



## Virtual information meeting: Klee Wyck Park Improvements

Thursday, April 21, 7–8:30 p.m.

**Q: Washrooms are a must. Other than the possible gate house, where would they go?**

A: Washrooms could be considered in a suitable location along the northern section of the park close to existing utilities such as sewer, water, and power.

**Q: Is it possible to email a PDF of the plan?**

A: The map will be available on the project page at [westvancouverITE.ca/kleewyck](http://westvancouverITE.ca/kleewyck).

**Q: How much is the overall cost of park improvements?**

A: At this stage, there is no estimate as we are now in the community engagement phase. The results of this engagement phase will inform the principles and key design objectives for the park. From this information, staff will be able to develop preliminary cost estimates for potential improvements.

**Q: What is the size of the lot?**

A: 6.2 acres

**Q: Have you considered how community members can get involved in the property? We have native plant enthusiasts in the community—could they be involved in planting or other activities?**

A: Community gardens are possible and a community organization may be a model for consideration in managing them. A phased plan may include volunteer opportunities such as invasive species removal.

**Q: Who are you expecting to use this park? How many users?**

A: The park is 6.2 acres, which is relatively small. The possible amenities will not attract large amounts of people. It is more of a community park.

**Q: Will there be seating for people to rest while using trails or enjoying the park or community gardens? Will trails be accessible?**

A: There will be seating. Exact locations are to be determined. At this stage, it is considered that primary trails in the park will be asphalt and secondary trails will be compacted gravel.

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**Q: How will Klee Wyck Park connect to the existing trails?**

Klee Wyck Park can connect to the Capilano Pacific Trail in the north end, although the trail is currently closed. The south end of the park has more challenging terrain as it is very steep and there is a large ditch, requiring a bridge. The District does not own the property at the very south end—it is owned by Metro Vancouver and the District of North Vancouver, and there is a right of way to consider. It would be a very nice connection but there are significant engineering challenges.

**Q: Are community gardens already approved?**

A: There was a community organization that approached staff several years ago to express interest in community gardens. Community gardens would fit into the idea of a nursery under Dr. Trapp's agreement. The District held an open house several years ago with many people in attendance, and there was a strong interest in community gardens.

**Q: Washrooms were discussed at Arts Facilities Advisory Committee meetings, and it was said that washrooms are not possible because they would encourage homeless individuals to camp there.**

A: Washrooms are designed following Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design best practices. For example, washrooms would not be hidden away in vegetation but would instead be located in a visible area near the front of the park.

**Q: Will the budget for the park be self-sustaining, as insisted on by descendants of Dr. Trapp?**

A: The District would install amenities, such as community gardens and a picnic shelter, which have low operating costs. The community gardens could be run by a community organization. The picnic shelter would be included in regular park maintenance.

**Q: Will the per user cost be exceptionally high?**

A: Klee Wyck Park is expected to be a low-cost park as the proposed amenities will not be expensive to maintain. A picnic shelter should not require significant maintenance. A washroom is required and would be regularly maintained by the District.

**Q: How many people are interested in the community gardens?**

A: There were many people who attended open houses several years ago and expressed interest in community gardens. This engagement will also gauge interest. There is a waitlist for community gardens at the waterfront, although that would not necessarily indicate interest in Klee Wyck Park as it is a distance from the waterfront.

**Q: Some garden plots were not used well / neglected at the waterfront Ambleside.**

A: Klee Wyck Park may have an operating model which involves a community organization operating and developing rules for the community gardens. This is a community-driven and highly successful model in other municipalities.

**Q: Is there application criteria for the community gardens, such as whether the applicant's home address is a condo vs. single family home?**

A: We have to first determine whether community gardens are wanted and needed in the park. The next consideration is size of the gardens. Then, we can determine the operation model, which could have the gardens operated by the District or a community organization. Application criteria is a future discussion.

**Q: Have you considered uses for children, such as playground infrastructure? There are many young families at Spuraway and a park for children is discussed frequently.**

A: We have heard from the community that they are interested in amenities for children. Staff are looking for feedback now to see what the community would like in the park.

**Q: Would you consider working with the Vancouver Rhododendron Society?**

A: Staff are finalizing a plant inventory in the park. The next step is to identify the varieties of the rhododendrons and we would then be able to determine what could be done with them. Connecting with the Vancouver Rhododendron Society is a great idea.

**Comment:** A descendent of Dr. Trapp encouraged residents to voice their opinions regarding amenities for children, as Dr. Trapp loved children, and informed that the family supports the public engagement to determine what the community would like in the park.

**Q: Could the site be rented for weddings and garden parties? The funds could be used to maintain the park.**

A: Yes, that is a consideration. There would need to be parameters as large parties would not be suitable for this park.

**Q: The parking lot may fill up with people using the Capilano Pacific Trail. How would you ensure there is parking for Klee Wyck Park users?**

A: The District does not have an issue with parking at most community parks. Trail users are most likely to park on the road and walk up to Hugo Ray Park. If the park is designed well, it encourages park users to stay in the park.

**Comment:** A participant suggested an interpretive garden with plants used by Indigenous peoples for medicine, fuel, and food.

**Q: If the gatehouse is kept, would it be possible that a caretaker be responsible for some park maintenance?**

A: Yes, that is a consideration.

**Q: Can nearby condos build their own playgrounds?**

A: Playgrounds can be built on private property, so there is nothing stopping them.

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**Q: Would a high-use arts facility provide more value for taxpayers than a low-use community park?**

A: This engagement is looking at park amenities.

**Q: Can you see this park becoming an encampment for the homeless?**

A: No. Staff will design the park following best principles. Staff work closely with agencies on the North Shore as there is an appropriate way to respectfully approach homeless issues.

**Q: As we have community programs that address food insecurity, would these programs be considered for community gardens?**

A: Yes, that is a consideration.

**Comment:** The area where the greenhouses are would be appropriate for pickleball courts, as the area has no immediate residents and is close to the highway which would mute the sound.

**Q: Was an appraiser brought in to assess the heritage value of the now demolished main house?**

A: Staff brought in Donald Luxton and Associates to assess the heritage value of the gatehouse.

**Q: Will the park remain a relatively quiet place, considering the adjacent high density residential area with many seniors at Woodcroft?**

A: The residential areas are already established. The northern section of the park would be the more active area (community gardens, greenhouses) and the southern section would be more passive (garden rooms, picnic shelter).

**Q: Why wasn't this same level of public engagement held in 2019/2020 when locations of arts facilities were being considered?**

A: The Arts Facilities Advisory Committee's Klee Wyck Subcommittee met on a number of occasions which were open to the public and the minutes were posted. The Arts Facilities Advisory Committee was considering 20 different locations for an arts facility and it was not possible to conduct public engagement on every potential site. Klee Wyck was ruled out quite early.

**Q: Is the history of the property known before Dr. Trapp purchased the property?**

A: Staff have engaged with Squamish Nation. This is an opportunity to recognize the history before colonial times, especially with the name of the site. There will be a document with historical information posted to the project webpage. This will be updated once the heritage assessment is complete.

**Q: Has the District considered a seniors' centre or leasing property to Vancouver Coastal Health?**

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A: The District must follow the agreement for the property and those uses are not part of the agreement.

**Q: How much sun does this park get?**

A: The main grass area and greenhouse areas are quite open and there is a fair amount of sun in those areas.