

Northeast False Creek Park Design Advisory Group: Terms of Reference and Recommended Process

Introduction

The Vancouver Park Board is seeking interested individuals to form a Northeast False Creek (NEFC) Park Design Advisory Group (PDAG) to advise Park Board and City staff in the design and programming of the parks and open spaces in NEFC.

The PDAG will have a broad representation of community and city-wide interests, and ensure a balanced approach to the uses in NEFC's park and public space system, in a way that meets the needs and reflects the aspirations of Vancouverites today and into the future.

Background

On October 27, 2015, City Council approved the removal of the Dunsmuir and Georgia Viaducts and the *Northeast False Creek Conceptual Plan* to guide the future planning without the viaducts. The NEFC Conceptual Plan is the foundation for the creation and renewal of a connected complex of waterfront park and open spaces adjacent to the heart of downtown Vancouver.



These parks will be iconic destinations where residents and visitors can experience nature, rest and relax, or partake in a range of outdoor activities and festivities. They will also be conveniently adjacent to recreation, shops, restaurants and transit - all in the heart of a dense, urban village.

The Park Board will lead the schematic design of this complex of park and open spaces. The scope of the design is comprised of, but not limited to, the following key components:

1. Creekside Park Extension - a new destination waterfront park, seawall and pier
2. Andy Livingstone Park (existing) - reconfigured road network will trigger the renewal of this park and Downtown skate plaza, allowing a re-think of these recreation, social and natural spaces

3. Creekside Park (existing) - this waterfront park will play a key connecting role to adjacent green spaces and seawall
4. Dunsmuir Connection - an elevated linear park that will provide a green link for pedestrians and cyclists between the downtown core and the new park spaces

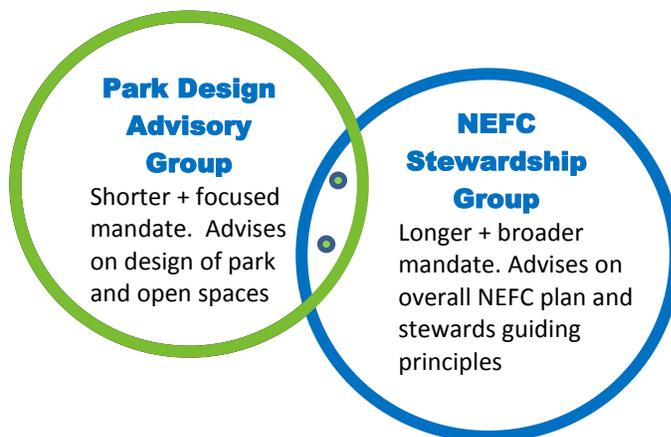
Context of the PDAG in relation to other participants

The role of the PDAG will be to work in tandem with staff, other stakeholders, Park Board and City Council.

	Manage NEFC planning process	Outreach	Process check-in & advice	Draft design and programing options	Suggest uses, Identify opportunities and challenges, Review design and programing	Plan approvals	Plan implementation	Monitoring implementation
Participants (general public)					✓			
Participants (stakeholder groups)					✓			
Working Groups (eg. Park Design Advisory Group)		✓	✓		✓			
Stewardship Group		✓	✓		✓			
Land Owners (Concord, Aquilini, PavCo, CMP, etc.)		✓			✓		✓	
City Staff, Park Board Staff	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
Infrastructure Asset Owners / Operators		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Regulatory Agencies (Translink, DFO, etc)		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Council / Park Board						✓		

The input from the PDAG will be considered in conjunction with input from other community engagement efforts (e.g. public events, online surveys) as well as other criteria and considerations such as technical and financial factors. Input from the PDAG will also be balanced with the Park Board and City of Vancouver's strategic goals and objectives.

The Park Design Advisory Group is a part of the broader public engagement process for Northeast False Creek. Overlap in membership between the PDAG and the NEFC Stewardship Group led by the City of Vancouver, will be considered to help bring continuity between the two groups.



Specific Role of the Park Design Advisory Group

The role of the PDAG is to provide input on the design of the new park and open spaces in NEFC, in particular:

1. To ensure a balanced approach to park uses, as part of a thoughtful and comprehensive design process
2. To provide feedback to the project team (Park Board staff, City staff and consultant team) on the approach and progress of community engagement; and
3. To encourage the education and contribution of the public in the design of parks and open space.

PDAG members' responsibilities:

- Review material in advance of meetings in order for meetings to be focused and time-effective
- Engage in positive and constructive discourse respectful of other member's perspectives
- Provide individual and collective input on all new and emerging topics
- Provide input on translation, graphic design or creative art, videography, and facilitation, to enrich the engagement process
- Offer outreach avenues (such as newsletters and contact lists) and the potential for partnering on events
- Contribute ideas for popular places and ideal dates to hold events that allow the Park Board to partner with existing events, and
- Encourage people to participate in engagement opportunities (such as filling out an online survey or attending a public workshop)

Membership Composition

The PDAG will be comprised of local and city-wide stakeholders, and will include 10-12 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 development of the parks, plazas and open spaces in NEFC. Members will reflect Vancouver's ethnic, age and gender diversity and include (but not limited to) representation from the following groups or interest areas:

- Local residents in the False Creek Basin and adjacent areas/neighbourhoods
- Children
- Youth
- Seniors
- Sports and outdoor recreation, including skateboarding
- Water recreation, including non-motorized boating
- Community Centres, Charities and Non-profits
- Public space design and large event/festival organizers
- Active Transportation and Accessibility
- Environmental design, with interest in waterfront sites
- Arts and Culture

Application and Selection

Members will be appointed by the Park Board following an open public call for applications. Concurrently, applications for membership to the NEFC Stewardship Group will be considered. Where applicable, applications for both groups should include rationale about the relevance and importance of membership and if requested, why overlap is considered important.

Mandate

The Park Design Advisory Group will specifically provide feedback during the schematic design and public consultation phases of the Northeast False Creek Park and Open Spaces Design project expected to begin in 2016 and last to the end of 2017. The mandate of the PDAG will conclude when these phases are complete. Activities will include:

- Regular meetings - frequency of which will depend on need - with Park Board staff, City staff, consultant team, etc.;
- Outreach to individual networks to seek advice or opinions at strategic points in the park design process;
- Attendance at workshops and public events; and
- Staying up to date and knowledgeable on the overall NEFC Conceptual Plan, the Vancouver Park and Recreation Services Master Plan (expected to start in 2016) and other relevant planning initiatives in the area.

It is expected that members will attend the majority of meetings and will keep active correspondence with the group. Any members unable to participate will be replaced by other representatives of their organization, if applicable. As part of its commitment to the group, staff support for the PDAG will be provided by the Northeast False Creek project team. The Park Board and City will provide:

- A facilitator and note taker;
- Staff time and resources;
- Meeting space; and
- Supporting technical resources and consultancies