to stakeholder workshops and studies, participants were asked which of these themes most resonated with them. In addition, participants were encouraged to leave their own comments on what they would like to see happen in the park space or how it could be improved.

**WHAT WE HEARD:**

Participants responded most positively to the Village Green and By The Water ideas. Very little negative feedback was received to the ideas presented, however, there was generally neutral feedback for Unique Destination and Thriving Ecology. Of the comments received, participants stressed the importance of the harbour remaining a working waterfront.

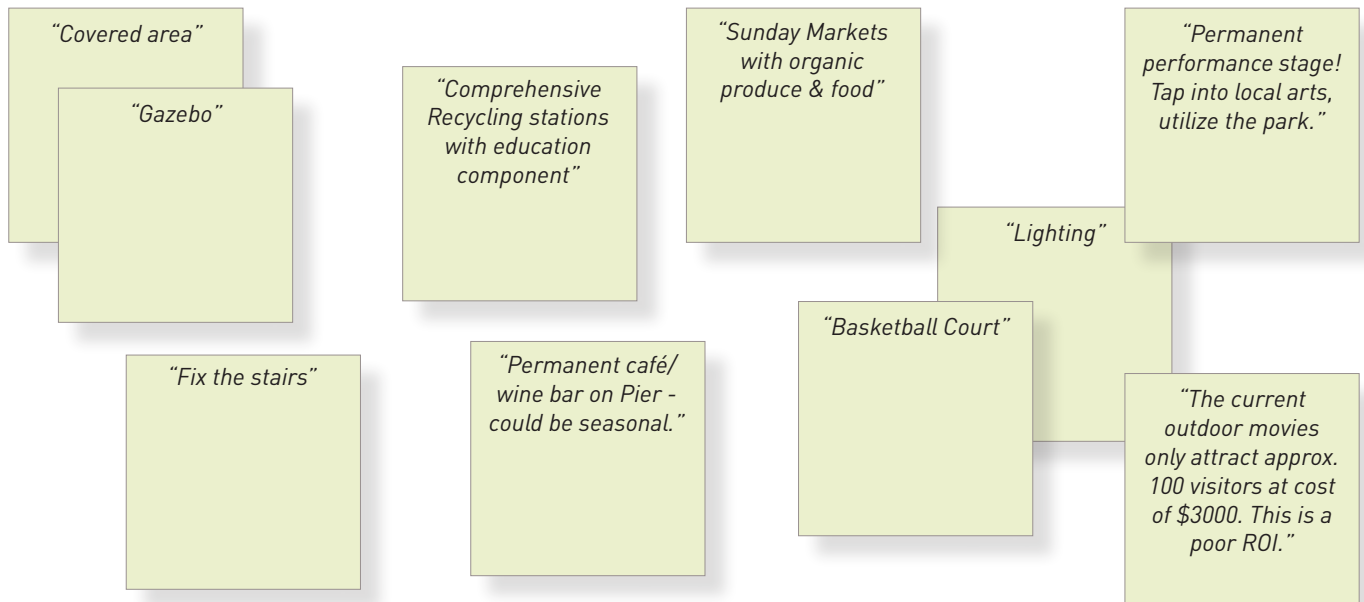
PROGRAMMING

Participants were asked to place a sticker on the three ideas they most wanted to see in Horseshoe Bay Park. In addition, they were encouraged to state their own ideas not listed on the boards.

VILLAGE GREEN

responses:

- 52 Great Lawn
- 49 Space for Dogs
- 46 Pier Events
- 45 Outdoor Markets
- 40 Neighbourhood Playground
- 34 Outdoor Movies/ Floating Theatre
- 26 Picnic area
- 17 Programmed Recreation
- 15 Picnic Shelter
- 6 Other



WHAT WE HEARD:

Participants expressed interest in a space within the park that could host a variety of events. Space for dogs was a contentious item with several comments supporting and against. There is a desire for more programmed spaces in order to enliven the park, including ideas such as a cafe at the pier, weekly market, and performance stage. Although responses were lower, there was still significant feedback supporting smaller programmed recreation spots such as picnic areas or a shelter.

PROGRAMMING [Cont'd]

Participants were asked to place a sticker on the three ideas they most wanted to see in Horseshoe Bay Park. In addition, they were encouraged to state their own ideas not listed on the boards.

RELAX & ENJOY**responses:**

- 53** Sit By The Water's Edge
- 44** Sit or Stroll
- 29** Viewing Platforms
- 26** Shady Tree Spots
- 25** Creative Seating
- 23** Grab a Bite
- 22** Quiet Walks
- 16** Shake Your Sillies Out
- 14** Public Art
- 3** Other



*"Really like this,
we have wonderful
views!"*

*"Picnic tables with
cook station like
Porteau Cove"*

"First Nations Art!"

*"Water park for
kids if no beach
access"*

*"I hope the Lookout
Coffee Shop will
remain."*

*"Walking paths and
maximum views."*

WHAT WE HEARD:

Views and passive recreation at the water's edge were of importance to participants. The greatest variety in written comments and ideas were the methods of interacting with the harbour; whether through viewing platforms or creative seating. Though not particularly stated on this board, several comments and feedback received indicate the desire for waterfront access and the working waterfront to remain.

PROGRAMMING [Cont'd]

Participants were asked to place a sticker on the three ideas they most wanted to see in Horseshoe Bay Park. In addition, they were encouraged to state their own ideas not listed on the boards.

A UNIQUE DESTINATION

responses:

- 52** Access to Water
- 48** Places to Enjoy the View
- 45** Be Out On the Water
- 30** Destination Playground
- 29** Inspired by Local History
- 24** Unique Events
- 18** Water Feature
- 16** Playful Elements & Art
- 16** Creative Lighting
- 10** Unexpected Design Elements
- 9** Iconic Structures
- 1** Other



"Would be great to have outdoor movies in summer"

"Fix propeller water feature"

"Water park"

WHAT WE HEARD:

Participants were strongly in favour of accessing and interacting with the waterfront. There were strong responses to the addition of a destination playground and areas to host events. In general, participants expressed a desire for more programmed spaces rather than specific structures.

PROGRAMMING [Cont'd]

Participants were asked to place a sticker on the three ideas they most wanted to see in Horseshoe Bay Park. In addition, they were encouraged to state their own ideas not listed on the boards.

ACTIVE YEAR-ROUND

responses:

- 60 Summer Farmers' Markets
- 53 Waterfront Events
- 44 Fire Pit
- 33 Holiday Market
- 32 Amphitheatre with Power Supply
- 24 Shelter for Gatherings
- 19 Free WiFi and Charging Spots
- 3 Movable Seating
- 6 Other



"Social spaces for inter-cultural and inter-generational connections, festivals"

"Better access to beach - railings?"

"Who runs this? And where will people park?"

"Pickleball Courts"

"Non-movable seating"

"Seafood sales on the dock"

"Fri. night concerts, etc."

"Fitness circuit"

"Fine as is, a refuge from the hustle and bustle of the park above."

"I do not want to see another Whytecliff Park green over-run with picnics and barbecuers"

WHAT WE HEARD:

Participants expressed enthusiasm for year-round events at the park. From supporting existing events to encouraging new activities for arts and culture, there was a desire for flexible spaces that can accommodate a range of events. There was strong support for a farmer's market and holiday market, as well as an event space and fire pit.

PROGRAMMING [Cont'd]

Participants were asked to place a sticker on the three ideas they most wanted to see in Horseshoe Bay Park. In addition, they were encouraged to state their own ideas not listed on the boards.

THRIVING ECOLOGY

responses:

- 51 Restore Shoreline
- 38 Healthy Trees
- 37 Create & Preserve Habitat
- 33 Opportunities for Natural Play
- 29 Native Planting
- 29 Natural Paths
- 22 Plan for Rising Seas
- 17 Pollinator Plants
- 12 Water Play
- 9 Rain Gardens
- 2 Other



"Signage for ecological education"

"Add more trees!"

"Do not remove trees"

"[Retain] existing trees. 'Healthy' determined by independent arborist, not a tree removal company!"

"Would [be] really nice to see the water! Shoreline restored"

"Preferably no invasive plants at all!"

"Wider sidewalks for [West] Van trucks not to ruin grass"

"Nature paths"

"Cigarette butt recycling"

"Beach should eventually be swimmable like Whytecliff"

"[Subtle] info boards/history etc."

"Bird and bee gardens"

WHAT WE HEARD:

Restoring the shoreline for swimming and maintaining water access were highlighted as important. Participants expressed interest in their natural surroundings and the desire to improve habitat value at the park. Participants also supported the idea of having healthy trees and retaining the existing mature trees in the park.

PROGRAMMING [Cont'd]

Participants were asked to place a sticker on the three ideas they most wanted to see in Horseshoe Bay Park. In addition, they were encouraged to state their own ideas not listed on the boards.

BY THE WATER

responses:

- 46 Working Harbour
- 45 Access to Water
- 36 Floating Elements
- 33 Terraced Access to Water
- 29 Beach Play
- 28 Boardwalks
- 26 Viewing Platforms
- 21 Perched Beach
- 13 Beach Sports
- 2 Other



"Test the water for swimability"

"Permanent performance stage for music and arts"

"[Water access] is important"

"Kayak/paddleboard/sports rentals"

"Access to water like Deep Cove would be excellent"

"Access to walk the waters edge and get feet wet"

"Encourage tidal pools for exploration"

"And ALL the shoreline including through and past Sewell's" (Access)

"Kayak landing beach to complement all the big boat landing facilities."

WHAT WE HEARD:

A strong theme throughout all open house boards were in support of access to the water for a range of activities from passive viewing to swimming or kayaking. Also of importance to many participants is that the waterfront remains a working harbour; part of what makes Horseshoe Bay stand out in the region. Participants expressed the need for improved waterfront access both through infrastructure and the beach itself.

Participants were asked to place a sticker where they thought the best location for various features should be, as well as place their comments for additional ideas on the map. Areas with three or more stickers are highlighted on the map below:



HORSESHOE BAY PARK

[illegible]

WASHROOMS



WATER FEATURE



DOGS ON-LEASH



MARK THE MAP [Cont'd]

Participants were asked to place a sticker where they thought the best location for various features should be, as well as place their comments for additional ideas on the map. Areas with three or more stickers are highlighted on the map below:

HORSESHOE BAY PARK

Mark the map



Participants were asked to place a sticker where they thought the best location for various features should be, as well as place their comments for additional ideas on the map. Areas with three or more stickers are highlighted on the map below:



MARK THE MAP [Cont'd]

Participants were asked to place a sticker where they thought the best location for various features should be, as well as place their comments for additional ideas on the map.



WHAT WE HEARD:

Several of the areas participants located on the map were similar to those of existing park features. The west side of the park was identified as a quiet and more natural area. Water access and lookout were noted in very central locations. An on-leash dog area was preferred at the east side of the park. Washrooms were desired either at their current location or potentially at the southeast edge of the park to interface with the street. An event space, fire pit, and plaza were all located centrally. A shelter structure was noted at various low-traffic areas throughout the site.

YOUTH WORKSHOP

A workshop was held with youth in order to gain their feedback for the park. Participants were asked for their ideas for programming and what types of events or environments would encourage them to use the park. A summary of their feedback is below:



WHAT WE HEARD:

Participants were very enthusiastic about a range of physical activities and expanded event programming in the park. They expressed the desire for a safe and inclusive space where they could go to hang out with friends and family or do homework. The main negative feedback about the current state of the park was that there was little to see or do, and that the park is in a busy and transient location with many tourists.



HORSESHOE BAY PARK: NEXT STEPS



Using the feedback and information gathered from the public engagement process from November, 2017 to January, 2018, the PWL team will develop guiding principles, program, and concept designs for Horseshoe Bay Park.

Additional feedback will develop from further reviews by advisory committees, stakeholder workshops, and a second public information session to develop a vision for the future of the park.