

MOTION ON NOTICE

3. Shore to Shore Greenways Plan

Submitted by: Councillor Wiebe

WHEREAS

1. Greenways connect our communities, schools, parks, green space, waterways and natural areas with vibrant natural corridors. These connections provide many benefits, including increasing the urban forest, reducing urban heat, increasing biodiversity of plants and animals, providing pollinator and bird corridors, and connecting us to each other and to active and safe ways of moving around the city;
2. The City of Vancouver's Greenest City 2020 Action Plan has two key targets: to ensure every person lives within a 5 minute walk of a park, greenway or other green space and to increase the urban forest canopy cover to 22% by 2050;
3. The Vancouver Park Board's Biodiversity Strategy has a target to restore or enhance 25ha of natural areas by 2020 with an emphasis on connecting habitats for biodiverse plants and animals;
4. The Vancouver Park Board's Parks and Recreation Services Master Plan set 10 goals to shape the next 25 years. Goal 6 is to "create a green network that will connect our parks, waterfront and recreation areas" and includes a draft concept for an interconnected green network;
5. The Vancouver School Board approved the first ever Environmental Sustainability Plan in 2019 to promote outdoor learning, access to nature and active transportation;
6. Local municipalities in Metro Vancouver are developing innovative greenway plans and projects. For example, the City of North Vancouver developed The Green Necklace, a greenway that forms a 7.5 KM loop linking parks, public spaces and elementary schools;
7. The Metro Vancouver Regional Greenways update was endorsed in 2019 and is currently in its planning process. Metro Vancouver's Connecting The Dots: Regional Green Infrastructure Network Resource Guide aims to develop a regional network that connects green infrastructure for people and animals; and
8. Infrastructure Canada will deliver \$3.917 Billion through a bilateral agreement with the Province of British Columbia under four funding streams, including green infrastructure, over the next ten years. The City of Vancouver has an opportunity to apply for new funding for major greenway projects.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to report back with a scope of work for the development of Vancouver's Shore to Shore Greenways Plan that;

- i. Refreshes the 1995 Vancouver Greenways Plan with a new collaborative action plan for the planning, protection and expansion of greenways;
- ii. Integrates the plan within the Citywide Plan and the Greenest City 2020 Action Plan 2.0 and aligns it with other relevant City policies, plans and strategies;
- iii. Includes research of current and future projects, a long-term greenway map and prioritized strategies for collaborating with key groups and governments who share responsibility for local greenways to complete important connections, such as Señákw to čəsnaʔəm, Queen Elizabeth Park to Van Dusen, False Creek to Trout Lake, The Ridgeway Greenway, Still Creek Regional connection, Experience the Fraser River Path, Eastside Crosscut, and Hastings Creek;
- iv. Clarifies the roles of the City of Vancouver, the Vancouver Park Board, Metro Vancouver and the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations in the service delivery of greenways and the centralization, resourcing and coordination of staff.