

7.1 Steveston Area Trails

Vision

The Steveston area trails will provide opportunities for residents and visitors to experience and enjoy the active village centre, commercial and historic waterfront, and the natural scenery along the river. The key focus is the waterfront greenways with a series of trails linking to the waterfront and other greenways in the area. The key principles will be ensuring a strong integration of the visions for land and water uses, the development of a blueways program for the waterfront, provision of further interpretation, and respecting the environmental sensitivity of the foreshore.

Location

Steveston Highway south to the river, West Dyke Trail to No.3 Road

Important Links and Destinations

West Dyke Trail; Garry Point Park; Steveston Village; Steveston Park and Community Centre; the Steveston Waterfront Greenways including historic sites such as Gulf of Georgia Cannery (National historic site); Britannia Heritage Shipyard and London Farm; the South Dyke Trail; 50 acre City owned land (Tree Nursery); T. Homma Elementary School/Park; No. 3 Road Sports Fishing Pier; Railway Avenue designated bike route and future greenway.

Other City and External Plans

The Waterfront Development Strategy is reviewing opportunities for blueways that include programming recreational activities on the water, marinas and other potential active uses of the water, as well as ensuring that this is integrated with upland development (such as the 50 acre City owned site at the foot of No.3 Road). Numerous programs and events for the public are hosted at Britannia Heritage Shipyards and Gulf of Georgia Cannery throughout the year. The City is upgrading Moncton Street in front of Steveston Park with traffic calming measures to reflect the work completed on the south side of the street (Imperial Landing) as part of the original 1994 Greenways Plan. Transportation Planning is reviewing the condition and need for upgrades of No.2 Road south of Steveston Highway due to the proposed redevelopment of the London-Princess and Trites Industrial areas to residential use. A new commercial development in the Village adjacent to Steveston Landing will include improved public access along the waterfront. A proposed townhouse development on 7th Ave across from Garry Point Park will provide trail access and interpretation on Ferry Lane. Gulf of Georgia has requested potential use of the lane behind 3rd Avenue as a trail with memorial tree planting. The City is considering different route options for the Interurban Tram. TransLink has proposals to develop a bus loop on Chatham Street on Steveston Harbour Authority lands and will provide sidewalk improvements as part of their development.



Garry Point Park



Steveston view from Garry Point Park



Imperial Landing

Recommendations:

Short Term

1. Review the park plan for Garry Point Park and consider developing a tree planting plan to provide shade and to be able to respond more efficiently to community requests for e.g. cherry tree planting and memorial trees.
2. Develop Ferry Lane as a trail link between Chatham Road and Moncton Street and provide historic interpretation.
3. Work with Gulf of Georgia on the design and potential use of the lane behind 3rd Avenue as a trail link as per the 1994 Steveston Greenways Plan.
4. Continue to work with the Steveston Harbour Authority on the potential design and development of the Tin Shed Site at 3rd Avenue and Moncton Street as a bookend for Steveston Village as per the Greenways Plan.
5. Coordinate with the Waterfront Development Strategy committee as different options for water use and support facilities are considered.
6. Work with the developers in the London-Princess area to ensure that the appropriate trail links are made to the waterfront and along the City owned former CNR right-of-way.
7. Develop a master plan for the City owned land between Gilbert and No.3 Road.
8. Coordinate with Transportation Planning to ensure a trail connection along the east side of No.2 Road is incorporated in any redevelopment of the road right-of-way south of Steveston Highway.
9. Continue dialogue with the GVRD on the most appropriate location for a potential pedestrian and cycling ferry link to Ladner.
10. Determine the best route and location for the Interurban Tram and barn.
11. Coordinate with other City staff and the Advisory Committee on the Environment as they negotiate with the appropriate agencies on the potential public use and access to Shady Island (Steveston Island).

Medium

12. Redesign the lane from Steveston Park to No.1 Road and the Chatham Street to create a strong pedestrian corridor that connects Railway Avenue to No. 1 Road.
13. Work with the Provincial Government to provide public access on the north side of Scotch Pond with the potential of creating a water crossing to access the land west of Garry Point Park.
14. Construct an off-road trail along Gilbert Road from Steveston Highway to Dyke Road.
15. Work with Transportation Planning on traffic calming measures for No. 3 Road south of Steveston Highway.



Britannia Heritage Shipyard



Paramount Pond area



No. 2 Road Fishing Pier



South Dyke Trail, near London's Landing



London - Princess area



South Dyke - Gilbert Beach

16. Consider pedestrian and cyclist ferry 'transit stops' along the waterfront with the goal of connecting the trail users to key destinations e.g. Britannia Heritage Shipyard, Steveston Village, Garry Point Park, No. 3 Road Fishing Pier, and Riverport.
17. Develop a plan for the triangular green space on Railway Avenue south of Moncton Street.

Ongoing / Long Term

18. Ensure ongoing coordination and intergration of the upland development and water based uses.
19. Consider continuing the trail along the former CNR right-of-way from No.2 Road to Gilbert Road and onto the 50 acre City owned lands following due process with the Farmers Institute or appointed Agricultural Advisory Committee.
20. Consider developing a trail along Monteith Road from No.2 Road to Gilbert Road following due process with the Farmers Institute or appointed Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Proposed Neighbourhood Green Links

Although the focus here is on the major city-wide trails, there are a number of key neighbourhood links that eventually lead to the waterfront. To ensure that opportunities are not missed while more detailed work on the neighbourhoods routes is undertaken in the future, a few suggestions have been made here.

21. As the Trites Industrial area undergoes redevelopment, ensure north-south links connecting to the public walkways in Southcove and to the Steveston Waterfront Greenways, and create east-west connections to link the proposed new neighbourhood to T.Homma School/Park site.
22. Construct a Neighbourhood Green Link along Trites Road with wider grass boulevards and a 2.0 meter wide path to link the Steveston Greenways to Moncton Street, through the Austin Harris site, and onto Westwind Elementary School/Park site.
23. Construct trails in Westwind School/Park that link to the surrounding neighbourhood.
24. Formalize and construct the necessary paths to connect users on Railway Avenue to the McMath linear green space, through the school/park site to No.1 Road, and into Lord Byng School/Park.
25. Develop a path along the eastern edge of McMath School/Park to connect to Fentimen Place and Steveston Park.
26. Design and reconstruct Fentimen Place road right-of-way as redevelopment occurs to provide a strong pedestrian connection into Steveston Park from McMath School/Park.

