

City of Colwood

Latoria Creek Park Management Plan

FINAL May 2023





CITY OF COLWOOD
LATORIA CREEK PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN
Prepared by LANARC

We respectfully acknowledge that the park lies within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen (Songhees) and Xwsepsum (Esquimalt) and the shared territories of Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay) and T'Sou-ke (Sooke). It is the City's honour to have the opportunity to build strong working relationships with the people of the First Nations here.





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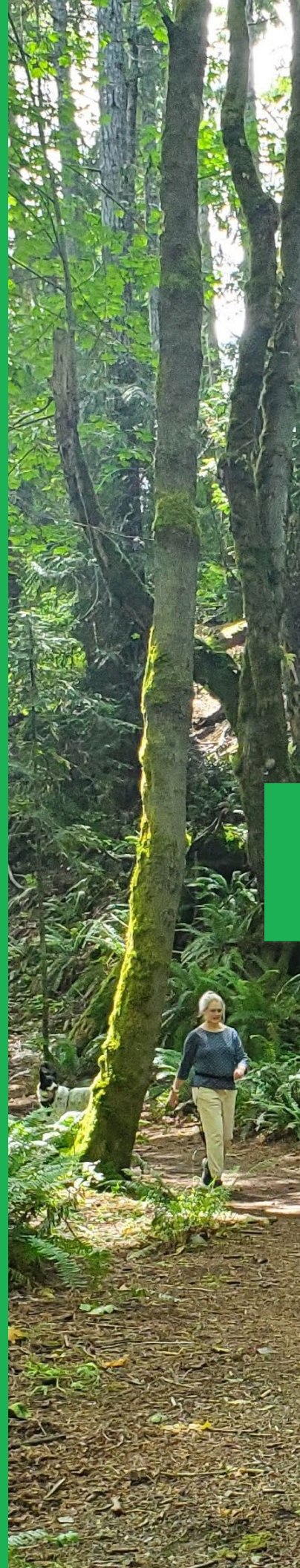
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PART 1



Introduction



This plan works to:

- Analyze the park's existing conditions, facilities, and amenities.
- Understand the context of Latoria Creek Park – historical, ecological, social, and recreational.
- Engage with community members about the future of the park.
- Develop a strong vision statement and set of guiding principles for park improvements.
- Develop recommendations for capital and operational improvements.
- Establish a feasible implementation plan for realizing ecological conservation and appropriate change in Latoria Creek Park.

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

In June 2022, the City of Colwood (the City) initiated a process to create a Park Management Plan (PMP) for Latoria Creek Park. The Latoria Creek PMP process was a recommendation of the City-wide Parks & Recreation Master Plan (PRMP), which was adopted in 2021. The Latoria Creek PMP provides an opportunity to reflect on the values, opportunities, challenges, and sensitivities of the park today, and to explore ideas to create a healthy, safe, and thriving park for the future.

1.2 USING THIS DOCUMENT

This plan should be considered a living document that will evolve as the community changes over time. Recommendations in this plan are intended to be reviewed and adjusted regularly to reflect changing community needs.

The Park Management Plan does not illustrate an exact or final layout for all potential improvements, rather it provides a vision and strategies for planning, assessing, and implementing future changes. This plan sets a framework for positive change. Success will also depend on support and contribution from the City, community, and stakeholders to create and maintain a park that balances conservation and access to nature.

1.3 INDIGENOUS HISTORY

We respectfully acknowledge that the park lies within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen (Songhees) and Xwsepsum (Esquimalt) and the shared territories of Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay) and T'Sou-ke (Sooke). The health and wellness of the lands and waters of the Colwood area, including Latoria Creek Park, benefits from Indigenous knowledge of the local First Nations who have been stewards of this area since time immemorial.

The City of Colwood is committed to exploring opportunities for reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and is dedicated to promoting the representation, visibility, and cultural expression of First Nations throughout Colwood. Reconciliation should take many forms and there is a role for Latoria Creek Park in this work.



**Lekwungen
(Songhees) Nation**



**Xwsepsum
(Esquimalt) Nation**



**Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay)
First Nation**



**T'Sou-ke (Sooke)
First Nation**

1.4 RECENT HISTORY

Key points in the recent history of Latoria Creek Park include:

- pre-2000** – Farming and logging activities are undertaken in the area, leading to modifications of the creek and surrounding environment
- 2003** – Lands surrounding Latoria Creek are identified as park dedication for the Royal Bay development project and a park plan is prepared for the proposed park
- 2007** – Latoria Creek Park is dedicated as City park
- 2012** – Two park bridges are repaired
- 2020** – The four park staircases are upgraded
- 2020** – The Latoria South Sub-Area Plan is developed to amend the Royal Bay Area Plan to guide future development for the neighbourhood between Latoria Creek Park and the Royal Bay neighbourhood. The plan identifies nature park areas to be added to Latoria Creek Park, future trail connections, and park access points to link to the emerging neighbourhood to the park.

1.5 PARK CLASSIFICATION

The City of Colwood's Parks & Recreation Master Plan (PRMP) includes a parks classification system to assist the City in assessment, planning, acquisition, and management of municipal parks.

Latoria Creek Park is classified as a Nature Park, and is the second largest Nature Park within the City's municipal jurisdiction (Havenwood Park is larger, and the Royal Roads Lands are also larger, but are not City lands nor under City management).

Nature Parks are dedicated for community access to nature and can also provide ecological conservation, wildlife habitat protection, watercourse protection, environmental stewardship, management of hazardous areas, and protection of views. Typical elements within a Nature Park include:

- Forested areas
- Riparian areas
- Steep slopes / protected areas
- Wildlife or ecological areas
- Walking trails / staging areas for trails
- Rest areas
- Viewpoints
- Educational / interpretive information
- Benches or informal seating

Latoria Creek Park exemplifies the character and features of a Nature Park, and encompasses all of the above elements.



Latoria Creek Park in the PRMP (C25):

The PRMP identified the following key considerations for further study in Latoria Creek Park:

- Environmental protection, restoration, and enhancements
- Trail upgrades and management
- Connections for the "Beach to Mountain Community Trail Route Network"
- Signage improvements
- Opportunities for Indigenous visibility and cultural expression
- Parking improvements
- Secure bicycle parking
- Picnic area
- Park washroom

1.6 RELATED PLANS AND INITIATIVES

The City of Colwood has developed several plans and initiatives that guide planning for Latoria Creek Park. The key plans below have informed this plan:

- *Latoria South Parks Plan | Royal Bay (2022)*
- *Parks & Recreation Master Plan (2021)*
- *Latoria South Sub-Area Plan (2020)*
- *Land Use Bylaw No. 151, 1989 (2020)*
- *Strategic Plan (2019-2023)*
- *Official Community Plan (2018)*
- *Transportation Master Plan (2015)*
- *Latoria Creek Park Plan (2003)*

This plan is not a consolidation of these documents, but it considers and carries forward key ideas and themes developed in these earlier processes. This park management plan is designed to be used alongside other planning documents. In particular, all future decisions about the park should reflect the policies outlined in the Official Community Plan (OCP) and the Parks & Recreation Master Plan (PRMP). Recommendations developed for Latoria Creek Park should support the PRMP's vision and guiding principles for Colwood's broader park system.

Parks & Recreation Master Plan Vision

Residents enjoy a city that is green by nature and the privilege of a connected network of parks and trails within easy walking distance of home. Colwood's parks, recreation, and natural systems are unique to this place and integral to the community's identity and exceptional quality of life... the diverse amenities and thoughtful distribution of Colwood's parks and recreation empower all ages and abilities to live a healthy lifestyle and provide a legacy for generations to come.

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN GUIDING PRINCIPLES:



Celebrate Our Natural Character



Strengthen Our Connectivity



Protect and Enhance our Environment



Encourage our Community Health and Wellness



Nurture Our Partnerships



Promote Accessibility and Inclusiveness

1.7 THE PLAN PROCESS

The plan was developed through three phases, from June 2022 through spring 2023. Community engagement and feedback were central to the plan process and were incorporated in each phase.

PHASE 1

Gather information, inventory existing conditions, identify opportunities and constraints, gather preliminary ideas from stakeholders and the community.

PHASE 2

Explore and review early ideas for the park management plan. Work with the community to understand likes, dislikes, and priorities.

PHASE 3

Develop, refine, and finalize the recommendations and directions for the Park Management Plan. Refer the draft plan to Council, stakeholders, and the community for feedback.

PARK IDEAS MAP

The ideas map and corresponding list have been generated from community feedback received during the 2021 Parks and Recreation Master Plan (PRMP), early input from stakeholders, partners, and City staff, and technical analysis of opportunities and constraints.

Please take a moment to review the ideas here and provide your feedback!

Do you have other ideas for the park, or further ideas about where certain park amenities or improvements are best suited? Please leave a sticky, complete a survey, or discuss with a City staff member.

Post additional thoughts or comments here!

LEGEND

- PARK BOUNDARY
- EXISTING CREEK
- EXISTING WETLAND
- EXISTING SCENIC VIEWPOINT
- EXISTING BENCH
- EXISTING PICNIC TABLE
- EXISTING BRIDGE
- EXISTING STAIR
- EXISTING PARK ENTRY SIGN
- EXISTING ON-STREET PARKING
- LINK TO FUTURE BEACH TO MOUNTAIN TRAIL
- LINK TO FUTURE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION TRAIL
- FUTURE TRAIL OR LINEAR PARK LINK (PER SOUTH PARKS PLAN)

EARLY IDEAS LIST

PARK TRAILS

- Enhance Primary Trails
- Integrate Key Nature Trails
- Add New Trail Connections
- Define Dog On-Leash Areas (*not shown on map)

CONNECTIVITY

- Review Existing Parking
- Add Bicycle Parking
- Improve Active Transportation Connectivity

WAYFINDING & SIGNAGE

- Improve Park Entry Signage (8a: Main Entry Kiosk Sign, 8b: Secondary Entry Signage)
- Add and Update Trail Marker Signs
- Integrate Consistent Regulatory Signage
- Develop Interpretive Signage

PARK FURNISHINGS

- Upgrade Benches and Existing Picnic Tables
- Add a South Park Picnic Area
- Add Waste Receptacles (*not shown on map at park entrances)

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

- Expand Stewardship and Invasive Species Management (*not shown on map)
- Protect Rocky Outcrops and Meadow Areas
- Protect and Restore Riparian Areas
- Protect and Restore Forested Areas

Want more information about the project? Visit: lets.tal.org

Community ideas posted on a park map at the Eats and Beats event July 30,



Pop-up event on an August evening for Phase 2 engagement

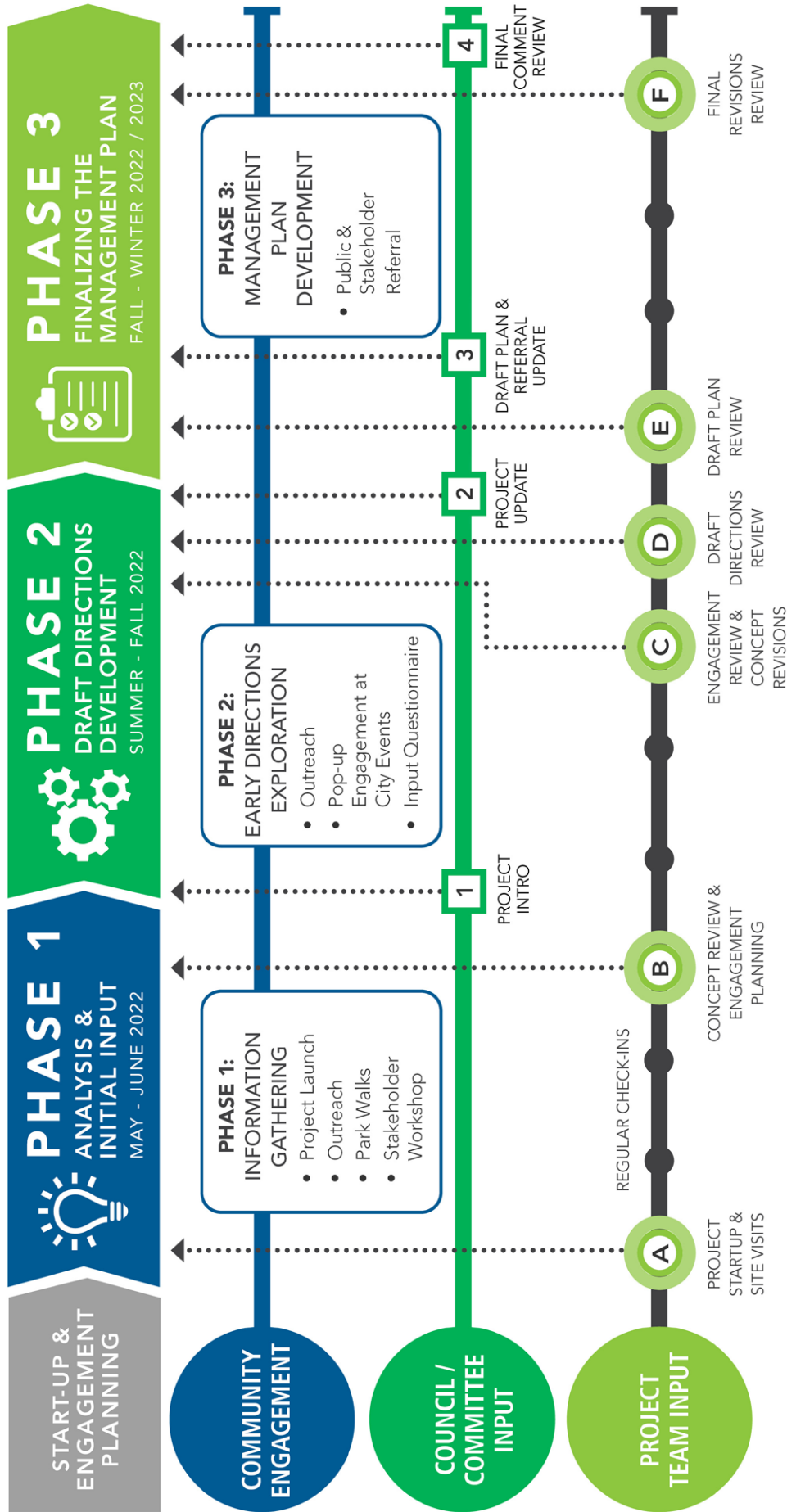


Figure 1: Project Process Diagram

PHASE 1: WHO PARTICIPATED?

40

Direct Stakeholder Referrals

16

Park Walk Attendees

ENGAGING DURING COVID-19

Due to the evolving and unpredictable nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, engagement activities were held outdoors or made available online.

Recognizing the varying levels of community comfort with attending an in-person event, engagement opportunities, input questionnaires, and other information were made available online.

To provide an inclusive process, printed copies of materials and the survey were also available at the public events and at City Hall.

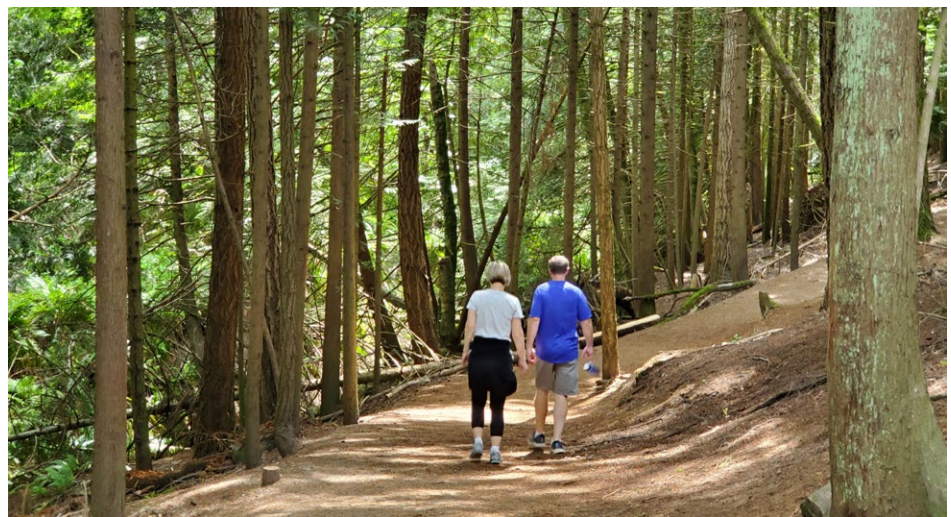


PHASE 1 ANALYSIS & IDEAS EXPLORATION MAY - JUNE 2022

Phase 1 involved an initial inventory and analysis of the existing conditions in Latoria Creek Park. This phase also included gathering initial stakeholder, community, and City of Colwood staff input to understand park opportunities, challenges, and potential improvements. The key themes and ideas generated through Phase 1 informed the early ideas and directions for Phase 2.

Key activities included:

- Background review of existing documents and related plans
- Project kick-off meeting and site tour of Latoria Creek Park
- Inventory and analysis of existing park conditions
- Development of an engagement plan
- Community Park Walk event with City staff and community members
- Launch of a public outreach campaign including project website, posters in the parks, direct stakeholder emails, and e-notifications
- Online stakeholder workshop (June 28th, 2022)



During Phase 1 the City hosted a community park walk to introduce the management plan process and provide an opportunity to share ideas about the park.



PHASE 2

DRAFT DIRECTIONS DEVELOPMENT

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2022

Phase 2 involved development of an early ideas map and list to explore preliminary concept options for the park management plan. Community feedback on the draft directions helped to prioritize recommendations, understand items that were well-supported, and identify areas for further improvement.

Key activities included:

- Development of an *Early Ideas Map & List*
- A project team working session to review early ideas
- Development of draft directions materials including a concept plan
- Updates to the Engagement Plan for Phase 2
- An outreach campaign including project website, posters in the park, postcards, direct stakeholder emails, and social media posts (City Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram)
- Development and launch of a community feedback form (online and hard-copy)
- Three in-person pop-up park engagement events:
 - » Friday, July 15th at Meadow Green Park (music in the park night)
 - » Saturday, July 30th at Eats & Beats (waterfront)
 - » Friday, August 26th at Meadow Green Park (music in the park night)
- Development of the *Latoria Creek Park Engagement Summary Report* and update presentation to Council

PHASE 2: WHO PARTICIPATED?

+179

Visits to the project website

61

Survey participants

~200

Attended the pop-up events through the summer



To raise community awareness of the process, signs were posted in Latoria Creek Park.

PHASE 3: WHO PARTICIPATED?

313

Visits to the project
website

28

Community comments
received
plus detailed comments from
the key stakeholders

40

Direct stakeholder referrals



PHASE 3

FINALIZING THE PLAN

FALL / WINTER 2022-2023

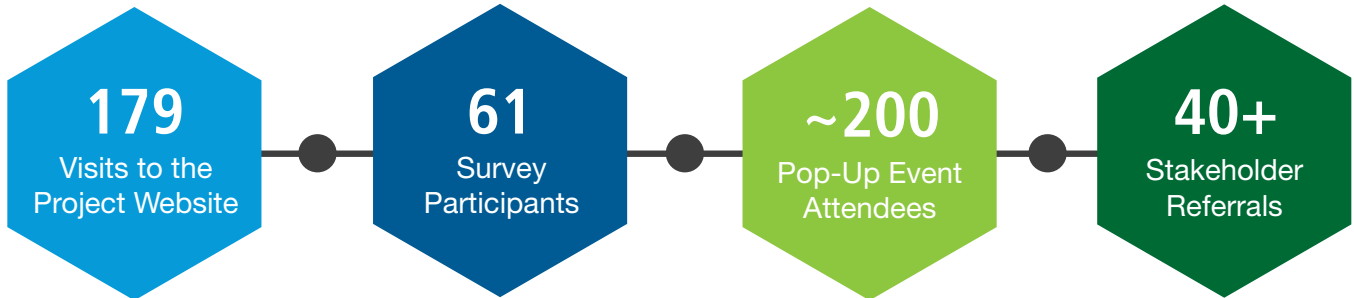
Phase 3 involved developing, refining, and finalizing the recommendations and directions for the Park Management Plan. Community members were invited to review a Draft Park Management Plan and provide feedback for revising and finalizing the document.

Key initiatives included:

- Development of the *Draft Latoria Creek Park Management Plan*
- Review by City staff
- Council presentation of the *Draft Latoria Creek Park Management Plan*
- Community and stakeholder referrals of the *Draft Latoria Creek Park Management Plan*
- Recommended plan updates summary following community and Council input
- Final refinements and submission of the *Latoria Creek Park Management Plan (May 2023)*

1.8 WHAT WE HEARD

The project engagement process generated a range of input and ideas that inform the future of Latoria Creek Park. A brief summary of the feedback themes and key points is provided below:



➤ SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS:

PARTICIPANTS SUPPORT:

- Preserving the park's forested areas, riparian areas, and natural character
- Maintaining and expanding the existing park trail network
- Integrating new trail connections to Royal Bay and the Beach to Mountain Trail network



PARTICIPANTS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT:

- Degradation of sensitive park ecosystem areas, including riparian areas
- Increased demand on the park due to surrounding developments
- Managing invasive species within the park
- Balancing and managing dog off-leash and on-leash areas



PARTICIPANTS HAD MIXED OPINIONS ABOUT:

Integrating new amenities in the park:

- » Many respondents were supportive of adding new amenities and improvements including upgraded park entry signs, benches, trail upgrades, washrooms, drinking fountains, and new trail connections.
- » Several respondents preferred to limit changes to the park to preserve the park's existing natural character and habitat areas.



TOP IDEA PRIORITIES

Participants' top 3 priorities for improvements to Latoria Creek Park include:

- 1 Protecting and Restoring Forested Areas
- 2 Protecting and Restoring Riparian and Environmental Areas
- 3 Adding New Trail Connections





PART 2

Latoria Creek Park Today

Royal Bay Development & the Latoria South Parks Plan:

In 2014, the **Royal Bay Area Plan** was adopted.



In 2020, a **Latoria South Sub-Area Plan (SAP)** refined the development plans specific to the Latoria South portion of Royal Bay that shares its west border with Latoria Creek Park.

In 2022, the **Royal Bay Parks Plan for the Latoria South Neighbourhood** was developed to look specifically at the parks future parks for the area.

Key directions related to Latoria Park include:

- Plans for three new pedestrian trails to connect the future neighbourhood with existing Latoria Creek Park trails, including routing that supports the planned Beach to Mountain Trail Route Network (per the PRMP)
- Plans to add approximately 1.2 ha of land to Latoria Creek Park's eastern boundary to support ecological enhancement and access
- Plans to build of a new wood viewing platform at a high point along the new trails looking towards the ocean and Mount Baker

LEGEND

-  PARKING AREA (MAIN PARK ENTRY)
-  SECONDARY PARK ENTRY
-  PARK FEATURE
-  PARK TRAIL
-  CYCLE / PEDESTRIAN CONNECTION (EXISTING)
-  CYCLE / PEDESTRIAN CONNECTION (FUTURE)
-  PRIORITY CYCLE / PEDESTRIAN CROSSING (FUTURE)

2.1 PARK LOCATION AND OVERVIEW

Latoria Creek Park is a 9.3 hectare (23 acre) parcel of land located in south Colwood. The park runs along approximately 1km of Latoria Creek South between the Latoria and Royal Bay Neighbourhoods.

Three park expansion areas were recently proposed and adopted as part of the Latoria South Parks Plan, adding roughly 1 ha (2.5 acres) of parkland on the east side of the park (see Figure 2 and read inset left).

The park is characterized by a range of natural features including:

- Complex topography including moderate to steep slopes;
- Riparian areas along the Latoria Creek South ravine;
- Mixed second growth coniferous and deciduous forest; and
- Bedrock outcrops that host sensitive meadow ecosystems.

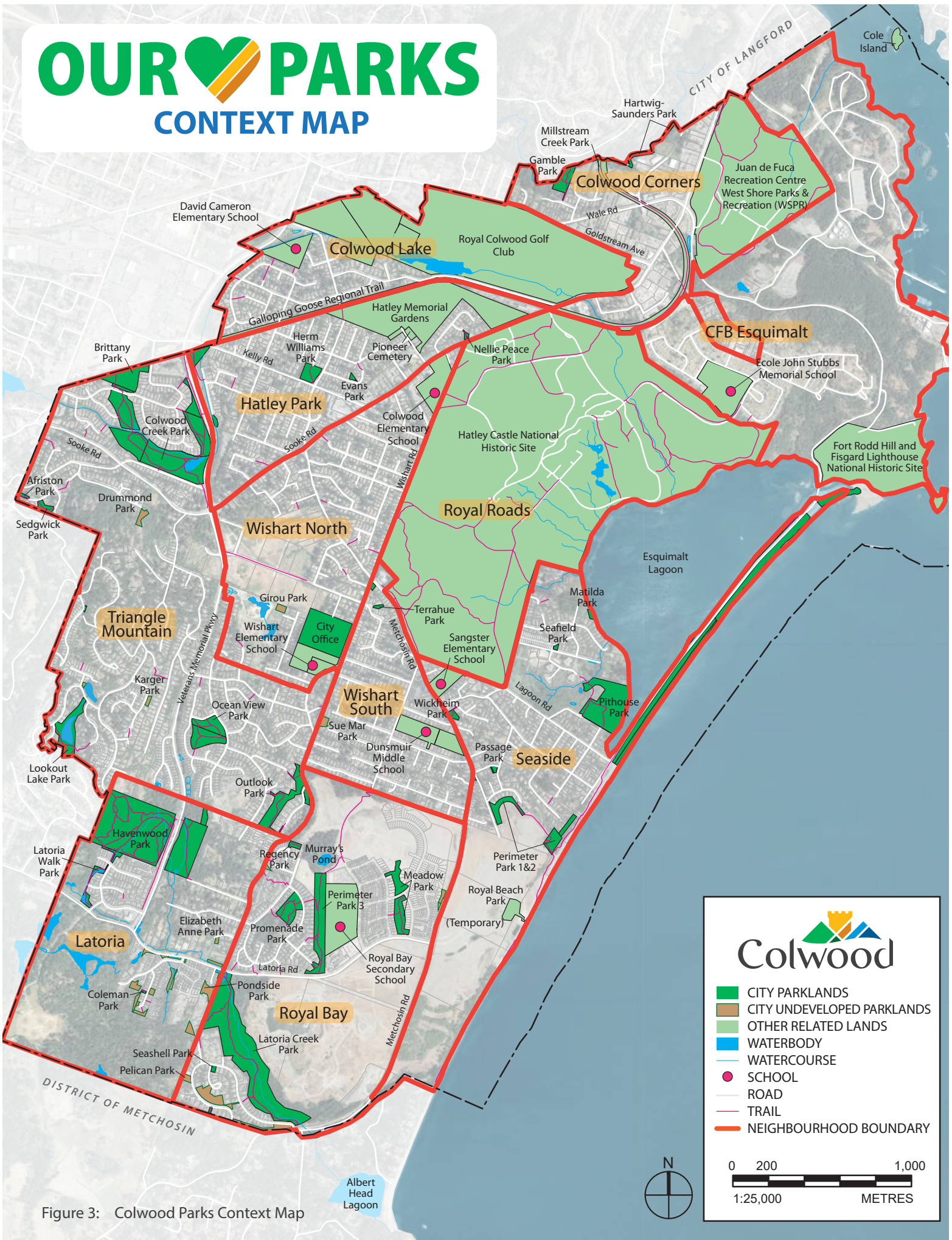

GENERAL LOCATION MAP:



Figure 2: Latoria Creek Park Context & Connections
(Adapted from Parks & Recreation Master Plan, 2021)

OUR PARKS

CONTEXT MAP

Colwood

- CITY PARKLANDS
- CITY UNDEVELOPED PARKLANDS
- OTHER RELATED LANDS
- WATERBODY
- WATERCOURSE
- SCHOOL
- ROAD
- TRAIL
- NEIGHBOURHOOD BOUNDARY

0 200 1,000
1:25,000 METRES



Figure 3: Colwood Parks Context Map



Existing Park: Maintaining the nature park focus is a priority for the future of Latoria Creek Park. Features and amenities should celebrate the park's natural character and preserve existing habitat areas.



Neighbourhood Context: Along the eastern park boundary are the Royal Bay Latoria South lands which are in development.



Existing Park: Main south park entry from Pelican Drive (off Metchosin Road).

2.2 NEIGHBOURHOOD CONTEXT

Latoria Creek Park is located on the western edge of the Royal Bay development lands within the Latoria South neighbourhood and along the southern boundary of the City of Colwood. Land uses directly bordering or in close proximity to the park include comprehensive (multi-family) development zones, single-family residential, and agricultural lands.

The developing Latoria South neighbourhood, formerly the Royal Bay Quarry, is envisioned as a vibrant and complete seaside village, which is expected to support over 7,000 residents. The Latoria South neighbourhood is part of the overall Royal Beach and Royal Bay area which is planned to support ~15,000 residents. As the largest park area and nature park in the Royal Bay area, use of Latoria Creek Park is expected to increase significantly in the coming years. With the Royal Bay development occurring on former quarry lands that are completely cleared, it will take time to establish mature trees and vegetation within neighbourhood parks. This emphasizes Latoria Creek Park's role as an established nature area for accessing green space, walking, and picnicking.

2.3 PARK USE

A limited range of recreational activities are suitable for Nature Parks. The primary uses within Latoria Creek Park include walking, dog-walking, and jogging on trails; nature appreciation (e.g. bird watching, wildlife viewing, nature photography); and outdoor education (e.g. class tours, approved stewardship activities). Trail conditions range from wide, packed gravel, well-marked routes to informal nature trails. Planning is needed to maintain and improve the park's trail network and natural areas to manage increased visitor use.

2.4 PARK ACCESS

The main park entry and parking areas are along Latoria Road on the northern park boundary and Pelican Drive (near Metchosin Road) on the southern boundary. The park can also be accessed via Propeller Place and Pelican Drive along the western side of the park. While the park currently has no access from the east, three future access points are planned as part of the planned Royal Bay Latoria South development. See Figure 4 for access locations.



The growing Latoria South area of the Royal Bay neighbourhood sits on the doorstep of Latoria Creek Park. Managing the impacts of increasing visitation and successfully integrating park improvements from the new development are essential to support a resilient future for Latoria Creek Park.

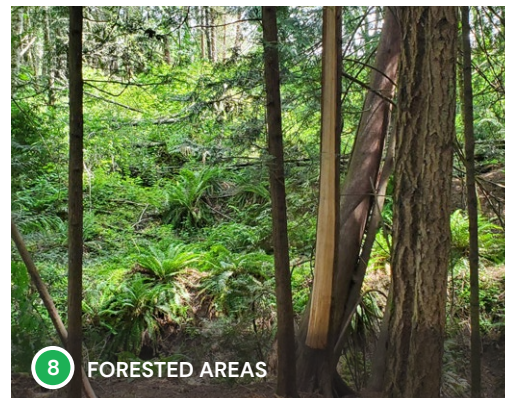
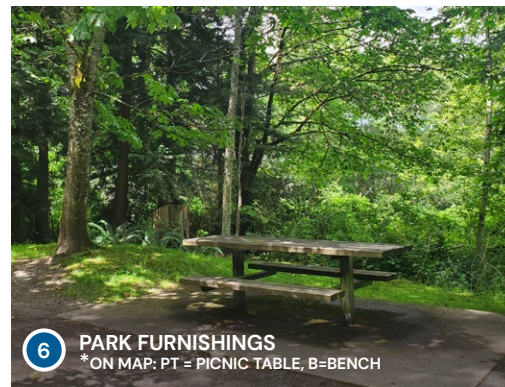
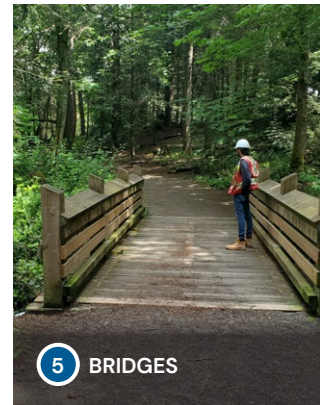
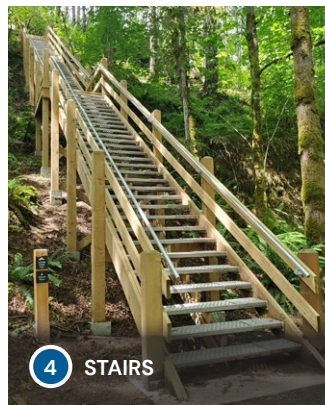
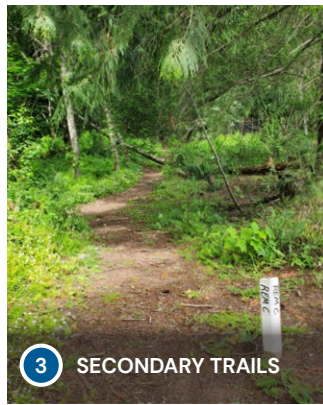
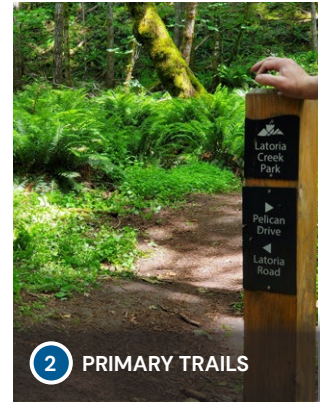
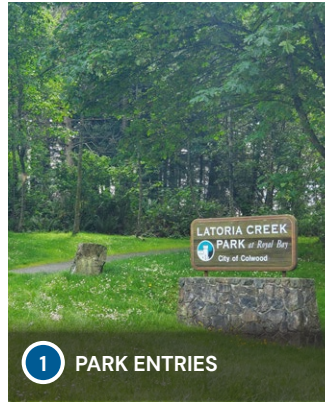
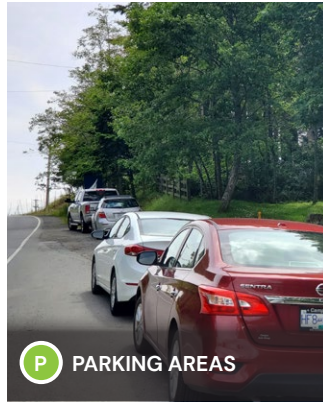
2.5 EXISTING PARK FEATURES

The map below and descriptions on the following pages outline Latoria Creek Park's key existing features. The numbers on the map below correspond with the adjacent photos and the following descriptions.



Figure 4: Existing Features

EXISTING PARK FEATURES



EXISTING PARK FEATURES DESCRIPTIONS



Shoulder parking along Latoria Rd

P Parking

- Shoulder parking along Latoria Road (~8 stalls)
- Street parking along Pelican Drive (~8 stalls)
- Street parking along Propeller Place (~6-8 stalls)
- Parking at Citadel Place (2 stalls)



Latoria Road park entry



Pelican Drive park entry



Propeller Place entry



Pelican Drive entry (midblock)



Pondsides Terrace entry



Citadel Place entry

1 Park Entries

■ Main Park Entries:

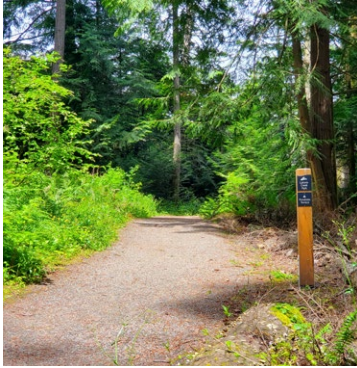
- » **Latoria Road Entry:** This main entry includes a pedestrian controlled crosswalk with flashers at Wishart Road, packed gravel paths, split rail fencing, and an older park entry sign.
- » **Pelican Drive Entry:** This main entry near the Metchosin Road intersection includes two pathway access points with packed gravel and an older park entry sign.

■ Secondary Entries:

- » **Propeller Place Entry:** Limited signage, bench, and a waste receptacle
- » **Pelican Drive Entry (midblock):** Well-marked with updated park signage, seating, and a waste receptacle
- » **Pondsides Terrace Entry:** Not marked
- » **Citadel Place:** Not marked, with a waste receptacle

■ Future Entries:

- » Three future park entries on the east side of the park planned as part of the future Latoria South development



2 Primary Trails

Primary trails features and conditions:

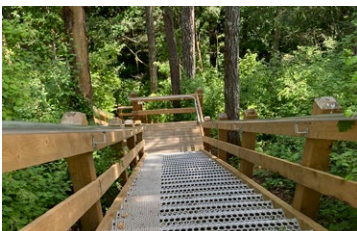
- Packed gravel or wood-chip trails ranging from ~1-3m wide
- See Figure 4 for trail locations
- Maintained by the City of Colwood
- Modern trail markers at key trail intersections (per current City signage standards)
- Pathway slopes range from relatively flat to quite steep and include stairs in several locations
- Overlap into 30m riparian setback areas for Latoria Creek



3 Nature Trails

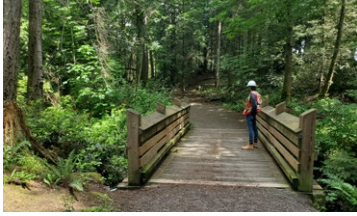
Nature trail features and conditions:

- Narrow wood chip or compacted soil trails (~0.5-1 m wide)
- Limited wayfinding signage / trail markers
- Nature trail character with roots, slopes, and rocks in walking route
- Pathway slopes range from relatively flat to quite steep



4 Stairs

- There are four sets of stairs throughout the park, see Figure 4 for locations
- All stairs are in good condition – recently upgraded to metal grate surface with wooden and metal handrails (2020)
- "Paw friendly" grating has been added for dogs' comfort



5 Bridges

- There are three footbridges over Latoria Creek along the primary north-south trail, see Figure 4 for locations
- Existing bridges are heavy timber structures with timber handrails and non-slip surfacing.
- The north and middle bridges were repaired in 2012 including placement of riprap along steep banks and under the bridge to prevent erosion
- The bridges appear to be generally in sound condition and are functioning well, but are beginning to show some signs of aging



6 Park Furnishings

- There are multiple benches throughout the park in the locations shown on Figure 4
- There are three picnic tables near the north park entry along Latoria Road
- There are waste receptacles and dog waste stations at most park entry points



7 Riparian Areas

- There is 1km of riparian area along Latoria Creek South, flowing south towards Albert Head Lagoon
- The creek's physical characteristics vary from the northern edge of park (boggy and slower flows) to the southern edge (faster flows with deeper pools and undercut banks)
- Dominant riparian vegetation includes western redcedar, alder, and Douglas-fir, with an understory mix of native ferns and groundcover, salmonberry, dull-Oregon grape
- Invasive species include daphne, English ivy, English holly, Himalayan blackberry, and Scotch broom
- The riparian area provides habitat for a range of bird, mammal, reptilian, and amphibian species
- Latoria Creek is known to support stickleback and sculpin. Man-made and natural obstructions downstream make the watercourse inaccessible by migratory fish populations (salmonids)



8 Forested Areas

- The forested areas of the park are mixed second-growth conifer and deciduous forest
- Dominant tree species include Douglas-fir, western redcedar, bigleaf maple, red alder, and grand fir. Some arbutus trees are present at higher elevations
- Understory vegetation includes dull Oregon-grape, oceanspray, sword fern, salal, bracken fern and variety of native groundcovers including a dense and diverse moss layer
- Invasive species are present within the park's forested zones including daphne, English ivy, English holly, Himalayan blackberry, and Scotch broom



9 Bedrock Outcrop & Meadow Areas (including existing lookout)

- At the western edge of the park there are areas of bedrock outcrop characterized by diverse wildflowers, grasses, and shrub species including sweet vernalgrass, seablush, as well as stands of arbutus and Garry oak trees
- The main park scenic lookout, as noted on Figure 4, provides a panoramic view out to the ocean
- Most of the park's bedrock outcrops are not within the existing trails network due to challenging topography and steep slopes
- These areas are highly sensitive to trampling by people or dogs





PART 3

Vision and Recommendations



3.1 VISION STATEMENT

A park vision statement describes a long-term future, is aspirational in nature, and is a guide and touchstone for consideration when making future decisions about park changes and development.

VISION STATEMENT:

Latoria Creek Park is a place of connection.

Water connects through the park, flowing from upland to sea and supporting the complex ecosystems where birds, insects, and animals thrive.

People connect to and through the park from all corners of Colwood, to experience the calm of nature.

Views from the park connect visitors to the dynamic community of Colwood and the ocean at its edge.



3.2 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Guiding principles support the realization of the park vision by providing specific guidance for future park improvements and management. These principles act as a "checklist" – if a proposed project meets these objectives, it will support the spirit and intent of the management plan. The guiding principles relate to those developed in the Parks & Recreation Master Plan (2021), but have been modified to incorporate community input and site analysis specific to Latoria Creek Park.



Protect and Enhance our Environment

- Take steps to monitor and support the health of Latoria Creek as a natural watercourse
- Protect riparian areas and reduce activities and impacts within the riparian buffer zone
- Protect the park's forested areas and bedrock outcrops
- Maintain areas of the park for nature only, and locate park infrastructure and amenities with consideration for sensitive ecosystem protection
- Manage invasive species to help restore and enhance the park's existing natural areas
- Manage park activity and use to support ecosystem health as park visitation increases



Promote Accessibility and Inclusiveness

- Provide opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to safely experience the qualities of Latoria Creek Park
- Make the park inviting and accessible through all seasons
- Explore opportunities with Lekwungen (Songhees), Xwsepsum (Esquimalt), Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay), and T'Sou-ke (Sooke) to strengthen Indigenous visibility, cultural expression, and stewardship within the park
- Add park furnishings to provide rest opportunities and support passive recreation



Strengthen Our Connectivity

- Improve and refine the existing trail network
- Build park connections to the emerging Latoria South neighbourhood to increase park access from all surrounding neighbourhoods
- Support realization of the Beach to Mountain Route Network
- Increase signage and improve wayfinding, both within the park and connecting to the surrounding trail network
- Support opportunities for people to connect to the park through stewardship and volunteer activities and education about the park's ecosystems and their protection

3.3 PARK CONCEPT PLAN

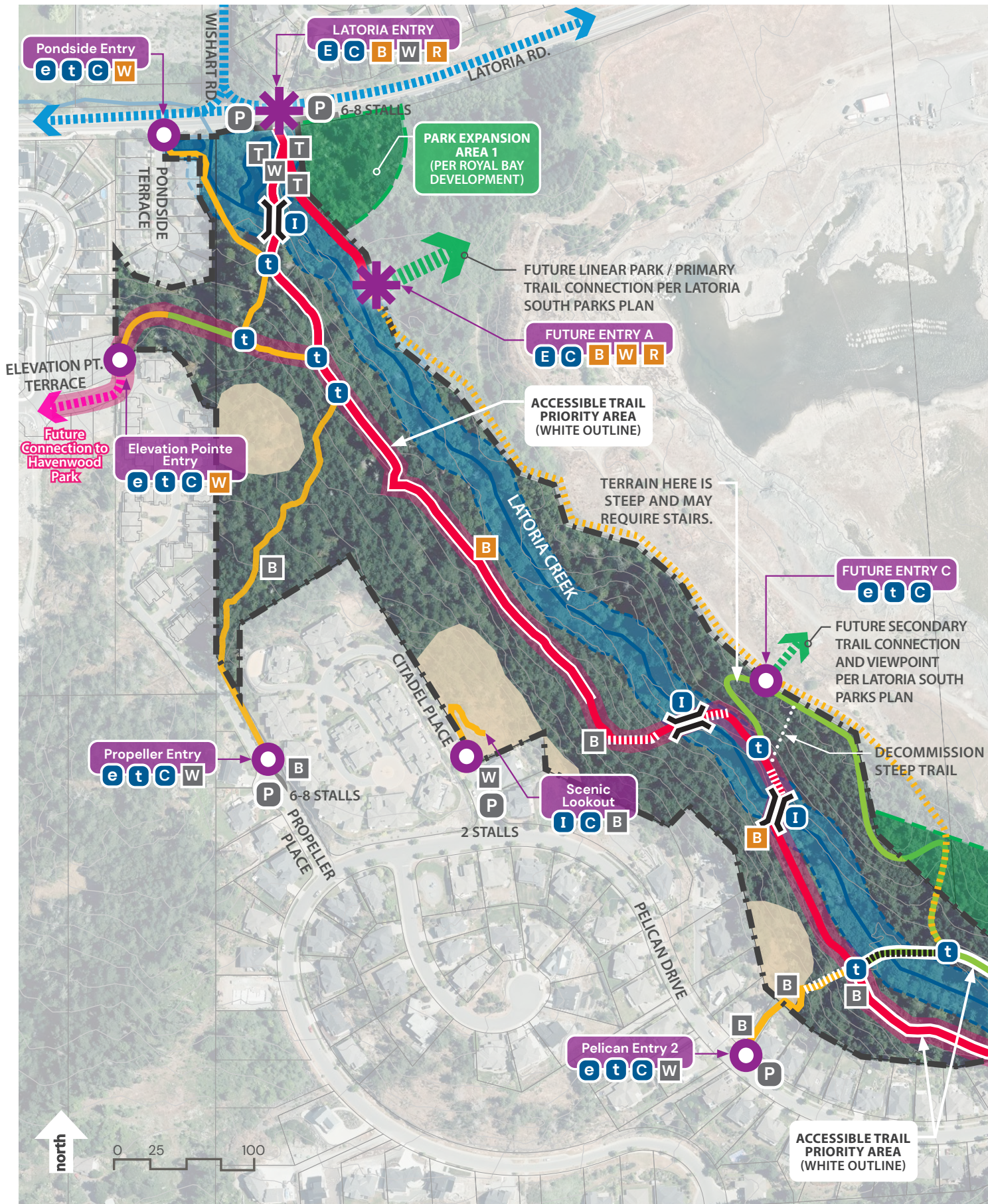


Figure 5: Latoria Creek Park Illustrative Concept Plan



LEGEND

- PARK BOUNDARY
- EXISTING CREEK (SEE #4)

NATURAL AREAS

- BEDROCK OUTCROP & MEADOW AREAS (SEE #6)
- RIPARIAN AREA (SEE #4)
(15M RIPARIAN SETBACK BUFFER ZONE)
- FORESTED AREAS (SEE #5)

PARK TRAILS (SEE #1)

Alignments shown here are conceptual. Trail routing to respond to grades and provide a buffer for environmentally sensitive areas.

- PRIMARY TRAILS
- SECONDARY TRAILS
- SECONDARY ROUTE (FOR REVIEW)
- NEW TRAIL CONNECTIONS
- EXISTING STAIRS
- PROPOSED BOARDWALK
- EXISTING FOOTBRIDGE
- PROPOSED FOOTBRIDGE

PARK ACCESS (SEE #3)

- PARKING AREA (ON-STREET)
- PRIORITY CONNECTION FOR THE BEACH TO MOUNTAIN ROUTE (PER PRMP)
- FUTURE CONNECTION TO ROYAL BAY LATORIA SOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD
- ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION CONNECTION
- PRIMARY PARK ENTRY
- SECONDARY PARK ENTRY

SIGNAGE (SEE #2)

Locations shown are conceptual.

- PRIMARY PARK ENTRY SIGN & MAP KIOSK
- SECONDARY PARK ENTRY SIGN
- TRAIL MARKER SIGN
- CODE OF CONDUCT SIGN
- INTERPRETIVE SIGN

FURNISHINGS & AMENITIES (SEE #9)

Locations shown are conceptual and should respond to grades, natural rest areas, and environmental features.

- BENCH (UPGRADED / PROPOSED)
- SECURE BIKE PARKING
- PICNIC TABLE (UPGRADED / PROPOSED)
- WASTE / RECYCLING RECEPTACLE & DOG STATION
- PARK TOILET (SEE #11)

3.4 RECOMMENDATIONS OVERVIEW

The outcome of this management plan is a set of recommendations that support the implementation of the ideas and priorities generated through the process. These recommendations are provided for Council and staff to consider within the context of annual planning and budget deliberations. The recommendations are based on several sources of input:

- Site analysis of the park
- Background documents (including the Official Community Plan, Parks & Recreation Master Plan, and the 2022 Latoria South Parks Plan)
- Ideas from stakeholders and community members gathered through the engagement process, surveys, and activities
- Input received from City Council and staff

As the City of Colwood advances the recommendations within the Management Plan, the following key considerations are provided:

- **It is a long-term plan.** Parks are living spaces. They require ongoing planning so they can continue to meet the needs of the natural environment and of the community that is evolving around them. Change in Latoria Creek Park will happen in phases over time, with each phase being carefully planned to achieve intended results.
- **Adaptation will be required.** The successful long-term management of Latoria Creek Park requires flexibility and adaptation to unforeseen changes and continued community input. Ideas or circumstances that are not known today may become important to the park's future. Continuing to reflect on the vision and guiding principles, while encouraging creative future planning, will allow positive opportunities to emerge.
- **Ongoing relationships with stakeholders are important.** Change and evolution can be challenging for those who use and love a space. Continuing to work closely with stakeholders to manage the park to prioritize protection of natural values while supporting community use and enjoyment, will require ongoing discussion and efforts from all those involved.
- **It will be important to plan, implement, and re-assess.** A park is an integrated system. Changes to one component may ripple throughout the park. In addition, neighbourhood changes happening all around the park will affect it. The management plan provides a framework for the park's evolution, but reviewing current circumstances at each step toward implementation will help ensure ongoing positive gains.

The recommendations provided include:

- **Capital Recommendations:** Ideas that will require capital investment, through municipal funding or other funding strategies, to improve Latoria Creek Park.
- **Operational Recommendations:** Ideas for planning initiatives, program development, and management strategies for the park.

RECOMMENDATIONS FORMAT

Each recommendation includes the following information:

- **Description:** A brief statement about the recommended changes.
- **Background & Rationale:** A summary of issues, opportunities, community input, and background information to support the recommendation.
- **Design Considerations:** Key elements to be considered as the recommendation / design is refined through the detailed design process.
- **Actions:** Recommended steps for implementing the change.
- **Timeline:** Anticipated timeframe for implementation:
 - » Short-term Recommendations (0-2 year timeframe)
 - » Medium-term Recommendations (2-5 year timeframe)
 - » Long-term Recommendations (5-10 year timeframe)
 - » Ongoing Recommendations (throughout the lifespan of the plan and beyond)
- **Preliminary Capital Estimate:** Class 'D' Estimate (including 30% contingency). Costs provided are developed based on historical construction cost data from similar projects. Actual costs may vary widely depending on future design, market forces, and other variables.

RECOMMENDATIONS LIST

Access & Circulation

- 1 Improve the Park Trail Network
- 2 Upgrade Park Wayfinding & Signage
- 3 Improve Parking & Connections to the Park

Natural Areas

- 4 Protect, Restore, & Monitor Riparian Areas
- 5 Protect, Restore, & Monitor Forested Areas
- 6 Protect Bedrock Outcrops & Meadow Areas
- 7 Provide Fire Risk Hazard Management
- 8 Support Park Stewardship Partnerships & Programs

Park Amenities

- 9 Integrate Seating & Furnishings
- 10 Explore Opportunities for Indigenous Cultural Expression
- 11 Provide a Park Toilet

Park Management

- 12 Define the Park Uses
- 13 Designate Dogs On-Leash
- 14 Create a Cooperative Management Model
- 15 Review & Update the Plan
- 16 Review Operations & Maintenance
- 17 Acquire Additional Land for the Park

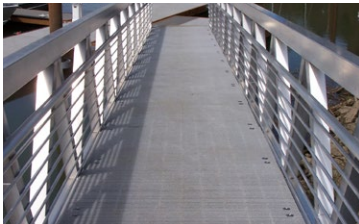
Upgrade the park trail network to improve accessibility and wayfinding, while minimizing impacts to natural areas.



Existing: Existing trails in Latoria Creek Park are well used

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- Walking and hiking are the primary activities in Latoria Creek Park (90% of participants indicated they walk on the trails).
- People use the trail network for walking, running, and dog-walking.
- Growth in the City and surrounding neighbourhoods will intensify use of Latoria Creek Park trails. Managing increased trail use was the second top concern for participants (46% of participants indicated this was a concern).
- Preventing unsanctioned trail development in sensitive areas was a concern for ~33% of participants.
- Due to topography, the primary route through the park has 4 sets of stairs and limited options for accessibility, alternate routes, or loop trails.
- Existing trails (both designated routes / and informal nature trails) are within riparian buffer zones and setbacks.
- Existing trails provide access to highly sensitive bedrock outcrop and meadow areas, which can be adversely impacted by human activity (e.g. erosion, trampling of sensitive vegetation, access by dogs).
- The existing trail network has limited information regarding accessibility or level of difficulty.

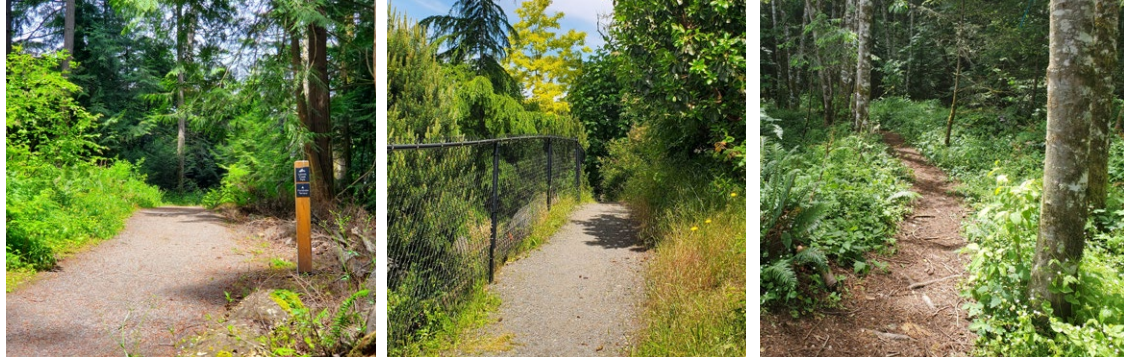


Inspiration: Fiberglass footbridge

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- Implement a hierarchy of designated primary, secondary, and tertiary trails to support a range of use (see Table 1 on the following page).
- Provide trail widths and surfacing to support intended use and trail type.
- Wherever possible, longitudinal slopes should be maximum 8% to maximize accessibility (a priority for primary trails). Where this is not achievable due to natural site conditions, grades up to 15% can be considered.
- Trail routing to avoid existing trees wherever possible, and all significant trees.
- Trail design should balance accessible widths and surfacing (for strollers, wheelchairs, etc.), while maintaining a scale and aesthetic that resonates with Latoria Creek's Nature Park classification.
- Where needed, use low fencing to define pathway routes and limit disturbance of key natural areas (see #4, #5, #6).
- Provide welcome and wayfinding signage at park entries to situate visitors and provide information about the park and broader trail system (see #2).
- Provide benches for rest at regular intervals on primary trails, and at key areas for secondary and tertiary trails (see #9).
- Re-align trails to allow for expanded riparian buffers where leaving existing trails would result in additional or ongoing harm to riparian habitat.

TABLE 1: TRAIL SYSTEM STANDARDS



	PRIMARY TRAIL	SECONDARY TRAIL	TERTIARY TRAIL (NATURE TRAIL)
Level of Use	High to Moderate	Moderate	Moderate to Low
Width	2 - 3 m	1.2 - 2 m	0.5 - 1.5 m
Clear Width of Shoulder	1 m	0.5 m	-
Surfacing	Compacted gravel (asphalt where appropriate, e.g. highest use areas)	Compacted gravel	Compacted native soil, aggregate, or mulch
Types of Use	Diverse Walking, jogging, cycling, and where possible strollers, wheelchairs, scooters, maintenance vehicles	Moderate Walking, jogging, strollers/ wheelchairs/scooters where possible	Limited Walking, jogging, hiking
Accessibility	Universal priority (Where terrain permits)	Universal where terrain permits	Limited due to terrain and site conditions
Slope	Up to 5% typical Ramps to 8% Stairs or exceptions to 15% where necessary	Up to 10% typical Ramps to 15% Stairs	20% max., typ. Stairs
Maintenance Level	High to Moderate Sweeping, debris clearing, drainage management	Low to Moderate Occasional resurfacing, drainage management	Low Erosion management, occasional vegetation maintenance

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
1.1 Update primary park trails following the guidelines in Table 1, to improve accessibility, wayfinding, and durability, and to minimize impacts to natural areas. For trail location information, see Figure 5.	Short, Ongoing	Staff & Volunteer Time
1.2 Integrate key existing informal trails to be part of the designated park trail system that is signed and maintained. For proposed trail network, see Figure 5.	Short, Ongoing	Staff & Volunteer Time
1.3 Decommission select existing informal trails as identified in Figure 6. Discourage access with planting and signage.	Short, Ongoing	Staff & Volunteer Time
1.4 Develop new trail connections as identified in Figure 5 to provide a connected system with improved connectivity and route options.	Medium	\$15,000
1.5 Consider a footbridge across the lower reaches of Latoria Creek as part of the future planned connection and park access to the Latoria South neighbourhood (connection from the east Old Metchosin Road, as identified in Figure 5).	Medium	\$50,000
1.6 Develop an existing nature trail in the riparian buffer area to a section of accessible boardwalk to provide a (accessible) trail loop (see Figure 5).	Medium	\$20,000
1.7 Review opportunities within the development of the adjacent South Latoria neighbourhood to retain a trail along the eastern edge of the park. This trail along the upper bank east side of the creek provides a loop option when linked with the primary trail along the west side of the creek. Steep slopes and proximity to the riparian area limit the potential to develop a new separate trail within the park boundary along this east side (see Figure 5).	Short	Staff Time
1.8 Review the feasibility of creating an accessible trail loop within the lower elevations of the park if grades permit. Access the loop trail from the main southern park entry off of Pelican Drive. Integrate the existing trail along the west of Latoria Creek as to minimize impacts to natural areas (see Figure 5).	Long	\$15,000

Improve and expand the park's signage system for clear and consistent information throughout the park.



Existing: Several of the park's secondary entrances have limited signage.



Existing: There is no trail kiosk communicating designated trails and many existing trails are not signed.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- A well-developed sign system is an attractive and effective method of strengthening park identity and sense of place and supporting a positive user experience.
- Signage benefits:
 - » Signage supports park safety, use, awareness, and education.
 - » In a large nature park like Latoria Creek, signage is the main tool for sharing information about the park, including its accessibility, regulations, and features.
 - » Signage provides a tool and opportunity for self-led learning and connection and can strengthen community partnerships and collaboration.
- Colwood has developed design standards for park primary entry signs, secondary entry signs, and trail markers.
- Colwood's park sign standards have been implemented for a few trail markers, but not elsewhere through the park (e.g. at entries).
- There are several trails within the park that are not signed.
- Signage and wayfinding improvements were well supported by community feedback.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- Park signage is most beneficial and effective when it is designed and applied in a manner that is consistent, appropriate to the site, and readily understood by the user.
- Refer to the Capital Regional District's (CRD's) [Guide to User-Friendly Trails](#) for examples of how to make key information available in maps and information to support user-friendly trail experiences for all ages and abilities.
- Where there are multiple types of information to be provided at one location, integrate information on one sign, rather than having a collection of signs.
- Signage information should be designed and presented with a clear hierarchy to support understanding of messaging. Typical considerations include:
 - » Use of icons and graphics for a visual summary of park information, supported by text.
 - » High contrast colours for best legibility of text and graphic icons.
 - » Typeface (font) that is universally legible (e.g. not cursive or stylized).
 - » Review draft designs for legibility by those with visual impairments (including those who are colour blind).
 - » Use of plain and clear language.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS (CONTINUED)

- Use a hierarchy of different signs that work as a system, including: entry / welcome signs, kiosk signs, directional signs, code of conduct signs, and educational / interpretive signs
- For signage with more detailed information (e.g. kiosk signage or interpretive signage), consider the "3-30-3 Rule" for information design:
 - » First: Communicate the main message in 3 seconds;
 - » Second: If you have grabbed someone's attention to look further, present the next level of information to be consumed in ~30 seconds; and
 - » Lastly: For those that are interested to linger longer, focus the remaining information to be digestible in ~3 minutes total.



Inspiration: The interpretive sign above includes Lekwungen language translations and art and design of Darlene Gait (Esquimalt Nation). The signs were a collaborative effort that included the Habitation Acquisition Trust.



Inspiration: Educational sign about a park ecosystem.



Example of Primary Entry Sign (City standard)



Example of Secondary Entry Sign (City standard)

TABLE 2: **PARKS SIGNAGE SYSTEM**

SIGN CLASS	DETAILS & DESCRIPTION
<p>ENTRY WELCOME SIGNS</p>	<p>Primary Entry: Large sign to City of Colwood standards. Includes park name, City logo, and has supporting wayfinding map kiosk and regulatory information either integrated with the entry sign or nearby.</p>
	<p>Secondary Entry: Moderate sign to City of Colwood standards. Includes park name, City logo, and has supporting wayfinding signage with information for trails and regulatory information.</p>
<p>NAVIGATION & WAYFINDING SIGNAGE</p>	<p>Trailhead Kiosk: Includes detailed site map, elevation profile information for primary trail routes, trail route distances, level of difficulty, and information on accessibility.</p>
	<p>Trail Markers: Includes destination or directional arrows, distances, level of difficulty, key map.</p>
	<p>Feature Identification Signage: Identifies points of interest.</p>
<p>CODE OF CONDUCT SIGNAGE</p>	<p>Communicates the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Permitted uses (e.g. walking, hiking, dogs on-leash) » Prohibited uses (e.g. smoking, fires, camping, motorized vehicles). » Park regulations » Safety information » Warning / hazards » Environmentally sensitive locations <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Caution, Steep Slope Ahead » Boardwalk Slippery When Wet » Habitat Restoration in Progress » Environmentally Sensitive Area
<p>INTERPRETIVE & EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Highlight diverse topics of learning including natural heritage, cultural heritage, key flora and fauna, unique site features, natural rest / interest points. » Should incorporate a range of sign scales.



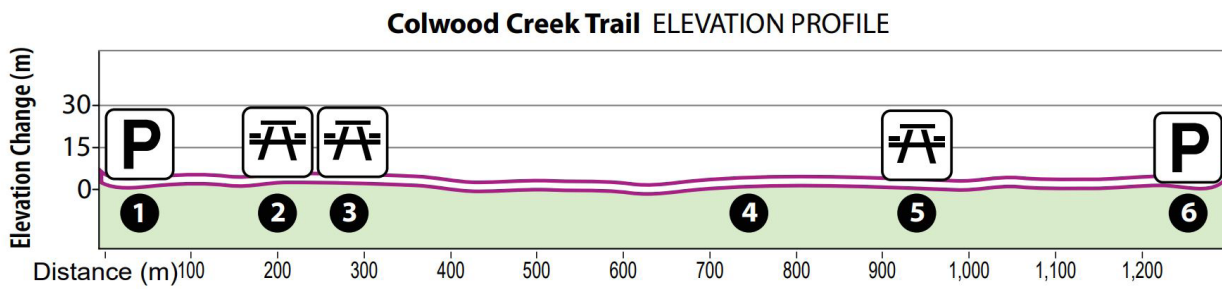
Example of Trailhead Kiosk



Example of Trail Marker with integrated distance and regulation information



Example of Trail Marker with integrated key map and distance information



Example of kiosk map elevation profile used to communicate accessibility information.



Example of environmental protection signage



Example of environmental protection signage (Image credit: Peter Van Metre, USGS)

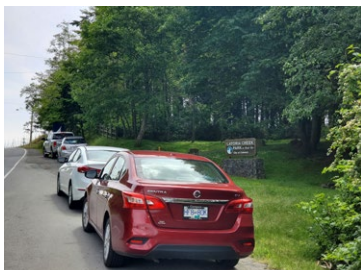


Inspiration: Educational / interpretive signage can be mounted to fences to convey information about restoration processes or sensitive habitat areas

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
2.1 Name Latoria Creek Park's trails, lookouts, streams, bedrock outcrops, stairs, and unique features (e.g. significant trees) after their unique physical characteristics. Engage with local First Nations to explore opportunities to use Indigenous names. Identify named features on park maps and signage to improve wayfinding.	Short	Staff time
2.2 Expand the overall City of Colwood parks signage standards to include the following signage types: Trailhead Kiosk, Trail Marker, Feature Identification, Code of Conduct (e.g. regulatory, safety, environmental protection), and Interpretive.	Short	Staff time
2.3 Develop and construct a trailhead kiosk at the primary park entries (as identified in figure 5). The kiosk should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Detailed Park Map: topographic contours, natural features, trails, park entries, lookout points, parking, and park amenities. » Detailed Trails Information: trail names, elevation profiles for primary trails, level of difficulty for trail routes, trail route distances, stair locations, boardwalk locations, and footbridge locations. » Regulatory Information: permitted park and trail uses, prohibited park and trail uses, dog on-leash / off-leash information, smoking and fire ban, park maintenance contract information, and park safety / emergency information. 	Short	\$20,000 for two locations (East entry location by developer)
2.4 Install secondary entry signs, as per City standards, at all secondary park entries to Latoria Creek Park. New signs are needed at 3 locations: Pondside Terrace, Elevation Pointe Terrace, and Propeller Place. New signs should be added to any new park entry developed in the future.	Medium	\$3,000
2.5 Install consistent code of conduct / regulatory signage at all park entries. Include permitted trail uses, prohibited trail uses, no-smoking, no-fires, and park safety / emergency information.	Short	See #2.4
2.6 Following completion of upgrades to the trails system, install and upgrade trail markers at the locations shown on Figure 5. Trail markers to include: trail name, directional arrows, key distances, level of difficulty, and park key map with location indication.	Medium	\$8,000
2.7 Develop an interpretive signage program for the park to educate visitors on the park's unique features, flora, fauna, and environmentally sensitive areas. Engage with local First Nations to explore opportunities to integrate Indigenous knowledge and teachings.	Medium	TBD
2.8 Install signage about protection of environmentally sensitive areas in the following locations: within the riparian buffer zone, restoration areas, and bedrock outcrop areas. Use brief, clear, positive language (e.g. "Environmentally Sensitive Area - please use designated trail and help conserve our park").	Short	\$2,000

Improve walking and cycling connections to the park and improve parking amenities.



Existing: The main parking for the park is at the road edge on Latoria Road.



Inspiration: Providing end of trip facilities like secure bike parking supports people accessing the park by bike.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- Latoria Creek Park is an amenity for the entire community. While some park visitors from the surrounding neighbourhood walk to the park, others drive.
- Lack of existing vehicle parking was noted as a limitation for park users.
- Parking along Latoria Road (main north entry) and Pelican Drive (main south entry) are road-side with limited capacity to support the number of visitors at peak times.
- Several participants noted current barriers or limitations to accessing the park by walking or cycling – in particular from nearby Latoria neighbourhood areas.
- Only 11% of participants indicate they access the park by cycling.
- The City of Colwood future engineering and transportation plans for Latoria Road by Latoria Creek Park include sidewalks and bicycle lanes to connect with existing pedestrian and bicycle routes to the east on Latoria Road.
- Promoting cycling and active transportation aligns with the City of Colwood's climate action mandates to support lowering community greenhouse gas emissions.
- Park users arriving by foot and bike will help alleviate personal vehicle numbers and parking capacity needs at the park.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- Integrating an expanded off-street parking area within the park is not a consideration at this time since there is limited suitable flat space that is not within environmentally sensitive areas.
- To accommodate increasing visitation, a combination of strategies to expand and improve on-street parking and to improve conditions to encourage other modes of travel to the park is proposed.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
3.1 Designate accessible parking stalls at: the Latoria Road (north) entrance, and the Pelican Drive (south) entrance and improve the pedestrian trail alongside the parking on Latoria Road.	Short	\$5,000
3.2 Coordinate with engineering road works to upgrade parallel parking along both sides of Latoria Road.	Long	TBD
3.3 Install racks for secure bike parking at: the Latoria Road (north) entrance, and the Pelican Drive (south) entrance. Include bike parking at the future planned northeast entrance, and southeast entrance.	Short	\$12,000
3.4 For secondary park entries that have suitable road access (Propeller Drive, and Pelican Drive), provide and maintain signage that identifies where on-street parallel parking is permitted.	Short	\$500
3.5 Review and update the City of Colwood website for Latoria Creek Park to clarify that parking is limited. Provide information about active or alternative forms of transportation to the park (e.g. bike routes, bus routes).	Short, Ongoing	Staff Time
3.6 Coordinate with future engineering planning and implementation of upgrades on Latoria Road, Metchosin Road, or other roads accessing the park, to incorporate and strengthen active transportation connections to Latoria Creek Park by providing sidewalks and designated bike lanes or routes.	Ongoing	Staff Time
3.7 Prioritize trail upgrades and connections in the surrounding neighbourhoods that support the Beach to Mountain Community Trail Network and connections to Latoria Creek Park that are outlined in the PRMP.	Ongoing	Staff Time

Protect, restore, and monitor riparian areas while providing key locations for park visitors to be close to the water and view the creek.



Existing: The creek is the key feature of the park.



Existing: Providing a footbridge allows visitors to view the water while limiting human impacts within the riparian buffer zone.

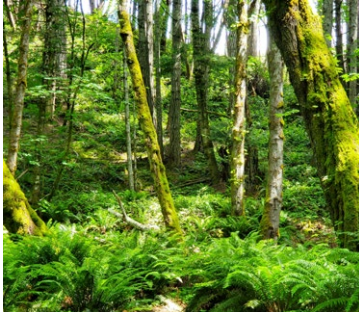
BACKGROUND

- The riparian areas in the park include a 30m area on either side of the creek.
- Existing park trails are within the 30m riparian setback as identified in the OCP and Riparian Areas Protection Regulation.
- As population around the park continues to grow, trail usage and subsequent impacts on riparian and wetland areas could be intensified.
- Climate projections, including more frequent extreme weather events, warmer temperatures, and higher fall and winter precipitation, may impact riparian ecosystems, including lower summer flows and higher winter flows, leading to increased erosion, deposition of sediment, and degradation of habitat.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
4.1 In partnership with a qualified environmental professional (QEP), develop a detailed ecological plan for priority actions for restoration of Latoria Creek.	Medium	\$20,000
4.2 Establish riparian buffer zones in the park. Limit amenities in this zone to select trails (pervious surface only), footbridges, or boardwalks (see Figure 5). Restore disturbed surfaces within the buffer zone to a natural condition.	Short	Staff Time
4.3 Provide select, designated access points within the riparian buffer zone to enable pedestrian views of the creek. Install cedar fencing or boardwalks in these locations to control access and limit impacts.	Medium	See #1.5
4.4 Where human or dog activity is occurring off-trail, install natural cedar split-rail fencing to deter access and protect natural areas.	Short, Ongoing	\$10,000

Protect, restore, and monitor forested areas to support park visitor safety and a healthy natural environment.



Existing: The forests and trees are defining features of Latoria Creek Park that are well loved by the community.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- The park's forested areas are highly cherished by park users and wildlife.
- The forest is the dominant natural ecosystem for Latoria Creek Park. Forested areas are mixed second growth conifer and deciduous forest.
- The dominant tree species include Douglas-fir, western redcedar, bigleaf maple, red alder, and grand fir with Garry oak and arbutus trees are present at higher elevations.
- Understory vegetation includes dull Oregon-grape, oceanspray, sword fern, salal, bracken fern, and a variety of native groundcovers including a dense and diverse moss layer.
- Public engagement participants shared concerns about forest fires during the dry summer months (see #7).
- As population around the park continues to grow, park usage and subsequent impacts on forested habitat areas could intensify.
- Climate projections, including more frequent extreme weather events, warmer summer temperatures, and higher fall and winter precipitation could continue to lead to forest change. Western redcedars in the region appear to be in decline, possibly due to the recent occurrence of hot and dry summers.
- The BC Conservation Data Center has identified large areas of Douglas-fir / Dull Oregon-grape ecosystem within Latoria Creek Park. This is a "red-listed" ecological community with the conservation status of S1 (critically imperiled). Red-listed ecosystems are at a high risk of being lost, endangered, or threatened.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- Integrating a diverse range of tree species and successional forest planting strategies can support a continuous, healthy tree canopy.
- Where possible, trim hazardous trees to create habitat opportunities (snags) for wildlife, rather than removing them from the park.

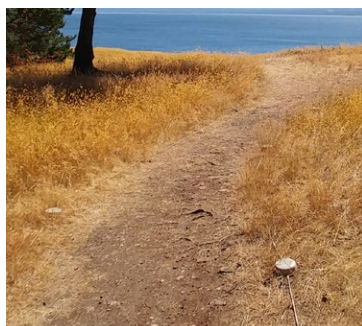
RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
5.1 Obtain an arborist review and tree assessment (tree size, species, health, risks, and recommendations) to update notable trees and areas within close proximity to trails, park entries, benches, or view points.	Short-term	\$10,000 (for planning work only)
5.2 Undertake tree management activities identified in the tree assessment (e.g. removals or pruning of compromised trees).	Ongoing	TBD (based on tree assessment)

Provide designated access to the scenic lookout and limit access to other bedrock outcrops and meadow areas in the park to protect this sensitive ecosystem.



Existing: The scenic lookout provides a great view but is not connected to the rest of the park.



Inspiration: At Helliwell Provincial Park, a simple system of cord and marker pylons is used to remind visitors to stay on designated trails.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- Along the western boundary of the park there are areas of bedrock outcrop that are unique and sensitive ecosystems (see Figure 5).
- These areas are a draw for park visitors since they provide vantage points for panoramic views.
- The bedrock outcrops and meadows can withstand very little human impact. Protective measures and education are needed to avoid irreparable damage.
- Wildflower meadow provides important habitat for pollinators and birds.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- Visual cues can encourage visitors to stay on the trail and out of the sensitive ecosystem areas. Considerations for cues include:
 - » A non-invasive system of cord and weighted marker pylons to delineate trails (see Helliwell Provincial Park example to left). This provides a visual cue and not a physical barrier, but the majority of park visitors adhere to this guide.
 - » Where necessary, physical barriers (e.g. fencing) can be used to discourage access to highly sensitive areas or zones being restored.
 - » Where possible, non-invasive and non-permanent materials and techniques are preferred to delineate trails and access (e.g. stack cedar to create a fence instead of constructing a barrier that requires drilling or digging to anchor posts).

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
6.1 Limit access to the sensitive bedrock outcrop and meadow ecosystem areas. Maintain the designated access to scenic lookout. Install visual (e.g. rope and signage) or physical barriers (e.g. cedar rail fencing) where park users are going off-trail.	Short	\$5,000
6.2 Install regulatory and interpretive signage at the scenic lookout to reinforce the value of the park's bedrock outcrop and meadow ecosystems and the risks that people, fire, and dogs pose to these sensitive areas. See #2 for more information on signage.	Short	\$1,000

Provide fire hazard risk management to support the safety and integrity of the park.



Existing: No Smoking signs are posted at several park entry points.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- While a detailed fire hazard assessment has not been conducted, local climate and site conditions suggest that the park is likely susceptible to fire hazard at dry times of the year.
- Arid summer conditions, dry areas of the park, accumulation of fuel (e.g. leaf litter, deadfall), and increased park use, are all factors that increase fire risk.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

- Practicing fire hazard mitigation in natural areas is a debated topic.
- Fire hazard mitigation actions need to balance considerations for protecting the surrounding urban interface with conserving ecological values and the park's natural environment.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
7.1 Retain the services of a professional who specializes in fire hazard assessments in urban and interface areas to prepare a fire hazard assessment and recommendations for fire hazard mitigation compatible with the ecological objectives for Latoria Creek Park.	Short	\$10,000
7.2 Integrate fire hazard messaging and bans on smoking and fires within park regulatory signage at all entry points and at the scenic lookout.	Short	See #2.5 & #6.2
7.3 Engage with local First Nations to explore opportunities for fire hazard risk management in the park.	Ongoing	Staff Time



The lower reaches of the park benefit from neighbour stewards that help with invasive plant management.

Form a park stewardship group, and support and strengthen ongoing partnerships and programs with local First Nations, School District #62, and other community organizations.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- There are limited existing partnerships and programs in Latoria Creek Park.
- The existing partnerships with neighbours and school groups provide mutual benefit to the park and to the community.
- Managing invasive plant species in Latoria Creek Park:
 - » Like many other sites in the South Island region, both natural and otherwise, Latoria Creek Park has been colonized by a variety of invasive species (e.g. Scotch broom, Himalayan blackberry, English holly, English ivy, daphne, wall lettuce).
 - » The invasive species in the park are vigorous, outcompete indigenous vegetation, and are resistant to natural predators.
 - » Without human intervention, invasive species will proliferate and impact indigenous species and habitat quality in the park.
 - » There has been success from the combined efforts of neighbours and the City of Colwood Parks Maintenance to manage invasive plant species within the park.
 - » Collaborate with the Capital Region Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP) for ongoing support and information sharing.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
8.1 Form a park stewardship group, "Friends of Latoria Creek Park" or similar to lead stewardship in Latoria Creek Park including work parties to manage invasive species, restoration planting, and monitoring.	Short	Staff Time
8.2 Support and strengthen ongoing stewardship partnerships and programs with local First Nations, School District #62, and other stewardship-focused community organizations.	Ongoing	Staff Time
8.3 Continue to collaborate with neighbours and park stewardship groups to deliver cooperative management of invasive plant species in the park.	Ongoing	Staff Time
8.4 Establish annual municipal budget to provide ongoing funding of stewardship efforts and invasive plant management at Latoria Creek Park. Continue to pursue supplemental funding for stewardship efforts and special projects through partnership and grant funding opportunities.	Annual	Staff Time
8.5 Explore opportunities to expand program activities in the park with Royal Bay Secondary School's Indigenous Studies program.	Medium	Staff Time

Integrate seating and furnishings at key locations in the park to provide opportunities for rest, comfort, and nature appreciation.



Image: Wishbone Furnishings

Inspiration: Park bench. Coordinate furnishings with Colwood's City-wide parks standards



Inspiration: Accessible Cedar & Steel Picnic table



Inspiration: Receptacle with locally sourced cedar



Inspiration: Animal Resistant Waste & Recycling Receptacle

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- There is only one bench in the park today.
- Seating and rest opportunities provide support for users of all ages and abilities to use the park.
- Seating and picnicking amenities are low-cost improvements for family-friendly passive recreation that align well with the park values.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

■ General:

- » Materials for furnishings should be durable, comfortable, and support the character of the park. Consider locally sourced cedar wood or recycled composite wood: materials that are comfortable throughout the seasons.
- » Plan furnishings styles and locations to support accessibility for all ages and abilities.
- » Locate benches and picnic tables away from environmentally sensitive areas.

■ Benches:

- » Provide a bench rest opportunity at ~150-300m intervals along primary pathways and routes that are part of the planned Beach to Mountain Community Trail Network.
- » Provide benches at select locations on nature trails – prioritize locations at points of interest or natural rest points (e.g. at the beginning or end of a climb / hill).
- » Coordinate the bench style with the City of Colwood Standards.
- » Provide backrest and arm supports for accessibility.
- » Coordinate benches with the City's memorial bench program.
- » Provide a variety of seating conditions (e.g. sunny spot, shady spot, quiet / contemplative spot, meeting spot).

■ Picnic Tables:

- » Include picnic tables that provide places for strollers or wheelchairs.

■ Waste & Recycling Receptacles:

- » Provide receptacles that separate recycling from waste for overall waste reduction.
- » Locate receptacles at entries and along primary pathways where there is maintenance vehicle access.
- » Provide unobstructed paved or packed gravel area adjacent to the receptacle (separate from the path) for maintenance vehicles.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
9.1 Provide ~5 new benches in the park. Use Figure 5 to guide location selection. Benches to be located: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » To provide rest opportunity at regular (~150-300m) intervals along primary trails » Along trails designated as part of the planned Beach to Mountain Community Trail Network identified in the PRMP » At natural rest points along nature trails (e.g. at the top of a steep climb or a place of nature-viewing interest) 	Short to Medium	\$10,000
9.2 When existing benches are in need of renewal, use the City-wide parks standard bench.	Ongoing	\$2,000 each
9.3 Add three accessible picnic tables near the primary south park entry at Pelican Drive (see Figure 5). Include signage (see #2) and waste / recycling receptacles.	Medium	\$15,000
9.4 Provide updated waste and recycling receptacles / dog waste station at designated park entries (see Figure 5).	Medium	\$2,000 each

Engage local First Nations to explore opportunities that support Indigenous visibility and celebration in the park.



Existing: Cedar stripping of trees in Latoria Creek Park.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- The park lies within the traditional territories of the Lekwungen (Songhees) and Xwsepsum (Esquimalt) and the shared territories of Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay) and T'Sou-ke (Sooke).
- The health and wellness of Latoria Creek Park benefits from Indigenous knowledge of the local First Nations who have been stewards of this area since time immemorial.
- The City of Colwood is committed to exploring opportunities with local First Nations that increase Indigenous visibility in the community.
- Indigenous reconciliation should take many forms and there is a role for Latoria Creek Park in this work.



Inspiration: The interpretive sign above includes Lekwungen language translations and art and design of Darlene Gait (Esquimalt Nation).



Inspiration: Indigenous art by Jamin Zuroski at Lagoon Beach park in Colwood.



Inspiration: Carvings by Clarence "Butch" Dick at the Songhees Wellness Centre. (Image Credit: Marek Trojan)

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
10.1 Explore opportunities with local First Nations for cultural expression to support Indigenous visibility and celebration in Latoria Creek Park.	Short	TBD

Provide a park toilet to support future park use.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- A public toilet provides an important service for park visitors.
- Access to a nearby toilet is essential for supporting sustainable operation of education programs or stewardship programs in the park (especially with children).
- There is no nearby public toilet to the park at present, but there is a public washroom planned as part of Quarry Park (to be developed to the northeast of Latoria Creek Park).
- There is suitable area close to the primary park entrance at the south off of Pelican Drive to construct a new vault toilet.
- A public toilet was not identified by community feedback as high priority for today, but was noted for future.
- As park visitation increases, and potential stewardship programming increases, a park toilet may be needed.

CONSIDERATIONS:

- The intended Nature Park passive uses in Latoria Creek Park do not warrant a full-service washroom facility with water and electrical.
- Permanent vault (or composting) toilets are more accessible, functional, attractive, and cost effective for long-term operations and maintenance than portable toilets (e.g. port-a-potty).
- Siting the toilet structure should take into consideration protecting and preserving natural areas and vegetation.
- A new toilet should be sited and designed for universal accessibility.
- Site the facility to allow for truck access for maintenance and servicing.
- The facility should use durable materials and an aesthetic that suits the natural character of the park.
- Provide inclusive signage for gender and accessibility.



Inspiration: The examples above show a range of vault and composting toilets in various BC parks that accommodate a range of use (up to 100+ uses/day). (Image credit: Toilet Tech Solutions)

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
11.1 Provide a vault toilet at an accessible location in the south of Latoria Creek Park, adjacent to the proposed picnic area. Select a pre-fabricated, durable structure, sized as per American Disabilities Association (ADA) accessibility guidelines. Provide a concrete pad and accessible path access.	Long	\$20,000
11.2 When the installation of the public toilet is completed, create a maintenance schedule and operational budget for servicing.	Long	TBD

Define park uses to reflect recreational priorities that are of broad benefit to residents and low impact on the natural environment of the park.



Existing: Walking, hiking, and jogging are the most popular activities in Latoria Creek Park.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- Within the context of a conservation approach for management of Latoria Creek Park, only a limited range of recreation activities are appropriate.
- Suitable activities include those that provide benefit to a broad spectrum of community residents, while minimizing impact on the park's natural environment.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
<p>12.1 Use the following list to guide park use in Latoria Creek Park and provide information about uses in park signage (see #2) and online:</p> <p>Approved Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Walking, hiking, and jogging (on trails only) » Picnicking (at picnic table sites) » Nature appreciation (e.g. bird watching, wildlife viewing, nature photography) » Outdoor education (e.g. class tours, sanctioned stewardship activities) <p>Conditional Uses (at the discretion of City staff):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Dog walking (on-leash and on trails only) » Stewardship activities » Research and scientific studies » Special events <p>Prohibited Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Motorized vehicles (except emergency and maintenance vehicles) » Fires and camping » Off-trail uses and access » Unlawful uses, including those identified in the Parks Bylaw » Other uses determined by City staff 	Short	Staff Time

Designate Latoria Creek Park as on-leash only to support the long-term conservation of sensitive park features and the comfort of park users of all ages and abilities.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- The topic of dogs off-leash at Latoria Creek Park is divided. This division is not unique to Latoria Creek Park nor the City of Colwood, but is shared by almost all communities.
- Dog walking is one of the most popular uses of Latoria Creek Park (38% of participants indicated they walk their dog here).
- Many participants expressed concerns about safety and comfort related to off-leash dogs within the park.
- Some participants shared how they value having their dogs off-leash in the park.
- There is evidence of dog activity and impacts in the off-trail areas in the park, including environmentally sensitive riparian areas and steep slopes.
- The limited trail network in Latoria Creek Park means all users share the same main trails (there are limited smaller or off-shoot trails that are less busy).
- Park visitation, including dogs, is anticipated to increase as the surrounding population continues to grow.
- The role of the management plan is to balance the needs of the overall park for the long-term.
- Community feedback on the topic:
 - » The majority (77%) of participants support designating dog on-leash areas in Latoria Creek Park.
 - » Updating dog on-leash zones was identified as priority #7 by participants (out of 18 items).
 - » Dogs that are off-leash was identified as the highest limitation to park use (23% of participants indicated this limited their use of Latoria Creek Park).
- Currently, the designated areas in the City of Colwood where dogs must explicitly be on-leash (identified by Animal Control Bylaw No. 1533) are:
 - » Esquimalt Lagoon National Migratory Bird Sanctuary Area
 - » West Shore Parks and Recreation facility lands
 - » The designated area of Colwood Creek Park
 - » Within 10 metres of any playground equipment in any municipal or regional park

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
13.1 To align with conservation management for Latoria Creek Park, and support the safety and comfort of all park users, update the City of Colwood <i>Animal Control Bylaw No. 1533, Dog Regulations Section 8.2 On-Leash Areas</i> to include Latoria Creek Park as on-leash only.	Short	Staff Time
13.2 Update park maps and add regulatory signage to indicate on-leash only zones within the park. Include on-leash indication on trail markers.	Short	See #2
13.3 Consider a process for a review and update of the <i>Animal Control Bylaw No. 1533</i> . In other urban jurisdictions, municipal bylaw commonly requires dogs to be on-leash in all public places except designated off-leash areas (designated areas are clarified by Schedules that can be updated). A bylaw update would be for the long-term benefit of the overall parks and recreation system to continue to meet the future needs of Colwood.	Short	Staff Time

Develop a cooperative management model to support the sustainable, ongoing management of Latoria Creek Park.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- There is currently no organized management group supporting Latoria Creek Park.
- There is strong community support for maintaining natural areas and undertaking stewardship in Latoria Creek Park (94% of participants indicated support or strong support for expanding stewardship and invasive species management in the park).
- While the City undertakes ongoing maintenance in the park, capacity to complete focused invasive species management or naturalization efforts can be restricted due to other priorities.
- As the Royal Bay development proceeds, there will be many new residents living near and accessing Latoria Creek Park who could support stewardship activities if there is an organization leading this work.
- A successful community partnership model can:
 - » Draw upon community capital to extend City resources through labour, donations, and other services that support park improvements.
 - » Complement the financial, administrative, and technical resources of the City with the resources of the community as a whole.
 - » Support organization of activities like work parties, fundraising, public education, and other possibilities.
- The model currently in use in nearby Havenwood Park has supported organized stewardship projects that provide many benefits to the park. With a similar natural character, Latoria Creek Park would see similar benefits from a dedicated community partnership group.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
14.1 Develop a Terms of Reference for a new community partnership model, drawing from experiences at Havenwood Park.	Short	Staff Time
14.2 Support the initiation of the new community partnership, including organization, initial funding, and staff support.	Medium	Staff Time
14.3 As part of the mandate of the new community partnership, require the following record keeping and monitoring tasks with assigned roles and responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Carry-out an annual site review of the park; » Compile an annual review report that summarizes accomplishments, clarifies priority actions, evaluates new project ideas, and updates the parks asset inventory; and » Hold an annual meeting and file a meeting agenda and recorded minutes. 	Annual	Staff Time

Regularly review the progress and accomplishments of this plan, as well as new opportunities, to ensure that park improvements at Latoria Creek Park continue to meet the future needs of Colwood.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- Latoria Creek Park is a planned part of the City's parks system for the long-term.
- This Park Management Plan provides a ten-year set of recommendations and actions. It is intended to be a living document, updated as needed to reflect growth and change in the community and the park. To support its ongoing use, the following should be considered:
 - » Regular reviews by staff to keep plan implementation on track, confirming what has been completed and priorities for coming years.
 - » Dedication of an annual budget for the park to provide a suitable ongoing level of maintenance and service at Latoria Creek Park.
 - » Use of an adaptive management approach with regular review and adaptation of priorities to capitalize on new opportunities that align with the park vision and match park operations with the needs of the community and the park.
- Over time, site conditions or use patterns may alter the park environment and it may be desirable to modify or update the PMP to address emerging conditions or challenges.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
15.1 Undertake an annual review of the park. Measure progress against the Latoria Creek Park Management Plan.	Annual	Staff Time
15.2 In 10 years, complete a milestone review and update of the Latoria Creek Park Management Plan with stakeholder input, to ensure that the management and use of the park conforms to the spirit and intent of the park vision.	Long	\$20,000* *Not including community engagement
15.3 As potential opportunities for the park arise, evaluate them against the vision and goals of the Latoria Creek Park Management Plan. Integrate those that align with the vision, and adjust management priorities to incorporate these new opportunities.	Ongoing	Staff Time

Plan and undertake ongoing operations and maintenance of trails, signage, furnishings, and natural areas within Latoria Creek Park.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- Capital improvements and increasing visitation to Latoria Creek Park will impact operations and maintenance, including budget requirements.
- As new park amenities are added and as visitation increases, budgets should be increased accordingly.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

- Continue to maintain Latoria Creek Park to a Nature Park standard.
- Undertake life-cycle planning and asset management to ensure park amenities are regularly inspected for safety, necessary maintenance, and renewal (e.g. park furnishings, trails and stairs).

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
16.1 Establish an on-going line item in the annual municipal budget dedicated to the management, development, operation, and maintenance of Latoria Creek Park.	Annual	Staff Time
16.2 Increase operations and maintenance budgets for Latoria Creek Park to accommodate new amenities, upgraded amenities, and restored natural areas.	Ongoing	Staff Time
16.3 Increase staffing levels to meet additional maintenance, operations, and management needs as the park is expanded or improved.	Ongoing	Staff Time

Acquire lands adjacent to Latoria Creek Park where possible to preserve and enhance the environmental and recreational values of the park.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- While the Latoria Creek Park property is one of the largest natural and undeveloped parcels in the area, there are other parcels of land in the area that are currently undeveloped.
- Contiguous parkland provides many benefits, including protection of ecological corridors and provision of connected recreation opportunities such as trails.
- The Latoria South Parks Plan indicates additions of parkland planned for the east side of Latoria Creek Park, along with planned greenway and trail connections into the park. These are supported by the PMP and should be developed as soon as possible in the development process.
- The following future development park dedication guidelines are recommended in the PRMP:
 - » Park dedication should be focused on "usable" park space free of significant constraints.
 - » In most cases, environmentally sensitive areas should not be accepted, even though these areas are important to be protected. Sensitive lands protection should be in addition to land that is for active park use and functions.
 - » In most cases, trails should be dedicated as part of the transportation network and are typically in addition to required park dedication.
- The following criteria should be considered when exploring opportunities for parkland expansion or acquisition related to Latoria Creek Park. Lands that satisfy several of these items would be a higher priority for acquisition consideration:
 - » Lands that provide extension of the trails network, including:
 - Connections that support continuity of the Beach to Mountain Community Trail Network outlined in the PMRP
 - Connections that support loop trails linked to the park's trail network
 - » Natural lands without significant constraints (e.g., lands with steep slopes or environmental sensitivity), including:
 - Those contiguous to the park
 - Those that share the same watershed as the park
 - Those with ecologically diverse or unique landscapes
 - Those that provide opportunity for both natural area conservation and low-impact recreation
 - » Lands suitable for nearby parking

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

ACTIONS	TIMELINE	PRELIMINARY CAPITAL ESTIMATE
17.1 Acquire additional land adjacent to Latoria Creek Park to preserve and enhance the environmental and recreational value of the park. Pursue opportunities to reduce the City's cost of acquisition by using funding strategies outlined in the PRMP (e.g. Parks DCCs, Parks Reserve Fund, Donations and Fundraising, Community Partnerships).	Ongoing	TBD
17.2 When land near the park is planned for development, as a condition of subdivision, acquire additional park land adjacent to and near the park that fulfills the priority acquisition considerations outlined in the Management Plan.	Ongoing	N/A





PART 4

Implementation



Funding Strategies

A combination of funding strategies will be required to implement the recommendations developed within the Latoria Creek Park Management Plan. Refer to the PRMP document for a detailed outline of potential funding strategies for consideration including:

- Parks Taxation
- Parcel Tax (Levy)
- Parks Development Cost Charges (DCCs)
- Parks Reserve Fund
- Parks Decommissioning
- Amenity Contributions
- Coordination with Infrastructure Upgrades
- Senior Government Funding
- Donations & Fundraising
- Community Partnerships

4.1 RECOMMENDATIONS IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of the ideas and directions in the Latoria Creek Park Management Plan will occur over time as opportunities and funds are available. A flexible approach to implementation will be required as circumstances may expedite or delay time frames. All recommended actions will be at the discretion of Council based on overall community considerations.

In the following section, actions are organized into four time frames:

- **Short-term actions** are recommended to be completed in the next 0-2 years. These actions typically garnered strong public support and will provide an immediate benefit for park users. In some cases, short-term actions must be completed prior to medium and long-term actions.
- **Medium-term actions** are recommended for the 2-5 year time frame. Several of these projects will require strategic planning and procurement of funding.
- **Long-term actions** are recommended for consideration beyond 5 years and have lower priority or more complicating factors that may delay implementation.
- **Ongoing actions** include activities and improvements that will occur periodically over time. Funding for these projects will need to be considered in ongoing annual budgets for maintenance and operations.

A planning-level estimate for all capital projects identified in this plan is provided below; **however, it is important to read these estimates in the context of the following conditions:**

- Costs will continue to be clarified through future steps in planning and detailed design for specific projects.
- Costs provided are developed using historical construction cost data from similar projects and are provided to assist with budget planning. Actual costs may vary widely depending on site constraints, design, market forces, or other variables.
- Costs provided are for supply and installation unless otherwise noted.
- Estimates only consider capital costs in total, not a breakdown of funding sources. It is presumed that projects will be funded using a variety of strategies (see the PRMP).
- Inflation is not included in the estimates. Presumably, improvements implemented five years from now will be more expensive than estimates allocated today due to inflation.

TABLE 3: ALL ACTIONS SUMMARY

Below is a composite list of all actions in the Latoria Creek Park PMP, arranged in sequence by recommendation topic and corresponding numbering, and colour-coded by recommended timeline.

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
IMPROVE THE PARK TRAIL NETWORK			
1.1	Update primary park trails following the guidelines in Table 1, to improve accessibility, wayfinding, and durability, and to minimize impacts to natural areas. For trail location information, see Figure 5.	Short, Ongoing	Staff & Volunteer Time
1.2	Integrate key existing informal trails to be part of the designated park trail system that is signed and maintained. For proposed trail network, see Figure 5.	Short, Ongoing	Staff & Volunteer Time
1.3	Decommission select existing informal trails as identified in Figure 6. Discourage access with planting and signage.	Short, Ongoing	Staff & Volunteer Time
1.4	Develop new trail connections as identified in Figure 5 to provide a connected system with improved connectivity and route options.	Medium	\$15,000
1.5	Consider a footbridge across the lower reaches of Latoria Creek as part of the future planned connection and park access to the Latoria South neighbourhood (connection from the east Old Metchosin Road, as identified in Figure 5).	Medium	\$50,000
1.6	Develop an existing nature trail in the riparian buffer area to a section of accessible boardwalk to provide a (accessible) trail loop (see Figure 5).	Medium	\$20,000
1.7	Review opportunities within the development of the adjacent South Latoria neighbourhood to retain a trail along the eastern edge of the park. This trail along the upper bank east side of the creek provides a loop option when linked with the primary trail along the west side of the creek. Steep slopes and proximity to the riparian area limit the potential to develop a new separate trail within the park boundary along this east side (see Figure 5).	Short	Staff Time
1.8	Review the feasibility of creating an accessible trail loop within the lower elevations of the park if grades permit. Access the loop trail from the main southern park entry off of Pelican Drive. Integrate the existing trail along the west of Latoria Creek as to minimize impacts to natural areas (see Figure 5).	Long	\$15,000
UPGRADE PARK WAYFINDING & SIGNAGE			
2.1	Name Latoria Creek Park's trails, lookouts, streams, bedrock outcrops, stairs, and unique features (e.g. significant trees) after their unique physical characteristics. Engage with local First Nations to explore opportunities to use Indigenous names. Identify named features on park maps and signage to improve wayfinding.	Short	Staff time

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
2.2	Expand the overall City of Colwood parks signage standards to include the following signage types: Trailhead Kiosk, Trail Marker, Feature Identification, Code of Conduct (e.g. regulatory, safety, environmental protection), and Interpretive.	Short	Staff time
2.3	Develop and construct a trailhead kiosk at the primary park entries (as identified in figure 5). The kiosk should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Detailed Park Map: topographic contours, natural features, trails, park entries, lookout points, parking, and park amenities. » Detailed Trails Information: trail names, elevation profiles for primary trails, level of difficulty for trail routes, trail route distances, stair locations, boardwalk locations, and footbridge locations. » Regulatory Information: permitted park and trail uses, prohibited park and trail uses, dog on-leash / off-leash information, smoking and fire ban, park maintenance contract information, and park safety / emergency information. 	Short	\$20,000 for two locations (East entry location by developer)
2.4	Install secondary entry signs, as per City standards, at all secondary park entries to Latoria Creek Park. New signs are needed at 3 locations: Ponside Terrace, Elevation Pointe Terrace, and Propeller Place. New signs should be added to any new park entry developed in the future.	Medium	\$3,000
2.5	Install consistent code of conduct / regulatory signage at all park entries. Include permitted trail uses, prohibited trail uses, no-smoking, no-fires, and park safety / emergency information.	Short	See #2.4
2.6	Following completion of upgrades to the trails system, install and upgrade trail markers at the locations shown on Figure 5. Trail markers to include: trail name, directional arrows, key distances, level of difficulty, and park key map with location indication.	Medium	\$8,000
2.7	Develop an interpretive signage program for the park to educate visitors on the park's unique features, flora, fauna, and environmentally sensitive areas. Engage with local First Nations to explore opportunities to integrate Indigenous knowledge and teachings.	Medium	TBD
2.8	Install signage about protection of environmentally sensitive areas in the following locations: within the riparian buffer zone, restoration areas, and bedrock outcrop areas. Use brief, clear, positive language (e.g. "Environmentally Sensitive Area - please use designated trail and help conserve our park").	Short	\$2,000

IMPROVE PARKING & CONNECTIONS TO THE PARK

3.1	Designate accessible parking stalls at: the Latoria Road (north) entrance, and the Pelican Drive (south) entrance and improve the pedestrian trail alongside the parking on Latoria Road.	Short	\$5,000
3.2	Coordinate with engineering road works to upgrade parallel parking along both sides of Latoria Road.	Long	TBD

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
3.3	Install racks for secure bike parking at: the Latoria Road (north) entrance, and the Pelican Drive (south) entrance. Include bike parking at the future planned northeast entrance, and southeast entrance.	Short	\$12,000
3.4	For secondary park entries that have suitable road access (Propeller Drive, and Pelican Drive), provide and maintain signage that identifies where on-street parallel parking is permitted.	Short	\$500
3.5	Review and update the City of Colwood website for Latoria Creek Park to clarify that parking is limited. Provide information about active or alternative forms of transportation to the park (e.g. bike routes, bus routes).	Short, Ongoing	Staff Time
3.6	Coordinate with future engineering planning and implementation of upgrades on Latoria Road, Metchosin Road, or other roads accessing the park, to incorporate and strengthen active transportation connections to Latoria Creek Park by providing sidewalks and designated bike lanes or routes.	Ongoing	Staff Time
3.7	Prioritize trail upgrades and connections in the surrounding neighbourhoods that support the Beach to Mountain Community Trail Network and connections to Latoria Creek Park that are outlined in the PRMP.	Ongoing	Staff Time

PROTECT, RESTORE, & MONITOR RIPARIAN AREAS

4.1	In partnership with a qualified environmental professional (QEP), develop a detailed ecological plan for priority actions for restoration of Latoria Creek.	Medium	\$20,000
4.2	Establish riparian buffer zones in the park. Limit amenities in this zone to select trails (pervious surface only), footbridges, or boardwalks (see Figure 5). Restore disturbed surfaces within the buffer zone to a natural condition.	Short	Staff Time
4.3	Provide select, designated access points within the riparian buffer zone to enable pedestrian views of the creek. Install cedar fencing or boardwalks in these locations to control access and limit impacts.	Medium	See #1.5
4.4	Where human or dog activity is occurring off-trail, install natural cedar split-rail fencing to deter access and protect natural areas.	Short, Ongoing	\$10,000

PROTECT, RESTORE, & MONITOR FORESTED AREAS

5.1	Obtain an arborist review and tree assessment (tree size, species, health, risks, and recommendations) to update notable trees and areas within close proximity to trails, park entries, benches, or view points.	Short-term	\$10,000 (for planning work only)
5.2	Undertake tree management activities identified in the tree assessment (e.g. removals or pruning of compromised trees).	Ongoing	TBD (based on tree assessment)

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
PROTECT BEDROCK OUTCROPS & MEADOW AREAS			
6.1	Limit access to the sensitive bedrock outcrop and meadow ecosystem areas. Maintain the designated access to scenic lookout. Install visual (e.g. rope and signage) or physical barriers (e.g. cedar rail fencing) where park users are going off-trail.	Short	\$5,000
6.2	Install regulatory and interpretive signage at the scenic lookout to reinforce the value of the park's bedrock outcrop and meadow ecosystems and the risks that people, fire, and dogs pose to these sensitive areas. See #2 for more information on signage.	Short	\$1,000
PROVIDE FIRE RISK HAZARD MANAGEMENT			
7.1	Retain the services of a professional who specializes in fire hazard assessments in urban and interface areas to prepare a fire hazard assessment and recommendations for fire hazard mitigation compatible with the ecological objectives for Latoria Creek Park.	Short	\$10,000
7.2	Integrate fire hazard messaging and bans on smoking and fires within park regulatory signage at all entry points and at the scenic lookout.	Short	See #2.5 & #6.2
7.3	Engage with local First Nations to explore opportunities for fire hazard risk management in the park.	Ongoing	Staff Time
SUPPORT PARK STEWARDSHIP PARTNERSHIPS & PROGRAMS			
8.1	Form a park stewardship group, "Friends of Latoria Creek Park" or similar to lead stewardship in Latoria Creek Park including work parties to manage invasive species, restoration planting, and monitoring.	Short	Staff Time
8.2	Support and strengthen ongoing stewardship partnerships and programs with local First Nations, School District #62, and other stewardship-focused community organizations.	Ongoing	Staff Time
8.3	Continue to collaborate with neighbours and park stewardship groups to deliver cooperative management of invasive plant species in the park.	Ongoing	Staff Time
8.4	Establish annual municipal budget to provide ongoing funding of stewardship efforts and invasive plant management at Latoria Creek Park. Continue to pursue supplemental funding for stewardship efforts and special projects through partnership and grant funding opportunities.	Annual	Staff Time
8.5	Explore opportunities to expand program activities in the park with Royal Bay Secondary School's Indigenous Studies program.	Medium	Staff Time

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
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INTEGRATE SEATING & FURNISHINGS

9.1	Provide ~5 new benches in the park. Use Figure 5 to guide location selection. Benches to be located: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » To provide rest opportunity at regular (~150-300m) intervals along primary trails » Along trails designated as part of the planned Beach to Mountain Community Trail Network identified in the PRMP » At natural rest points along nature trails (e.g. at the top of a steep climb or a place of nature-viewing interest) 	Short to Medium	\$10,000
9.2	When existing benches are in need of renewal, use the City-wide parks standard bench.	Ongoing	\$2,000 each
9.3	Add three accessible picnic tables near the primary south park entry at Pelican Drive (see Figure 5). Include signage (see #2) and waste / recycling receptacles.	Medium	\$15,000
9.4	Provide updated waste and recycling receptacles / dog waste station at designated park entries (see Figure 5).	Medium	\$2,000 each

EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIGENOUS CULTURAL EXPRESSION

10.1	Explore opportunities with local First Nations for cultural expression to support Indigenous visibility and celebration in Latoria Creek Park.	Short	TBD
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PROVIDE A PARK TOILET

11.1	Provide a vault toilet at an accessible location in the south of Latoria Creek Park, adjacent to the proposed picnic area. Select a pre-fabricated, durable structure, sized as per American Disabilities Association (ADA) accessibility guidelines. Provide a concrete pad and accessible path access.	Long	\$20,000
11.2	When the installation of the public toilet is completed, create a maintenance schedule and operational budget for servicing.	Long	TBD

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
DEFINE PARK USES			
12.1	<p>Use the following list to guide park use in Latoria Creek Park and provide information about uses in park signage (see #2) and online:</p> <p>Approved Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Walking, hiking, and jogging (on trails only) » Picnicking (at picnic table sites) » Nature appreciation (e.g. bird watching, wildlife viewing, nature photography) » Outdoor education (e.g. class tours, sanctioned stewardship activities) <p>Conditional Uses (at the discretion of City staff):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Dog walking (on-leash and on trails only) » Stewardship activities » Research and scientific studies » Special events <p>Prohibited Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Motorized vehicles (except emergency and maintenance vehicles) » Fires and camping » Off-trail uses and access » Unlawful uses, including those identified in the Parks Bylaw » Other uses determined by City staff 	Short	Staff Time
DESIGNATE DOGS ON-LEASH			
13.1	To align with conservation management for Latoria Creek Park, and support the safety and comfort of all park users, update the City of Colwood <i>Animal Control Bylaw No. 1533, Dog Regulations Section 8.2 On-Leash Areas</i> to include Latoria Creek Park as on-leash only.	Short	Staff Time
13.2	Update park maps and add regulatory signage to indicate on-leash only zones within the park. Include on-leash indication on trail markers.	Short	See #2
13.3	Consider a process for a review and update of the <i>Animal Control Bylaw No. 1533</i> . In other urban jurisdictions, municipal bylaw commonly requires dogs to be on-leash in all public places except designated off-leash areas (designated areas are clarified by Schedules that can be updated). A bylaw update would be for the long-term benefit of the overall parks and recreation system to continue to meet the future needs of Colwood.	Short	Staff Time
CREATE A COOPERATIVE MANAGMENT MODEL			
14.1	Develop a Terms of Reference for a new community partnership model, drawing from experiences at Havenwood Park.	Short	Staff Time

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
14.2	Support the initiation of the new community partnership, including organization, initial funding, and staff support.	Medium	Staff Time
14.3	As part of the mandate of the new community partnership, require the following record keeping and monitoring tasks with assigned roles and responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Carry-out an annual site review of the park; » Compile an annual review report that summarizes accomplishments, clarifies priority actions, evaluates new project ideas, and updates the parks asset inventory; and » Hold an annual meeting and file a meeting agenda and recorded minutes. 	Annual	Staff Time

REVIEW & UPDATE THE PLAN

15.1	Undertake an annual review of the park. Measure progress against the Latoria Creek Park Management Plan.	Annual	Staff Time
15.2	In 10 years, complete a milestone review and update of the Latoria Creek Park Management Plan with stakeholder input, to ensure that the management and use of the park conforms to the spirit and intent of the park vision.	Long	\$20,000* *Not including community engagement
15.3	As potential opportunities for the park arise, evaluate them against the vision and goals of the Latoria Creek Park Management Plan. Integrate those that align with the vision, and adjust management priorities to incorporate these new opportunities.	Ongoing	Staff Time

REVIEW OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

16.1	Establish an on-going line item in the annual municipal budget dedicated to the management, development, operation, and maintenance of Latoria Creek Park.	Annual	Staff Time
16.2	Increase operations and maintenance budgets for Latoria Creek Park to accommodate new amenities, upgraded amenities, and restored natural areas.	Ongoing	Staff Time
16.3	Increase staffing levels to meet additional maintenance, operations, and management needs as the park is expanded or improved.	Ongoing	Staff Time

ACQUIRE ADDITIONAL LAND FOR THE PARK

17.1	Acquire additional land adjacent to Latoria Creek Park to preserve and enhance the environmental and recreational value of the park. Pursue opportunities to reduce the City's cost of acquisition by using funding strategies outlined in the PRMP (e.g. Parks DCCs, Parks Reserve Fund, Donations and Fundraising, Community Partnerships).	Ongoing	TBD
17.2	When land near the park is planned for development, as a condition of subdivision, acquire additional park land adjacent to and near the park that fulfills the priority acquisition considerations outlined in the Management Plan.	Ongoing	N/A

TABLE 4: SHORT-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS (0-2 YEARS)

Short-term actions were prioritized due to:

- ▶ Garnering the most public input during the management plan process
- ▶ Potential to have high positive impact on the park
- ▶ Need for completion as a first step in a phased implementation process

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
IMPROVE THE PARK TRAIL NETWORK			
1.1	Update primary park trails following the guidelines in Table 1, to improve accessibility, wayfinding, and durability, and to minimize impacts to natural areas. For trail location information, see Figure 5.	Short, Ongoing	Staff & Volunteer Time
1.2	Integrate key existing informal trails to be part of the designated park trail system that is signed and maintained. For proposed trail network, see Figure 5.	Short, Ongoing	Staff & Volunteer Time
1.3	Decommission select existing informal trails as identified in Figure 6. Discourage access with planting and signage.	Short, Ongoing	Staff & Volunteer Time
1.7	Review opportunities within the development of the adjacent South Latoria neighbourhood to retain a trail along the eastern edge of the park. This trail along the upper bank east side of the creek provides a loop option when linked with the primary trail along the west side of the creek. Steep slopes and proximity to the riparian area limit the potential to develop a new separate trail within the park boundary along this east side (see Figure 5).	Short	Staff Time
UPGRADE PARK WAYFINDING & SIGNAGE			
2.1	Name Latoria Creek Park's trails, lookouts, streams, bedrock outcrops, stairs, and unique features (e.g. significant trees) after their unique physical characteristics. Engage with local First Nations to explore opportunities to use Indigenous names. Identify named features on park maps and signage to improve wayfinding.	Short	Staff time
2.2	Expand the overall City of Colwood parks signage standards to include the following signage types: Trailhead Kiosk, Trail Marker, Feature Identification, Code of Conduct (e.g. regulatory, safety, environmental protection), and Interpretive.	Short	Staff time
2.3	Develop and construct a trailhead kiosk at the primary park entries (as identified in figure 5). The kiosk should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Detailed Park Map: topographic contours, natural features, trails, park entries, lookout points, parking, and park amenities. » Detailed Trails Information: trail names, elevation profiles for primary trails, level of difficulty for trail routes, trail route distances, stair locations, boardwalk locations, and footbridge locations. » Regulatory Information: permitted park and trail uses, prohibited park and trail uses, dog on-leash information, smoking and fire ban, park maintenance contract information, and park safety / emergency information. 	Short	\$20,000 for two locations (East entry location by developer)

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
2.5	Install consistent code of conduct / regulatory signage at all park entries. Include permitted trail uses, prohibited trail uses, no-smoking, no-fires, and park safety / emergency information.	Short	See #2.4
2.8	Install signage about protection of environmentally sensitive areas in the following locations: within the riparian buffer zone, restoration areas, and bedrock outcrop areas. Use brief, clear, positive language (e.g. "Environmentally Sensitive Area - please use designated trail and help conserve our park").	Short	\$2,000

IMPROVE PARKING & CONNECTIONS TO THE PARK

3.1	Designate accessible parking stalls at: the Latoria Road (north) entrance, and the Pelican Drive (south) entrance and improve the pedestrian trail alongside the parking on Latoria Road.	Short	\$5,000
3.3	Install racks for secure bike parking at: the Latoria Road (north) entrance, and the Pelican Drive (south) entrance. Include bike parking at the future planned northeast entrance, and southeast entrance.	Short	\$12,000
3.4	For secondary park entries that have suitable road access (Propeller Drive, and Pelican Drive), provide and maintain signage that identifies where on-street parallel parking is permitted.	Short	\$500
3.5	Review and update the City of Colwood website for Latoria Creek Park to clarify that parking is limited. Provide information about active or alternative forms of transportation to the park (e.g. bike routes, bus routes).	Short, Ongoing	Staff Time

PROTECT, RESTORE, & MONITOR RIPARIAN AREA

4.2	Establish riparian buffer zones in the park. Limit amenities in this zone to select trails (pervious surface only), footbridges, or boardwalks (see Figure 5). Restore disturbed surfaces within the buffer zone to a natural condition.	Short	Staff Time
4.4	Where human or dog activity is occurring off-trail, install natural cedar split-rail fencing to deter access and protect natural areas.	Short, Ongoing	\$10,000

PROTECT, RESTORE, & MONITOR FORESTED AREAS

5.1	Obtain an arborist review and tree assessment (tree size, species, health, risks, and recommendations) to update notable trees and areas within close proximity to trails, park entries, benches, or view points.	Short-term	\$10,000 (for planning work only)
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PROTECT BEDROCK OUTCROPS & MEADOW AREAS

6.1	Limit access to the sensitive bedrock outcrop and meadow ecosystem areas. Maintain the designated access to scenic lookout. Install visual (e.g. rope and signage) or physical barriers (e.g. cedar rail fencing) where park users are going off-trail.	Short	\$5,000
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REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
6.2	Install regulatory and interpretive signage at the scenic lookout to reinforce the value of the park's bedrock outcrop and meadow ecosystems and the risks that people, fire, and dogs pose to these sensitive areas. See #2 for more information on signage.	Short	\$1,000
PROVIDE FIRE RISK HAZARD MANAGEMENT			
7.1	Retain the services of a professional who specializes in fire hazard assessments in urban and interface areas to prepare a fire hazard assessment and recommendations for fire hazard mitigation compatible with the ecological objectives for Latoria Creek Park.	Short	\$10,000
7.2	Integrate fire hazard messaging and bans on smoking and fires within park regulatory signage at all entry points and at the scenic lookout.	Short	See #2.5 & #6.2
SUPPORT PARK STEWARDSHIP PARTNERSHIPS & PROGRAMS			
8.1	Form a park stewardship group, "Friends of Latoria Creek Park" or similar to lead stewardship in Latoria Creek Park including work parties to manage invasive species, restoration planting, and monitoring.	Short	Staff Time
INTEGRATE SEATING & FURNISHINGS			
9.1	Provide ~5 new benches in the park. Use Figure 5 to guide location selection. Benches to be located: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » To provide rest opportunity at regular (~150-300m) intervals along primary trails » Along trails designated as part of the planned Beach to Mountain Community Trail Network identified in the PRMP » At natural rest points along nature trails (e.g. at the top of a steep climb or a place of nature-viewing interest) 	Short to Medium	\$10,000
EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIGENOUS CULTURAL EXPRESSION			
10.1	Explore opportunities with local First Nations for cultural expression to support Indigenous visibility and celebration in Latoria Creek Park.	Short	TBD

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
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DEFINE PARK USES

12.1	<p>Use the following list to guide park use in Latoria Creek Park and provide information about uses in park signage (see #2) and online:</p> <p>Approved Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Walking, hiking, and jogging (on trails only) » Picnicking (at picnic table sites) » Nature appreciation (e.g. bird watching, wildlife viewing, nature photography) » Outdoor education (e.g. class tours, sanctioned stewardship activities) <p>Conditional Uses (at the discretion of City staff):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Dog walking (on-leash and on-trail only) » Stewardship activities » Research and scientific studies » Special events <p>Prohibited Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Motorized vehicles (except emergency and maintenance vehicles) » Fires and camping » Off-trail uses and access » Unlawful uses, including those identified in the Parks Bylaw » Other uses determined by City staff 	Short	Staff Time
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DESIGNATE DOGS ON-LEASH

13.1	<p>To align with conservation management for Latoria Creek Park, and support the safety and comfort of all park users, update the City of Colwood <i>Animal Control Bylaw No. 1533, Dog Regulations Section 8.2 On-Leash Areas</i> to include Latoria Creek Park as on-leash only.</p>	Short	Staff Time
13.2	<p>Update park maps and add regulatory signage to indicate on-leash only zones within the park. Include on-leash indication on trail markers.</p>	Short	See #2
13.3	<p>Consider a process for a review and update of the <i>Animal Control Bylaw No. 1533</i>. In other urban jurisdictions, municipal bylaw commonly requires dogs to be on-leash in all public places except designated off-leash areas (designated areas are clarified by Schedules that can be updated). A bylaw update would be for the long-term benefit of the overall parks and recreation system to continue to meet the future needs of Colwood.</p>	Short	Staff Time

CREATE A COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT MODEL

14.1	<p>Develop a Terms of Reference for a new community partnership model, drawing from experiences at Havenwood Park.</p>	Short	Staff Time
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TABLE 5: MEDIUM-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS (2-5 YEARS)

Actions and recommendations identified as medium-term may warrant consideration for earlier completion if opportunity or funding permit. Medium-term actions were prioritized due to:

- ▶ Potential to require more extensive design, planning, and accumulation of funding resources compared to short-term actions.

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
IMPROVE THE PARK TRAIL NETWORK			
1.4	Develop new trail connections as identified in Figure 5 to provide a connected system with improved connectivity and route options.	Medium	\$15,000
1.5	Consider a footbridge across the lower reaches of Latoria Creek as part of the future planned connection and park access to the Latoria South neighbourhood (connection from the east Old Metchosin Road, as identified in Figure 5).	Medium	\$50,000
1.6	Develop an existing nature trail in the riparian buffer area to a section of accessible boardwalk to provide a (accessible) trail loop (see Figure 5).	Medium	\$20,000
UPGRADE PARK WAYFINDING SIGNAGE			
2.4	Install secondary entry signs, as per City standards, at all secondary park entries to Latoria Creek Park. New signs are needed at 3 locations: Ponside Terrace, Elevation Pointe Terrace, and Propeller Place. New signs should be added to any new park entry developed in the future.	Medium	\$3,000
2.6	Following completion of upgrades to the trails system, install and upgrade trail markers at the locations shown on Figure 5. Trail markers to include: trail name, directional arrows, key distances, level of difficulty, and park key map with location indication.	Medium	\$8,000
2.7	Develop an interpretive signage program for the park to educate visitors on the park's unique features, flora, fauna, and environmentally sensitive areas. Engage with local First Nations to explore opportunities to integrate Indigenous knowledge and teachings.	Medium	WTBD
PROTECT, RESTORE, & MONITOR RIPARIAN AREAS			
4.1	In partnership with a qualified environmental professional (QEP), develop a detailed ecological plan for priority actions for restoration of Latoria Creek.	Medium	\$20,000
4.3	Provide select, designated access points within the riparian buffer zone to enable pedestrian views of the creek. Install cedar fencing or boardwalks in these locations to control access and limit impacts.	Medium	See #1.5

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
SUPPORT PARK STEWARDSHIP PARTNERSHIPS & PROGRAMS			
8.5	Explore opportunities to expand program activities in the park with Royal Bay Secondary School's Indigenous Studies program.	Medium	Staff Time
INTEGRATE SEATING & FURNISHINGS			
9.3	Add three accessible picnic tables near the primary south park entry at Pelican Drive (see Figure 5). Include signage (see #2) and waste / recycling receptacles.	Medium	\$15,000
9.4	Provide updated waste and recycling receptacles / dog waste station at designated park entries (see Figure 5).	Medium	\$2,000 each
CREATE A COOPERATIVE MANAGMENT MODEL			
14.2	Support the initiation of the new community partnership, including organization, initial funding, and staff support.	Medium	Staff Time

TABLE 6: LONG-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS (5-10 YEARS)

Actions and recommendations identified as long-term may warrant consideration for earlier completion if opportunity or funding permit. Long-term actions were lower priority improvements or are related to other planning processes.

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
IMPROVE THE PARK TRAIL NETWORK			
1.8	Review the feasibility of creating an accessible trail loop within the lower elevations of the park if grades permit. Access the loop trail from the main southern park entry off of Pelican Drive. Integrate the existing trail along the west of Latoria Creek as to minimize impacts to natural areas (see Figure 5).	Long	\$15,000
IMPROVE PARKING			
3.2	Coordinate with engineering road works to upgrade parallel parking along both sides of Latoria Road.	Long	TBD
PROVIDE A PARK TOILET			
11.1	Provide a vault toilet at an accessible location in the south of Latoria Creek Park, adjacent to the proposed picnic area. Select a pre-fabricated, durable structure, sized as per American Disabilities Association (ADA) accessibility guidelines. Provide a concrete pad and accessible path access.	Long	\$20,000
11.2	When the installation of the public toilet is completed, create a maintenance schedule and operational budget for servicing.	Long	TBD
REVIEW & UPDATE THE PLAN			
15.2	In 10 years, complete a milestone review and update of the Latoria Creek Park Management Plan with stakeholder input, to ensure that the management and use of the park conforms to the spirit and intent of the park vision.	Long	\$20,000* *Not including community engagement

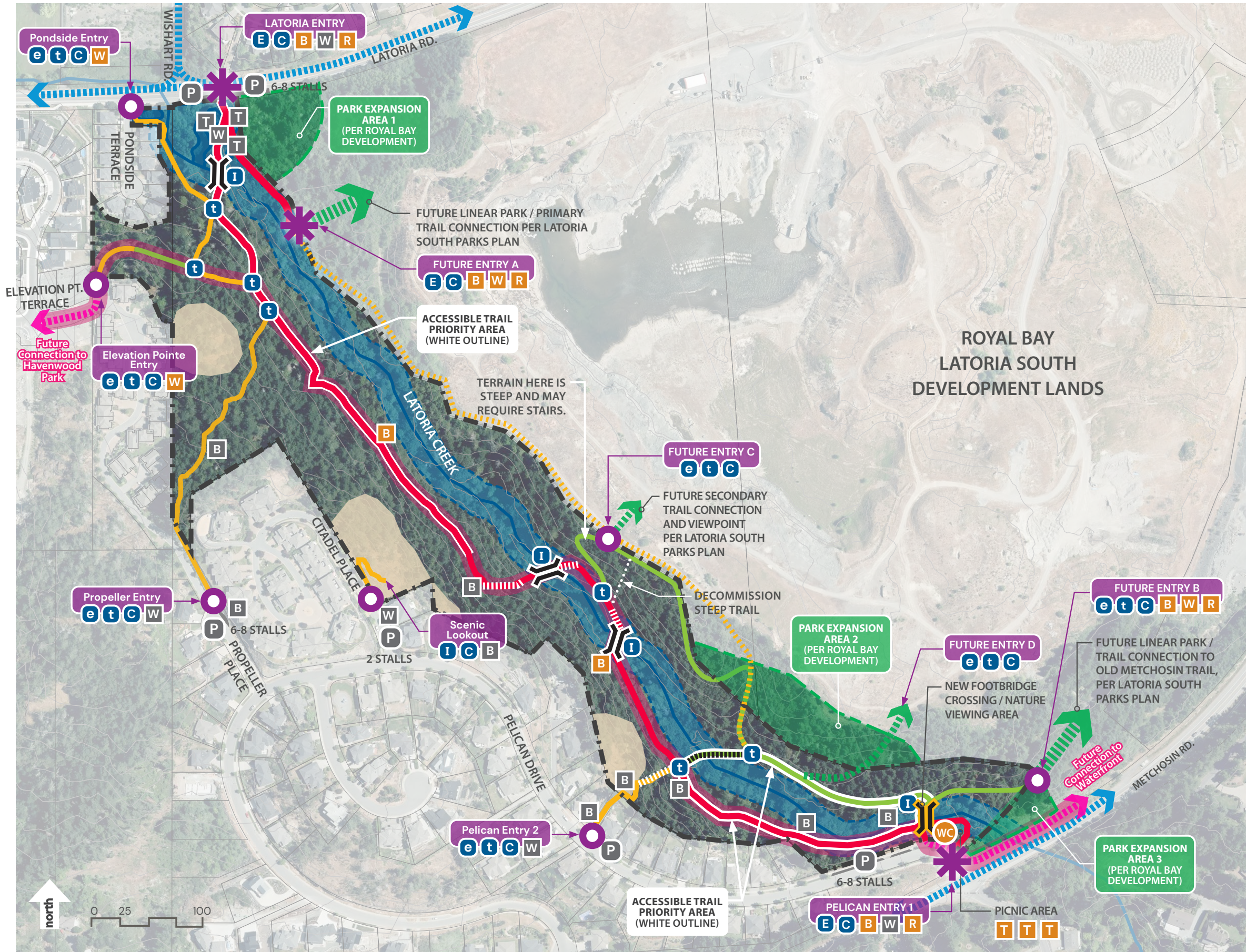
TABLE 7: ONGOING RECOMMENDATIONS

Ongoing actions includes items that should be considered on an ongoing basis as part of management of the overall park.

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
IMPROVE PARKING & CONNECTIONS TO THE PARK			
3.6	Coordinate with future engineering planning and implementation of upgrades on Latoria Road, Metchosin Road, or other roads accessing the park, to incorporate and strengthen active transportation connections to Latoria Creek Park by providing sidewalks and designated bike lanes or routes.	Ongoing	Staff Time
3.7	Prioritize trail upgrades and connections in the surrounding neighbourhoods that support the Beach to Mountain Community Trail Network and connections to Latoria Creek Park that are outlined in the PRMP.	Ongoing	Staff Time
PROTECT, RESTORE, & MONITOR FORESTED AREAS			
5.2	Undertake tree management activities identified in the tree assessment (e.g. removals or pruning of compromised trees).	Ongoing	TBD (based on tree assessment)
PROVIDE FIRE RISK HAZARD MANAGEMENT			
7.3	Engage with local First Nations to explore opportunities for fire hazard risk management in the park.	Ongoing	Staff Time
SUPPORT PARK STEWARDSHIP PARTNERSHIPS & PROGRAMS			
8.2	Support and strengthen ongoing stewardship partnerships and programs with local First Nations, School District #62, and other stewardship-focused community organizations.	Ongoing	Staff Time
8.3	Continue to collaborate with neighbours and park stewardship groups to deliver cooperative management of invasive plant species in the park.	Ongoing	Staff Time
8.4	Establish annual municipal budget to provide ongoing funding of stewardship efforts and invasive plant management at Latoria Creek Park. Continue to pursue supplemental funding for stewardship efforts and special projects through partnership and grant funding opportunities.	Annual	Staff Time
INTEGRATE SEATING & FURNISHINGS			
9.2	When existing benches are in need of renewal, use the City-wide parks standard bench.	Ongoing	\$2,000 each

REF#	ACTIONS	TIMELINE	CAPITAL ESTIMATE
CREATE A COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT MODEL			
14.3	<p>As part of the mandate of the new community partnership, require the following record keeping and monitoring tasks with assigned roles and responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Carry-out an annual site review of the park; » Compile an annual review report that summarizes accomplishments, clarifies priority actions, evaluates new project ideas, and updates the parks asset inventory; and » Hold an annual meeting and file a meeting agenda and recorded minutes. 	Annual	Staff Time
REVIEW & UPDATE THE PLAN			
15.1	Undertake an annual review of the park. Measure progress against the Latoria Creek Park Management Plan.	Annual	Staff Time
15.3	As potential opportunities for the park arise, evaluate them against the vision and goals of the Latoria Creek Park Management Plan. Integrate those that align with the vision, and adjust management priorities to incorporate these new opportunities.	Ongoing	Staff Time
REVIEW OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE			
16.1	Establish an on-going line item in the annual municipal budget dedicated to the management, development, operation, and maintenance of Latoria Creek Park.	Annual	Staff Time
16.2	Increase operations and maintenance budgets for Latoria Creek Park to accommodate new amenities, uWpgraded amenities, and restored natural areas.	Ongoing	Staff Time
16.3	Increase staffing levels to meet additional maintenance, operations, and management needs as the park is expanded or improved.	Ongoing	Staff Time
ACQUIRE ADDITIONAL LAND FOR THE PARK			
17.1	Acquire additional land adjacent to Latoria Creek Park to preserve and enhance the environmental and recreational value of the park. Pursue opportunities to reduce the City's cost of acquisition by using funding strategies outlined in the PRMP (e.g. Parks DCCs, Parks Reserve Fund, Donations and Fundraising, Community Partnerships).	Ongoing	TBD
17.2	When land near the park is planned for development, as a condition of subdivision, acquire additional park land adjacent to and near the park that fulfills the priority acquisition considerations outlined in the Management Plan.	Ongoing	N/A

LATORIA CREEK PARK - ILLUSTRATIVE CONCEPT PLAN



LEGEND

- PARK BOUNDARY
 - EXISTING CREEK (SEE #4)
- ### NATURAL AREAS
- BEDROCK OUTCROP & MEADOW AREAS (SEE #6)
 - RIPARIAN AREA (SEE #4)
(15M RIPARIAN SETBACK BUFFER ZONE)
 - FORESTED AREAS (SEE #5)
- ### PARK TRAILS (SEE #1)
- Alignments shown here are conceptual. Trail routing to respond to grades and provide a buffer for environmentally sensitive areas.
- PRIMARY TRAILS
 - SECONDARY TRAILS
 - SECONDARY ROUTE (FOR REVIEW)
 - NEW TRAIL CONNECTIONS
 - EXISTING STAIRS
 - PROPOSED BOARDWALK
 - EXISTING FOOTBRIDGE
 - PROPOSED FOOTBRIDGE
- ### PARK ACCESS (SEE #3)
- PARKING AREA (ON-STREET)
 - PRIORITY CONNECTION FOR THE BEACH TO MOUNTAIN ROUTE (PER PRMP)
 - FUTURE CONNECTION TO ROYAL BAY LATORIA SOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD
 - ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION CONNECTION
 - PRIMARY PARK ENTRY
 - SECONDARY PARK ENTRY
- ### SIGNAGE (SEE #2)
- Locations shown are conceptual.
- PRIMARY PARK ENTRY SIGN & MAP KIOSK
 - SECONDARY PARK ENTRY SIGN
 - TRAIL MARKER SIGN
 - CODE OF CONDUCT SIGN
 - INTERPRETIVE SIGN
- ### FURNISHINGS & AMENITIES (SEE #9)
- Locations shown are conceptual and should respond to grades, natural rest areas, and environmental features.
- BENCH (UPGRADED / PROPOSED)
 - SECURE BIKE PARKING
 - PICNIC TABLE (UPGRADED / PROPOSED)
 - WASTE / RECYCLING RECEPTACLE & DOG STATION
 - PARK TOILET (SEE #11)

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CITY OF COLWOOD

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