

**Strathcona**  
REGIONAL DISTRICT



Electoral Area D  
**Parks and Trails Plan**

Draft Plan - June 2026



The Strathcona Regional District respectfully acknowledges that our corporate office and Strathcona Gardens Recreation Complex are located on the traditional unceded territory of the Lig<sup>w</sup>iłda<sup>x̣w</sup> people.

We also recognize that we operate within the traditional, treaty and unceded territories of the Ehattesaht / Chinehkint, Homalco, Ka:'yu:'k't'h' / Che: k'tles7et'h', Klahoose, K'ómoks, Kwiakah, Mowachaht / Muchalaht, Nuchatlaht, Tla'amin, Tlowitsis, We Wai Kai and Wei Wai Kum First Nations.



The development of this Plan was guided by input from Strathcona Regional District Staff.

Thank you to those interested parties, rightsholders, residents, sports groups, and members of the general public who shared their thoughts and ideas through the community engagement process.

## The Consulting Team

LEES  
+  
ASSOCIATES

Megan Turnock, Principal

Leigh Campbell, Senior Planner

Sam Bowerman, Landscape Designer



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# Executive Summary



[Section to be completed in final strategy]

# Introduction



## 1.1 PLANNING AREA

Spanning from Brooks Peninsula to the peaks of the Chilcotin Mountains, the Strathcona Regional District (SRD) is a showcase of the diverse and breathtaking landscapes of North Vancouver Island, the Discovery Islands, and the BC Mainland’s South Coast. The SRD is located within the traditional territory of 12 First Nations.

This plan focuses on Electoral Area D (Oyster River – Buttle Lake). Though Electoral Area D stretches to Buttle Lake and Strathcona Provincial Park in the west, the majority of the area’s residents live in the unincorporated coastal communities of Oyster River, Stories Beach, and Shelter Point. Residents enjoy the area’s rural character, agricultural heritage, uninterrupted stretches of shoreline, and mild climate, all while living a short drive away from the conveniences and employment opportunities of Campbell River. As a regional destination, Electoral Area D is a major draw for beachgoers and those exploring Strathcona Provincial Park, especially during the summer.

Electoral Area D is located within the traditional territory of the Homalco, K’ómoks, Mowachaht/Muchalaht, We Wai Kai, and We Wai Kum First Nations, and the Homalco and Tlowitsis First Nations have reserves within Electoral Area D.

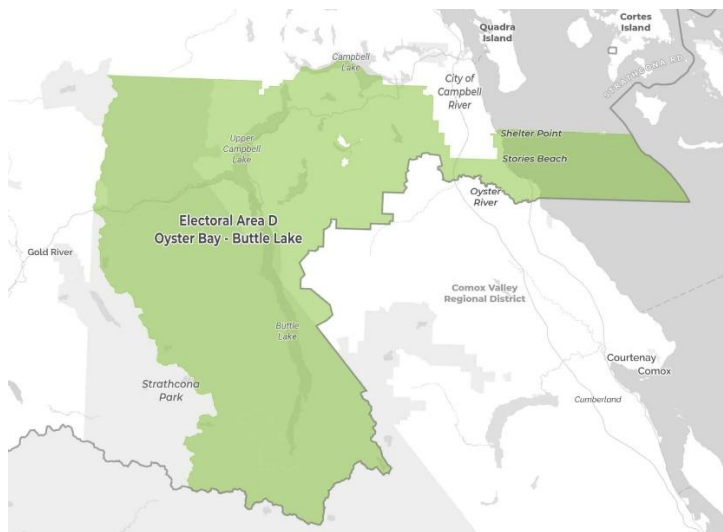


Figure 1 Electoral Area D Context Map

## 1.2 PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The Strathcona Regional District Electoral Area D Parks and Trails Plan builds upon the successes of the SRD, community groups, and other parks and trails providers. The plan outlines key initiatives and projects to address community outdoor recreation needs over the next 10 years. The Parks and Trails Plan also incorporates an Active Transportation Network Plan. Together, these plans will help guide parks and trails in a coordinated, collaborative and cost-effective way.

## 1.3 THE PLANNING PROCESS

The Parks and Trails Plan process involved six phases encompassing two rounds of community involvement. The planning process unfolded as follows:

- **Phase 1 - Start-up, Inventory, and Analysis:** The first phase included background research, reviewing relevant regional strategies and bylaws, and mapping the existing inventory of regional parks and trails.
- **Phase 2 - Community Engagement Round 1:** In the second phase, site visits, SRD staff discussions and community engagement took place. This included meetings with local First Nations, interest-holders workshops, a public in-person open house, a pop-up event, and a public online survey. These sessions introduced the project, gathered input on community values and priorities, and identified park and trail challenges and opportunities.
- **Phase 3 – Draft Active Transportation Network Plan:** This phase involved the development of the draft Active Transportation Network Plan, including the creation of a recommended network map, priority projects, improvement strategies, and active transportation design guidelines. Recommendations developed in this phase were coordinated with work performed for Phase 4 – Draft Parks and Trails Plan, as the two phases occurred simultaneously.
- **Phase 4 - Draft Parks and Trails Plan:** This phase involved the development of the draft Parks and Trails Plan, including information gathered in the first two phases of the project and a draft vision, goals, and recommendations. Recommendations developed in this phase were coordinated with work performed for Phase 3 – Draft Active Transportation Network Plan, as the two phases occurred simultaneously.
- **Phase 5 – Active Transportation Network Plan Engagement Round 2:** The fifth phase featured a second round of community engagement with a focus on the Active Transportation Network Plan. Engagement activities asked the community for feedback on the draft plan, and included an online survey, interest-holder workshops, and a virtual open house.
- **Phase 6 – Final Active Transportation Plan:** The sixth phase involved reviewing the findings from Phase 5 to develop the Final Active Transportation Network Plan. This phase included a presentation to the Regional Board and the development of the ‘shovel-ready’ active transportation project.

### Future Phases

- **Phase 7 – Parks and Trails Plan Engagement Round 2:** The seventh phase featured a second round of community engagement with a focus on the Parks and Trails Plan. Engagement activities asked the community for feedback on the draft plan, and included an online survey, interest-holder workshops, and a virtual open house.

- Phase 8 – Final Parks and Trails Plan: The Final phase involved reviewing the findings from Phase 7 engagement activities to develop the Final Parks and Trails Plan. This phase included a presentation to the Regional Board.



Figure 2 Project timeline

## 1.4 STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The development of a Parks and Trails Plan was identified as a policy in the Official Community Plan – Electoral Area D (2023) and a priority item in the Strathcona Regional District 2025-2029 Financial Plan. The plans and documents that provide strategic guidance for the Plan are summarized below.

### 2023-2027 Strategic Plan (2023)

The Strategic Plan outline the vision, values, and strategic priorities to guide development in the SRD. The Plan’s three focus areas, Community Well-Being, Climate Resiliency, and Good Governance, emphasize the Regional District’s approach, which includes a community-driven approach, supporting community health and affordable living, building relationships with First Nations communities, and adapting to the challenges of a changing climate.

### Official Community Plan – Electoral Area D (2023)

The Official Community Plan (OCP) outlines the vision, values, and planning strategies to guide the future development of Electoral Area D. The OCP outlines 12 objectives for the Electoral Area’s parks and greenways, as well as several policies, including those informing parkland provision and parkland acquisition. The OCP includes considerations for areas of development related to parks and trails, including protecting forests and environmentally sensitive areas, developing spaces for public assembly, supporting reconciliation with First Nations, and managing the impacts of climate change.

### Strathcona Accessibility Plan (2023)

The Strathcona Accessibility Plan outlines the principles and framework guiding the development of future accessibility standards. Some of the framework sections have direct ties to parks, trails, and active transportation, including considerations for transportation, the built environment, procurement, and community health.

### **Regional Recreation Services Feasibility Study (2024)**

The Regional Recreation Services Feasibility Study examined opportunities to provide community recreation services through partnerships and collaboration with other recreation providers in the SRD. The study included a simple inventory of recreation infrastructure, including indoor and outdoor facilities across the regional district. The study also included community engagement to better understand community recreation use patterns, barriers to recreation, and perceived needs.

### **Regional District of Comox-Strathcona Bylaw No. 2027**

This bylaw provides the rules and regulations governing the use, management, improvement, operation, control and use of Regional District Parks. It outlines the types of uses allowed, hours of park operation, locations permitted for equestrian use, and dog off-leash regulations, including the identification of on-leash only areas. The Bylaw also includes an event, permit, and fees policy.



*Mitlenatch Park*

## 1.5 COMMUNITY PROFILE

Demographics are an important consideration in planning parks and trails to balance the community's needs now and in the future. The following demographic analysis is based on the 2021 Census completed by Statistics Canada and the 2022 SRD Electoral Areas Housing Needs Report.

Electoral Area D is home to 4,153 residents (2021), representing about 9% of SRD's population. The Electoral Area has seen population growth of approximately 4% since 2016, marking a slower growth rate than both the SRD as a whole and British Columbia (both at 8%). Projections completed for the 2022 Electoral Areas Housing Needs Report for Electoral Area D indicate a population growth of approximately 11% by 2031.

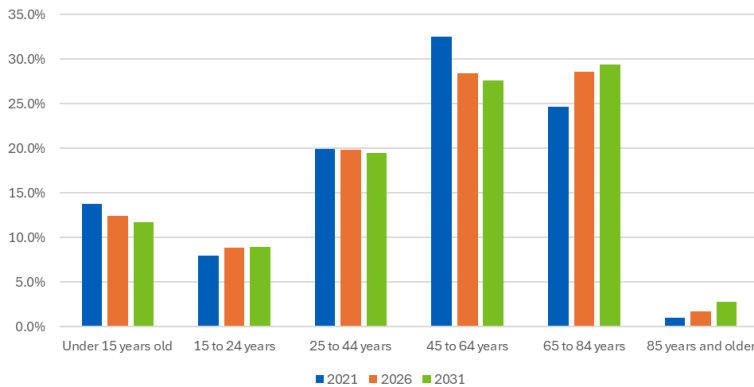


Figure 3 Anticipated population trends in Electoral Area D.<sup>1</sup>

Roughly one in four residents (26%) are 65 years of age or older, a rate similar to the SRD as a whole (27%) but higher than in British Columbia (20%). The proportion of those age 65 and older has grown by 4% in Electoral Area D since 2016. The Electoral Area has a similar proportion of youth aged 14 or younger (13%) to both the SRD (13%) and British Columbia (14%).

Electoral Area D has a smaller working-age population than the provincial average, with a lower labour force participation rate (57%) than British Columbia (63%). Electoral Area D has a higher median household income (\$88,000) than both the SRD (\$75,000) and British Columbia (\$85,000). Electoral Area D has diverse economic drivers, including health care and social assistance, retail trade, agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and construction.

In 2021, 260 residents reported some form of Indigenous identity. With only 4% of residents identifying as visible minorities, Electoral Area D has a less diverse ethnic makeup than British Columbia (34%) but is similar to the SRD as a whole (5%).

<sup>1</sup> Strathcona Regional District Electoral Area D Electoral Areas Housing Needs Report, 2022.

# Current Parks & Trails



## 2.1 SERVICE DELIVERY

The Strathcona Regional District (SRD) operates eight established parks within Electoral Area D and owns four undeveloped parcels designated for park use. The SRD is responsible for developing and maintaining park amenities. SRD parks are managed for different service levels depending on their park use designation. For example, community parks are managed to support recreation amenities like playgrounds and sports fields, while nature parks are managed to balance recreation and conservation goals.

## 2.2 INVESTMENTS IN PARKS AND TRAILS

Parks and trails within Electoral Area D are funded primarily through property tax requisitions, transfers from operating and capital reserves, and other funding sources such as provincial and federal grant programs for capital projects. The average annual investment into parks and trails in Electoral Area D from 2020 to 2024 was \$467,300.

Recent investments include:

- Hagel Park washroom construction (2025)
- Oyster River Natural Park trail repairs, parking lot improvements, riverbank inspection and entrance kiosk refurbishment (2023/2024)
- Storie Creek entrance sign and fencing refurbishments (2024) and bridge replacement (2023)
- Hagel Park and Mitlenatch Playground resurfacing (2023)
- New playground equipment at Mitlenatch Park (2022)

## 2.3 EXISTING PARKS AND TRAILS

### 2.3.1 SRD ELECTORAL AREA D PARKS

#### Hagel Park

Hagel Park is the largest community park in Electoral Area D, located just off the Old Island Highway at York Road. The park features an array of community amenities, including a playground, outdoor exercise equipment, a picnic shelter, a tennis court, and a ball diamond. Hagel Park has a small parking area at the end of Jody Lynne Way and can be accessed from York Road via a short pedestrian trail.

#### Maple Park

Maple Park is established on a former school site and is centrally located in the community of Stories Beach. The park is primarily an open field with a small patch of mature trees, a baseball backstop, a parking area, and a food forest. The park also contains the Maple Park Community Garden, which has 27 garden beds available for community use. Greenways Land Trust manages the community garden.

### **Mitlenatch Park**

Mitlenatch Park is centrally located in the community of Shelter Point. The park features rolling greenspace, a wooded area, and a playground, along with standard park amenities such as picnic tables, garbage receptacles, and a drinking fountain.

### **Oyster River Nature Park**

Oyster River Nature Park is an undeveloped natural area park located along the banks of the Oyster River at Regent Road. The park marks the southern trailhead of the Pub to Pub Trail and contains several walking paths of various levels of formality. The park is prone to seasonal flooding, which renders many of the park's pathways temporarily unnavigable. Walking east beyond the park boundary provides access to the mouth of the Oyster River and a section of shoreline which leads to Salmon Point. The park contains a small complex of Black Creek-Oyster Bay Water System facilities, which is managed by the Comox Valley Regional District.

### **Oyster Bay Shoreline Protection Park**

Oyster Bay Shoreline Protection Park encompasses a breakwater, tidal flat, and a segment of shoreline located roughly three kilometres northwest of Oyster River. Established on the site of a former logging camp, the park is now a regionally significant shoreline protection and conservation area. The park features a few trails, benches, and interpretive signage. The park is located beside a Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT) rest stop, which features parking, public washrooms, interpretive signage, and picnic tables.

### **Oyster River Trails Park**

Oyster River Trails Park is a lot-size greenspace which marks the northern trailhead of the Pub to Pub Trail. Except for a few trails, the park is largely undeveloped, mainly consisting of low-lying coastal wetlands. The park is prone to flooding during the wet season, rendering some of the park's trails impassible.

### **Storie Creek Park**

Storie Creek Parks is a wooded green space located along the banks of Storie Creek and adjacent to Storie Road. The park is largely undeveloped and features a short trail and a pedestrian bridge over the creek.

### **Seawave Park**

Seawave Park is a wooded green space located along the banks of Storie Creek. The park features a short trail and a pedestrian bridge over the creek that connects Leeming Road and Surfside Drive.

## 2.3.2 TRAILS

### Pub to Pub/Salmon Point Trail

The Pub to Pub/Salmon Point Trail connects Oyster River Nature Park to Oyster River Trails Park. The trail follows the shoreline and the banks of the Oyster River. Both trailheads once had nearby pubs, which made the trail an informal pilgrimage for pubgoers. Public parking is limited at the Salmon Point trailhead.



Figure 4 Map of SRD parks, trails, and beach access points in Electoral Area D.

### **2.3.3 KEY COMMUNITY DESTINATIONS**

#### **Ocean Grove Elementary**

Ocean Grove Elementary has an enrollment of roughly 330 students, serving grades from kindergarten to grade 5. The school is located in the north of the Shelter Point Community.

#### **Oyster River Commercial Area**

The commercial area in Oyster River represents Electoral Area D's only concentration of commercial services. Businesses include a grocery store, a liquor store, a pharmacy, a medical clinic, and a café/restaurant.

#### **Beaches and Oceanfront Resorts**

Electoral Area D's beaches and coastline are valued outdoor recreation amenities and a core component of the region's identity. Beaches and ocean access are also central to the area's tourism industry, with Electoral Area D being home to several resorts and accommodations, clustered primarily along the Old Island Highway.

### **2.3.4 OTHER PARKS, TRAILS, AND OUTDOOR RECREATION AMENITIES**

#### **School District 72**

School District 72 (SD72) operates one school in Electoral Area D, Ocean Grove Elementary in Shelter Bay, but also manages Oyster River Elementary, which has been closed since 2016. Both sites have playgrounds, sports courts, and playing fields. Fields and indoor facilities at Ocean Grove Elementary are bookable outside of school hours for public use.

#### **BC Provincial Parks**

Strathcona and Strathcona-Westmin Provincial Parks occupy nearly 56% of Electoral Area D's total land base. The parks feature numerous outdoor recreation amenities, including hiking trails, frontcountry and backcountry camping, rock climbing crags, lakes for swimming, motorized and non-motorized boating, interpretive sites, and day-use areas.

Electoral Area D also includes a portion of Mitlenatch Island Nature Provincial Park, a shorebird reserve only accessible by boat.

#### **Recreation Sites and Trails BC (RSTBC)**

RSTBC manages two recreation sites in Electoral Area D, both located on the shores of Campbell Lake. These include Miller Creek Recreation Site, a drive-in campground and day-use area with a wharf and boat launch, and Long Point Recreation Site, a boat access only campground and beach area.

### **Mosaic Forest Management Campsites**

Mosaic Forest Management operates three campgrounds in Electoral Area D, including Gooseneck Lake, Willington Point, and Wokas Lake campgrounds. Collectively, the campgrounds house 38 sites and all feature lake access and basic amenities. The Wokas Lake Campground has two boat launches and designated boat trailer parking.

### **BC Hydro**

BC Hydro manages the Upper Campbell Reservoir Campground in Electoral Area D. The campground includes 21 campsites, trails, a beach area, and a small boat launch.

### **Campbell River Gun Club**

The Campbell River Gun Club operates four outdoor gun ranges in their complex located roughly 15km west of Campbell River, accessible from Highway 28.

### **Shelter Bay and Stories Beaches**

There are two locations within Electoral D where the Highway right-of-way directly abuts the shoreline, providing beach access. Shelter Bay Beach extends from approximately McGimpsey Road north to Engles Road. There are two gravel pull-outs and an older concrete boat launch in poor condition. Stories Beach extends from approximately Lynnwood Road to Seawave Road. There is an asphalt pull-out parking area, separated from the highway with small jersey barriers. SRD holds a permit with MOTT for a portable toilet near the pull-out.

## **2.3.5 UNDEVELOPED AND/OR UNSANCTIONED TRAILS**

### **Hagel Greenway**

There is an existing undeveloped easement acquired by the SRD for a future trail, connecting Tibbit Road to Neigel Crescent.

### **Waterline Trail and Woods Creek Trails**

The Waterline Trail is an unsanctioned trail on private land west of the community of Shelter Point. The trail has informal connections into Electoral Area D at Leeming Road (by Seawave Park) and at McGimpsey Road. It connects to a variety of other unsanctioned walking and mountain bike trails, often referred to as the Woods Creek Trails, which are predominantly located within the jurisdictional boundary of the City of Campbell River.

### **Oyster River Trail**

There is an unsanctioned trail on private land that starts from the end of Glenmore Road and follows the northern bank of the Oyster River for roughly three kilometres.



Figure 5 Map of outdoor recreation amenities managed by others in Electoral Area D.

## 2.4 BENCHMARKING AND GAP ANALYSIS

Electoral Area D’s provision of parks and trails was compared to that of other electoral areas to measure its relative level of service. The electoral areas selected for comparison have similar populations and geographic contexts to Electoral Area D and are within the nearby Comox Valley, Nanaimo, qathet, and Sunshine Coast Regional Districts.

A summary table of the benchmarking analysis is provided below in Table 1. Compared to similar electoral areas, Electoral Area D has a below-average supply of community parkland. However, this analysis did not include informal recreation amenities such as shorelines and unsanctioned trails, which contribute significantly to Electoral Area D’s outdoor recreation landscape. In addition, the Electoral Area is well supported by provincial parkland and amenities provided by others, such as Recreation Sites and Trails BC, BC Hydro and Mosaic Forest Management campgrounds and boat launches.

	2021 Census Population	Number of Parks	Total Electoral Area Parkland Area (ha)	Electoral Area Parkland per 1,000 residents (ha/1,000)	Provincial Parkland (km <sup>2</sup> )	Provincial Parkland per 1,000 residents (ha/1,000)	Number of RSTBC Sites	Number of RSTBC Sites per 1,000 residents
SRD EA D	4,153	8	22	5.3	1092	262.9	2	0.5
CVRD - EA "C"	9,158	28	566.0	61.8	173	18.9	2	0.2
RDN- EA "H"	4,291	21	54.0	12.6	2.7	0.6	0	0.0
qRD - EA "C"	2,197	2	10.2	4.6	2.8	1.3	22	10.0
SCRD - EA "A"	3,039	44	663.5	218.3	36.9	12.1	1	0.3
SCRD - EA "B"	2,969	19	175.3	59.0	58	19.5	8	2.7
<b>Average Comp. EAs</b>	<b>4,331</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>SRD score</b>	On Par	Below	Below	Below	Above	Above	Below	Below

Table 1 Summary of benchmarking analysis.

For many years, the Canadian standard for the supply of parkland was 4 ha/1,000 population. However, supply standards have been decreasing in part due to increasing densities. In 2005, the BC Parks and Recreation Association (BCRPA) conducted a review of all municipalities in BC and found the average was 2.51 ha/1,000 population. These supply analyses are highly variable, and it can be challenging to make comparisons since the size, context, and quality of parkland differ greatly among communities. Studies have shown active parkland supply figures in BC ranging from 0.6 to 6 ha/1,000 population.

Based on the 2021 population, there are currently 5.3 hectares of parkland per 1,000 residents. With an anticipated population growth to 5,395 in 2031, that amount decreases to 4.1 hectares per 1,000 residents. To maintain the current per-capita parkland provision, the SRD would need to acquire approximately 6.6 hectares of parkland.

## Park Amenities

Benchmarking Electoral Area D’s supply of park amenities, such as playgrounds, rectangular sports fields, and ball diamonds, was challenging because publicly available information from the comparable communities was limited.

Currently, within the Electoral Area, there are two playgrounds; one multi-sport court with lines for tennis, pickleball, and basketball; two rectangular sports fields with ball diamond backstops that are currently not actively maintained for sports use; and one outdoor fitness equipment zone. These facilities are all located in the northern extents of the electoral area. There are no SRD parks with playground or sports field amenities currently serving the Oyster River community.



*Maple Park Community Garden*



# Trends and Benefits of Parks & Trails

## 3.1 BENEFITS OF PARKS AND TRAILS

SRD parks and trails benefit residents of Electoral Area D by providing inexpensive and accessible spaces that promote physical and mental well-being. SRD trails and nature parks offer access to the natural landscapes of Electoral Area D, enabling residents to experience the benefits of being in nature. These parks also support tourism by offering unique experiences and providing access to popular destinations. Electoral Area D's community parks foster community by acting as venues for local events and providing spaces where neighbours can congregate and connect. Parks and trails play a significant role in enhancing the quality of life in the community, making it a more enjoyable place to reside and visit.

## 3.2 TRENDS IN PARKS AND TRAILS

### Reconciliation

There is an increasing imperative to understand the pre-colonial settlement history of British Columbia and to gain greater awareness of Indigenous cultures. Initiatives such as co-management, naming parks and trails in partnership with Indigenous communities, and incorporating Indigenous languages, stories and histories have become leading practices. Engaging with First Nations communities and incorporating their values and needs in parks and trails is an important step that land managers can take toward reconciliation.

### Changing Recreation Landscape

There is an increasing preference for less-structured, more individualized activities that easily fit into varied schedules and changing lifestyles, with more people incorporating wellness into their everyday routines. The COVID-19 pandemic allowed many people to get reacquainted with the joys of recreating outside and has generated persistent demand for parks and trails. Social media is also promoting parks and trail use by drawing attention to destination amenities, encouraging connections between park and trail users with similar interests, and encouraging use through virtual events and challenges.

The popularization of electronic mobility, such as e-bikes and e-scooters, has expanded the use of trails and active transportation infrastructure among new generations of users, increasing demand for these amenities.

### Community Health

Parks and trails offer opportunities for people to improve and maintain their physical and mental well-being through exercise and exposure to nature. Physical activity has numerous benefits, including improving cardiovascular fitness and strength, and can alleviate stress. Recreating outside reduces stress, improves physical health, and promotes social connection, all of which contribute to positive individual and community health outcomes. Community-scale improvements in physical fitness can lead to long-term reductions in healthcare costs.

## Accessibility and Inclusion

Communities are striving to create inclusive and welcoming parks and trails by building with universal design in mind. Accessible park and trail amenities are crucial for supporting people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds, and deliberate attention is being paid to how and where investments in trails and natural spaces are developed, where they are located, and how they are managed.

## Volunteerism

Volunteer groups are being challenged to manage rising operational costs amid increasing park and trail demand. Many volunteers have found their roles have become more complex over time, now including new administrative responsibilities, such as seeking approvals, securing funding, and managing digital resources. Volunteer bases can be strained, with factors such as burnout and aging demographics contributing to this issue.

## Climate Resiliency

Climate change is forcing park managers to adapt both how green spaces are developed and maintained and how they serve their communities. Maintenance considerations include managing plantings and hardscaping to reduce the susceptibility to and impacts of wildfire, using plantings that can withstand a hotter, drier climate, and preparing riparian corridors and shorelines for more intense flooding events. Parks can play a critical role in helping residents stay cool while recreating in warm weather events by providing shade and hydration.



Storie Creek Park

### **Flexible Recreation Amenities**

Changing trends in recreation can rapidly shift demand for certain outdoor recreation amenities. For example, the popularity of pickleball has driven a rapid increase in demand for racquet courts and prompted many municipalities to adopt dedicated strategies. Flexible recreation amenities such as multi-sport courts have become attractive options for communities as they adapt to changing recreation landscapes.

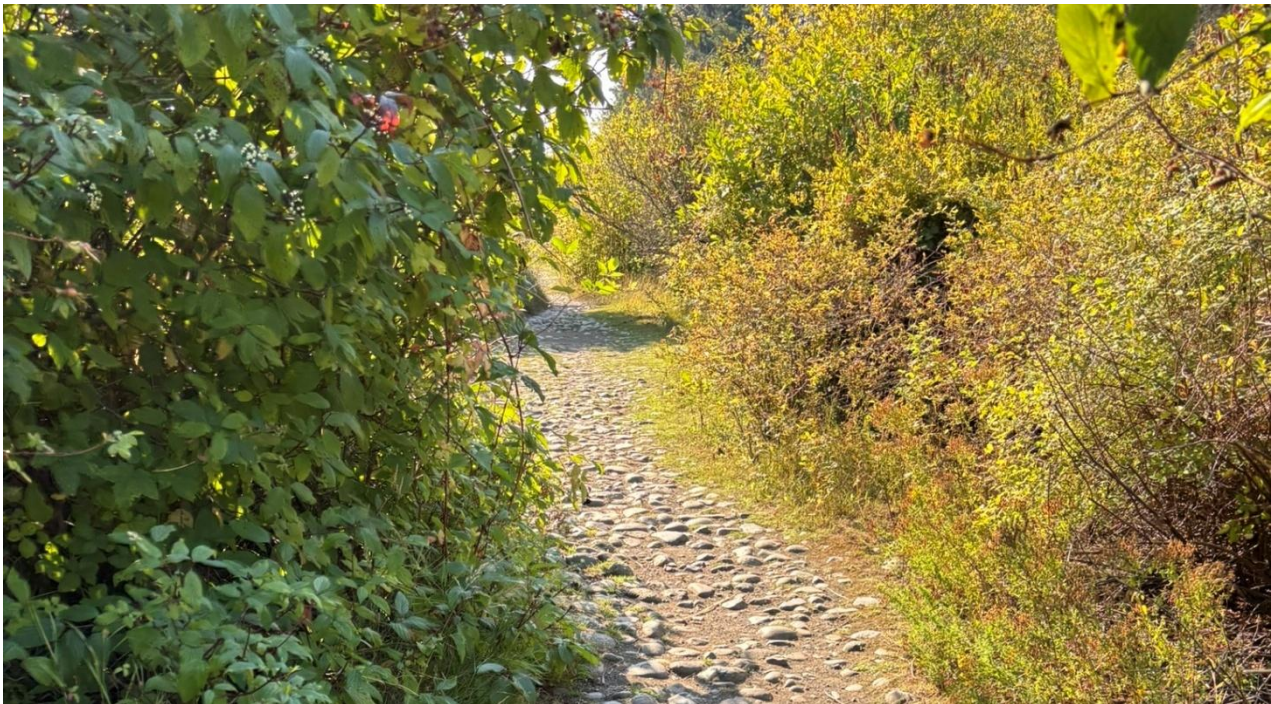
### **Co-location of Recreation Amenities**

The co-location of outdoor recreation amenities creates centralized community destinations, encourages social connections, and contributes to a greater sense of public safety. Locating key amenities in a single space can improve the efficiency of supporting amenities such as parking and washrooms across a park system.

### **Signage and Wayfinding**

Signage and wayfinding are cost-effective ways to make parks and trails safer and more welcoming to inexperienced recreation users. Signage can convey information that may not be intuitive to new users, such as wildlife, sensitive habitats, and best practices.

Signage is also an important opportunity to develop a more in-depth understanding of the ecological, historical, and cultural value of a place among park and trail users. Interpretive signage and self-guided tours can create a more profound and meaningful visitor experience.



*Oyster River Trails Park*

# Engagement



## 4.1 ROUND ONE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The first round of community engagement took place in August-September 2025. The complete engagement summary is in Appendix C.

The purpose of the first round was to find out how people currently use parks and trails in Electoral Area D and to understand the community’s values and vision for the future. This included understanding which parks and trails they use, identifying gaps and opportunities for improvement, and learning what is working well and what is not. The engagement results informed the plan’s vision, goals, and recommendations.

Outreach was done in the two weeks leading up to and during engagement activities. Information about the project’s objectives, schedule, and how to get involved was shared on the project’s web page.

Opportunities to participate were advertised through:

- The SRD’s website;
- Posts on the SRD’s social media;
- Posters at Electoral Area D parks and trailheads and at key community locations; and
- Direct emails to First Nations, community organizations, and other government organizations.

## 4.2 FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT

(Section to be completed following First Nations engagement activities.)



*Community open house during the first round of public engagement*

## 4.3 ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

### ENGAGEMENT ROUND ONE

Round one of community engagement included workshops with community organizations and other levels of government, a public pop-up event, an in-person community open house, and a public online survey.

#### Community and Government Workshops

Workshops were held with representatives from community organizations as well as neighbouring government organizations. Workshops focused on opportunities for improving parks, trails, and active transportation, as well as potential future partnerships.

#### Community Pop-Up Event

A community pop-up event was held at Discovery Foods in Oyster River to raise awareness of the strategy and engagement opportunities and to collect general community input. The event was attended by SRD Staff and a member of the consulting team to answer questions.

#### Community Open House

A community open house was held at the Oyster Bay Resort. The event included introductory information on the strategy and opportunities to provide input on parks, trails, and active transportation in Electoral Area D. SRD Staff and members of the consulting team attended to answer questions and collect input.

#### Online Community Survey

An online community survey was hosted on SurveyMonkey during September 2025. The survey asked participants about how they currently use SRD parks and trails, and how they'd like to see parks, trails, and active transportation improved in the future.

#### Written Input Emails

Some community organizations provided written input to SRD staff and the consulting team in addition to participating in engagement activities.

#### First Nations Engagement

(Section to be completed following First Nations engagement activities.)

### *Engagement by the Numbers*

**22** community open house attendees

**1** community pop-up event

**14** online workshop participants

**180** participants in the online survey

**7** written input emails from individuals and community organizations

## 4.4 WHAT WE HEARD

Key takeaways from the first round of community engagement included:

### Participants Enjoy Electoral Area D Parks and Trails

- Electoral Area D parks and trails are well used, and participants generally expressed satisfaction with the parks and trails they use.

### Accessibility

- There are opportunities to improve the accessibility across SRD parks by improving surfacing, adding accessible amenities, and providing accessibility information.

### Park and Trail Amenities

- Electoral Area D Parks lack outdoor recreation amenities for older children and youth.
- Participants wanted to see more amenities like washrooms, bike racks, shelters, signage, garbage bins, and dog waste bag dispensers in parks and at trailheads.
- There is an opportunity to add more amenities to Maple Park.

### Parkland Acquisition

- After improving trails and connections, acquiring parkland and establishing new parks were seen as the most important priorities in improving Electoral Area D's park and trail network.

### Dogs in Parks and Trails

- Dog walking was the second most popular activity among survey respondents, but sentiment about off-leash dogs in park spaces is mixed.

### Protection of Natural Areas

- Participants appreciate Electoral Area D's abundance of natural areas and wanted to see more done to protect them.

### Formalizing Existing Trails

- Participants voiced concerns about losing informal trails to development and wanted to see unsanctioned networks formalized to maintain public access.

# Vision, Goals, and Recommendations



## 5.1 VISION FOR PARKS AND TRAILS

This vision sets the direction for parks and trails over the next decade and beyond. It reflects the insights gained through community engagement, comprehensive analysis, and collaboration with SRD staff.

*Parks and trails in Electoral Area D support community connections, health, and belonging, while celebrating the area’s natural beauty and rural character. Through proactive management, strong partnerships, and environmental stewardship, Electoral Area D parks and trails provide high-quality outdoor recreation experiences and contribute to climate resilience.*

## 5.2 GOALS

The following goals emerged to support the SRD in achieving the vision for parks and trails. Specific recommendations support each goal.

**Goal 1:** Implement tools to support the management and maintenance of parks and trails.

**Goal 2:** Enhance accessibility and navigation for park and trail users.

**Goal 3:** Expand and enhance parks, trails and outdoor amenities to meet evolving community needs.

**Goal 4:** Improve community connectivity.

**Goal 5:** Protect and enhance the natural environment and improve climate resilience.

**Goal 6:** Foster reconciliation and strengthen community partnerships and volunteer resources.



Hagel Park

## 5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

### **Goal 1: Implement tools to support the management and maintenance of parks and trails.**

#### **Recommendation 1.1: Adopt a new Park Classification System.**

A park classification system categorizes parks by function, anticipated usership, and level of service. Park classifications can help to communicate maintenance standards to contractors and can be adapted to communicate expectations for park service levels to users. The classification system provides management information for each park class, including:

- Primary uses and anticipated catchment
- What types of amenities are suitable
- Inspection and maintenance schedule
- Access and parking considerations
- Catchment

A table describing recommended park classifications is in Appendix B.

#### **Recommendation 1.2: Develop a Trails Classification System.**

A trail classification system can help to create a consistent and cohesive network, help identify gaps, plan new routes, minimize user conflicts, and estimate maintenance requirements. The system should build on existing classification systems, such as those developed by RSTBC, and include both recreational trails and active transportation infrastructure. This system is both a planning tool and a means of communicating trail information to trail users and should be applied to all existing and future trails. A table describing recommended trail classes is in Appendix B.

#### **Recommendation 1.3: Develop an Asset Management Plan.**

An asset management system is a comprehensive inventory of parks, trails, and their supporting amenities that is continually updated to reflect current conditions. A robust asset management system will help the SRD monitor, maintain, and develop its parks and trails, contributing to consistent service levels and operational efficiency.

**Recommendation 1.4: Update the Parks Regulatory Bylaw and other corporate policies.**

The existing Parks Regulation Bylaw covering Electoral Area D pre-exists the split of the Regional District of Comox-Strathcona into the two existing Regional Districts. The SRD should update the bylaw to reflect the status of parks with the regional district, including criteria definitions for park classifications.

Other park management policies that could be updated and/or developed include:

- A memorial bench policy; and
- A policy for the use of shoreline access points.

**Recommendation 1.5: Develop a management plan for Hagel Park.**

Developing a shared vision for Hagel Park will help to guide investment in the space as funding becomes available over time. Improvement projects could include the following:

- Add multi-sport court opportunities by painting lines for two pickleball courts and providing collapsible nets;
- Consider an additional multi-sport court in the future;
- Adding spectator seating near sports courts and the ball diamond
- Consider options for new amenities serving youth and older children, such as a pump track, skate park or climbing boulders, and
- Upgrade and/or expand the parking lot.

The management plan should consider interfaces with adjacent future developments and explore the possibility of park expansion through land dedication.

**Recommendation 1.6: Develop a management plan for Maple Park.**

Developing a shared vision for Maple Park will help to guide investment in the space as funding becomes available over time. Opportunities identified in the OCP, as well as through engagement and analysis for this Parks and Trails Plan, included:

- A community hall;
- Outdoor fitness equipment;
- A playground;
- A running/walking track, and
- Amenities for youth, such as a pump track.

The management plan should consider expanding the park and improving the park’s visibility from Highway 19A by acquiring the property adjacent to the existing parking area.

**Recommendation 1.7: Consider additional resourcing to support parks planning and operations throughout the SRD.**

As the SRD seeks to expand its existing parks and trails service to accommodate the evolving needs of residents and visitors, the Regional District may require additional staff resources. Resourcing considerations should also include the geographic distribution of staff to help optimize staff travel time.

**Goal 2: Enhance accessibility and navigation for park and trail users.**

**Recommendation 2.1: Develop a signage and wayfinding strategy.**

A comprehensive signage and wayfinding strategy can promote safety, prevent user conflict, enhance ease of use, and provide a positive user experience in Electoral Area D parks and trails. A strategy includes developing maps for the park and trail system, trail networks, and individual parks, and then identifying locations and types of signage and wayfinding, such as trailhead kiosks, trail name signage, directional signage, distance markers, trail types and difficulty, and other information, such as regulatory and safety information. Trail markings for notable regional routes that pass through Electoral Area D, such as the Vancouver Island Trail and the Tree to Sea Bikepacking Route, should be included in coordination with the route’s supporting organization.

**Recommendation 2.2: Identify opportunities for and implement interpretive signage in parks and on trails.**

Interpretive signage can be an effective way to educate the public about natural, cultural, and historical features within and around SRD parks, encouraging responsible use of these spaces. Interpretive signage can also teach visitors about the culture and traditional territories of the region’s First Nations, contributing to a greater understanding of the region’s Indigenous identity and providing opportunities for collaboration, per Recommendation 6.1.

**Recommendation 2.3: Provide online accessibility information for SRD parks and trails.**

Providing accessibility information online has become standard practice for parks and recreation managers so that people with accessibility concerns and challenges can “know before they go” and plan appropriately. The SRD should add accessibility information to its park profile pages, including photographs and descriptions of park amenities, accessibility features, and limitations.

This recommendation need not be limited to Electoral Area D and could be expanded to serve the entire Strathcona Regional District through further collaboration with other Electoral Areas and municipalities.

**Recommendation 2.4: Continue to assess and update parks to provide improved accessibility for all ages and abilities.**

Identify opportunities to improve accessibility where feasible and plan for phased implementation of accessible amenities in accordance with universal design standards, such as the BC Parks Universal Design Guide. Accessibility improvements include:

- Providing accessible surfacing in parking areas and adding designated accessible parking stalls;
- Connecting key park amenities with accessible pathways;
- Ensuring toilet facilities are accessible, and
- Ensuring accessible site furnishings are available where provided.

**Recommendation 2.5: Develop designated accessible trail routes within Electoral Area D parks and future trail networks.**

Parks containing trail networks and future trail areas should designate accessible routes to accommodate users of all ages and abilities, where possible, given topography and site conditions. Routes should be clearly marked and should include accessible surfacing and benches placed at regular intervals. Accessible trail routes should be defined as a trail class per Recommendation 1.2.

Opportunities for establishing accessible trail routes include:

- Upgrading surfacing and signage, and adding benches to an existing multi-use trail loop in Oyster River Nature Park;
- Providing additional benches along the walking loop in Hagel Park, and
- Developing a new perimeter trail in Maple Park.



*Hagel Park*

### **Goal 3: Expand and enhance parks, trails and outdoor amenities to meet evolving community needs.**

#### **Recommendation 3.1: Establish park and trail acquisition priorities.**

Acquisition for new parks and trails in Electoral Area D will predominantly be through development. As the SRD gains parkland in Electoral Area D through assignment at subdivision, newly acquired parcels should contribute to broader planning objectives.

Specific priority areas for parkland acquisition based on geographic and amenity service gaps, environmental objectives and public engagement, include:

- Linear parks and trails providing neighbourhood and regional connections;
- Waterfront parks and trails, including those adjacent to the Oyster River;
- The Oyster River trail network; and,
- Riparian corridors along Storie, Stonefly, Caddisfly and Woods creeks, particularly in areas susceptible to flooding risks.

An acquisition strategy can involve developing a cash-in-lieu-of-parkland assignment policy. This would allow the SRD to focus park-acquisition efforts in priority areas if suitable parkland is not available within the given subdivision. As outlined in the OCP, cash-in-lieu parkland purchases should prioritize property that:

- Are identified in the OCP or this master plan as future park and trail priority;
- Are adjacent to existing parks and trails;
- Are currently used by the public for recreational purposes, such as unsanctioned trails, play areas or swimming locations/shoreline accesses and/or,
- Contain significant viewpoints.

There may be future opportunities to acquire land that will be impacted by sea level rise or flooding. These opportunities should be considered carefully and designed with a long-term view to enhance community resilience.



Figure 6 Map of parkland acquisition priority areas.

**Recommendation 3.2: Consider working with MOTT to develop Stories Beach as an SRD park and/or to permit additional improvements.**

Stories Beach is one of Electoral Area D’s most valuable recreation assets. The SRD currently has a permit with MOTT to place a portable washroom at the south end of Stories Beach. The site could be improved to promote accessibility and user experience by formalizing beach access with stairs, an accessible ramp, and additional seating.

**Recommendation 3.3: Work with MOTT to improve the rest stop at Oyster Bay Shoreline Protection Park.**

Opportunities for improvement include:

- Clearly define the parking area and refresh park stall lining and/or wheel stops;
- Add and/or update interpretive elements;
- Improve visibility of regulatory signage;
- Improve enforcement of overnight camping restrictions, and
- Incorporate accessibility upgrades.

**Recommendation 3.4: Prioritize opportunities to further develop MoTT beach access rights-of-way.**

Shoreline access points provide recreational opportunities for residents and visitors throughout Electoral Area D. As many of these points are informal, it is often difficult to determine whether the lands are public or belong to an adjacent property. To inform the public that these areas are open for public use, the SRD has installed signage at 9 shoreline access locations.

The SRD should continue to prioritize opportunities to further develop MoTT beach access rights-of-way. Simple amenities such as seating and surfacing should also be considered to further formalize these sites.

**Recommendation 3.5: Work with neighbouring jurisdictions to monitor boat launch demand in the region.**

Electoral Area D has one boat launch at Salmon Point Marina, which is privately operated. There are also several public and private launches located nearby in Campbell River and the CVRD. The SRD should continue to monitor regional boat launch demand. Should boat launch demand grow in the future, the SRD should consider measures to expand the region's launch capacity, such as developing a public boat launch in Electoral Area D or allocating funding from Electoral Area D to expand public launch capacity in Campbell River.

**Recommendation 3.6: Consider adding permanent accessible washroom facilities in key locations.**

The SRD has constructed one permanent washroom facility in Hagel Park and has portable toilets installed in various other parks. The SRD should assess the resourcing requirements from the Hagel Park washroom and consider additional permanent facilities as park and trail use levels warrant. Accessible washroom facilities could also include pit toilets to reduce installation and maintenance costs. Priority parks for permanent washrooms include:

- Oyster River Nature Park;
- Maple Park, and
- Stories Beach.

**Recommendation 3.7: Add active transportation amenities at Electoral Area D parks, trailheads and beach access points.**

To support active transportation in the region, the SRD should provide bike racks at SRD parks, trailheads, and beach access locations. Public bike repair stands and e-bike charging stations at key destinations along active transportation routes, such as major parks, should also be considered.

**Goal 4: Improve neighbourhood connectivity.**

The Strathcona Regional District Electoral Area D Active Transportation Network Plan (ATNP) was developed in parallel to the Parks and Trails Plan. The ATNP addresses all active transportation projects under consideration in the Electoral Area, many of which are not noted in the Parks and Trails Plan. The following recommendations focus on recreation trails and active transportation routes that require parkland corridor development within the boundaries of Electoral Area D.

**Recommendation 4.1: Develop right-of-way corridors to facilitate active transportation routes.**

To develop active transportation connections between neighbourhoods, several right-of-way corridors will need to be established under SRD parks to support active transportation infrastructure.

Key corridor development priorities, as identified in the Active Transportation Network Plan, include:

- The Hagel Greenway Extension;
- Engles Road ROW;
- Mitlenatch Drive ROW, and
- Searidge Place ROW.

**Recommendation 4.2: Explore opportunities to develop trail connections in riparian corridors.**

Establishing neighbourhood pathways in riparian corridors can provide important east-west connections and passive recreation opportunities in natural areas. Trails should be routed and constructed to minimize environmental impacts. Opportunities include:

- A trail along Stonefly Creek connecting Jody Lynne Way, Neigel Crescent, and Highway 19A
- A trail along Storie Creek connecting Seawave and Storie Creek Parks to Seawave Drive
- A trail along Caddisfly Creek connecting Highway 19A to Mitlenatch and Peak Drives, and beyond to the Waterline Trail

**Recommendation 4.3: Develop written agreements with private landowners to retain public access to trails that cross private land and enable trail maintenance.**

Many of Electoral Area D's most popular trails were established without permission in private forest lands. These trails contribute to the region's supply of outdoor space. The BC Occupiers Liability Act allows private landowners to open their lands for public recreation use, while placing the onus of liability on the recreation user, so long as they do not create danger for recreation users or act with reckless

disregard. Developing written agreements can ensure trails remain accessible to the public, remain legible and enjoyable for users, and protect private landowners legally. The Outdoor Recreation Council of BC's *Best Practices for Developing Public Trails on Private Land* provides a good introduction to the topic and relevant provincial legislation, as well as an agreement template; however, the SRD should engage qualified legal counsel early in the process.

**Recommendation 4.4: Work with private landowners and the Province to formalize the Pub to Pub Trail.**

The Pub to Pub Trail is a popular walking route which connects Oyster River Nature Park to Oyster River Trails Park at the end of Salmon Point Road. The trail is treasured for providing access to the Oyster River Estuary and a quiet section of shoreline, and was established on a mix of SRD, Crown, and private land. Per Recommendation 4.3, develop written agreements to maintain public access on the sections of the Pub to Pub trail that cross private land. Consider working with private landowners to establish easements to allow for a trail and public access. Consider upgrading the trail to a higher design standard to minimize erosion and promote user experience. Once upgraded, regularly inspect the trail and perform maintenance as needed.



Figure 7 Map of the Pub to Pub Trail and adjacent land uses.

**Recommendation 4.5: Work with the Comox Valley Regional District and Right-of-Way owners to connect the One Spot Trail across the Oyster River.**

The One Spot Trail is a regional multi-use trail currently being developed by the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) to connect Courtenay and Campbell River. The SRD should work with the CVRD to establish a crossing over the Oyster River, along with connections to the planned trail and active transportation network. Two suitable crossing locations have been identified by the CVRD roughly 2.5 km downriver from the Highway 19 bridge. In building either crossing option, the SRD will need to conduct additional feasibility studies as well as negotiate public access and development of the right-of-way (ROW) as a trail corridor with the ROW owner.



Figure 8 Potential One Spot Trail crossing locations on the Oyster River.

**Recommendation 4.6: Work with private landowners and the City of Campbell River to develop the Waterline Trail as a non-motorized, multi-use trail.**

The Waterline Trail is a well-used informal trail that connects the communities of Stories Beach and Shelter Point to Campbell River’s core community trail network. The SRD should collaborate with the City of Campbell River and private landowners to formalize and enhance the trail, promoting legibility and a positive user experience. This may include working with private landowners to draft written easement agreements to allow public access, per Recommendation 4.3.

**Goal 5: Protect and enhance the natural environment and improve climate resilience.**

**Recommendation 5.1: Develop an invasive species management strategy.**

Reducing the presence of invasive species contributes to the area’s ecological function and scenic beauty. The SRD should develop a strategy for addressing invasive species in SRD-managed parks and green spaces. The strategy should be developed in coordination with other bodies responsible for invasive species management and local environmental organizations.

The strategy does not need to be limited to Electoral Area D and could be developed to serve the entire Strathcona Regional District through further collaboration with other Electoral Areas and municipalities.

**Recommendation 5.2: Consider community wildfire risk and FireSmart principles in all park management practices.**

Wildland urban interface fires are ranked as one of the highest risks to Vancouver Island residents. The Community Wildfire Protection Plan (2022) outlines risk areas within Electoral Area D. While most of this risk is adjacent to managed forest lands to the west of the developed areas, the SRD can support the Wildfire Protection Plan by considering FireSmart principles in managing trees and landscaping within Electoral Area D Parks. In addition, developing trails with FireSmart in mind may also open additional grant opportunities to support trail construction.

**Recommendation 5.3: Enhance natural buffers against sea level rise and promote Green Shores solutions.**

Electoral Area D beach access points and existing or future waterfront parks and trails should be developed with sea level rise in mind, incorporating nature-based shoreline solutions to provide people with access while protecting sensitive ecosystems and increasing climate resilience. Hard-armouring of shorelines should be avoided; instead, use nature-based solutions if shoreline protection is needed, to the greatest extent possible. The Green Shores program, through the Stewardship Centre for BC, offers a credit and rating system that can help guide shore-friendly development of waterfront parks and trails.

**Goal 6: Foster reconciliation and strengthen community partnerships and volunteer resources.**

**Recommendation 6.1: Build relationships with local First Nations and identify ways to foster and support reconciliation.**

In the spirit of reconciliation, the SRD could work in consultation with local First Nations communities to improve visibility and awareness of Indigenous values and culture. This could be achieved by ensuring protection of important cultural and ecological values, incorporating Indigenous place names, developing interpretive signage, and enabling programming and stewardship opportunities.

**Recommendation 6.2: Continue to expand partnership opportunities with non-profit organizations.**

Partnerships with local non-profit organizations, such as the Greenways Land Trust, help advance common goals that benefit the community more broadly. In addition, when acquiring parkland, consider land acquisition and management partnerships.

**Recommendation 6.3: Develop mechanisms to support and expand volunteerism within parks and trails.**

Volunteers can play a key role in managing, maintaining, and updating parks and trails. Consider mechanisms to support existing volunteers and to grow a volunteer program that assists with aspects such as invasive species management, ecological restoration and trail maintenance.



*Oyster River Shoreline Protection Park*

# Implementation Plan



(Section to be completed in final strategy.)

# Appendices



## APPENDIX A – DEFINITIONS FOR PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

Table 2 Park classification descriptions.

Community Park	
Catchment	Attracts users from across the Electoral area and beyond.
Size	Variable - large enough to accommodate selected recreation amenities.
Amenities and Activities	Outdoor recreation amenities unique to the Electoral Area, unprogrammed areas and amenities to accommodate large gatherings. Washroom and designated parking area recommended.
Siting	Centrally located within the populated region of the Electoral Area.
Proposed Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hagel Park</li> <li>▪ Maple Park</li> </ul>
Neighbourhood Park	
Catchment	Used primarily by local residents
Size	Variable but tend to be small in size (0.5-1ha)
Amenities and Activities	Simple outdoor recreation amenities like playgrounds and site furnishings, unprogrammed spaces to accommodate small gatherings. Street parking is acceptable.
Siting	Centrally located within individual neighbourhoods.
Proposed Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mitlenatch Park</li> </ul>

Community Nature Park	
Catchment	Attracts users from across the Electoral area and beyond.
Size	Variable – large enough to protect ecologically significant features and/or core habitat.
Amenities and Activities	Trails and simple site furnishings. Amenities should not detract from the natural character of the park. Washroom and designated parking area recommended at trailheads.
Siting	Where regionally significant natural areas exist.
Proposed Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Oyster River Nature Park</li> <li>▪ Oyster Bay Shoreline Protection Park</li> <li>▪ Oyster River Trails Park</li> </ul>
Neighbourhood Nature Park	
Catchment	Used primarily by local residents.
Size	Variable but tend to be small in size (<2ha)
Amenities and Activities	Trails and simple site furnishings. Amenities should not detract from the natural character of the park. Street parking is acceptable.
Siting	Where natural areas exist.
Proposed Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Stories Creek Park</li> <li>▪ Seawave Park</li> </ul>

Linear Park	
Catchment	Used by visitors travelling through the space, not a destination unto itself
Size	Narrow corridor of variable length, wide enough to accommodate a trail and basic site furnishings.
Amenities and Activities	Trails may include simple site furnishings.
Siting	Corridors where trail connections are needed.
Proposed Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hagel Greenway</li> </ul>
Undeveloped Parkland	
Catchment	Not intended for visitors. May include reserves for future park development.
Size	Varies.
Amenities and Activities	None.
Siting	Lands designated as parkland that have not been developed or are inaccessible to the public.
Proposed Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hagel Creek Park</li> <li>▪ Rodd Road Park</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX B – DEFINITIONS FOR TRAIL CLASSIFICATIONS

Table 3 Trail classification descriptions.

Asphalt Multi-Use Pathway	
Description	Paved universally accessible paths, implemented on popular and significant neighbourhood connections and connecting amenities in major community parks. Provides active transportation and recreation opportunities.
Users	Walker/runners, cyclists, E-bikes/scooters, skateboards, in-line skate, strollers, wheelchairs, electric mobility devices. Suitable for all ages and abilities.
Surface	Asphalt
Tread Width	3m ideal width (2m minimum)
Gradient	<5% (may exceed 8% over short distances)
Maintenance Requirements	Moderate – clearing or brush, leaf-litter, and debris, occasional crack/pothole filling. Maintenance is a government responsibility
Gravel Multi-Use Pathway	
Description	Gravel universally accessible paths, implemented on major neighbourhood connections and in parks. Provides active transportation and recreation opportunities.
Users	Walker/runners, cyclists, E-bikes, horseback riders and some strollers, wheelchairs, and electric mobility devices. Suitable for all ages and abilities.
Surface	Granular crush
Tread Width	1.8-3 m
Gradient	<5% (may exceed 8% over short distances)
Maintenance Requirements	Moderate to High - Path corridor must be kept clear and surface in good condition. Maintenance is a government responsibility.

Multi-Use Non-Motorized Trail	
Description	Singletrack trail suitable for a variety of non-motorized uses. Provides recreation opportunities primarily.
Users	Hiking/running, cycling, mountain biking, horseback riding
Surface	Granular crush or native soil
Tread Width	<1 m
Gradient	<10% average, 30% max
Maintenance Requirements	Low to Moderate - Trail users expect an uneven or loose tread and a narrow trail corridor. Depending on location, annual brushing, clearing of deadfall, and spot maintenance may be required. Trail organization may contribute to maintenance.
Singletrack Hiking Trails	
Description	Singletrack trail restricted to foot traffic only.
Users	Walking/running/hiking
Surface	Native Soil
Tread Width	0.3-1 m
Gradient	<10% average, 30% max
Maintenance Requirements	Low to Moderate - Trail users expect an uneven or loose tread and a narrow trail corridor. Depending on location, annual brushing, clearing of deadfall, and spot maintenance may be required. Trail organization may contribute to maintenance.

Singletrack Mountain Bike Primary Trails	
Description	Singletrack trails designed for mountain biking, but typically allow for walking/running/hiking. Trails are classified by difficulty. Trails may restrict the direction of travel for mountain bikers. High-speed trails (flow trails) may restrict access to non-mountain bike users.
Users	Mountain bikes, E-mountain bikes, walkers/runners/hikers
Surface	Native Soil
Tread Width	0.3-2 m
Gradient	<10% average, 30% max
Maintenance Requirements	Low to Moderate - Depending on difficulty rating, users expect loose or uneven trail tread and a narrow trail corridor. Depending on location, annual brushing, clearing of deadfall, and spot maintenance may be required. TTFs, if present, should receive an annual inspection. Trail organizations can be expected to contribute to maintenance.
Motorized Vehicle Trails	
Description	Singletrack, doubletrack, or FSRs intended primarily for motorized users. Trails are classified by difficulty. Trails may restrict the direction of travel for vehicles.
Users	ORV, ATV, Dirt Bike, some mountain bikes and walkers/runners/hikers, depending on trail width
Surface	Native Soil
Tread Width	0.5-5 m (depending on motorized vehicle)
Gradient	<10% average, 30% max
Maintenance Requirements	Low to Moderate - Depending on difficulty rating, users expect loose or uneven trail tread and a narrow trail corridor. Depending on location, annual brushing, clearing of deadfall, and spot maintenance may be required. Trail organizations can be expected to contribute to maintenance.

# APPENDIX C– ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY