



Public Engagement Summary

Maplehurst Park Management Plan

May 25, 2022



Alberni-Clayoquot
Regional District



**Prepared for
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District by**

**Karin Albert
Planning Consultant
Courtenay, BC**

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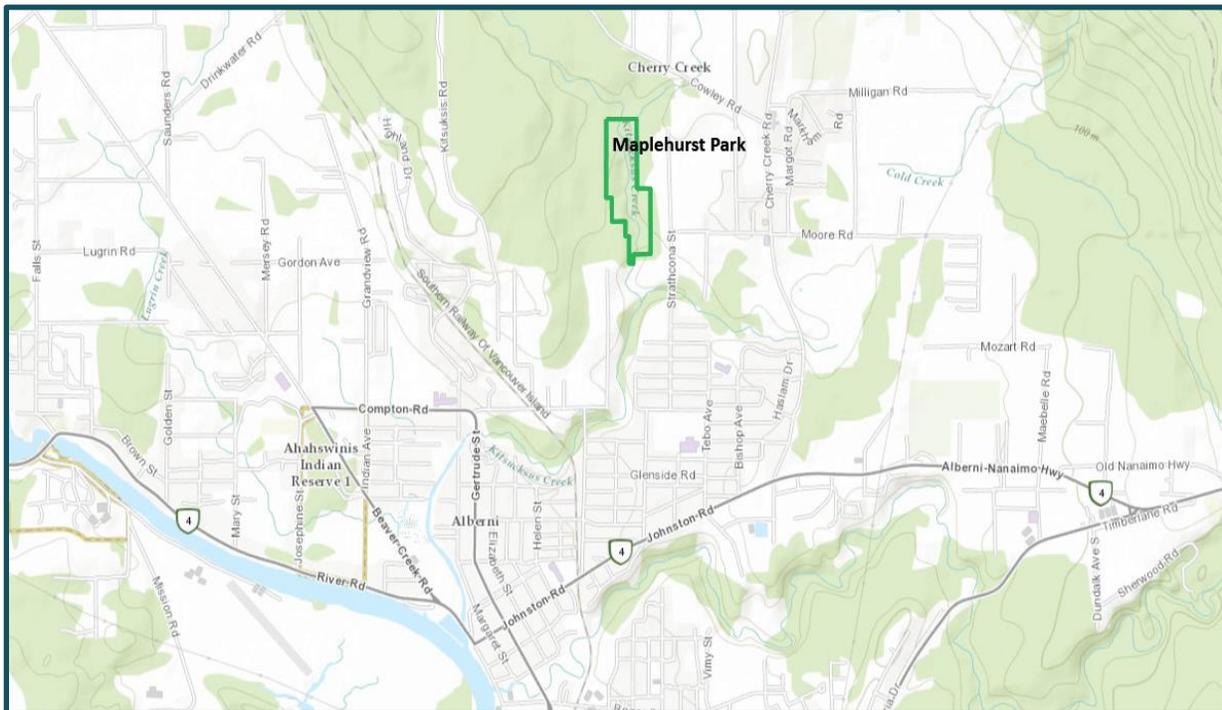
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Overview

1.0 Introduction

Between January and May 2022, the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) and K. Albert Consulting engaged the public and stakeholders in the park management planning process for Maplehurst Park through an online survey, site meetings, interviews and a public open house. The goals of the engagement were to understand park visitor use of Maplehurst Park and identify priorities for park management and for park improvements.

The input received is summarized in this report, with complete transcriptions of survey and open house comments in the appendices. The information gathered will guide the development of the Maplehurst Park Management Plan.



1.1 Overview of Engagement Results

Key themes that emerged from the public engagement events are:

- Keep the park the way it is/keep it natural
- Prioritize protecting sensitive ecosystems when it comes to allocating park budgets
- Improve wayfinding
- Improve the parking situation at the end of Willow Road by developing and providing parking at other access points, in particular at Kitsuksis Road
- Improve access to the park from the Cherry Creek neighbourhood
- Increase connectivity between the park trail system and other community trails
- Protect the trails on the adjacent Crown lands
- Expand the park
- Build relationships with First Nations
- Work collaboratively with the woodlot tenure holder to develop trails and access points.

1.2 Public Engagement Process

The ACRD created a project webpage with information about the park planning project at letsconnectacr.com/maplehurst-pmp. The public was invited to provide input through an online survey, park user interviews, and a public open house. The online survey was posted on the project webpage and open from February 7 until March 31, 2022. Hard copies were also available at the ACRD office. Responses received on hard copy were entered into the online survey tool. The survey was promoted in the February issue of the regional ACRD newsletter, published as an insert to the Alberni Valley News. The ACRD also issued a news release, put posters in the park and around town, and shared the survey link via social media.

The ACRD received 251 survey responses. Survey respondents represented a broad range of age groups and residents from four electoral areas, the City of Port Alberni, and one First Nation community.

In addition to the survey, the consultants interviewed a variety of park visitors (walkers, dog walkers, joggers, and parents with children) on a Friday and Saturday in early March.

Further, residents along Willow Road, the main entrance point to the Park, were interviewed to understand their concerns and suggestions for the park, in particular in regards to park access and parking.

ACRD staff and the consultant team also initiated discussions with Tseshaht and Hupacaseth First Nations to learn about their interests and discuss how their past and continued presence in the area could be recognized in the park. Follow-up discussions are planned as part of the planning process.

A public open house was held on Wednesday, May 18 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. The open house shared the survey results and engaged the public in discussions on access and parking options, trail connectivity, support for community involvement, and level of service/park maintenance. Open house participants were also asked to identify ‘quick wins’ and priorities for the short-, medium- and long-term for park management and park improvements. Photos of the open house poster boards are provided in appendix 4.

The public open house was promoted through the regional ACRD newsletter, news releases, radio public service announcements, flyers, and social media posts.

The engagement opportunities were part of a comprehensive planning process to develop a park management plan for Maplehurst Park. The flow chart below provides an overview of that process.

Planning Process for Maplehurst Park Management Plan



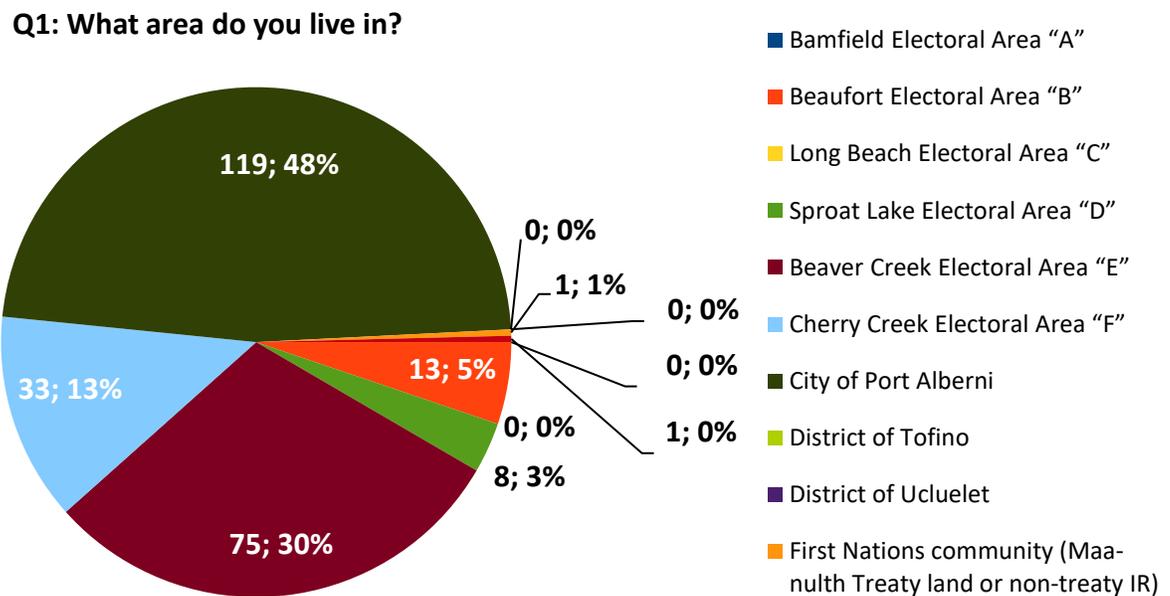
Survey

2.0 Survey Results

2.1 Respondent Profile

Residency

The survey gathered 251 responses from residents from across the region. Forty-eight percent (119) of respondents live in Port Alberni, 30 percent (75) in Beaver Creek Electoral Area “E”, and 13 percent (33) in Cherry Creek Electoral Area “F”. Respondents also include residents of Beaufort Electoral Area “B” (5.2%/13) and Sproat Lake Electoral Area “D” (3.2%/8). One respondent is from a First Nations community (0.4%/1) and one from outside of the ACRD (0.4%/1).

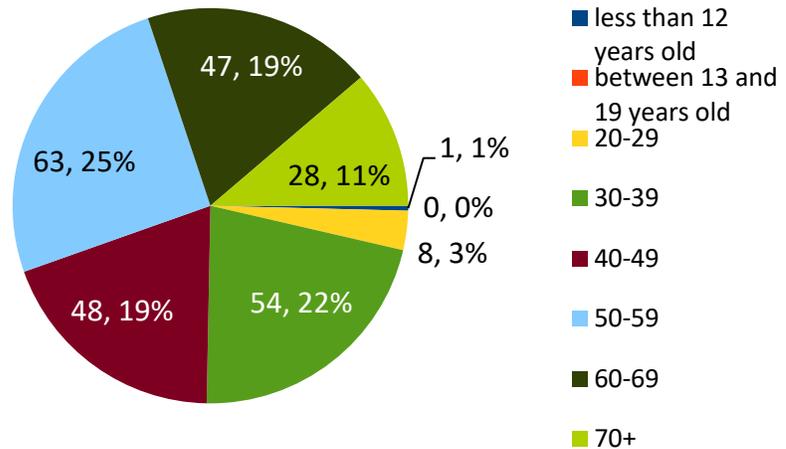


Age Group

The survey received input from a broad range of age groups. Twenty-five percent (63) are 50–59, 22 percent (54) are 30-39, 19 percent (48) are 40-49, and 19 percent (47) are 60-69.

Eleven percent (28) are 70 and older, three percent (8) are between 20-29, and one respondent is less than 12 years old.

Q2: What is your age group?

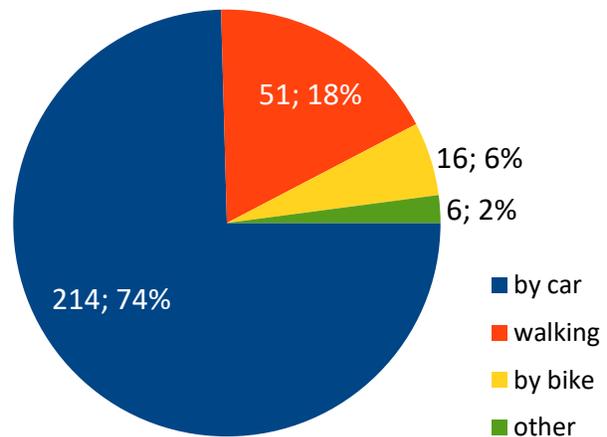


No teenagers between 13 and 19 responded to the survey. This is perhaps not surprising as the park is difficult to get to without a vehicle, and it may not offer the type of activities that most teenagers would be interested in.

Mode of Travel to Park

In response to the question how they get to the park, 87 percent (214) of respondents indicated that they drive, 21 percent (51) walk, seven percent (16) bike, and two percent (6) indicated “other”.

Q3: How do you get to Maplehurst Park?



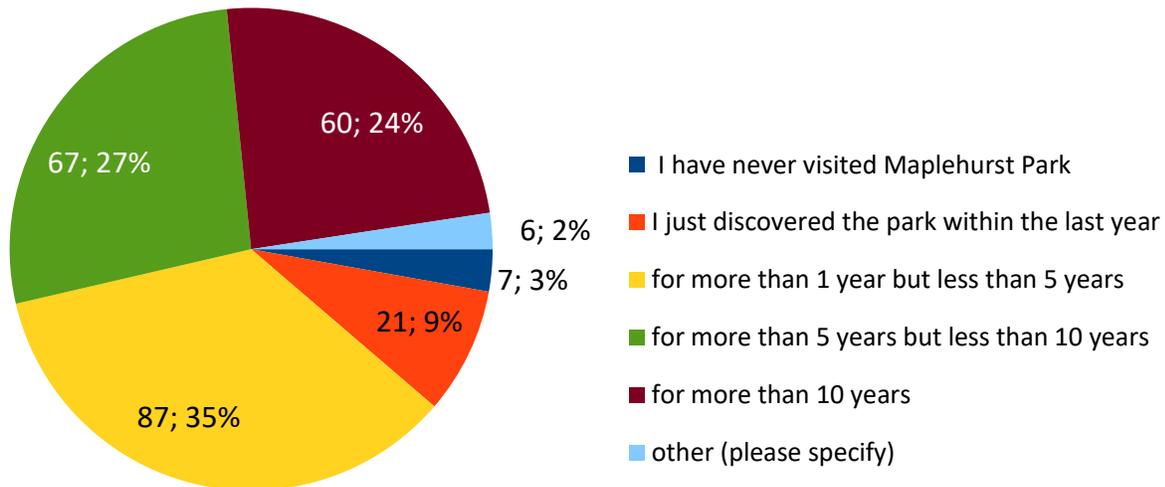
Length of Time Visiting the Park

Over one third of park visitors have discovered the park in the past four years. When asked for how many years they have been visiting the park, 35 percent (87) responded for more than one year but less than five years.

The survey also received responses from a lot of long-time visitors. Twenty-seven percent (67) responded that they have been visiting the park for more than five but less than 10 years and 24 percent (60) have been visiting the park for more than 10 years.

Several new visitors also participated in the survey. Nine percent (21) discovered the park only within the last year. Three percent (7) have never visited the park, and two percent (6) indicated 'other'.

Q4: For how many years have you been visiting Maplehurst Park?

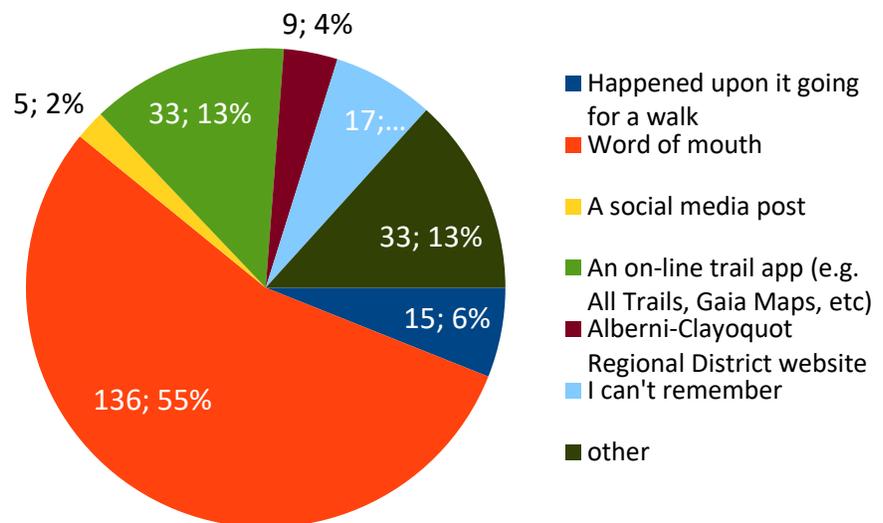


How Respondents First Found out About the Park

The majority of respondents (55%/136) found out about the park through word of mouth. Thirteen percent (33) found it through an online app, such as All Trails, Gaia maps, etc), 13 percent (33) indicated 'other'.

A few respondents found out about the park through the ACRD website (4%/9), just happened upon it going for a walk in the neighbourhood (6%/15), and through a social media post (2%/5). Seven percent (17) could not remember.

Q5: How did you first find out about Maplehurst Park?



2.2 Park Visitation and User Activities

Frequency of Visits

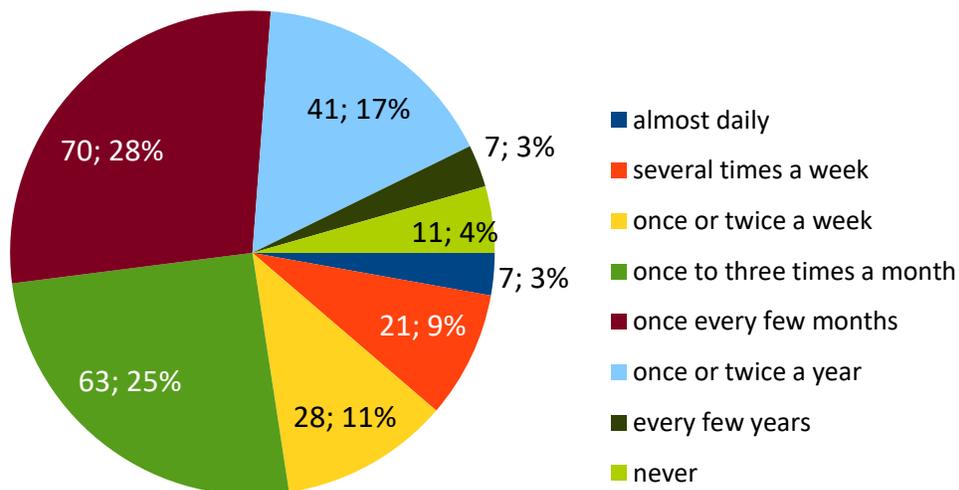
Maplehurst Park has a significant number of regular visitors. Eleven percent (28) visit it once or twice a week, nine percent (21) several times a week, and three percent (7) almost daily. That means, close to a quarter (23%/56) visit the park regularly.

Another quarter (26%/63) visit the park fairly regularly at once to three times a month: 29 percent (70) visit the park once every few months, 17 percent (41) once or twice a year.

Three percent (7) of respondents visit the park every few years and four percent (11) never visit it.

Of those who never visit it, the biggest concern is parking congestion and traffic and/or vehicle speed on Willow Road.

Q6: How often do you visit Maplehurst Park?

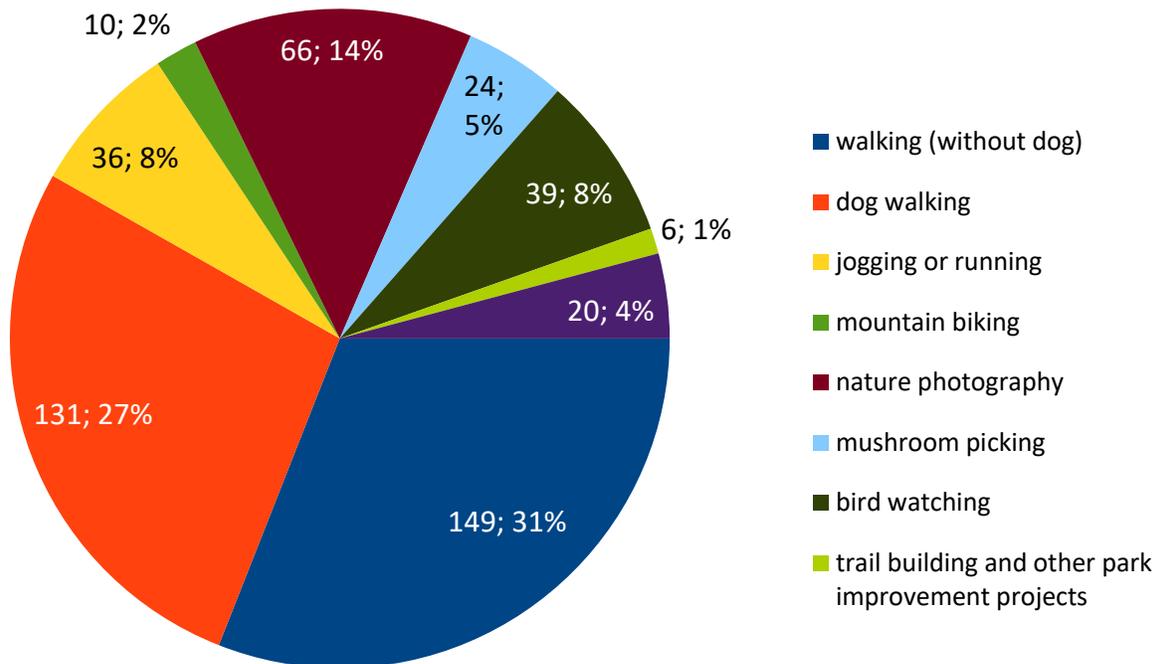


Activities in the Park

The most popular activities in the park are walking (60%/149) or dog walking (53%/131). The next most popular activity of respondents is nature photography (27%/66). Other activities are bird watching (16%/39), jogging or running (14%/36), mushroom picking (10%/24), and mountain biking (4%/10). Six (1%) indicated trail building and a few (8%/20) indicated other.

Note that the percentages do not add up to 100 percent since respondents were able to choose more than one activity.

Q7: What do you like to do when you visit Maplehurst Park? Select all that apply.



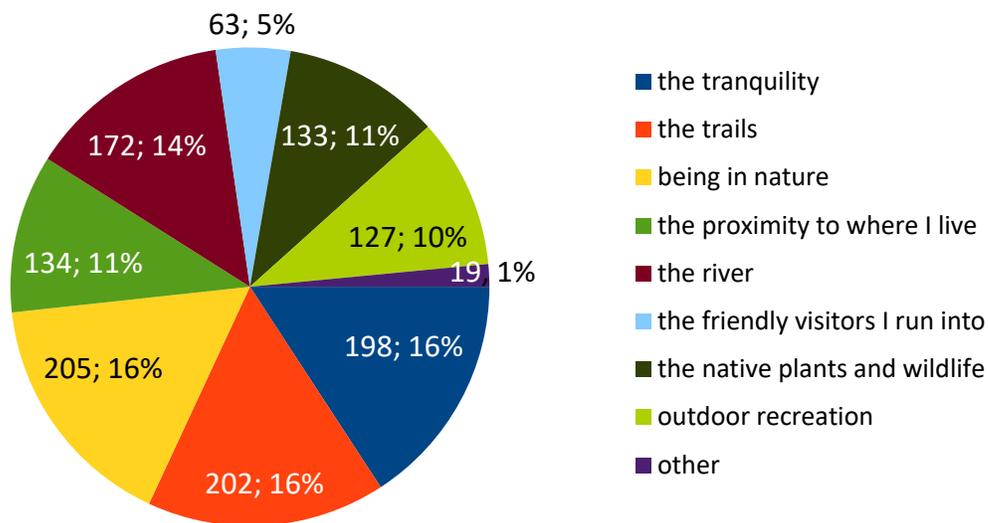
Enjoy most about Maplehurst Park

The majority of respondents are in the park to enjoy nature. Being in nature (84%/205), the trails (82%/202), and the tranquility (81%/198) were the most popular responses to the question asking what respondents enjoy the most about Maplehurst Park.

Also important is the river (70%/172), the proximity to where they live (55%/134), the native plants and wildlife (54%/133), and outdoor recreation (52%/124).

Somewhat fewer people indicated that they enjoy the friendly visitors they run into (28%/62). Eight percent (19) selected 'other'.

Q8: What do you enjoy most about Maplehurst Park?



2.3 Park Amenities

Preferences for Future Park Amenities

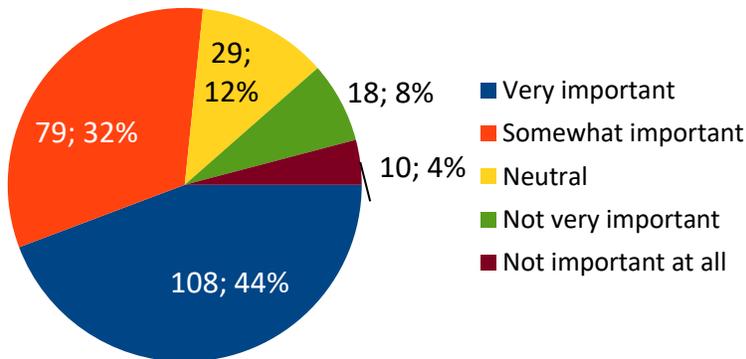
Improved parking areas is a *very important* or *important* future park amenity for 75 percent (187) of respondents.

The next most desired future amenity is a trail map at one or two key junctions in the park. Sixty-five percent (160) indicated that this is *very important* or *important*.

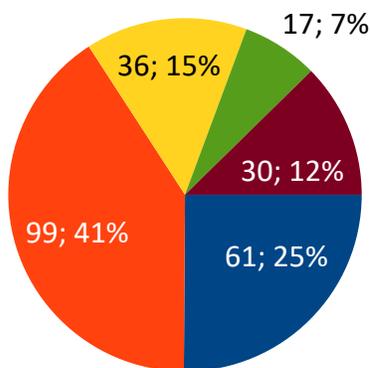
Additional wayfinding signs in the park is *very important* or *important* to 56 percent (139). This is followed by an access trail from Strathcona Road and bridge over Kitsuksis Creek (52% / 130), improvements to existing trails (49% / 122), and an information kiosk with trail map and information about the park (45% / 111).

Of relatively low importance is a picnic area. Only 14 percent (35) believe this is *very important* or *important*.

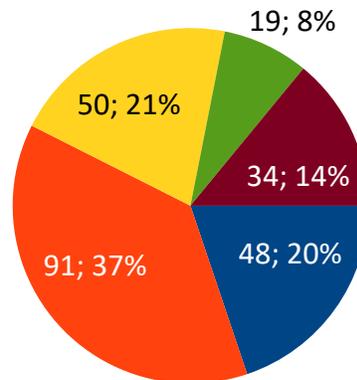
Improved parking area(s)



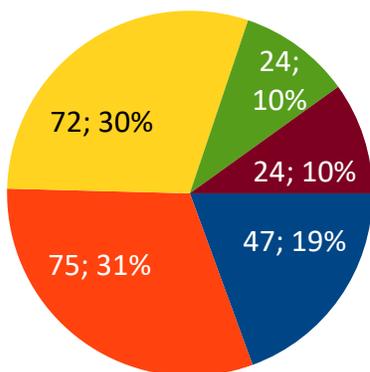
A trail map at one or two key junctions in the park



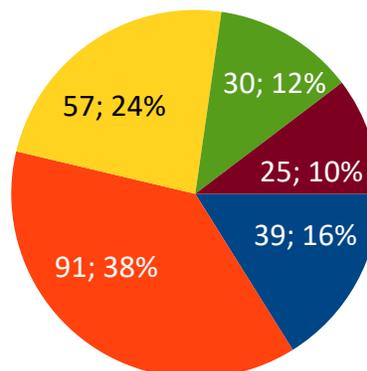
Additional wayfinding signs in the park



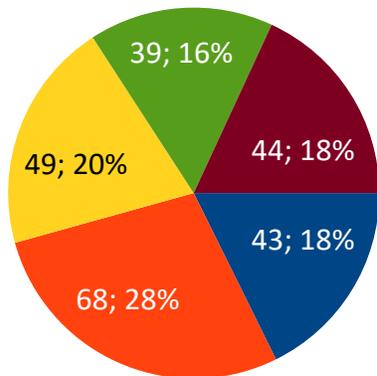
Access trail from Strathcona Road and bridge over Kitsuksis Creek



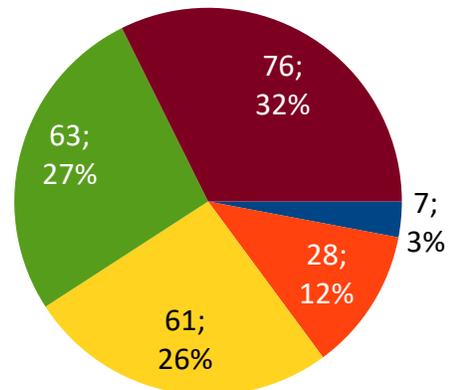
Improvements to existing trails (e.g. drainage, surfacing)



An information kiosk with trail map and info about the park



A picnic area



- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Neutral
- Not very important
- Not important at all

Other Suggestions for Future Park Amenities or Activities

The survey provided the option to add other suggestions for future amenities or activities in the park. Seventy provided other suggestions.

‘Keep the park the same’ or ‘keep it natural’ are mentioned the most frequently. Twelve respondents ask to keep it the same and nine want it to stay natural. Six want garbage cans added, and five want a washroom facility or outhouse.

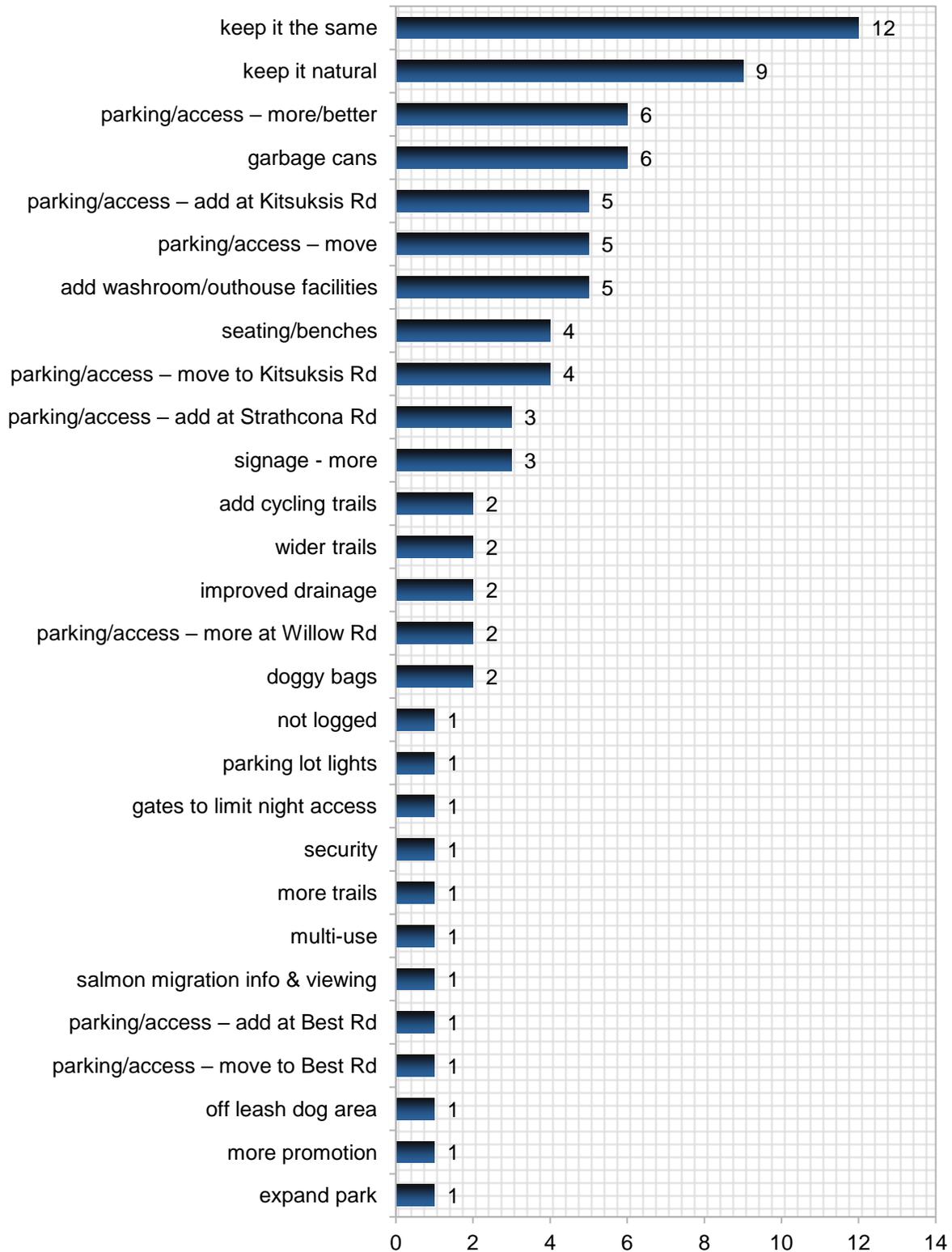
Improvements to parking is a concern for 27 respondents. Eight want to see more or improved parking, five want parking /access to be moved away from Willow Road, five want to see parking added at Kitsuksis Road, four want it moved to Kitsuksis Road, three want to see parking and access from Strathcona Road, and two want more parking at the Willow Road trailhead.

Seating/benches is suggested by four respondents and signage by three. Further suggestions made by one to two people are: dog poop bags at the trailhead, improved drainage, wider trails, biking trails, expansion of the park, more promotion of the park, an off-leash dog area, information about the salmon migration in Kitsuksis Creek and a viewing location, multi-use trails, more trails, enhanced security, gates to limit night access, and parking lot lights.

The following bar graph summarizes the suggestions made by respondents and the number of times they were mentioned.

Appendix 1 lists the full responses to this open-ended question.

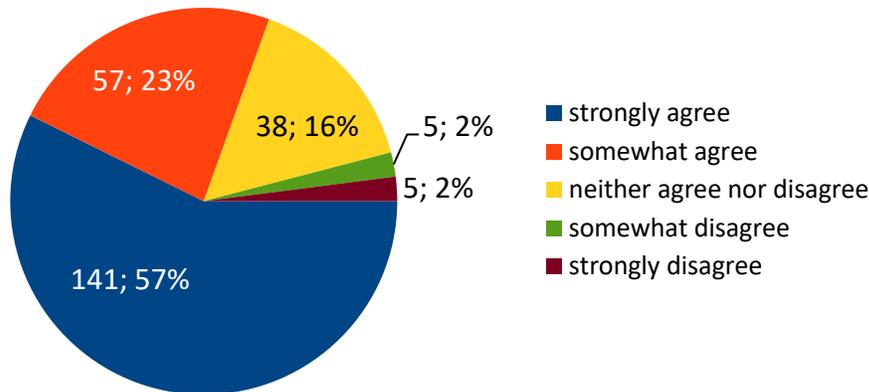
Q10: Please add other suggestions for amenities or activities you would like to see



Access from Kitsuksis Road

The trail system extends beyond the park onto the adjacent Crown land. There are several access points to the Crown land from surrounding streets. One of the access points provides a fairly direct trail across the Crown lands to Maplehurst Park from Kitsuksis Road. Eighty percent (198) *strongly agree* or *agree* that the ACRD should apply to the Province for a permit for a trail connection over the Crown land. Fifteen percent (38) are neutral, and four percent (10) *strongly disagree* or *somewhat disagree*.

Q11: Please indicate your level of support for the ACRD to apply to formally establish the trail system on the adjacent Crown land to provide access to the park from Kitsuksis Road.



Vision for Maplehurst Park

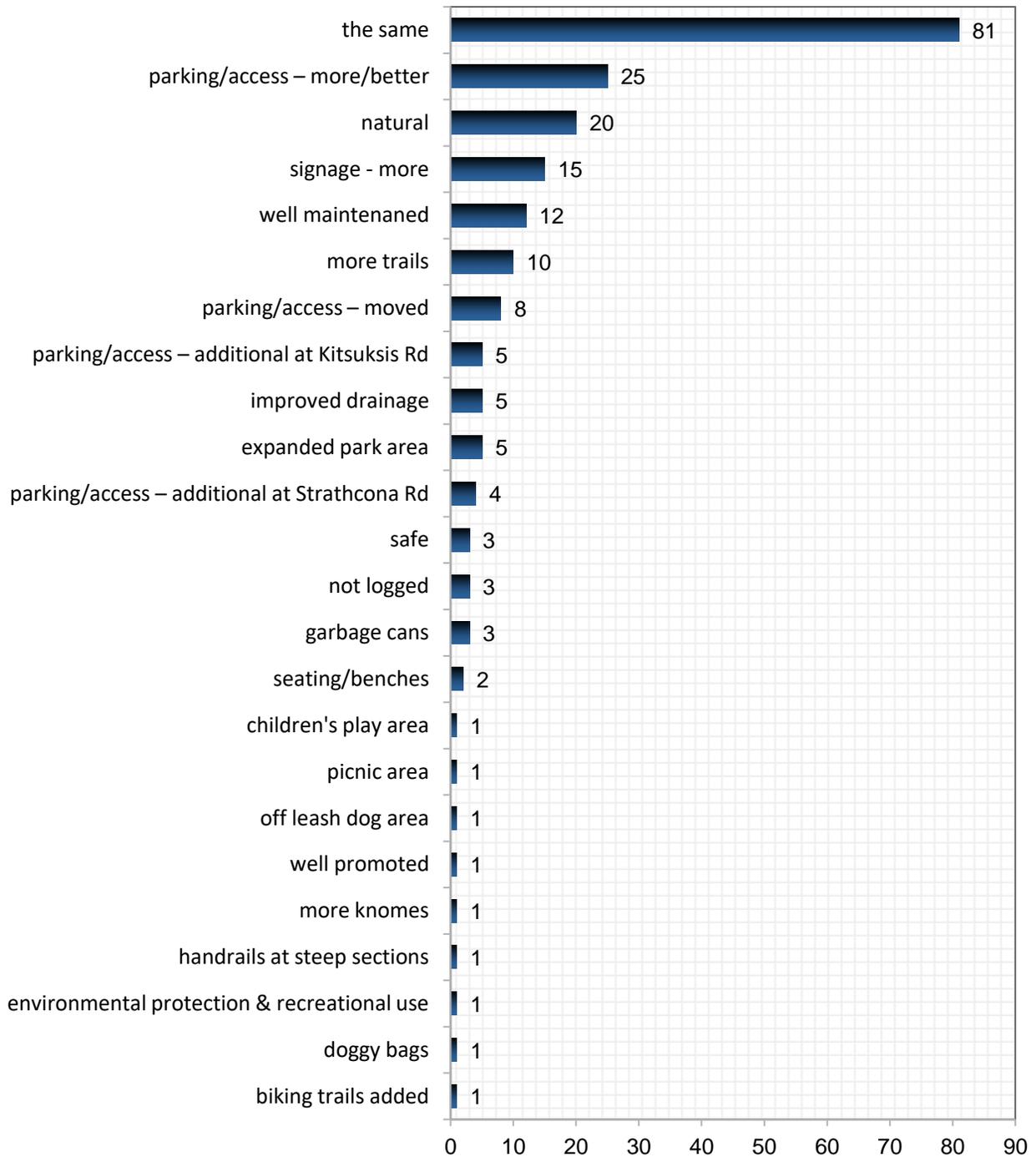
The survey asked respondents to comment on their 10-year vision for Maplehurst Park; 147 responded to this question. More than half, 81 respondents, want the ACRD to keep the park the same. In a similar vein, a further 20 commented that they want the park to stay natural.

There were 42 comments on access and parking. Twenty-five respondents wrote that they want to see more and improved parking. Eight want the existing parking/access to be moved away from Willow Road. Five want parking and access at Kitsuksis Road, and four would like to see parking and access from Strathcona Road.

Signage was mentioned by 15, maintenance by 12, and a desire for more trails by 10. Five envisioned that in 10 years the park would have been expanded to include a larger area. Five mentioned improved drainage.

Other suggestions for the future expressed by one to three respondents are: garbage cans, safety, not logged, seating/benches in the park, dog poop bag dispenser, an off-leash dog area, more gnomes, cycling trails, environmental protection and recreational use, a children’s play area, a picnic area, and handrails along steep sections.

Q12: If you look 10 years into the future, what is your vision of what Maplehurst Park will look like?



Priorities for Park Expenditures

Respondents were asked to rank seven types of improvements to the park in order of priority for future budget allocations. The highest priority is protection of sensitive ecosystems within the park. This was followed by trail and drainage improvements, parking at end of Willow Road, securing an access from Kitsuksis Road through a permit from the Province, and securing an access from Strathcona Road. Wayfinding signs in the park and a park information kiosk at the Willow Road trail head were ranked the lowest overall.

The priority accorded to the protection of sensitive ecosystems is consistent with the vision for Maplehurst Park to be kept natural expressed by many under the previous question.

Q13: To help the ACRD understand community priorities for expenditures and budget allocation, please rank the following in order of priority. Average Rank:



2.4 Other Comments

At the end of the survey, respondents had the opportunity to add any other comments. Fifty provided other comments. Nine expressed concern for the protection of the natural environment. Six asked that the park be kept as is/be left alone.

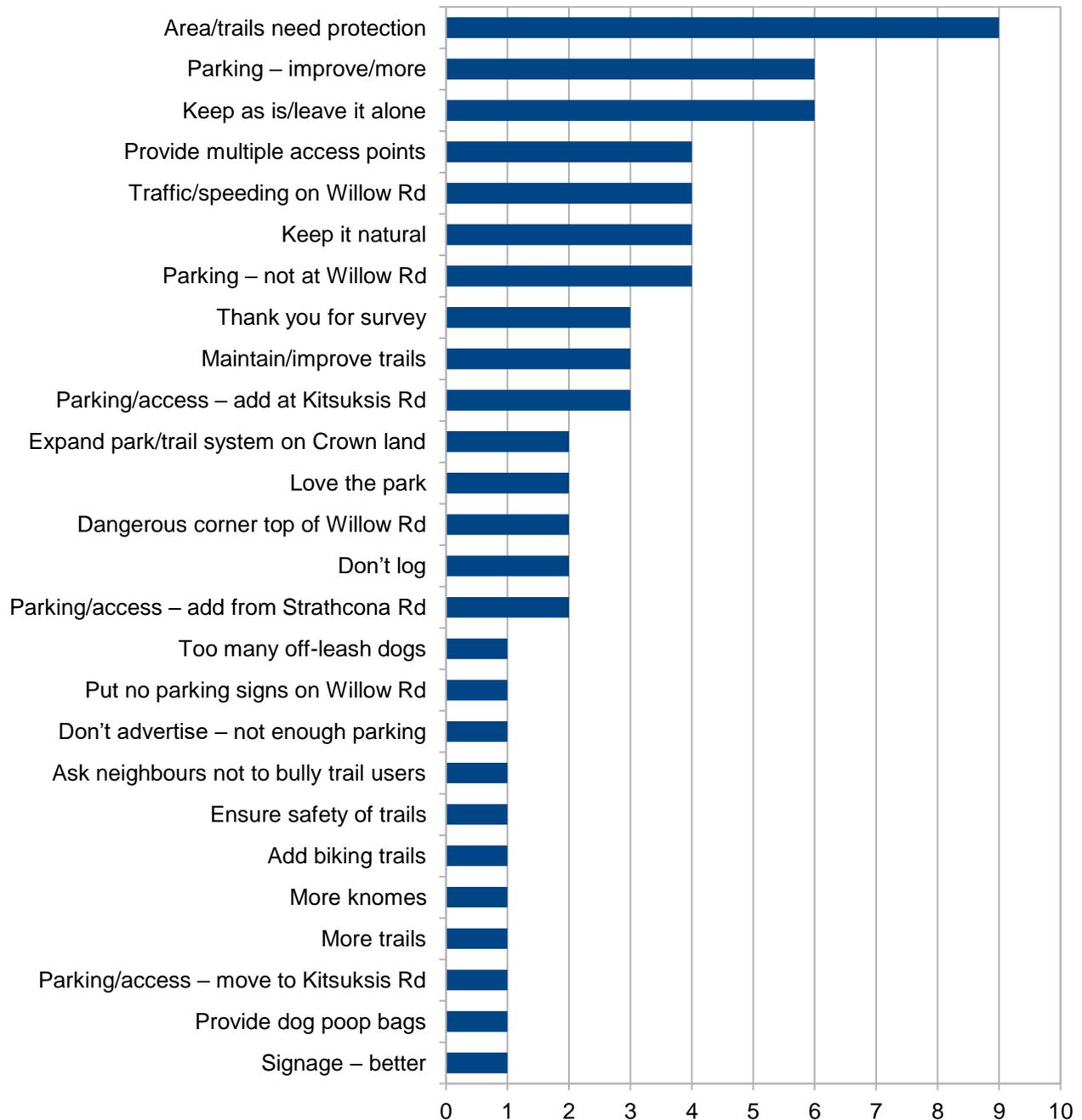
Parking was mentioned several times with concerns ranging from improving the existing parking situation, providing multiple access points to alleviate congestion at the Willow Road end, and providing parking and access from Kitsuksis Road and Strathcona Road.

Respondents also expressed their concerns about the dangerous corner at the top of Willow Road, speeding and traffic on the road, and one suggested to put no parking signs on Willow Road. One respondent asked that trail users not be bullied by neighbours.

Three respondents thanked the ACRD for seeking public input via the survey and a couple of respondents stated that they love the park. Respondents also mentioned the need for dog poop bags and more signage, a desire for biking trails, and for more gnomes.

The full range of comments is summarized in the bar graph below.

Q14: Other comments to inform the park planning process



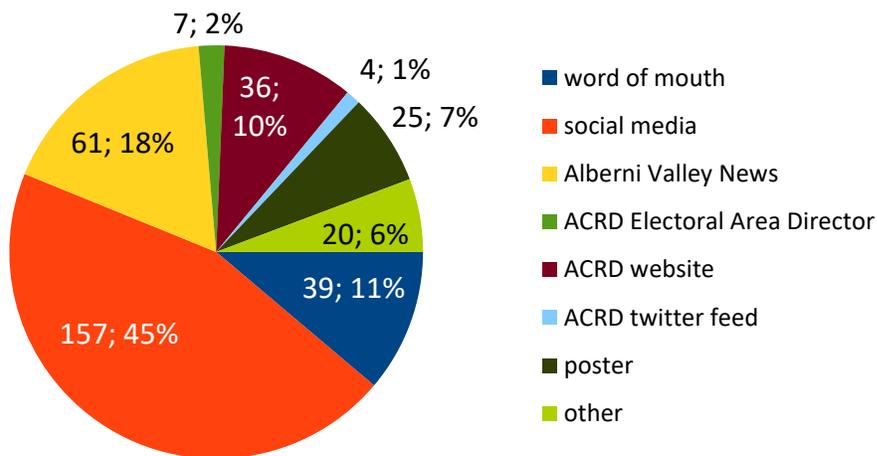
How Respondents Learned About the Survey

To understand how best to reach residents, survey respondents were asked how they learned about the survey.

Social media was the most effective in reaching respondents: 64 percent (157) indicated that they learned about the survey through social media. The next most effective outreach tool was the Alberni Valley News, 25 percent (61) learned about the survey through the local newspaper. Also important in reaching respondents is word of mouth. Sixteen percent (39) learned about the survey through word of mouth. Similarly effective is the ACRD website, which reached 15 percent (36).

Other ways respondents learned about the survey is through a poster (8% / 19), their electoral area director (3% / 7), and the ACRD twitter feed (2% / 4). Eight percent (20) indicated “other”.

Q15: To help us know how best to reach residents on this and other consultations in the future, please let us know how you learned about this survey



In-Person Consultations

3.0 Stakeholder Interviews

3.1 Park Neighbours

The consultant interviewed park neighbours living within 270 metres of the park entrance at the end of Willow Road. Many are frustrated with the amount of traffic on their street and the risk this poses to the safety of children and pets. Specific concerns mentioned are:

- The road is congested with park visitor vehicles on sunny weekends throughout the year;
- The street is no longer safe for kids and dogs to play due to traffic and speeding on Willow Road;
- The combination of the dangerous corner at the top of Willow Road and drivers speeding is an accident waiting to happen;
- Garbage and delivery trucks have difficulty turning around at end of street due to parking congestion;
- Neighbours have difficulty backing into their driveway with a trailer because too little room is left on either side of the driveway;
- Some park visitors are using residents' driveways to turn around. There have been incidents of park visitors backing into a neighbour's sign;
- On occasion, park visitors back into the ditch at the end of the road. When the shrubs are high and have leaved out, the ditch is barely visible. Neighbours or a tow truck have had to come to the rescue to pull out the vehicle.
- Some park visitors do not pick up after their dogs or drop dog poo bags on the side of the road;
- The road is turning into a parking lot.

One of the neighbours is not concerned about parking along the road shoulder, commenting that the road is public and belongs to everyone.

Neighbours suggested that, to alleviate the parking and traffic problem, the ACRD should move the main park entrance to Kitsuksis Road and develop a parking lot there. There are no homes fronting that stretch of road. The trail from Kitsuksis Road crosses the Crown land and connects to trails within the park. Note, as explained in the survey, the ACRD would have to apply for a

permit from the Province to formalize and manage that trails over the Crown land and to develop a parking lot. The application review process can take time and the application can be denied based on considerations of other possible future uses of the land.

3.2 Adjacent Tenure Holder

The Crown land to the Northwest of Maplehurst Park is under a woodlot tenure. Of concern to the woodlot tenure holder is that park visitors who also use the trails on the Crown land may not understand that the woodlot is not a park, may oppose the logging, could enter the woodlot during logging operations, and could pose a safety risk to themselves and workers. Communication through signage regarding park and woodlot boundaries is important so that the public can be aware of where the park ends and the woodlot tenure starts.

The tenure holder generally expressed his support for trails but wishes to see the Maplehurst Loop Trail re-routed to avoid areas in the woodlot that will be logged in the future. He suggested exploring possible alternate routes close to the creek that will not be logged and expressed his interest in working with the ACRD to develop access trails to the park.

3.3 Conservation and Trail Interests

Local residents involved in trail building and maintenance and in ecosystem restoration expressed their concern for sensitive ecosystems both within the park and on the adjacent Crown lands. They would like the ACRD and the Province to work together to protect those areas. They would also like to see the park expanded to include the Crown land to the West of the park – both for the protection of ecosystems and to secure the trails for recreational use into the future.

4.0 First Nations Engagement

The Park lies within the traditional territories of the Hupačasath and Tseshaht First Nations.

The consultant and ACRD staff made a brief presentation about the park planning process to the Tseshaht First Nation and had an informal meeting with the chief of the Hupačasath.

The ACRD is providing regular updates to the two First Nations on the planning project. Follow-up engagement is planned to learn more about First Nation interests, history, and continued presence on the Crown lands and within the park.

The First Nations will also receive a formal referral of the draft plan for comment.

5.0 Open House

A community open house was held on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Cherry Creek Community Hall.

The open house presented the survey findings and asked residents to comment on a proposed vision statement for the park, community spirit/involvement, access and parking options, trail connectivity, and level of service/park maintenance. Open house participants were also asked to identify 'quick wins' and priorities for park improvements for the short-, medium- and long-term.

Appendix 3 provides a transcription of the comments received in response to the poster board discussion topics. Photos of the open house poster boards with the sticky note comments are provided in appendix 4.

5.1 Vision Statement

With respect to the vision statement, suggested additions focussed on the adjacent trail system. Some shared their vision of an expanded park that will include the trail system on the Crown lands. Another comment would like the ACRD and the community work with the woodlot tenure holder to establish trails within the licence area that will not conflict with sustainable forest management goals.

5.2 Community Spirit

On the community spirit board, one participant expressed their appreciation for the creator of the carved wooden signs. Others posted "no gnomes or fairies in the park".

5.3 Access Options

The open house explored seven parking and access options to the park: improvements to parking at the end of Willow Road, a possible new access off Strathcona Street, either at the south or north end, access and parking at Cowley Road or Best Road, adding parking at the existing trailhead at Kitsuksis Road, and developing parking and a trail along the undeveloped Holly Road right-of-way.

All of the accesses presented had some supporters. Willow Road neighbours preferred developing a parking lot off Kitsuksis Road. Others wanted to see a connection made to the Cherry Creek neighbourhood and expressed their support for access from Strathcona Street. Yet others felt that the least impact on any nearby neighbours would be the development of a new access from Cowley or Best Road.

Access Options – 1. Willow Road

Comments on parking at Willow Road were divided. Several participants posted that Willow Road does not need more traffic, is in rough shape, and that there is no room for parking. One suggestion was to that an extension to Willow Road be built onto the Crown land and a parking lot added there. At the same time, one participant posted their concern about the many small creeks in that proposed parking area. Another comment supported parking improvements at Willow Road. In their experience, there are usually only about two to four cars on the street and just a small parking lot would help. A further comment is that Willow Road is a public road and residents should expect that people park on the road in front of their houses.

Access Options – 2. Strathcona South and 3. North

Comments were generally in agreement that the Cherry Creek neighbourhood needs access to the park. Two comments suggested that better trail access to the park should be a regional priority and funded regionally.

Access Options – 4. Cowley Road and 5. Best Road

One resident likes this access because it impacts the least people. On the other hand, comments expressed concern that the area off Best Road is swampy and has sensitive habitat and any development should respect the environment. Cooperation with the woodlot tenure holder is key for any trails that cross the woodlot. A further comment suggests that Maplehurst Park should be converted to a regional park with regional funding to be able to fund accesses.

Access Options – 6. Kitsuksis Road and 7. Holly Road

Comments overall support adding parking off Kitsuksis Road to take pressure off Willow Road. Comments point out that the area is well drained and easy to develop, the trail is already there – as opposed to building a new trail on the Holly Road right-of-way – and that while the access is further from Kitsuksis Creek, the trails are equally beautiful. One participant would like to see a parking lot at Kitsuksis Road and the addition of two to four parking spots at Willow Road.

5.4 Trail Connectivity

The open house presented a large map with park and surrounding trails, in particular the Kitsuksis Creek Dyke Trail, the Cherry Creek Trail and the adjacent Crown land trails. The map attracted a lot of attention and, in conversations with the consultant and staff, participants agreed that the park needs to be better connected to the community by developing multiple access points and linking it to other community and the Crown land trail networks.

5.5 Trail Maintenance/Level of Service

Eleven of the 16 participants who provided comments on the preferred level of service for Maplehurst Park indicated that they would like to see a low to medium level of maintenance for the park (level 3). This level of service is associated with a natural park space with limited and low maintenance infrastructure. Four participants wanted to see a medium to moderate level of maintenance with regular scheduled maintenance, more vegetation management and routinely inspected infrastructure to ensure public safety (level 2). One participant preferred no routine maintenance, no assets, and no vegetation management (level 4).

5.6 Priorities

The second last poster board asked participants to identify their priorities for park improvements and amenities.

Quick Wins

One key focus for quick wins (priority for year 1) is improving the parking situation at Willow Road by providing parking at Kitsuksis Road, keeping parking to a minimum at Willow Road, and making safety improvements to Willow Road and Compton Road by putting in speed bumps.

Other quick wins identified are garbage bins at entrances to the trail, access off Strathcona Road, making the public aware of park boundaries and surrounding land ownership, consultation with woodlot tenure holder, additional trail to link to the Dyke Trail system, keeping curbed edges and gravelled trails to boggy areas only and leaving them wild elsewhere.

Short-term Priorities

When it comes to short-term priorities (2-3 years), participants want to see multiple accesses to the park, acquisition of the Crown land to add to the park, and conversion of Maplehurst Park to a regional park to better reflect its use by residents from across the region and to ensure not only Cherry Creek residents pay for maintenance and park improvements. Another short-term priority is a parking area on a Holly Road extension, 66' wide by approximately 400' long.

Medium-term Priorities

Medium-term priorities (4-6 years) identified include developing a trail connection to the Dyke trail via Kitsuksis Creek and the rail road right-of-way, providing park access from the Cherry Creek neighbourhood.

Long-term Priorities

Long-term priorities (7-12 years) include implementing a plan that works for all – First Nations tenure holders, the public and public finances, preserving inter-connected trails and parks and creating a better understanding among the public of the sustainable forest management obligation of woodlot tenures. Participants also want to see all the area that has trails preserved for recreation.



Summary

6.0 Main Themes

Key themes that emerged from the public engagement events are to keep the park the way it is/keep it natural; prioritize protecting sensitive ecosystems when it comes to allocating park budgets; improve the parking situation at the end of Willow Road by developing and providing parking at other access points, in particular at Kitsuksis Road; protect the trails on the adjacent Crown lands system; expand the park; improve wayfinding; and build relationships with First Nations and the woodlot tenure holder.

Keep it the same/keep it natural

In responses to open-ended questions, the majority of online survey respondents expressed that they like the park the way it is. They do not want to see too much changed and want the park to stay natural (questions 10, 12 and 14). The value respondents place on keeping the park the way it is, is reflected in the priority they want the ACRD to assign to the protection of sensitive ecosystems within the park when considering future expenditures for the park (question 13).

The open house responses support the preference for keeping the park the same/natural. Most of the participants who provided comments on the preferred level of service for Maplehurst Park indicated that they would like to see a low to medium level of maintenance for the park. This level of service is associated with a natural park space with limited and low maintenance infrastructure.

Additional Parking and Park Accesses

Parking is a key area that needs improvement. Seventy-five percent of survey respondents indicated that improved parking is a very important or important future park amenity. This is echoed in the comments under the open-ended questions. Parking was also a top concern for park neighbours during in-person interviews. Both survey respondents and neighbours would like to see the parking congestion at the end of Willow Road resolved. Suggestions to improve the situation include more and improved parking at the end of Willow Road, moving parking away from Willow Road, and adding parking at Kitsuksis Road, Strathcona Road, or Best Road.

The open house explored seven parking and access options to the park: improvements to parking at the end of Willow Road, a possible new access off Strathcona Street, either at the south or north end, access and parking at Cowley Road or Best Road, adding parking at the

trailhead at Kitsuksis Road, and developing parking and a trail along the undeveloped Holly Road right-of-way.

Many comments supported adding parking off Kitsuksis Road. On the poster board that asked participants to identify their priorities, parking at Kitsuksis Road was identified most often as a “quick win”. Quick win is defined as an improvement over the coming year.

Views were more divided with regards to parking at the end of Willow Road. Suggestions ranged from no parking improvements, developing two to four spaces on Willow Road, to developing a new parking lot into the Crown lands, accessible from the end of Willow Road. One participant expressed concerns about the many small creeks and drainage systems in that off the end of Willow Road.

Park Expansion and Connectivity to Other Trail Systems

A vision for an expanded park that includes the adjacent Crown lands was supported by several participants. Adding the Crown land to the park was identified as a short-term priority (2-3 years) by two participants.

There was overall agreement that Maplehurst Park should be better connected to the Cherry Creek neighbourhood. There was also support for connections to other trail systems, such as Kitsuksis Creek Dyke trail via the railway right-of-way. Both were identified as medium-term priorities (4-6 years).

In acknowledgement of its use by residents from across the region and to help fund additional accesses to the park, participants suggested converting Maplehurst Park to a regional park.

Wayfinding

When it comes to smaller park upgrades and amenities, improvements to wayfinding through a trail map at key junctions in the park and more wayfinding/directional signage were the top desired future amenities in the park, next to parking improvements.

Building Relationships

The importance of building relationships and collaboration with First Nations and the woodlot tenure holder was expressed several times at the open house and seen as key to developing access points across the Crown land, preserving inter-connected trails and parks, and creating a better understanding and appreciation among the public of the woodlot tenure.

7.0 Next Steps

The input gathered through the engagement activities will guide the development of the vision, goals and actions in the Maplehurst Park Management Plan. The draft plan will be presented to the ACRD Committee of the Whole in early summer. Following Committee discussion of the draft plan, any requested edits will be made prior to referral of the plan to First Nations and posting it on the website for public comment.

Following the comment period, further revisions may be made prior to presenting the final park management plan to the ACRD Board for adoption.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Responses to open-ended Questions

Q10: Please add any other suggestions for future amenities or activities that you would like to see in the park.

Please move the trail head to Kitsuksis. The traffic is dangerous to the residents of Willow Road.

Move trailhead access from Willow to Kitsuksis. Install "no parking" signs at trailhead on Willow and along Willow Road; also install 50km/hr signs. Willow Road is a no thru road so on days when 100+ vehicles travel to the trailhead, it's more like 200+ vehicles. Willow and Compton are narrow and people speed.

Traffic on Willow Road has increased 20 fold, from dawn to darkness seven days a week

I love that this trail is so lightly used, so I would hate to see a lot more traffic brought in by picnic areas and larger parking

It would be nice if certain portions of path were drained better, but would not like to see gravelled paths throughout the forest. Of concern to me is the woodlot which covers the northern 1/3 portion of the park. I would hate to see the forest "selectively logged"

To stop any logging in the area

A garbage bin at the main access point on Willow Road and maybe a receptacle for dog waste bags.

I am originally from a small town in the interior. The nature parks there were over run by drug dealers and string meth labs to the point where it became dangerous to visit them even in the daytime. String meth is mixed in foam coolers lined with string and barried underground in out of the way places until the liquid chemical crystallizes on the strings. It is then dug up and sold locally or exchanged for cocaine, increasing that drug market as well. Your parks need way more security and police patrols so this does not happen to your parks. You also might want to install gates to keep people out at night, parking lot lights and park hours. Also build trails that criss cross to keep areas of the park from being too secluded.

I love that the trail remains rustic and would hate to see it glammed up too much. The residents who live at the end of Willow Rd must get frustrated with the constant influx of hikers, so anything to relieve that stress would be great.

I would just prefer better parking but otherwise this trail is perfect the way it is.

Adding too many "amenities" to the park and trails detracts from its natural state.

More park entrances and trail improvements.

Trail needs to be wider, at least two, three people wide

I would like to see a proper parking lot off Strathcona or Kitsuksis so the speeding cars would be eliminated from Willow Rd.

Would love to see actual biking trails go in! Biking is getting more and more popular in our community and we should build on it :)

I reside on Willow Rd and the increased traffic has many neighbours irate due to the lack of respect for their properties and several people have no respect for the safety of the children

in our vicinity. Many have been approached about their speed and have been verbally abused by the drivers. A parking lot on Strathcona I think would be an appropriate location as the street is shorter with signage to control intersection and provides alternate routes to access the park. Is there a section of crown land on Strathcona? Since the park is in Cherry Creek district have the parking lot there also.

An alternative could be Kitsuksis as there is crown land there and the proximity to sections of the trail is accessible.

Don't add a picnic site. This will lead to garbage, and then that becomes a bear or cougar attractant.

Leave it alone. Urbanizing the forest like the Scott Kenny Roger Creek Ravine disaster is not an improvement to nature.

Would prefer not too much development as I appreciate how quiet it is in the park and like trails where it's not too busy which is why I make the drive from my home to enjoy this park.

Promotion as being part of Port Alberni's amenities: City of Trails.

The trails could be wider

A parking lot on Kitsuksus Road is a high priority. There is no parking on Willow Road, and the traffic situation is very bad. Cars speeding on Compton where I live and the houses at the end of Willow are really impacted by this lack of parking.

I like the fact that it is very natural and rustic and would be reluctant to endorse any "improvements" that would take away from this.

The trail is fine the way it is. Don't try to make too many changes. The major issue is parking.

Doggy poop bags and garbage can

Additional access points/trails

I think these trails are amazing, I like that they are low key but well maintained.

outhouses

If the trail was significantly improved I worry it would take away from the tranquility the trail currently boosts. I enjoy the roughness of the trail and having to navigate the seasonal conditions

More parking space at the trailhead at the end of Willow Road.

would like an off leash area

I would love to see that bridge to cross over!!! That would be awesome!!!!

A garbage can as people often leave dog bags around

Better area to park..not sure that Strathcona is the best solution though. maybe Best Rd would work best

Move the trail head off willow road, it needs a proper parking lot.

This is a nice trail however living in the vicinity of other trails, I can understand residents' frustration with parking, dog pooh, unleashed dogs, speeding and wandering into private property most importantly. Unfortunately the pandemic mixed with all trails and social media has made most trail traffic pretty high. I just did some trails by the hole in wall this am cold Thursday and passed about 25 people around 930am. As nice of a walk as maplehurst is, I sympathize with the residents and feel if possible for an area to park where it's not so

disruptive it would be nice. All trails is user based and has put trails through my rural property and it's a constant battle and liability i wish on no one, regardless of mass private property signs people are becoming more entitled.

Keep it basically as is. A bit of signage would be fine. Don't open it up. Part of what makes it great is it is t well known!

Trail markers throughout the system would be helpful

A garbage can at trail head

Don't fix what isn't broken. I love the natural state of this hidden gem.

I do feel bad for the people who live in the cul-de-sac as this is a very popular park but would rather see funds spent on new trails than appeasing neighbours when people park on the public streets.

Maplehurst trail needs a parking lot off of Willow road. This is a dead end road with half the town parking in peoples driveway, driving on lawns letting their dogs poop Everywhere, having conflict with the nieghbours. Speeding like willow road is a highway. Dogs have been run over, I'm just surprised a child hasn't been killed. Please move the trail head off of Willow road. Our nieghbourhood has been ruined by this trail.

Doggy bags and garbage cans

I am hoping to see a strategic plan for more trails in port Alberni. It seems many or our trails are being logged. I do support logging but why does it need to be so close to the city/acrd? We want to create a healthier port Alberni having long term access to nature and trails is a part of that. I truly hope this is the start of long term planning for maintaining trails that won't just be logged a few years from now - like the inlet trail for example. It's just a shame.

Leave it as natural as we can

Garbage receptacle at trailhead(s). An outhouse would also be awesome.

An outhouse at every park in Port Alberni would be wonderful for me and many others. But I am happy too with just the park/trails. Its why I stay here. I manage.

Why don't you leave it the way it is? It's just fine the way it is.

Benches or logs for sitting if people would like to sit and enjoy the views. But not important.

Maybe a bench or two but I love it just being natural fuck dude

None

Overall I'd like to see it remain much the same as it is. The entrance off Willow Road gets very muddy in the rainy season so improvements to the trail in that area would be nice

I love this trail!!

mountain bike trails and access Kitsucsis to Strathcona and Willow to Best

I'd really like to see this network connect to strathcona road. Also expanding the trail into the crown land. I like the trail is more natural and not a perfect manicured walking path.

Stay as natural as possible!

Perhaps 1 or 2 sitting benches. No picnic area as feel garbage will be left behind.

Perhaps an outhouse.

The park doesn't need development past what is already there. The maintenance is performed for free by volunteers and with a very light touch, which results in a relatively unspoiled environment.

Need a wide turn around and parking at end of Willow. Turning around at the existing end of Willow is dangerous now with the deep ditch!

Please move the entrance to the trail

Willow Rd is not an acceptable thru entrance to the beginning of the trail

This park should be developed to ensure that environmentally the area is left natural with a trail system that is friendly to those using it for a wide variety of activities (biking, walking, running).

Need to locate a parking lot away from Willow Road to have trail users access from another location that is not a residential street with dogs/kids/safety concerns. Parking lot constructed off of Kitsukis Road with signs indicating this is the access point would be most suitable option as this location would not effect neighbors.

Trail maintenance is an ongoing process, it changes year by year. What is being accomplished at this time by volunteers is perfectly adequate.

Fall salmon migration information /viewing locations.

A way to relieve parking pressure at Willow Rd entrance would be to establish another entrance from Kitsukis Rd., lovely varied country sw of Maplehurst & quite an addition in territory.

I recommend parking off KITSUKIS not in the residential area the homeowners are not happy on WILLOW road

Teachers often give tours and talks in the area, both for school children and for others interested in learning about foraging. A gathering place a bit away from the trail, with woodblocks for sitting on, could be useful.

I think there should also be an access point from Kitsukis Road. There are established trails that lead to this road. Some parking is available along the road, and more could be established. This would reduce pressure on Willow Road. There is an important Garry Oak Ecosystem that needs to be considered is formal trails/parking is established on Crown land (outside of the park).

parking is my highest priority. It is such a beautiful trail but very frustrating finding a place to park

Washrooms of some sort. Pit toilets or portables

Parking and a sign!

Q12: If you look ten years into the future, what is your vision of what Maplehurst Park will look like?

Access from Kitsukis.

A trail for everyone to enjoy and a safe place for everyone to park.

Access off Kitsukis Road

Access to Maplehurst Park will have been moved and access to the park from Willow Road will no longer be possible.
I hope in 10 years, the park will look exactly as it does right now, it's a walking trail. I do hope the main entrance will be relocated where there will be better access. Willow Road is not big enough to accommodate the traffic as it is right now, I can't imagine in ten years how much more traffic there will be and how much traffic will be speeding up and down the road. As it is right now, I'm surprised that there hasn't been any accidents coming around Willow Road corner, there has been many times where I have been cut off coming around the corner. I've even had to jump into the bush to avoid getting hit. Please consider moving the entrance for everyone, dogs included, safety!
Trail users bring their excited-to-go-for-a-walk dogs, barking at 5:30 in the morning Happy awakening!
The same but with longer trails up the creek.
A nice collection of trails where people can go and escape into nature.
The same. It's perfect
I would prefer it to remain as pristine as possible, I know there are a lot more visitors recently, I can no longer help with the trail maintenance as I used to, but still really enjoy the peacefulness and serenity of it. a few benches for rest stops would not go amiss.
Intact nature trails for everyone to enjoy
Please, please not overcrowded. Afraid it may become so.
Parking lot and signage for existing trails
Preferably as it is or with a larger trail system but continue to be respected by its user base.
A safe and beautiful nature walk for the community.
Remain as is
It should be maintained for safety reasons (snags looked after for example), but otherwise, it's wonderful just the way it is.
Very much the same as it is now
More entries to trail Additional parking Leave existing trails as they are
Multiple accessories with people using the park from all regions.
Much as it is. Don't encroach on its natural assets.
Additional access points and have the main access point/parking lot away from Willow road . Improved signage/maps for trails
The same, because it is a great trail and I like how it is rustic and not over populated.
Natural, peaceful walk in the wilderness
Better parking, bridge over the creek to access other trail systems accessible for families and dog owners
Maintained and well kept. Hopefully it can stay a walking trail
I think it is great the way it is now!

Although better parking/access would be helpful, ideally I prefer nature to remain as untouched as possible.
Much as it is now. I almost worry about it being over developed because it's charm is the simplicity of it which allows it's natural beauty to be front and centre.
Relatively the same. It is pretty much perfect the way it is.
Keep it the same just maybe a little better maintained
Leave it as is.
Popular hiking and biking trail spot in our community!
Same as it looks now
Presently the trail is primarily a walking, jogging trail. Keep it that way just wide enough for walkers or infant strollers to pass comfortably. A chip or bark mulch bed Animal litter bags at junctions and entry points with receptacles at entry points Signage at trail junctions with distances and approximate walking times. Handrails on the steepest inclines A maintenance program to include all regional district trails Any increase of trail network would be kept at the greatest distance from private lands and property Move trail head to Strathcona or Kitsuksis roads with parking lot Post no parking signs along Willow Rd
For it to still be a nice walking trail
It will stay the beautiful tranquil place it always has been
Still rustic, but a larger network established
About the same, slightly more trails but hopefully not too busy
End on congestion on Willow Rd
Leave it alone
Bigger, but just as wild.
Unfortunately it will likely be destroyed by over use.
I love the idea of extending the trails, but keep it low-key. Trails not super wide that cut down trees, reducing that sensation of being enveloped by nature.
Better trail drainage for better year round usage. Better promotion of it's location.
AS a resident of Willow Road, I would like to see less traffic on the road, as safety is our priority. Visitors to the trail should have parking available elsewhere. Safety of families living on Willow Road should be a right, not a choice.
Maintain as is, except get parking off Willow and traffic off Compton.
Improved parking and access.
That the trails remain simple and accessible not promoted to tourists.
Very much the same other than improved parking. If it were part of a larger network of nature trails that would be fantastic too. I also appreciate that this is one of the few trails that is specifically for walkers, not bikers.

Hopefully it won't change too much as it is fine the way it is. But hopefully there will be a better parking solution. I know the residents of Willow Street don't like the parking.
Continued trail maintenance but if it looked exactly the same that would be great.
Not a lot different than it is now. A bit more parking and signage. My nightmare is that it will be logged.
To be a nice beautiful piece of nature with a well maintained trail
Nature trail. Better parking by Willows
I would honestly be happy to see it in its current state without any trees being harvested. As it gains popularity, a better parking situation would be needed.
Much of the same. Untouched, quiet, off leash pet friendly. Preserving the biodiversity of the area is important to me and my family.
Add crown land if possible, protect more park. More trails within park.
Similar to now, quiet!
The same except with a formal/properly developed and maintained trail system.
that the trails are still there, no deforestation, garbage at the trail entrance for dog poop + poop bags more trails!
As close to the same as possible but with better parking.
improved access, signage, amenities and additional trails
a lot the same. it is a beautiful trail.
This area remains a greenspace in close proximity to residences in the Alberni Valley. The Park is a popular area for outdoor recreation and education.
much more extensive system, off leash area, a few more maps,
Still there
I would love to see the whole area connect out to Best road, across kitsuksis and over into Strathcona to link with the trails of Cherry creek.
A user friendly trail system utilized by all.
Hopefully the same, for the home owners that live at the main entrance point.
More protected areas in the linking crown land
For it still to be there and accessible by public
I hope it maintains its special feel and connection to nature
don't over do it, keep it natural, don't put up a bunch of signs and unnatural obstacles. keep it natural.
for question 13, there are numbers missing and I don't know if 1 or 7 is high or low..so i will go with low being low.
Same
the same
The trail not being on Willow road
Quiet, rugged, minimal impact on the environment, trails similar to how they have been in the past decade

Willow road not being a trail head. And no I do not live on will nor the surrounding area. I have a property that experiences issues and am realistically sympathizing with the residents Should look like what it does now!!!
A complex trail system for outdoor enthusiast so you can always take advantage of the park regardless of fitness/skill level and time.
A nature reserve type area that is available for residents and guests to be able to experience the beauty of our area
Much the same as undisturbed as possible but tmwith better signage for safety sake so people don't get lost
In ten years I foresee more development happening in the surrounding areas around Maplehurst Park. I see Maplehurst Park as being a beautiful, quiet, and centrally located treed park amidst all the developed areas.
I appreciate the wildness of the location, but I think more consistent maintenance would benefit users. I think finding a happy medium between making the paths more accessible to users, and keeping the forest lush and wild, and respecting the biodiversity of the area.
I feel a trail head sign with clearly labeled paths would allow more people to feel comfortable not getting lost. I would love a garbage can for dog poop too.
maintained as it is and better marked trails
Keeping it as natural as possible.
Why put all your funds into this one park. What we really need is a plan to protect all the trails being logged - The Lookout, China Creek, Weiner Falls, so many more. I know the Sproat Lakers want the same. Need a MASTER TRAILS PLAN! Keep Maplehurst as close to wild as possible.
Move the trail access off of willow. I would love you to stand on willow road on a Saturday afternoon with your dog and grand children and are how many cars almost run you over.
Same slight inproo
Expanded trail system, small picnic area, well maintained trails. No future logging near the trails.
As green an natural as it is now.
As little changes as possible
Much the same as now, still intact
Very little distrupction to the current state
To try to keep it s8miliar to what it is now, with better parking and signage and maps
A more mature version of what it already is. I would like to see trails maintained, but not paved or graveled.
Lots of canopy, and left as natural as possible
The same lightly marked and natural trail it is today!!!!
The same hopefully, with little human intervention
I hope it doesn't change too much.

Maintained to allow access and safety. I don't feel it needs to be 'developed' just maintained so it can be enjoyed in as close to natural state as possible.
Unchanged, un promoted and not used as some marketing tool to build a tourism economy. Or promote some huge new subdivision.
I would want it to still be a part of nature, and nothing more.
Better parking and benches. Possibly a small park somewhere in the middle where you could stop with kids for a break from walking.
It would look like a well looked after trail network available to use by many trail users to enjoy the forest.
Continuation of trail improvements. I like keep it natural
Improved trails and drainage, remain as natural as it is now but improvements to support higher traffic without the impact of that higher traffic
Pretty much the same, maybe access from other spots, better parking
The same
Not logged!!! Safe place for families to be in the Forrest without being too deep
None
Not logged.
Much the same as it is with some trail improvements in muddy and rooty areas
Well maintained trails and lots of parking!!
Stay the same
More mountain biking trails
The same but with better parking.
Hopefully a larger trail network, properly connecting to strathcona road
Exactly the same as it is today, as a rustic trail with sufficient parking.
Much the same as it is now. Why spoil what is there?
Maintenance is all it needs for my liking
The trail should be enjoyed by all !!! The trail should not be impacted by traffic in a residential area
Similar to what it is now with some improvements to the trails and drainage systems.
A park that is the blueprint for the establishment of other parks. It has sound environmental principles that protects the environment and allows recreational usage.
Maplehurst Park and all it's regional trails should be maintained as a forested oasis that is accessible to most regional residents.
This will be the ACRD's most utilized trail especially if improvements are made and a parking lot located off of Kitsutkis Road.
One of the nice aspects of the Maplehurst trails is the fact they are not overcrowded, I think the current users of the park would agree with this.
Access from strathcona rd. With extra parking. Maps at trail heads. Still very raw and natural.
Hopefully the current total trail configuration will still be in place with some of the upgrades/suggestions acted upon.

IT STAYS THE SAME
Less congested parking and continued community use.
For it to stay the same
no access from willow road
Nice outdoor walking areas for the district
More signs telling you where you are and better parking.
maintain what is there
An intact and
Same as now, but with better signage & trail maintenance - a passive recreational trail, left as natural as possible.
Improved parking and signage. Trails maintained.
Improved up keep of the trails
Drainage
Expanded parking area
A good safe place to park off of Kitsuksus Road. maybe an entrance off Strathcona
The same as it does now, natural!
Crown land around Maplehurst Park becomes a provincial or regional park.
Still the same
Hopefully still similar. Tranquil and quiet. Well kept. Safe.
Keep the natural beauty of the park but add some parking and a sign and more knomes !

Question 14: Please provide us with any other comments to inform the Maplehurst Park Management Planning Process

More dogs and bear will die if the traffic continues on Willow Road.

Willow Road was build in 1960 with the intent to access 15 lots. The people there bought these lots to build their dream homes on a nice dead end road. We did not expect at any time that the traffic to increase by 50 cars a day. The traffic goes from dawn to dusk with no consideration for the residents of Willow Road. There is no parking at the end of the road, all the trail walkers park down the sides of the road. This is very dangerous for the locals trying to inch out of their driveways. Strangers standing in your driveways visiting after their walks, yelling at the home owners. You don't own the road. Every home owner on Willow Road dreads the weekend and the sunshine. Please I'm pleading with you to give us out safe neighbourhood back. Build a proper parking lot on Kitsuksis.

Never been (yet), but I would like to contribute to the survey.

We often walk through to Kitsuksis and then turn down to maplehurst. Some people still persist in discarding casual garbage such as kleenex, candy wrappers etc. we clean up all we see. my priorities are only 1, and 2 really, we have been walking this trail system seems like forever, fresh air, exercise, and communing with nature, and close to home. what could be better? please do not "improve" it . do not spoil the naturalness, the people who use it do not mind a little roughing it.

It is possible to get lost on the trails, better signage would help.

I live at the property at the corner of Compton and Willow/ 5415 Willow. That corner is a dangerous corner, especially in the winter with the slope in the road . People coming toward Willow cut the corner and I am surprised there aren't accidents. Especially in winter.

See my remarks about trail safety above. Unsafe trails can ruin a community.

Thank you for ensuring the longevity of this beautiful, rustic place that allows moments of peace and appreciation of nature.

Continues repair and maintenance improvements yearly

As mentioned, new trail network for bikers would be awesome!

Parking lot required but not along a street or taking away from the established trail system. Primarily my reason for requesting the planning commission apply for access on Kitsuksis and/or Strathcona roads.

Leave it alone.

We find the trail so valuable - hopefully the trail system will be improved & developed.

I hope as much of the natural beauty of Maplehurst will be preserved.

AS a resident of Willow Road, I would like to see less traffic on the road, as safety is our priority. Visitors to the trail should have parking available elsewhere. Safety of families living on Willow Road should be a right, not a choice.

Maplehurst is a huge asset for valley residents, but it shouldn't have a negative impact on residents of Compton Rd. and Willow Rd. As it is, we have too many vehicles driving far quickly on a road with no shoulder, and with a blind corner, just to get to the end of the road to walk their dog.

More access points would cause less congestion at the trail head

Keep as is.

stewardship of the natural eco-system is essential. It is what makes it so special.

Letting the neighbours know not to bully users of the trails system.

Preserve and don't log it please

It should be enhanced and promoted along with other informal trails that abound in the region yet which have no protection from development and logging. There is no serious recreational planning in evidence for RD residents. That's why recreational values are bulldozed with increasing frequency.

Love the park
I think having multiple entry points will reduce the pressure on the willow road entrance.
The trail is getting worn down and as more people discover it it will be essential that it be protected and re-enforced.
There are errors on this survey..can't complete is fully.
Port Alberni advertises trails like this and hole and the wall and there is not adequate parking. Perhaps they should advertise parks that have easy parking
leave it alone
Get the trail head off of Willow road
It's my favourite! Thanks for asking for input via the survey!
The parking would be my only suggestion. Trails are trails, users should have some idea of navigation and physical ability. There are plenty other trails and areas to walk if people are lacking those...
Parking must be annoying for the neighbours, but there are always spots available and I have not seen drainage issues while I was there. Road building and parking lots are very expensive, not a good use of tax money. Maybe show a longer route on the map, as I previously mentioned, and indicate multiple parking opportunities along the way. This park has too many off leash dogs. The first loop off Willow should be the poopy loop with doggie bags and a garbage can to drop off the load, if anything. My guess is most people are only there for 20 minutes while the doggie gets some relief.
The trail head from willow should only be access by foot traffic. No parking signs should be installed all the way up the willow road.
No logging.
N/A
I think the additional access trails only matter to people who live in the immediate area.
Why not leave it be, credit us back at tax time.
Thx for addressing this
None
Please please connect this to strathcona road. And expand trail network into the crown land
I have left the previous answer spaces blank because there is no option for "leaving thing alone". Protecting existing assets doesn't imply throwing money and resources at them.
Please move parking ideas to kitsiksis as it has the least impact on any residential area . There are no houses with in a reasonable area . Parking up kitsuksis would not impact residents as it does on willow. Willow rd has a 90' corner leading to the trail . Car constantly turn to sharp and end up in the wrong lane . There have been many close calls , it's only a matter of time before there a serious accident

I cannot find any boundaries for an existing Maplehurst Park on ACRD website. Planning for any park should include at least all lands on which all Maplehurst trails currently run as well as planning for a future expansion. To relieve congestion an informal parking area could also be created at the Kitsuksis entrance.

If parking lot constructed off of Willow Road there will be increased traffic on Willow Road. It is critical to establish new access points and parking lot(s) away from Willow Road. If a parking lot is constructed off of Willow Road it should be placed at a significant distance away from current end of street.

Despite what I have indicated above maybe just improve the parking and leave the trail system as is.

Thank you for, through this survey, reflecting the significant importance of this recreational opportunity to the community.

Better parking not on WILLOW

This area needs protection, not "improvements". There are plenty of other trails in the ACRD that are in more urgent need of upgrades and bridge repairs eg Inlet Trail, Log Train Trail. ACRD should also consider taking on responsibility for the Rogers Creek Nature Trail/Log Train Trail network which is intensively used and need maintenance. Lets spend our tax money wisely.

There is no place to park at the end of Willow Road

More knomes !

Appendix 2: Survey

Maplehurst Park Planning Project

Let's Connect ACRD

ACRD Maplehurst Park Management Plan Survey

Thank you for completing this 5-8 minute survey to help us understand how Maplehurst Park is currently used and to share your ideas and long term vision for the park.

Where do you live?

(Choose any one option)

- Bamfield Electoral Area "A"
- Beaufort Electoral Area "B"
- Long Beach Electoral Area "C"
- Sproat Lake Electoral Area "D"
- Beaver Creek Electoral Area "E"
- Cherry Creek Electoral Area "F"
- City of Port Alberni
- District of Tofino
- District of Ucluelet
- First Nations community (Maa-nulth Treaty land or non-treaty IR)
- Outside of the ACRD

How do you get to Maplehurst Park? Select all that apply.

(Choose all that apply)

- By car
- Walking
- By bike
- Other (please specify)

What is your age group?

(Choose any one option)

- Less than 12 years old
- Between 13 and 19 years old
- 20-29
- 30-39
- 40-49
- 50-59
- 60-69
- 70+

For how many years have you been visiting Maplehurst Park?

(Choose any one option)

- I have never visited Maplehurst Park
- I just discovered the park within the last year
- For more than 1 year but less than 5 years
- For more than 5 years but less than 10 years
- For more than 10 years.
- Other (please specify)

Maplehurst Park Planning Project

Let's Connect ACRD

How did you first find out about Maplehurst Park?

(Choose any one option)

- I just happened upon it going for a walk in the neighbourhood.
- Word of mouth
- A social media post
- An on-line trail app (e.g. All Trails, Gaia Maps, etc)
- Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District website
- I can't remember
- Other (please specify)

How often do you visit Maplehurst Park?

(Choose any one option)

- Almost daily.
- Several times a week.
- Once or twice a week.
- Once to three times a month.
- Once every few months.
- One or twice a year.
- Every few years.
- Never.

What do you like to do when you visit Maplehurst Park? Select all that apply.

(Choose all that apply)

- Walking (without dog)
- Dog walking
- Jogging or running
- Mountain biking
- Nature photography
- Mushroom picking
- Bird watching
- Trail building and other park improvement projects
- Other (please specify)

What do you enjoy most about Maplehurst Park? Select all that apply.

(Choose all that apply)

- The tranquility.
- The trails.
- Being in nature.
- The proximity to where I live.
- The river.
- The friendly visitors I run into.
- The native plants and wildlife.
- Outdoor recreation.
- Other (please specify)

What possible future amenities would you like to see in and adjacent to Maplehurst Park. Please identify the level of importance.

Questions	Very important	Somewhat important	Neutral	Not very important	Not important at all
An information kiosk with trail map and info about the park.					
A trail map at one or two key junctions in the park.					
Additional wayfinding signs in the park.					
A picnic area.					
Improved Parking area(s).					

Maplehurst Park Planning Project

Let's Connect ACRD

An access trail from Strathcona Road and bridge over Kitsuksis Creek (requires permit from Ministry of Transportation).					
Improvements to existing trails (e.g. drainage and trail surface improvements).					

Please add any other suggestions for future amenities or activities that you would like to see in the park.

The main access to Maplehurst Park is from the end of Willow Road. However, there are also a number of informal trails on the adjacent Crown land to the West of the Park, accessed from Kitsuksis Road. Regional Districts can apply to the Province to formally establish recreational trails on Crown land under the *Forest Range Practices Act* and assume maintenance of the trails.

Applications have to go through a formal approval process with the Province. If the application were successful and trails are formally established, they would receive consideration in planning of forest activities. However, it is important to understand that establishment of a recreational trail would not restrict other uses on the Crown land, such as forestry activities, and would not abrogate First Nations interests and rights.

Questions	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
Please indicate your level of support for the ACRD to apply to formally establish the trail system on the adjacent Crown land.					

If you look ten years into the future, what is your vision of what Maplehurst Park will look like?

To help the ACRD understand community priorities for expenditures and budget allocation, please rank the following in order of priority.

(Rank each option)

- _____ Trail and drainage improvements
- _____ Protection of sensitive ecosystems within park
- _____ Parking at end of Willow Road
- _____ Apply to Province for access trail from Strathcona Road
- _____ Apply to Province for access from Kitsuksis Road
- _____ Wayfinding signs in the park
- _____ Park information kiosk at Willow Road trail head

Please provide us with any other comments to inform the Maplehurst Park planning project.

Maplehurst Park Planning Project

Let's Connect ACRD

To help us know how best to reach residents on this and other consultations in the future, please let us know how you learned about this survey.

(Choose all that apply)

- Word of mouth
- Social media
- Alberni Valley News
- ACRD Electoral Area Director
- ACRD website
- ACRD twitter feed
- Poster
- Other (please specify)

Appendix 3: Comments from Open House

Participants were encouraged to provide input by leaving comments on sticky notes on many of the poster boards. The comments are transcribed below, organized by poster board.

Welcome

First Nations consultation should be done early and before public consultation.

Where do you live?

Sproat Lake Area D – 2
Beaver Creek Area E – 2
Beaver Creek Area E at Willow Road – 9
Cherry Creek – 4
Port Alberni – 12

Note, a number of people did not post a pin. The open house was attended by approximately 55 participants, based on intermittent counts throughout the afternoon.

Vision Statement

- The trail system is much bigger than the park. It should all be protected.
- Interconnected trail systems and parks are very important to preserve for the future. (plus 3 green dots to show support)
- Expand park to enclose the trail system
- New parking lot at end of Willow.
- The ACRD and community can work with the woodlot tenure holder to establish trails within the licence area that will not conflict with sustainable forest management goals. (plus 1 green dot to show support)
- The park boundaries should be expanded and include the neighbouring Crown land toward Kitsuksis and the tenured land to the NW of the current park.
- I would like to see the current trail system included in an enlarged park if possible.
-

Survey Results – Future Amenities (level of importance) and other Suggestions for Future Amenities

- Include \$ estimates before or with different options and then ask for feedback.

Community Spirit

- Thanks Lyman for carved signs.
- No human items, nature is best.

- No gnomes or fairies please.
- No gnomes or fairies.

Access Options – 1. Willow Road

- Build extension to Willow Road to the West onto Crown land and ADD a parking lot.
- Many small creeks in proposed parking lot area.
- Most of the time, when I visit the park, there are only 2 – 4 cars on the street. I think adding proper parking spaces on Willow will help.
- No parking lot on Willow Road due to congestion and imposition on Willow Road properties.
- Willow Road is already in rough shape – no more traffic needed due to park.
- No room for parking lot on Willow.
- You bought your houses next to a public park, you should expect people to park on the road in front of your houses. The road is not your personal property – and yes it happens where I live too. I have felt threatened by residents in the past for parking/driving on Willow Road.

Access Options – 2. Strathcona Street South and 3. North

- Cherry Creek needs access. Favour these can be done.
- All electoral areas should share in the cost of upgrades – it is used by city people too.
- Better trail access north to Beaufort and east to Cherry Creek should be a regional priority.
- Road allowance on Strathcona 50 m north of Moore Road is (it seems to be) shorter than suggested access and associated bridge abutment costs. Cherry Creek ratepayers need access to Maplehurst Park and Trail system.

Access Options – 4. Cowley Road and 5. Best Road

- Parking lot at Cowley (verbal comment: impacts the least people)
- Very swampy off Best Road and quads are messing it up. Not nice for foot access.
- The Best Road access has sensitive habitat but it is untenured and could be built if done correctly respecting the environment. The Cowley Road access is an old road grade which will have a future road permit on it. The trail leading S to Maplehurst is an option but likely would not be a permitted trail (a licence of occupation) as has a tenure overlap (woodlot) could still work as a good trail in cooperation with the tenure holder.
- Maplehurst Park should be converted to a regional park with regional funding.

Access Options – 6. Kitsuksis Road and 7. Holly Road

- Parking lot should be off Kitsuksis – well drained and easy to develop.
- Expand the park to include all the access points – no need to build a trail on Holly Road right-of-way.

- Parking should be added on Kitsuksis Road and the trails from there to the park should be maintained. This would take some pressure of Willow Road parking situation.
- I personally do not care for trail access via Holly Road – long way to creek. Bypass to close to houses.
- Access off Kitsuksis would be nice. Although trails are further from creek this part of the park is equally beautiful. I agree parking here would take pressure off Willow.
- Parking here in addition to 2 – 4 parking spots at Willow.

Connectivity

No comments solicited on this board.

Trail Maintenance

Levels of Service

Level 1 – Highest Level of Maintenance – no dots

Level 2 – Medium to Moderate Level of Maintenance – 4 dots

Level 3 – Low to Medium Level of Maintenance – 11 dots

Level 4 – No Routine Maintenance – 1 dot

Priorities

Quick wins

- Keep parking to a minimum on Willow Road – place barriers on west side of culvert parking area and shore up shoulder of pavement
- Make Kitsuksis Road primary parking area
- Gravel and small culverts in boggy areas only – the whole trail should not be too tidy with curbed edges and gravelled pavement. Keep trail wild!
- Garbage bin at entrances to the trail (plus a green dot of support)
- Speed bumps on hill of Willow Road
- Better parking
- Parking lot on Willow
- Access off Strathcona.
- Improve turn-around and parking space at end of Willow and add warning signs and speed bumps to control traffic.
- Calming bumps on Compton not just Willow.
- Safety concerns – speeding up Willow Road, - people parking anywhere, almost blocking driveways, not safe for children and pets
- Make public aware of the park borders and surrounding land ownership
- Traffic concerns on Willow Road
- Safety – Traffic concern on Willow Road too much
- Proper consultation with tenure holder for best results
- Move trail away from environmentally sensitive wet area off end of Willow Road

- Change the woodlot boundaries to encompass the area needed for the expanded trail system.
- Way too much traffic/parking problems on Willow Road impacting properties.
- Additional trail to link Dyke Trail system
- People that live on Willow Road do not want a parking lot

Short-term (within 2-3 years)

- Additional parking on Willow
- Enlarge park to protect all trails and give more access options
- Interconnected trails and parks
- Make a parking area on a new Holly Road extension – 66’ wide by approx 400’ long graveled road. Cars would have room to park and turn around.
- Multiple points of access to Maplehurst Park
- Acquire Crown land for park (expand)
- Second this!! (referencing the above)
- Maplehurst should be converted to a regional park, especially given the usage of the park by residents of all areas of the Alberni Valley (and outsiders). The vast majority of survey respondents were from outside Cherry Creek area.
- Great idea (referencing the above)

Medium-term (within 4-6 years)

- Develop connections with Dyke Trail via Kitsuksis Creek and railroad
- Get a crossing into Cherry Creek to provide access to Maplehurst for more people.

Long-term (within 7 – 12 years)

- Permanent trails with major expenditures would be best places on untenured or land not supported by First Nations as they may need relocation over time.
- Continue to implement plan that works for all: First Nations, tenure holders, public, public finances
- Preserving inter-connected trails and parks for the future
- I agree (with above)
- Understand sustainable forest management obligation of woodlot tenures
- Preserve all the area that has trails. It is more valuable for recreation and CO2 storage

Appendix 4: Open House Poster Boards

Welcome!

Maplehurst Park Management Plan

This open house is part of a public engagement process to gather input for a park management plan for Maplehurst Park.

The plan will:

- outline a vision for the park
- summarize the park's cultural, natural and recreation values
- identify management gaps
- set out short, medium and long term priorities for the protection of the park's natural environment and the development of park amenities
- assist ACRD Board in budgeting and priority-setting for implementation of park projects

Park Planning Process

Jan-Mar 2022: Background Research
 Feb-Mar 2022: On-line Survey Stakeholder Interviews Initial Meetings with First Nations
 May 2022: Public Open House **We are here**
 Jun 2022: Presentation of Draft Plan to ACRD and Committee of the Whole. Revisions to plan.
 Jul/Aug 2022: Draft Plan referred to First Nations and posted for public comment. Final edits.
 Aug/Sep 2022: Receipt and possible adoption of park plan by ACRD Board

Maplehurst Park Quick Facts:

- 14.6 hectares (36 acres) in size.
- Within the traditional territories of the Nisgaah and Tsechah First Nations
- Created in 1913 as part of a subdivision with over 6,000 city-sized lots. The small lot subdivision was cancelled in 1960 but the park remained.
- Located in Cherry Creek Electoral Area F.
- Funded by the Cherry Creek community park services.
- Only road access at Willow Road.
- Park trail system extends into provincial Crown land to West and wooded terrain to Northwest.
- Includes a reach of Kitsukis Creek, a productive coho salmon stream.

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Vision Statement

Help Draft a Long-Term Vision for Maplehurst Park

A vision statement expresses a desired future. Below is a draft vision for Maplehurst Park. Write your suggested edits between the lines or on a sticky note below. Or, if you like the vision statement the way it is written, show your support with a green dot below.

Maplehurst Park protects a mature forest and river ecosystem. Kitsukis Creek provides habitat for salmon and an abundance of aquatic and upland species.

The park has a well-maintained rustic trail system. Trails signs blend in with the natural environment. Park amenities are minimal and located close to park entrances. There are several formal park entrances with small gravel parking areas, an information kiosk and a park map. There are also a few secondary entrances marked with trail sign posts.

The park's trail system is connected to a larger trail network in the community. Many park visitors are able to walk or ride their bikes to the park.

Sticky note comments:

The trail system is much bigger than the park. It should all be protected !!!

Expand park to enclose the trail system

Maplehurst is a beautiful park. It should be protected. The trail system is much bigger than the park. It should all be protected !!!

Place a Coloured Dot:

Green dot: you like the vision statement
 Yellow dot: you provided basics to the text
 Red dot: you made significant edits to the text

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Survey Results

Respondent Profile

The online survey was open from February 7 to April 7, 2022 and gathered 251 responses. The following pie charts provide a snapshot of Maplehurst Park visitors, how often they visit the park, their activities in the park, and what they enjoy most about the park.

Q1: What area do you live in?
 Q2: What is your age group?
 Q3: How do you get to Maplehurst Park?
 Q4: For how many years have you been visiting Maplehurst Park?
 Q5: How did you first find out about Maplehurst Park?
 Q6: How often do you visit Maplehurst Park?
 Q7: What do you like to do when you visit the Park?
 Q8: What do you enjoy most about Maplehurst Park?

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Survey Results

Future Amenities

Improved parking is very important or important to 76% of survey respondents. The next most desired amenity is a trail map at one or two key junctions (56%). This is followed by an access trail from Strathcona Road and bridge over Kitsukis Creek (50%), and an information kiosk with trail map and information about the park (46%). 15% believe a picnic area is very important or important.

Q9: Level of Importance of Possible Future Park Amenities

Amenity	Very important	Important	Not important
Improved parking areas	76%	24%	0%
A trail map at one or two key junctions in park	56%	44%	0%
Additional wayfinding signs in the park	56%	44%	0%
Improvements to existing trails (down/up/upstream/down)	54%	46%	0%
Access trail from Strathcona Road & bridge over Kitsukis Creek	50%	50%	0%
Information kiosk with trail map and information about the park	46%	54%	0%
A picnic area	15%	85%	0%

Q10: Please add other suggestions for amenities or activities you would like to see

79 respondents made other suggestions for amenities. "Keep the park the same" and "keep it natural" were mentioned the most often. Improvements to parking is a concern for 27 respondents. Solutions offered are:

- more or improved parking (6)
- parking/access moved away from Willow Road (5)
- parking added at Kitsukis Road (5)
- parking moved to Kitsukis Road (4)
- parking/access at Strathcona Road (3)
- more parking at Willow Road (2)
- add parking at Best Road (1)
- move parking to Best Road (1)

Benches are suggested by 4 respondents and signage by 3. A few other suggestions are made by one or two people (see graph to the right).

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Survey Results

Vision for the Park

The survey asked to imagine the park in 10 years; 81 more than half of the 147 who responded to this question, want the park kept the same. In a similar vein, a further 20 want the park to stay natural.

42 see improved access and parking in the future. Similar to responses under question 11, solutions to the parking problem include: more and improved parking, moving the existing access away from Willow Road, adding parking at Kitsukis Road, and adding parking at Strathcona Street.

More signage, maintenance, improved drainage, more trails and an expanded park are also hopes for the future of the park.

Budget Priorities:

Survey respondents ranked seven types of park improvements in order of priority for future budget allocations.

The highest priority is protection of sensitive ecosystems. This priority is consistent with the vision for Maplehurst Park to be kept the same and be kept natural.

Other priorities are trail and drainage improvements (which supports protection of sensitive ecosystems), parking at the end of Willow Road, access from Kitsukis Road, and access from Strathcona Street.

While desired as future amenities (question 9), wayfinding signs and a park information kiosk at the Willow Road trail head are less urgent.

The following few boards seek your input to help the ACRD narrow down the best option to improve parking at the park.

Q12: If you look 10 years into the future, what is your vision of what Maplehurst Park will look like?

keep it the same	81
parking/access - more/better	42
natural	20
signage - more	15
maintenance	12
more trails	10
parking/access - move	8
improved drainage	7
expanded	6
parking/access - add at Strathcona St	5
safe	4
not logged	3
garbage cans	2
seeds	2
playground	1
picnic area	1

Q13: To help the ACRD understand community priorities for expenditures and budget allocation, please rank the following in order of priority. Average Rank:

Protection of sensitive ecosystems within park	4.40
Trail and drainage improvements	3.53
Parking at end of Willow Road	3.41
Apply to Province for access from Kitsukis Road	3.13
Apply to Province for access trail from Strathcona Road	2.80
Wayfinding signs in the park	2.73
Park information kiosk at Willow Road trail head	2.03



Community Spirit

Spirit, Creativity, and Whimsy in the Park

There are many elements in Maplehurst Park that reflect the spirit of the people who maintain, enjoy and use the park – the volunteer-built trails and footbridges, the whiteboard where park visitors can leave a message, the hearts at trail intersections, the welcoming grime at the trailhead, the fairies in tree crevices, the carved wooden signs. Those are elements which make the park welcoming, playful and unique.

Share your unique stories of the park and how you would like that community spirit to be supported and celebrated.



Access Options

1. Willow Road Parking Improvements

The end of Willow Road is currently the main access and parking area for park visitors. The area gets congested, especially on sunny days in the spring, summer and fall.

There are two options for improvements:

A) Place a large culvert in the ditch and fill it in to widen the road to accommodate parking and vehicle turn-around.

B) Construct a parking lot within the road right-of-way, and/or the Crown land.

Option A – Culvert the ditch

Pros:

- Budget available to complete in short-term.
- Improves drivers' safety.
- Adds a few parking spaces.

Cons:

- Does not add enough parking spaces to deal with demand on busy days.

Option B – Parking Lot

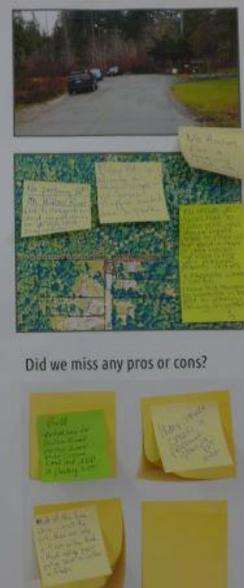
Pros:

- Budget available may be sufficient to complete.
- Alleviates congestion on Willow Road.

Cons:

- Requires engineering and environmental designs due to drainage issues.
- Cost estimate to be obtained but likely precludes developing other accesses in the short-term.
- Requires permit from Ministry of Transportation to construct within road-right-of-way and from Province (if extends into Crown land).
- Does not reduce traffic on Willow Road.

Did we miss any pros or cons?



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Access Options

2. Strathcona Street South and 3. North

There are several road rights-of-way off Strathcona Street that end at the park boundary. The ACRD could apply for a permit from the Ministry of Transportation to develop a trail in one of those road rights-of-way.

ACRD staff explored the two road rights-of-way shown on the map. A creek crossing would be required to connect to the trail system on the other side of Kitsukis Creek.

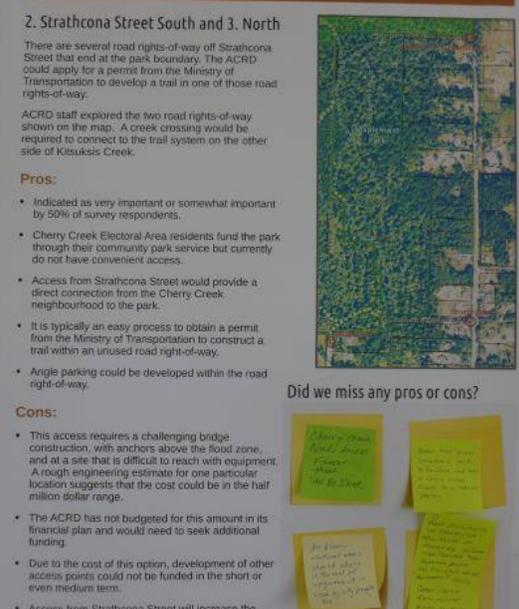
Pros:

- Indicated as very important or somewhat important by 50% of survey respondents.
- Cherry Creek Electoral Area residents fund the park through their community park service but currently do not have convenient access.
- Access from Strathcona Street would provide a direct connection from the Cherry Creek neighbourhood to the park.
- It is typically an easy process to obtain a permit from the Ministry of Transportation to construct a trail within an unused road right-of-way.
- Angle parking could be developed within the road right-of-way.

Cons:

- This access requires a challenging bridge construction, with anchors above the flood zone, and at a site that is difficult to reach with equipment. A rough engineering estimate for one particular location suggests that the cost could be in the half million dollar range.
- The ACRD has not budgeted for this amount in its financial plan and would need to seek additional funding.
- Due to the cost of this option, development of other access points could not be funded in the short or even medium term.
- Access from Strathcona Street will increase the number of vehicles using that street.

Did we miss any pros or cons?



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Access Options

4. Cowley Road and 5. Best Road

These two possible access points came up in discussions with the woodlot owner to the North of the park. Trails from Cowley or Best Road would cross Crown land and, in the case of Cowley Road, the woodlot terrace area. Both options would require a permit for the trail from the Province. Possible locations and feasibility of crossing the creek have not been explored yet.

Pros:

- A trail from Cowley Road or Best Road would open up another area for trails.
- The accesses are not adjacent to private residences.
- There is room for a parking area off the road.

Cons:

- The accesses are not close to where many park users live and, as a result, park users are likely to continue to drive to a closer access such as Willow Road.
- The accesses are not within walking distance of many residents, requiring most park users to drive their vehicles.
- Possible trail alignments and potential creek crossings still have to be explored. Depending on the terrain, cost may be prohibitive.
- The access points are located within the Beaufort Electoral Area which does not have a community park service. A park service would have to be established to fund one of these options. Alternatively, Maplehurst Park could be converted to a regional park with regional funding.
- Identifying and setting up a governance system to fund one of these two accesses could take a couple of years.

Did we miss any pros or cons?




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Access Options

6. Kitsuksis Road and 7. Holly Road

There are two potential access points from Kitsuksis Road to Maplehurst Park:

- An existing trail that starts north of the mail boxes, crosses the Crown land and connects to the Park trails.
- A new trail could be constructed within the undeveloped Holly Road right-of-way.

Option A – Trail North of Mail Boxes

Pros:

- There are few direct neighbours who could be impacted by people and vehicle traffic at the trail head.
- The trail has been built and is in use.
- The area proposed for a parking lot is well drained and easy to develop.

Cons:

- Requires permit and tenure from Province for trail and parking lot. Success of application is uncertain since there are other competing interests in the Crown lands.
- Application process could take up to two years, delaying ACRD-funded improvements.
- Trail head is far from Maplehurst Park and Kitsuksis Creek and trail may not be used by park visitors who want to walk the shorter Maplehurst Park trail loop.
- Additional traffic through residential area on Kitsuksis Road.

Option B – New Trail along Holly Road

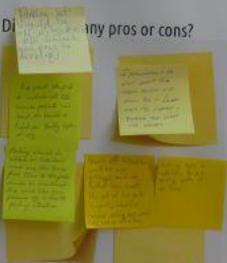
Pros:

- The application process to locate a trail within a Ministry of Transportation Road right-of-way is typically quicker than applying for a trail permit over Crown land.
- There are a number of existing connections from the Holly Road right-of-way to the larger trail network on the Crown lands.

Cons:

- Costly since it requires construction of a new 680 m long trail in addition to a parking lot.
- Trail would pass along the side yards of a few homes.
- Trail head is far from Maplehurst Park and Kitsuksis Creek and may not be preferred over the Willow Road park entrance.

Did we miss any pros or cons?

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Connectivity

Trail Network Connectivity

There are a number of community trails that could potentially be connected to Maplehurst Park. This has the following benefits:

- Access to a larger trail network from different neighbourhoods
- Increased walkability of neighbourhoods and associated health benefits to residents
- More residents living in greater proximity to nature and outdoor recreation, reducing vehicle trips to reach greenspace
- Multiple access points, reducing parking congestion at any one place

The following trails are close to Maplehurst Park:

- Crown land trails
- Cherry Creek trail
- Kitsuksis Dyke trail

Over time and as funding permits, the ACRD could apply for the necessary permits and tenures from the Province to formalize trails over the Crown land and/or construct trails within undeveloped road rights-of-way for greater trail connectivity.



Please indicate the priority you want the ACRD to accord to trail connectivity to the park on the second to last board.

Note that obtaining permits for trails over Crown land would be without prejudice to First Nations' rights and interests. Other types of Crown land tenures may take precedence over trails under permit.

Trails that extend into the woodlot tenure to the Northwest of the Park may need to be closed during logging operations or may be rescinded.






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Trail Maintenance

Levels of Service

The ACRD has identified the following levels of services for its parks and trails.

Indicate your preferred level of service for Maplehurst Park by marking an X in the appropriate row.

LEVEL OF SERVICE CATEGORIES			
LEVEL	STANDARD	USE	Your preferred level of service for Maplehurst Park
LEVEL 1 Highest Level of Maintenance	Park maintained for first-class appearance. Maintenance weekly to multiple times a week. Infrastructure designed to highest standard and inspected regularly for public safety and high functionality. Vegetation kept pruned and manicured. No accumulated debris or litter onsite.	Highly visible, high profile parks and trails with intensive public use	
LEVEL 2 Moderate Level of Maintenance	Parks and trails kept neat. Tolerance to effects of "wear and tear", moderate traffic and natural processes. Maintenance bi-monthly to weekly. Infrastructure designed to safely accommodate current level of use and routinely inspected for public safety. Vegetation kept pruned and maintained to accommodate current park use. Little to no accumulated debris or litter.	Medium to high level of intensive public use	
LEVEL 3 Low to Medium Level of Maintenance	Natural park space. Maintenance performed monthly or in response to public complaints. Limited and low maintenance infrastructure designed for less intensive uses. Vegetation pruned or maintained for safety. Debris or litter cleaned up in response to public complaint.	Intended to be a natural park space for low to medium use of constructed trail	
LEVEL 4 No Routine Maintenance	Natural park space. No scheduled routine maintenance or monitoring. No assets onsite. Vegetation management, debris or litter clean up in response to public complaint.	Inactive park with no infrastructure	

ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT
K. Albert Consulting

Priorities

Quick wins, short-, medium-, and long-term priorities

Below are the key projects and initiatives reviewed in the survey and at this open house. Protection of sensitive ecosystem, the highest ranked priority in the survey, is an on-going activity and underpins all park projects. Write your priorities on a sticky note or directly into the corresponding quadrant. You are welcome to add other items that we may have missed.

Access options: Willow Rd (A: culvert, B: parking lot), Strathcona Rd, Cowley Rd, Best Rd, Kitsuksis Rd (A: by mailboxes, B: at Holly Rd)

Signage: maps at key junctions, wayfinding signs in park, park information look at main entrance(s)

Trail Improvements: Fix drainage issues

Small amenities: Benches, picnic area, doggy-bag dispenser, garbage bin,...

Connectivity: Develop connecting trails

Write: Support volunteer efforts, retain/encourage whimsical features, etc.

Short-term (within 2-3 years)

Medium-term (within 4-6 years)

Long-term (within 7-12 years)

Next Steps

Next Steps in the Planning Process

Jun 2022
Public Engagement Summary posted online

Jun 2022
Presentation of Draft Plan to ACRD Committee of the Whole
Revisions to plan

Jul/Aug 2022
Draft Plan posted for public comment and referred to First Nations
Final edits

Aug/Sep 2022
Receipt and possible adoption of park plan by ACRD Board

Implementation
Annual budget process allocates funding for capital projects
Fundraising to supplement budget for major projects

Project webpage: letsconnectacrdbc.ca/maplehurst-pmp

Thank you for your participation!



Poster board set up by a participant:

Maplehurst Park / Maplehurst Trail

What is the difference?

Current Map



Future Vision



Maplehurst



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