

7.9 Hamilton Area Trails

Vision

The trails will provide a series of continuous trail loops to integrate this small and vibrant community and provide safe access to the existing open spaces and community amenities, and the two river waterfronts. The key principles will be safety, clear delineation of the trails, and the creation of waterfront staging areas while respecting the active waterfront use along the south side of the Fraser River.

Location

No.9 Road to Boundary Road along the south side, and River Road to approximately the North East Bog Forest along the north side of the Fraser River.

Important Links and Destinations

McLean Park and Hamilton School/Park, Westminster Hwy. designated cycling route (under development); the Ministry of Transportation and Highways regional bicycle routes; Graybar marina area; the Fraser Port lands (under development); Riverport Entertainment Complex, Queensborough, New Westminster; North East Bog Forest (presently not accessible); the GVRD administered Don and Lion Islands; and the existing waterfront trails and roadways along the South and North Arms of the Fraser River.

Other City and External Plans

Westminster Highway, Boundary Road and River Road are considered part of the Cycling Network that is being developed as budgets allow. Sidewalks are required for new developments along Westminster Highway which will make the neighbourhood more pedestrian friendly. TransLink considers this section of Westminster Hwy. part of the Major Regional Road Network and improvements will be cost-shared. If the residential area on the east side of the highway becomes redeveloped then walkways and sidewalks will be incorporated into this area. The Fraser Port lands are currently under development. The City is working with the Port to ensure that trails and roadways provide east-west connections and access to the waterfront. This will allow residents in the Hamilton area a safer and more direct access to Riverport and the west side of Richmond. The City has ongoing discussions about the need to flood proof the island which may impact the elevation of the dyke and the drainage system. This may provide opportunities for trails in the future. B.C. Packers (BCpl.1999) owns waterfront property along the South Arm which is presently under remediation and will be available for sale in the near future.



Hamilton Trails



Pocket Park Fraserwood Industrial Park



Dyke east of No. 9 Road Lafarge Concrete in plant in the background



River Road



Dyke ends at the Tree Island Ltd. site



Boundary Road / New Westminster

Recommendations

Short Term

1. Coordinate with Transportation Planning on the functional design of a multi-purpose cycling route and pedestrian pathway along Westminster Highway (south of Hwy. 91).
2. Investigate the construction of a 250 meter trail along the north edge of River Road creating a loop that connects the Queen's Canal trail and pump station staging area back to Westminster Highway.
3. Provide picnic tables at the Queen's Canal pump station staging area.
4. Provide trail identification and directional signage on all existing trails throughout the Hamilton area.
5. Replace the gates on the dyke east of No.9 Road and the Graybar area with trail bollards and identification signs.
6. Develop a small waterfront staging area at the Hamilton road end.
7. Construct a trail on the north side of Dyke Road on the boulevard constructed as a result of a ditch infill east of Queens Road.
8. Construct a trail in front of Sovereign Yacht parking lot to connect to the existing off-road dyke trail to Boundary Road.

Medium Term

9. To create a north-south link along Boundary Road work with the City of New Westminster to potentially partner in developing a trail along the east side of the Boundary Road canal.
10. Coordinate with the City of New Westminster to create a staging area in their future park at the Boundary Road/Dyke Road intersection that will provide maps and information about both municipalities (in 3 to 5 years).
11. Work with the GVRD Parks Department to provide interpretation about the two conservation areas, Don and Lion Islands. The GVRD does not presently wish to promote public access to these islands. If in the future this changes, consider working with the GVRD and the Graybar Marina to provide canoe/kayak launching opportunities.
12. Investigate the potential of utilizing the Thompson Rd. r.o.w. and negotiate with Tree Island Steel to provide access to complete a trail loop.
13. Work with Ministry of Transportation and Highways to improve trail maintenance and signage to bridges.

Ongoing / Long Term

14. Review the potential of providing public access within the North East Bog Forest and the creation of this as a key destination in the area.

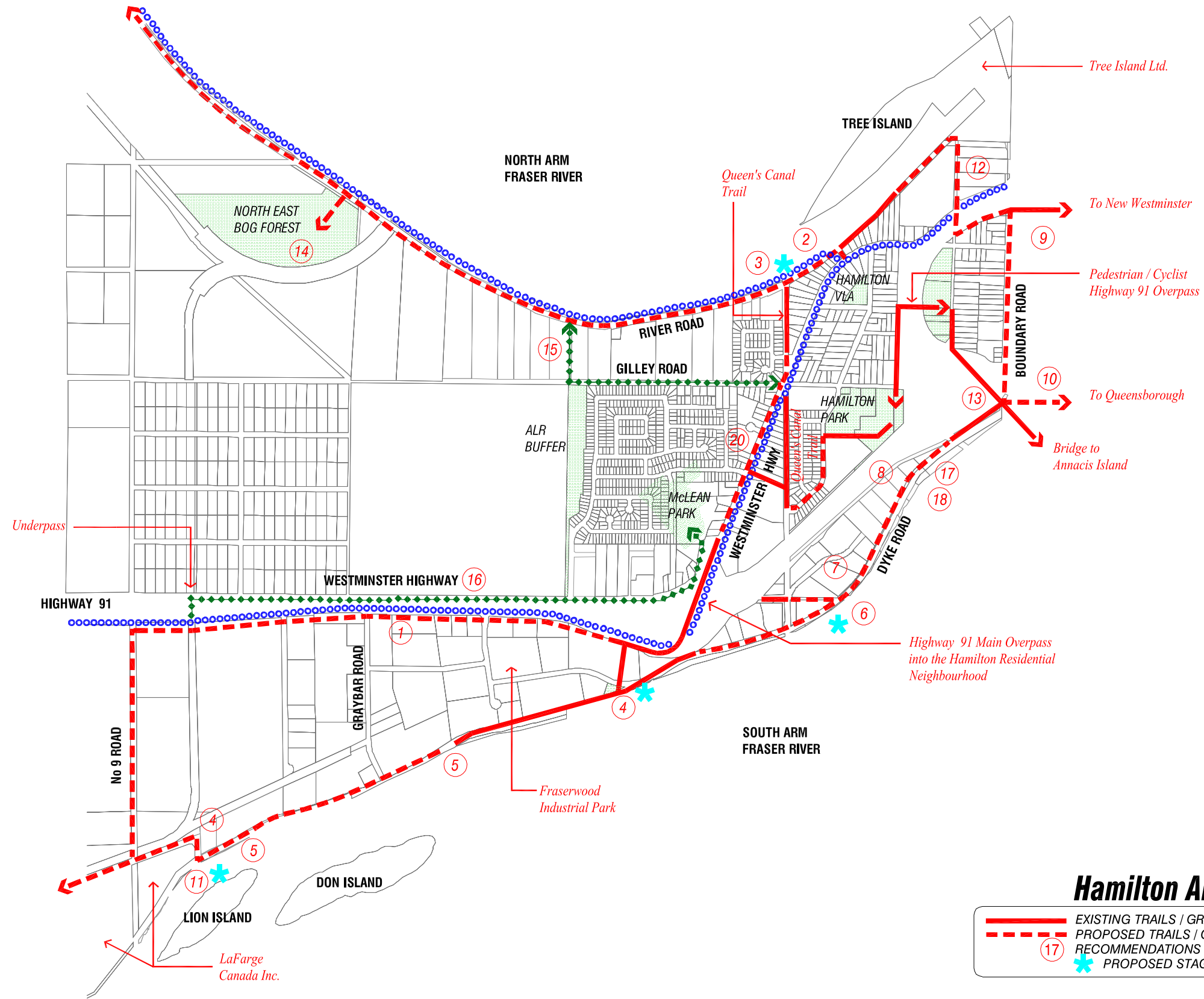
15. Consult with the Agricultural Advisory Committee for the potential use of the Gilley Road r.o.w. and other undeveloped right-of-ways as a trail.
16. Construct a trail along the south side of the old Westminster Highway (north of Hwy. 91) to link residents to the Hwy. 91 underpass.
17. Consider acquisition of waterfront property and environmentally sensitive areas along the south side and the north side as opportunities arise.
18. Negotiate with new developments to provide public waterfront amenities and upland trails to link to the waterfront.
19. Co-ordinate with other Engineering and Public Works to utilize opportunities provided by ditch infills to develop trails.
20. Work with Transportation Planning and TransLink as Westminster Hwy. is upgraded to include pedestrian improvements as part of the transportation network.



Shelter Island marina



Dyke Trail to Boundary Road



Hamilton Area Trails

	EXISTING TRAILS / GREENWAYS		EXISTING CYCLE ROUTES
	PROPOSED TRAILS / GREENWAYS		PROPOSED CYCLE ROUTES
	PROPOSED STAGING AREAS		PROPOSED NEIGHBOURHOOD GREEN LINKS

N.T.S.