



Vision Highlights

VFK Today

Victoria-Fraserview/Killarney (VFK) is a large and diverse area on Vancouver's sunny south-eastern slope. Residents value its established single-family neighbourhoods, newer communities of Champlain Heights and Fraserlands, and the busy commercial areas that provide convenient local shopping. The area's two community centres and many parks are heavily used by residents. Many of VFK's neighbourhoods have unique local identities and a strong sense of community.



VFK's Vision is focussed on making the community even better: enhancing safety; improving the attractiveness of parks, streets, and school grounds; and reducing the impacts of through traffic on the community's arterial streets. Residents want more input into a range of community decisions and want improvements to their shopping areas, walking and biking routes, and community facilities. The Vision supports additional duplexes and low rise seniors' housing to help accommodate the changing housing needs of residents as they age.

Reduce the Impact of Traffic

The conditions and safety for residents, pedestrians, and transit users should be substantially improved on all arterial streets in the community. There should be more enforcement of traffic rules, improved pedestrian crossings, safer intersections, increased regulation of trucking, and additional planting and public art. Several secondary arterials should be reclassified as collectors to ensure they are not widened or changed to accommodate increased traffic volumes and speeds. Transit should be made more attractive, for example, by adding new express services on high volume routes.



Improve Biking & Walking Routes

Community walking and biking routes used to access schools, community centres, and shopping should be made more attractive. Initiatives should include additional greening, sidewalks where none currently exist, improved pathways through parks, better crossings of busy streets, shelters, beautification, and more bike racks.



Reinforce & Improve Shopping Areas

The Victoria Drive, Collingwood, and Champlain Mall shopping areas should be enhanced. All should be kept cleaner, maintain a range of shops and services, improve pedestrian safety on streets and be made more attractive. In both Victoria and Collingwood more convenient parking should be provided and sidewalk merchandise displays should be encouraged but their coverage of the sidewalk limited. Mixed use development should be better designed. Future changes to Champlain Mall should contribute to the Vision Directions. In Fraserlands, local serving retail should be encouraged on the vacant land on the west side of Kerr.

Protect the Environment

The City and other levels of government should lead by example, and encourage residents, to recycle more, use less water, and improve air quality.

Provide Greener, More Inviting Streets & Public Places

Park designs and activities should be more varied to serve a diverse population. School grounds should be transformed into attractive, usable community spaces. More mini-parks should be created along the Fraser. Streets should be pleasant green links connecting neighbourhoods, and there should be more street trees, planting in boulevards, and landscaped traffic circles and corner bulges. Views from public places like parks and streets should be protected.



Improve City Facilities & Services

The Park Board should work together with other community agencies to enhance youth programs. More specialized recreation facilities for children and youth should be provided. Killarney Pool should be refurbished or expanded. Additional senior's facilities should be located at Killarney or Champlain Community Centres. The Champlain and Fraserview Branch Libraries should stay at or near their present locations and should better coordinate their services. All community programs should encourage the participation of newcomers and non-English speakers. Information on City services should be more consistently available within the community in locations, forms, and languages which are convenient.



Expand Community Involvement

Community residents should have greater, and more timely, input into decisions about changes in their community including the provision of City facilities and services, development projects, street and traffic changes, transit, parks, and the location of drug treatment facilities.

Maintain Existing Neighbourhoods

In order to retain the basic character of VFK, most single-family areas should be retained. As well, the pattern of land uses, parks, and streets in Champlain Heights and Fraserlands should be kept and proposals to change existing development in these areas should be carefully evaluated for their impacts on neighbourhood character. The City should improve its rental suite complaint resolution procedures. Changes to existing "comprehensive development" zoning should require a rezoning process with appropriate community consultation.



Add Housing Variety

Additional duplexes should be permitted, if they fit into the neighbourhood and if adequate community services are provided for additional residents. Some small, low-rise developments designed for seniors should also be permitted near parks, shopping, and transit. If the wood products mill east of Kerr closes, the City should initiate a major study with significant public consultation to consider the future uses of the area, including a range of housing options.



Create a Safer Community

Residents want their community to feel even safer. Community Policing Centres should have some on-going funding to ensure stability. Individual and community crime prevention efforts should be encouraged, including Block Watch, citizen patrols, improved lighting in higher crime areas, building and park design reviews, and more crime prevention programs in schools. Police should be more responsive to local concerns and needs, including doing more patrols on foot and by bike.