

Hastings Park - Open Space Advisory Group

Terms of Reference

1.0 Background

On December 14th, 2010 Vancouver City Council adopted the Hastings Park/Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) Master Plan setting the stage for the long range redevelopment of Hastings Park and the PNE. At the same time City Council endorsed a number of first steps in the Master Plan focused on park space development and improving pedestrian and bicycle access. A Key Stakeholder Group, consisting of groups with an interest in Hastings Park, provided valuable input in the development of the Hastings Park/PNE Master Plan. With the Master Plan now complete, the Key Stakeholder Group's mandate is complete and the group is no longer in existence.

The City is committed to involving residents and stakeholders in the planning and design initiatives that are re-shaping Hastings Park and the PNE into a greener, more active, year-round destination. As such, the City of Vancouver wishes to engage individuals and groups who have an interest in the redevelopment of Hastings Park to provide, on a project basis, focused feedback and advice on the design development of several initial park spaces. It is intended that this Advisory Group will augment general public consultation (e.g. public open houses) that will occur during the project.

The Open Space Advisory Group will be involved for the duration of Hastings Park's initial three park developments (2.1, 2.2 and 2.3) and the Group's work will conclude with the completion of these projects. Pending Council approval of future phases, a new Open Space Advisory Group will be assembled with a membership that will reflect the uses of future Council-approved park components.

2.0 Mandate

The role of the Open Space Advisory Group will be to review and advise on the open space implementation projects in Hastings Park. This will be done in the consideration of the Hastings Park/PNE Master Plan, and both the Park Board's and the City of Vancouver's strategic goals and objectives. Feedback from the Advisory Group will be taken under consideration along with other factors influencing the Plan.

The Open Space Advisory Group will specifically provide feedback on the design and public consultation phases of the Master Plan's initial three projects. A high-level summary of the scope of these projects is described below.

2.1 Empire Fields and Plateau Sports Park:

- Empire Fields for community use with synthetic turf, ball diamonds, lighting, running track and associated landscaping, plus vehicle parking to accommodate field users.
- Plateau Sports Park as a multi-use park with a variety of programmed spaces that may include: dirt jumps, mountain bike skills park, hard court sports courts, adventure play, workout and fitness area and other uses.

2.2 Internal Trails and Park Greenways:

- Greenways are park corridors for pedestrians and cyclists that connect the various destinations and places in and around Hastings Park. The following will be considered:

- Perimeter Greenway around Empire Fields north to New Brighton Park and the North-South Greenway through the Plateau Sports Park.
- Interim connections comprising the North-South and East-West Greenway through the park connecting to the existing or proposed connections beyond the park.
- Explore a greenway connection between the Italian Gardens and the Sanctuary.

2.3 Creekway Park and New Brighton Park connection:

- New park space and including a segment of the daylighted stream, associated habitat and parking.
- Greenway connections including a pedestrian and bicycle link from Hastings Park to New Brighton Park and integration of the Portside and Trans-Canada Trail Greenway routes.

2.4 The mandate of the Group will conclude when the design and consultation phases of projects outlined in 2.1 - 2.3 are complete.

3.0 Membership

The Open Space Advisory Group will be comprised of on-site, community, and city-wide stakeholders and includes members at large and individuals who represent a larger user group. Members will have direct knowledge, experience, or expertise within their representational group and/or have an interest in the redevelopment of Hastings Park. Members will be comprised of diverse backgrounds, including geographic, generational, and cultural diversity and include (but is not limited) to representation from the following group or interest areas:

- Circus West
- Cycling (commuting or leisure) or walking
- Hastings Park Conservancy
- Leaside Tunnel users
- Pacific National Exhibition
- Residents from Hastings/Sunrise Neighbourhood
- Vancouver Field Sports Federation
- Vancouver Sports Network
- Youth

4.0 Application and Selection

- 4.1 Interested parties will apply for membership to the Open Space Advisory Group through the completion of an application form.
- 4.2 Selection of the applicants who will comprise the Open Space Advisory Group will be made by the City Manager.

5.0 Meetings

- 5.1 Meetings will take place on a weekday evening for approximately two hours. The Group will meet approximately once a month over the duration of six to eight months; however, this frequency may vary depending on the pace of the projects. It is anticipated that meetings will be initiated in the spring of 2011.
- 5.2 The meeting venue will be at Hastings Park or as close as possible, to facilitate the groups' understanding of the park context.
- 5.3 The meeting agenda, prepared by the Project Manager, will be circulated via email prior to every meeting. The meeting notes will be emailed to the Group and posted on the project's website after every meeting. Any modifications or

revisions to the meeting notes will be addressed and adopted as necessary at the start of each meeting.

- 5.4 Meetings may involve field trips or on-site visits as required. Field trips requiring daylight may need to occur on a weekend.
- 5.5 The public are welcome to attend the meetings but must observe from the gallery and not participate in or distract the Open Space Advisory Group's discussion.
- 5.6 The Advisory Group is not intended to take the place of, or fetter the broader community input into the content of the initial implementation projects as there will be many opportunities for the public to provide input.

6.0 Open Space Advisory Group Roles and Responsibilities

- 6.1 The Open Space Advisory Group meetings will be chaired by the Project Manager.
- 6.2 The Project Manager will be responsible for agenda preparation and distribution, coordinating meeting facilitation, confirming follow-up items for meetings, as well as acting as a liaison between meetings to facilitate information sharing and problem-solving as necessary to ensure the effectiveness of the Open Space Advisory Group.
- 6.3 The Hastings Park/PNE Master Plan is the Council-approved guiding document for the implementation process. Members of the Group will be in alignment with overarching principles of the Park/PNE Master Plan and demonstrate a commitment to moving the Plan forward.
- 6.4 Members will have a unique perspective, experience in at least one of the early implementation projects, as well as an ability to examine Hastings Park and the PNE in a comprehensive manner.
- 6.5 Members who represent a larger interest group are expected to communicate back to their representative groups on the progress of the park developments and to bring forward their representative's feedback and input on this work to the Group.
- 6.6 Members will be engaged, positive, constructive, and respectful of other member's perspectives.
- 6.7 Members may be requested to review material in advance of meetings in order for meetings to be focused and time-effective. These materials will be sent in advance for timely consideration before each meeting.
- 6.8 The Group will provide individual and collective input and advice during all meetings, both on the topics requested by the Project Manager, but also on topics that Members raise.
- 6.9 Members on the Open Space Advisory Group are expected to attend and participate in all meetings. Group Members may miss no more than 3 consecutive meetings and will be asked to resign after the third absence. A replacement may be sought.