

7.8 East Richmond North Fraser River Greenway

Vision

The trails along the North Arm of the Fraser will eventually form a part of a major riverfront greenway linking the Hamilton community to the Bridgeport area. The key principles will be promoting safe public waterfront access, protecting environmentally sensitive areas, and increasing awareness of the working river while balancing the needs of industry, agriculture, recreation, and flood protection.

Location

Approximately 5 kilometers from No.6 Road to the River Road turnoff.

Important Links and Key Destinations

The No.7 Road Pier/Park; future No.7 Road Trail; North East Bog Forest, Hamilton area trails, the Ministry of Transportation and Highways Regional bicycle routes to the east; the No.9 Road fishing bar; the open river vistas as well as mature tree stands along River Road itself; and trails within the Bridgeport area.

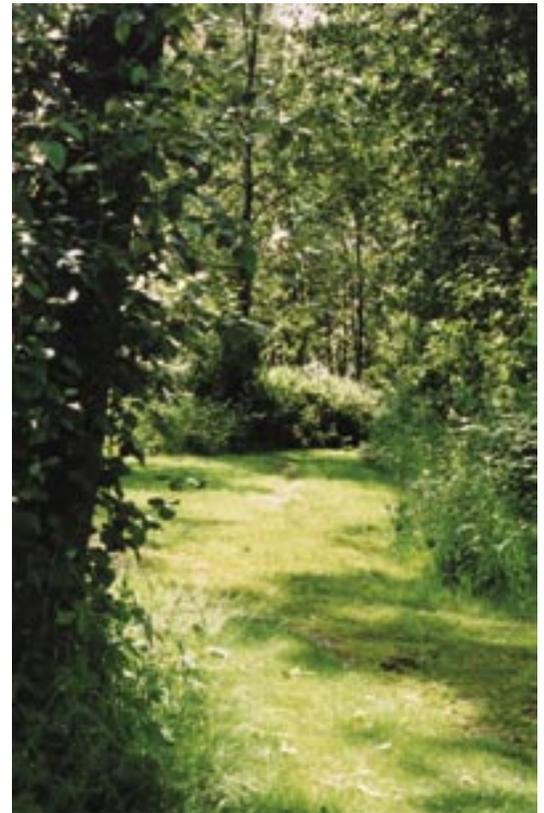
Other City and External Plans

River Road and No. 6 Road north of Westminster Highway are part of the approved Richmond Cycling Network. Upgrades are considered long term. The City is undertaking a Flood Protection and Management Strategy for the island. The results of this strategy may impact the width and elevation of the dykes which in turn could impact the trails and amenities along the waterfront. While the City owns much of the upland property and riparian rights along this stretch, the North Fraser Port Authority administers the water lots including those that are filled in. The Port mandate is to generate revenue from these properties. Richmond City Council has requested that staff work with the North Fraser Port Authority to develop a co-operative and integrated plan that balances the needs of agriculture, recreation and industry along the river in the short and long term.

Recommendations

Short Term

1. Provide waterfront pedestrian access close to the Hamilton residential area by constructing a 250 meter trail along the north edge of River Road from the Queen's Canal pump station/staging area to Westminster Hwy (see Hamilton trails).
2. Investigate the potential to construct small pullouts and rest areas at the pump stations and road ends.
3. Provide a walking loop for employees at the industrial park by constructing a trail on the south side of River Road between Patrick Street and Savage Road.



No. 7 Road Pier / Park



North Arm Fraser River



No. 9 Road Fishing Bar



River Road industrial use



CNR swing bridge



Public access through Richmond Plywood

4. Improve public awareness of the pedestrian and cycling right-of-way through the Richmond Plywood Industry site by redesigning the entrance at No.6 Road and working with the owner to improve ongoing safety and maintenance of the trail.
5. Investigate the potential of using the Vulcan Way undeveloped r.o.w. east of No.6 Road as a trail to connect with Savage Road and back up to River Road.

Ongoing / Long Term

6. Establish a short and long term land use plan in conjunction with the Port North Fraser to ensure the balance of recreational, industrial, environmental, and flood protection needs are met along the North Arm of the Fraser.
7. Once a land use plan for the North Arm has been developed, construct boardwalks and viewing piers where appropriate.
8. Investigate the potential of a pedestrian and cyclist water crossing to Vancouver from the No. 7 Road Pier.
9. Investigate the use of the CNR swing bridge as trail access to Burnaby.
10. Coordinate all work with the City's Waterfront Development Strategy.

