

## Meeting Minutes

### Regional Parks Committee

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Wednesday, January 27, 2021

10:00 AM

6th Floor Boardroom  
625 Fisgard St.  
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

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#### PRESENT

Directors: R. Mersereau (Chair), G. Young (Vice Chair), G. Holman (EP), B. Isitt (EP), R. Martin (EP), J. Ranns (10:05 am), D. Screech, L. Seaton (EP), M. Tait (EP), N. Taylor

Staff: L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks and Environmental Services; J. Leahy, Senior Manager, Regional Parks; B. Schultz, Manager Planning, Resource Management and Development, Regional Parks; T. Moss, Visitor Services & Community Devel Manager, Regional Parks; B. Martin, Senior Project Engineer, Facilities Management & Engineering Services; M. Lagoa, Acting Deputy Corporate Officer; T. Pillipow, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

EP - Electronic Participation

Regrets: Director C. Plant

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 am.

#### 1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Chair Mersereau provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

#### 2. Approval of Agenda

**MOVED by Director Screech, SECONDED by Director Taylor,  
That the agenda for the January 27, 2021 Regional Parks Committee meeting be  
approved.  
CARRIED**

#### 3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1. [21-100](#) Minutes of the November 25, 2020 Regional Parks Committee meeting

**MOVED by Director Screech, SECONDED by Director Taylor,  
That the minutes of the Regional Parks Committee meeting of November 25, 2020  
be adopted as circulated.  
CARRIED**

#### 4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Mersereau welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2021. She is very honoured to be chairing this committee along with Vice-Chair Young, especially as the public is very engaged with this committee. Any suggestions or

feedback is welcomed by the Chair.

## 5. Presentations/Delegations

- 5.1. [21-104](#) Delegation - Corey Burger; Representing Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition: Re: Agenda Item 6.3.: Regional Trails Widening Study  
Corey Burger spoke in favour of Item 6.3.
- 5.2. [21-105](#) Delegation - Elise Cote; Resident of Saanich: Re: Agenda Item 6.3. Regional Trails Widening Study  
Elise Cote did not participate in the meeting.

## 6. Committee Business

- 6.1. [21-089](#) 2021 Regional Parks Committee Terms of Reference  
L. Hutcheson spoke to Item 6.1.  
  
Discussion ensued on the committee being able to seek regular updates related to the Regional Trails Management Plan. L. Hutcheson noted that regional trails is part of the purview of this committee.  
  
**MOVED by Director Screech, SECONDED by Director Ranns,  
That the Regional Parks Committee receive the 2021 Terms of Reference,  
attached as Appendix A.  
CARRIED**
- 6.2. [21-087](#) CRD Regional Trails Visitor Use Survey - 2019  
L. Hutcheson introduced T. Moss who spoke to Item 6.2.  
  
Discussion ensued on the following:  
- future plans for the existing parking lots near trail heads  
- recreation and active transportation of people living near the trails  
- municipal and regional investments in regional trails  
- the status of the trail between Savory School and Atkins Road  
- increased staff presence to curb speeding, promote trail etiquette and reduce danger on the trails  
- funding for new construction  
  
**MOVED by Director Screech, SECONDED by Director Taylor,  
The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:  
That this report be received for information.  
CARRIED**
- 6.3. [21-084](#) Regional Trails Widening Study  
L. Hutcheson introduced B. Schultz who spoke to Item 6.3.  
  
Discussion ensued on the following:

- implications to other projects with an expedited timeline for this project
- funding sources
- lighting options that take into account the various needs across the region
- rationale for the recommendation of the 6.5m wide pathway
- conducting the public consultation while maintaining COVID-19 protocols
- room for growth within the recommended widening strategy

**MOVED** by Director Young, **SECONDED** by Director Screech,  
The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That the Regional Trails Widening Study be received for information;
2. That staff be directed to conduct public engagement on the 6.5 m separated use pathway design with lighting and implementation priorities as recommended; and
3. That staff report back to a future committee meeting with further recommendations.

**MOVED** by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Director Taylor,  
That recommendation 2 be amended by adding the words "including consideration of low-intensity lighting in the trail segment adjacent to Swan Lake, aiming for balance between wildlife and public safety considerations.", after the words "priorities as recommended".

**CARRIED**

**OPPOSED:** Ranns, Seaton, Tait

**MOVED** by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Director Screech,  
That the recommendation be further amended by adding the following: "That staff aim to expedite public engagement and detailed design with a view toward having a shovel ready project."

**CARRIED**

**OPPOSED:** Martin, Ranns, Seaton, Tait

**MOVED** by Director Young, **SECONDED** by Director Screech,  
The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That the Regional Trails Widening Study be received for information;
2. That staff be directed to conduct public engagement on the 6.5 m separated use pathway design with lighting and implementation priorities as recommended including consideration of low-intensity lighting in the trail segment adjacent to Swan Lake, aiming for balance between wildlife and public safety considerations;
3. That staff report back to a future committee meeting with further recommendations; and
4. That staff aim to expedite public engagement and detailed design, with a view toward having a shovel ready project.

**CARRIED**

**OPPOSED:** Ranns, Seaton, Tait

**6.4.**     [21-079](#)

CRD Regional Parks and Trails - 2020 - Year in Review

J. Leahy spoke to item 6.4.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- Elk/Beaver Lake capital element funding

- appreciation of staff for their efforts

**MOVED** by Director Screech, **SECONDED** by Director Taylor,  
The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District  
Board:

That the CRD Regional Parks and Trails - 2020 Update be received for  
information.

**CARRIED**

**6.5.**     [20-629](#)     South Island Transportation Strategy

E. Sinclair spoke to Item 6.5.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- the Gulf Islands being omitted from the South Island Transportation Strategy
- timing for the Salt Spring Island regional trail planning
- action that this committee can or should take in order to raise provincial interest in the trails

**MOVED** by Director Screech, **SECONDED** by Director Young,  
That the South Island Transportation Strategy be received for information.

**CARRIED**

**7. Notice(s) of Motion**

There were no Notice(s) of Motion.

**8. New Business**

There was no new business.

**9. Adjournment**

**MOVED** by Director Screech, **SECONDED** by Director Taylor,  
That the January 27, 2021 Regional Parks Committee meeting be adjourned at  
11:52 am.

**CARRIED**

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Chair

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Recorder