

DAWSON PARK AND KINNAIRD RAVINE MASTER PLAN

What You Said
Phase 1: Inventory & Analysis
November 2016

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What You Said

The following report provides a detailed summary of raw data in the form of comments that we received during the first phase of engagement (Inventory & Analysis) for the Dawson Park and Kinnaird Ravine Master Plan. Comments are presented from the following engagement opportunities:

154
comments

Sounding Board

437
online pins

Online Map Tool

342
comments

Open House

12
participants

External Workshop

The following comments accompany the What We Heard report that provides a more visual summary of the information listed below. The What We Heard report also summarizes the major themes that emerged during the first phase of engagement and the values of the participants. The report can be found on the website at:

edmonton.ca/dawsonparkmasterplan

This What You Said report is modeled after the questions that were asked on the Sounding Board, on the online mapping tool, at the open house and at the external stakeholder workshop between August and September, 2016. The comments are presented according to the engagement session/tool from which they were collected. They are further divided into the question or theme of discussion.

Sounding Board

A sounding board was posted in Dawson Park along the multi-use pathway leading into the park from the parking lot for two weeks, from August 22 to September 6, 2016. The board provided a brief project summary and background on the Master Plan so visitors could participate in the engagement activity. The sounding board was also an opportunity for visitors to learn about other ways they could follow the project or share feedback — either through the project website or in-person at the September open house.

The purpose of the sounding board was to get initial feedback from park users. The following two questions were presented to park visitors and they were asked to record their answers on the board using the accompanying pens and sticky notes.

- » My favourite thing to do in this park is...
- » In the future, I would like...

We received 154 comments, listed on the following pages:



Sounding Boards

My favourite thing to do in this park is...

Walking/biking with our dog offleash. Stopping for a snack. Playing in the big trees.

Enjoy nature with my love

Walk my dog off leash early and watch sunrise. Keep River Valley natural!

Leave it alone. This is a great space. I run here and my dog loves it here.

PSHM

Walking off leash, cycling, enjoying birds and berries, spending time with friends, picnicing... This park is great :)

Play with dogs off leash because I can't have my dog with my right now

Walk my dogs off leash

Walk my dogs off leash and meet with friends and neighbors doing the same

Walk/run w/ dog off-leash winter, spring, summer + fall.

Pokemon go bro!

Walking my dog off leash, running on dirt trails (keep it natural less concrete, more gravel. It's a great space!

Spend time with my wonderful dogs and my lac

Walking dogs in the off leash area

Take big deep breaths by 537 Rat Creek. # yegsmells

More native tree + shrub species. Replace ornamentals with native species

Walk dogs + enjoy the view.

Walk my dog off leash + play with other dogs.

Perfect as is. Spend \$\$ elsewhere.

River/sit + watch the river flow by. Wildlife viewing + see the interesting land forms (hoodoos)

Have cyclists respect they are in an (off leash) dog park. Slow down |< attitude love it!

Walk my dog on paths. Meet other dog owners.

love to walk my dogs along the off leash paths. + love how they plow the bike path in the winter

Catch Pokemon

Watch my dog play with other dogs/his buddies

Walk my two beautiful dogs off-leash :) thx

Listen to the birds. Pick berries. Enjoy nature.

Walk my gf

Walk my dog off-leash

Yes me too! (re walking dog off leash)

Stepping in all the dog shit that people fail to pick up

Walk dog off leash. Makes me so happy

Walk our dane pups along the river - we pick up their poop!

And taking photos of the area

Walk our dog and meet our many neighbors who also enjoy the park in this way.

Birding and hoodoo watching

Spend time walking with mom!

Walk the dog off leash!

Walk the dogs + meet new dogs

Stare at the view :)

Walk the dog + Bike

finding drug needles

Walk my dog. Meet other dogs + dog owners. Breathe deeply! :)

Swing! + walk our dogs
walk
Come for a walk with my dog and my family
All the doggies
WE LUVS DA
Take my dog and nephews for walks along the path
Walk my dog
Walk the dog!
Walk dogs off leash
Single track mountain biking
And glad people have respect
God Blessed me 2-day
Good morning Mike :)
Walking seeing wildlife
In the future I would like...
Walk the dog off leash
To see the "naturalness" of the park maintained. Don't animate it to death like Louise McKinney)
Have Fun!!
See cleaner and safer trails with less camps
cycling + picnic :)
Keep off leash!! We all share great as is!!
Walk the trails keep it natural
stairs up to Jasper closer lalalala
Walking my dogs off leash, and the naturalness of area. Not River Boat area which is full of concrete = ugh
We enjoy the views and quiet while walking the paths. The motor boats should be banned!
Maximum cycling speed signs to request some people to slow down. Some cyclists go too fast through off leash areas.
Cross Country ski trails w/ off leash access - keep it natural
Cross country ski trails
keep infrastructure minimal only restore repair what is + maybe solar...
To see a cleaner river shore and less camps!
No bikers should be allowed and poop bags please
Any development must be vetted with the province as per Section 8 of the 1975 Capital City Recreation Park agreement with province
People should clean their dogs poop up all over the place it's a park
If anyone saw a tan male chihuaha please call 780 428 ---- Thanxs went missing today
More forests and less arenas
Easier access to a designated river shoreline for dogs so fishing is not compromised
Less water waste. More onsite accommodation at control of homeless trash
Better upkeep. Clean up of shoreline. Renovation of facilities. Eliminate sewage smell!
Separate bikes and dogs
The new surface on the eastern end of the upper trail is good - Now can the rest of it be finished? KME
Less campers on upper trails
Please fix the walking path on the opposite side of the river. It's been closed for 3 years!
More garbage cans
Keep the parks as natural as possible being in nature is a favourite activity
Get rid of thistle. Walkway to water so dogs can swim. Keep natural
Yes, a few starways to get to river would be great! Keep as natural as possible

Speed limit signs for cyclists. They go much too fast
Programs that bring people in touch with nature (ie plant identificaiton)
To see people pick up their dog poop!
Found Day Planner, it's at Cop Shop downtown
More garbage containers 100 ft apart place to put dog poo
Occasional walking patrol to improve safety
More benches along trail overlooking river
Lighting on the paths
1 garbage can need 10 cans
Less dog poop
The same wooden tables + signage, the same limited infrastructure. This palce should be kept NATURAL.
to become a fupa lord # DjKhaled
greater separation between dogs + the bikers
Gary's the best! Ash is a Loser!
More Poke-Stops
Wider bike trails
More pokestops
We agree!
Seriously?
Less garbage from those who live in the park
More garbage cans
less trees so no bugs to bite us or the dogs
Stairs to access the river near the golf course entrance. Most people have their dogs swim there and not by the picnic
More single track for mnt biking
It's fine the way it is, people complain too much
Stairs to access river
Take my shadow for a stroll
Less mowing less grooming - second this!
Get rid of the sewage smell
Involve the Province as per Capital City Rec. Park Agreement Section 8
Use the needle
No funicular please
Nothing more. It's great!!! Thanks
The sewar stink at the outfall gone.
More Pokestops! Gotta catch'em all!
Fix potholes on bike path by the hoodoos. Stagnant water collects and dogs like to go in it and drink it
Second this. * Fix pot holes near 2 hoodos. Walk my dog. Less mowing
Less garbage left in the trees for my dog to find.
Don't' change the park because of vagrants. Separate issue but make it less \$ intensive
Less vagrants
Stair access to the river at both ends of the park
Ther could probably be more doggies honestly
So we still have money to be a just society
I agree. More accessible way to River!
More Garbage cans along trail
LOST Key fob - looks like this: * Toyota w/ buttons. Please call or text Kirsten 780-920-----
More cowbell

Pruning of trees overhanging on walkways
I would like a sign posted telling cyclists to slow down. Yield to dogs and pedestrians
Money spent more wisely than on useless suggestion boards
Sign that identifies bike speed limit
Make off-leash sign more visible so cyclists can see it
More dirt/single track cycling trails
Safe needle drop boxes needles found in park on ridge
Have the trails cleared more regularly. Sometimes there is a large amount of trash on dirt trails
Needles cleaned up. Dangerous for Dogs Kids + anyone in flip flops
I ride a BMX. But I love doggies
More signs to remind bikes it is off leash
No bikes allowed
Bikers and joggers should be reminded and respectful to the dogs. Ex: not kicking them
Turn gravel into paved
People to be more courteous to puppies who are new and learning

Online Map Tool

The online map tool provided people with a convenient, 24-hour opportunity to provide input. The tool, an interactive online map, was accessed through the City's project website.

The map was made available to the City of Edmonton Insight Community from August 29 to September 12, and open to the public from September 13 to 26. The online map was advertised on the project website, on the open house flyer and presentation boards, as well as through an Insight email opt-in.

Participants were able to respond to the following statements by placing a pin on the map of the project area:

- » My favourite thing to do in this park is...
- » In the future I would like...

We received 333 comments from the Insight Community Opt-In and 104 comments from all other users. All comments are listed on the following pages:

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying an interactive map of Dawson Park in Edmonton. The map is overlaid with a red boundary and numerous orange and green pins. A sidebar on the left contains an 'Introduction' section with text about the park's history and a 'Map It!' section with instructions for using the tool. A 'Post Your Comments' box is visible in the bottom right corner of the map area, with two input fields: 'My favourite thing to do in this p...' and 'In the future I would like ...'. The top of the page features the City of Edmonton logo, 'Basemaps' and 'Instructions' links, and a large 'O2' identifier. The bottom right corner includes a zoom control and the Esri logo.

Online Mapping Tool - Insight

My favourite thing to do in this park is...

I really enjoyed the single track trail prior to it being removed and widened. It was a great place to be able to mountain bike and have my dog with me. There are very few locations that is able to be done.

What a shame that we lost this rare track.

Good spot to throw unlikable people off a cliff

Really

Love the rat creek ravine. Very underrated...

I would love to camp, hike, run

like

like

I love this area. I would love to run, walk, hike, camp here

Walk and jog in Kinnaird Ravine

Ride my bike on the pathway as part of a circuit from Goldbar Park, through the river valley

I like riding my bike from McKinnon river along the North side of the river to Capilano bridge, back tracking over the Cloverdale bridge then through Millcreek Ravine and return home via the high level bridge and 103 Ave to the West end. Nice 35km circuit

Run, walk

run!

Cycle both road and mountain, hiking, running, snowshoeing

Running.

Hiking/walking the trails in Dawson/Kinnaird

like

like

I agree

tobogganing down the trail

Or cross country skiing down-provided it wasn't ploughed.

Great mountain bike track

It WAS a great mountain biking track, before they made a gravel trail out of it...

Not any more...

love looking at the art.

Anonymous

like

Access to the water here is great. Could be even better, though, as in a few places some scrambling is required.

like

Running

Running.

Running, biking

Me too, running

Walk the trails

This trail is a lot nicer since it was widened. Before, walks along the trail were often interrupted by mountain bikers riding quickly around blind corners.

Now the mountain bikers don't have a track in this area at all. Instead we have "highways" everywhere.

Love the golf course. Great having city courses in the river valley. Keep this course in good shape.

like

This ravine is beautiful, I love to run through it.

Picnicking in the park on the point
Dragon boating in the summer
like
like
like
Running on the bike trail
Running up the ravine trail
running
I like this area
Cycling, hiking, walking
like
The link that this park has to other great park and the river valley
I like to walk my dog off leash
Nice
Also love this city golf course. It has been in fantastic shape this year. Keep up the good work. Glad we have city owned golf courses that all can access (no membership required).
Swimming, leisure time with water activity.
This is a great mountain biking path. It connects to goldbar and capilano parks from downtown.
I really appreciate the washroom facilities here and the shelter fireplace. It is great for winter activities and to stop in while on long bike rides.
like
This is one of my favorite mountain biking paths. It showcases the rivervalley with great views, while being beginner/intermediate technicality so new people can learn to take up the sport. I have also been orienteering out here.
Like the trail around Riverside Golf- good for walk, run or bike
like
The gravel path along the river and the access to the river that it provides is excellent. The gravel surface is mostly pretty good.
riding through Rat Creek ravine!
riding this lovely path.
Have a potluck picnic with friends!
Walk my dog in the off leash area!
I love the off-leash function of the park.
I love taking my dogs for a walk
It is a very pleasant way to spend time with my family
Take pictures of the river valley
I love walking through the more wild bush!
I love this cycling / walking trail. However, it does need some TLC as it is in bad shape.
My favorite thing to do is ride singletrack in the area on my mountain bike.
riding the singletrack on a mountain bike
My area
Walking, snowshoeing or cross country skiing here in winter is beautiful!
Cycle and walk on the paved paths near the river edge.
Walking or running along the path and enjoying the view!
like
Bike along the river
bank
The art here is awesome
It doesn't fit in the natural surroundings.

like
like
I use this path to bike to the NE part of the city -- much nicer to bike through a park than through traffic. Also use it to run and walk with friends -- thank you for having the building with bathrooms and water fountain along the path!! Like the covered fire/BBQ spot and bathrooms, have used it to have BBQ with friends.
take the dog for a walk, wish there were more dogs, perhaps need to advertise it as a dog park more?
bikers.
This is a very exiting and enjoyable mountain bike path. I have also enjoyed it for orienteering.
like
The bike trail is fun, but a bit bumpy
I really appreciate this washroom facility.
I am very thankful for the washroom here!
like
like
Like seeing coyotes on occasion- gives a sense of the wild.
like
enjoy the view from the cliff side lookouts along the (former) mountain bike path.
Please DON'T build anything there! Those lookouts are beautiful as they are.
Walking.
like
picnic
cross country ski
Walk my dog
Bike to work in the summer
like
Spot wildlife and birds in the river valley, sharing the space with us
like
I saw a porcupine and a beaver. The more natural, the more animals.
Love biking through the park early in the morning. Great views.
I enjoy riding my bike
It is a nice bike path
Great place to walk with the dogs
I love to ride my bike along the trails. Please keep them maintained.
Love these trails
I love to x-country ski in this park. Please keep setting trails in the winter!
Hike and enjoy nature in the city.
I love bringing my dogs here so that they can also enjoy the park as well as I can!
Ride my bike on the trails along the river
I like this place
Going for walks, runs and cycling on this path would be great without having to worry about dogs running out at you .
A gem of a course all year round; golf most of the year and cross country ski in the winter
I love how pristine this ravine is. Great getaway from the paved-over parts of the city. Unspoiled nature close to downtown is rare to find in big cities. Please leave it as it is!
In the future I would like...
Remove this waste of space (Golf Course) and put in something nice and/or usable
The golf course should stay as it is.
like

like
I'm pretty sure this is privately owned land, so this isn't going to be replaced.
Agreed!
the golf course is nice, and it is usable by a lot of people, as you can see by how quickly the tee times fill up.
Better access to water
Better access to water
Water fountains / access is recommended
In the future I would like a better bike connection to the Dawson Bridge. Current connection is awkward - must bike down a ways, do a sharp u-turn onto the road, then mount the sidewalk at the intersection.
like
like
like
I second this!
like
like
I feel this is very important as well
like
Agreed - we almost always have a stroller with us. You can't use the path along the river because to get up onto the bridge you have to take the stairs so we end up walking on the road which is awkward.
like
like
Have a place to go swimming in the river.
You don't want to swimming in this river
like
Umm, isn't this way too dangerous?
the river is pretty dangerous to swim in, I would not want the city to encourage it.
mountain bike trails
Walk, cycle, cross country ski.
like
like
I would love a groomed cross country ski trail down there!
I would like to see paths designated to pedestrian traffic only. The cyclists travel very fast in this park and there are a lot of blind corners. It is hard to take the kids for a walk through here
Other municipalities now construct separate paths for cyclists and pedestrians. As the City renews the river valley paths, they should incorporate this design into their plans.
like
to have a better river crossing and connectivity to the north side pathways
like
Stairs for different access points that can be used for training
Some kind of commemoration of the coal mine that used to be here
like
Great Idea
like
great idea
like
Foot trail from east side of ravine

like
agreed - better valley/trail access from ada blvd area is needed
Other trails for exploring the park.
like
Eliminate illegal camping.
Eliminate gentrification of the downtown core
More options to get up and down into the river valley. Only select entry points are available. Then I can use it for short or long walks.
Love Dawson Park though it can be sketchy
like
like
In my opinion there are already lots of options. We shouldn't destroy more nature.
Better lighting in the evening, may help deter vagrants as well
I would prefer to keep it natural! We need an escape from our artificial city environment. And light would disturb the animals.
like
very poor connection from the trail to the neighbourhood - not accessible, lack of sidewalks for people exiting the valley ravine.
I like the natural path connecting trail and neighbourhood. There is as well paved access and stairs further east.
I would love to see a water fountain added to this facility that you can refill a water bottle or water bladder.
like
Need better way-finding signs
like
have new artwork go up along the retaining walls every year or two.
like
To have a kayak here that I could borrow or store or rent because I am too short to carry one on my car...
I would love to have more picnic spots
I would like to see more picnic spots
I would like to see the trails go around the golf course along the river valley again.
like
like
To see the city stop converting developed singletrack trails into wide, graveled walking paths. These watered-down paths take away from the ruggedness of the area and the conversions are typically done without any input from the people who used and enjoyed the singletrack (ie., hikers, runners, and bikers).
like
So true!!!
addressing some of the homeless camps in this area
More benches (with shade) so I can enjoy various vantages of the river.
I would appreciate if this trail were renovated, especially the stairs at the top.
Channels for the water to flow off the new gravel trail, in the steep section at the top. Lots of gravel was flushed into the vegetation next to the trail, and ruts started to develop.
I would like the garbage removed, that emerges on the river banks at low water level: There are lots of car tires and old metal.
Wayfinding - Rat Creek path connection to main river valley path
like
THIS WEBSITE IS UNUSABLE. WAY TOO SLOW!
Really?!?!? I don't seem to be having that problem. Are you sure its the website?
No problems at all

I would love to camp here, walk, run
like
Ski
Washrooms are a decent item to include!
You better believe it!! Makes the parks way more usable. Even if they are the safety units like on Whyte ave. Anything is better than nothing or not enough
like
I would like to see more access to the water to launch watercraft with close by parking for vehicles and trailers
like
like
like
Bike/Pedestrian connection to come off the bridge and connect to the paved path to the north.
like
like
like
like
I would like to see outdoor cross training equipment in the parks close to bathroom facilities
like
yes!
YES! That would be awesome!!!!
seconded!
Refurbish the trails on the south side of the River
I agree. There are some dangerous potholes in the trail that create hazards for those of us on road bicycles, and roller blades. The trail could also be slightly widened.
like
Historical plaque or display about the homes that used to be here and the road that ran down from Highlands (part of which is now the bike path).
Development that integrates the Alex Taylor school site with the valley
like
like
It would nice to be able to cross the river away from the road traffic of capilano freeway
In the future, I would like a proper ramp / bicycle route across the Capilano bridge without walking the bike up stairs.
like
valley.
like
Better programs for homeless
like
like
like
like
Less congestion at confluence of dogs, cars, bikes
Congestion is fine, it means that people are using the park which is great.
Better erosion control so hillside protected and trail useable after rain
like
Trail should be level. Now difficult to use wheelchair or even walk some sections.
Better wayfinding signage throughout the trail system.
like

Development of a park and ride in the area for added access to the parks and easy access to downtown and LRT
Ensure that the park remains save for customer use and a health green space with good weed control, using natural save products.
like
dollar.
like
Cycle without bumpy paths where tree roots are poking up through the ashphant
A spray park would be great
More public art like sculptures
like
I prefer seeing art in man-made environments. When I'm in nature, I want to see nature.
like
Way-finding map with introduction to the area and room on it for the Parkdale-Cromdale Community leagues to post upcoming events and other information
like
a pathway right beside the river would be nice
like
Not informative at all - how much has the City spent on consultants already?
like
nice.
There are already too many dogs for me...
there are a lot of homeless people living in the trees in this park. The amount of garbage they leave behind is disgusting!
This area is dangerous when it is dark. Could use more frequent police patrols
very poor connection from the trail to the neighbourhood - not accessible, lack of sidewalks for people exiting the valley
like
A drinking fountain that you can fill your waterbottle or bladder would be appreciated here if the facility is going to be updated.
like
What happened to the water fountain in the washroom building?
In future I would like to see more access to water
like
Hard to do, with our vastly changing water levels!
A pedestrian access under 82st between stadium station and the Kinnard Ravine path would be excellent, both to provide better access to the parks for people west of 82st, but also for river wvally path access from LRT. The gravel path is good, no need to put a paved path here.
like
like
owners.
like
like
and pick up their poop
To feel like I could bike to work for more of the year
A stairway access to Jasper ave.
like
Just renovate the existing one under the power line!
I would like more signage regarding the off leash area and have it/or another space, as designated for off leash/walking, etc. It can be dangerous with people biking, etc.
People without dog and bikers sure would appreciate more land designated "on leash"., to avoid conflict.

I would like to see more educational or interpretive signage. Some still exists but it has not been maintained and lends a shabby looking experience for visitors. Information on the River Valley, what makes it unique, flora/fauna, etc. would be appreciated.
like
A path for cyclists only - dangerous to walk, as there are blind corners and the speeds are dangerous. Perhaps signs for etiquette on the shared paths would be helpful as well.
There needs to be better access to the park and trails through this ravine. Currently there is a dirt trail and is too steep and dangerous for walking or bicycles. There are too many homeless people congregating in this area. If there was regular foot and bike traffic through here, that would likely stop.
like
like
to ensure no more residences are built on park land. I believe the river valley is a legacy for all citizens
like
Support this 100%
Edmonton has more public park space than almost any other city in North America. Let's keep it that way.
like
I would love for this facility to be updated.
I think it is ok-it does its job.
It would be nice if bikes could use this area; whether between golfing lanes, or raze the golf course.
A shortcut paved path or singletrack between the park at the chinese garden through to Dawson Park
like
I would love to see the paved pathway redone, due to all the frost heaves, it can be a bit annoying to ride a bike over. Still passable, just not always enjoyable.
Eliminate off lease area make it a leased area for dogs, for the safety of all.
like
Yes, this narrow corridor is unsuited as an off leash site.
Warm up in a well designed structure. The design should respect the river valley and be of timeless design.
to see boating activities - either to watch or for the public to try out.
More trees and bushes, please! Too many died and were not replaced. We should have a variety of trees up there, not only needle trees.
I would love a groomed cross country ski trail running along the river bank.
I would like to have more trees and bushes between the gravel and the paved trail.
Please get rid of the black plastic fence that was left after the sewer construction. More trees would be nice here.

Online Mapping Tool - All Other Users

My favourite thing to do in this park is...

Hiking natural trails seeing few people and much wildlife.

Mountain bike through single-track trails is important to me.

like

Walk w/dog, Run w/dog Bike in the park. More mountain bike trails

like

Ensure compatibility with walkers - people / people and dogs.

We enjoy mountain biking on the single track. We also have two large dogs that we love to walk with on the paved and gravel trails.

like

I like the quiet nature in this area; we like going for walks in the woods. Leave it the way it is.

paddle on the river

more!

like

like

like

like

I agree.

agree

I use the paved trail to cycle to work. The condition of the trail has been allowed to deteriorate over the years. It would be nice if the maintenance plan involved more than orange spraypaint.

Is there someplace online where we can go to look up when hazards marked by city crews are scheduled to be repaired? Identifying cracked trails with paint is a good interim solution to warn people in the area to watch footing but knowledge of where it sits in the overall repair plan would be an enhancement.

like

like

The new gravel trail is a great addition to the park.

I preferred the dirt natural trail

like

I love all the trees and walking trails and how close to nature that the kids I work with and I can get so close to nature and then come back to the center and find out about what we found

like

walk dogs off leash

Keep off leash

This is one of the cleaner off leash areas in this end of the city. We would love to keep it that way. :)

like

I like biking on the path next to the river.

Walking alongside the river

go for jogs with or without my dog.

In the future I would like...

-

I would like to see an all ages playground maybe with trees and stumps and nature incorporated into it.

like

Water feature, pond with skating

like

I see no value in this.
Not required. Community center serves area
No thank you. These already exist elsewhere nearby (the Legislature, Riverdale rink, Victoria golf course, Rundle park). Leave this area natural.
Why does this exact same comment appear twice?
upgrades to this structure!
I agree.
update Restrooms
The air is quite smelly in this area - smells of sewage. Could this be improved?
like
like
Extend Kinnaird Ravine Trail west of the Kinnaird Bridge / 82 Street to the Stadium LRT Station. Use CPTED vegetation and landscaping techniques to create a safe, secure and welcoming route.
like
like
Develop launch point to accommodate RiverWatch inflatable rafts - design, grade and armour an access point so that rafts can be easily and safely carried to the NS River edge (i.e. not a boat dock).
like
What evidence is there that a need for this exists?
Why does this exact comment appear three times? It does not seem to be by three separate people.
why "not a boat dock"?
Create opening for views to the bottom of the Rat Creek Ravine.
It seems the same person has left two identical comments in different sections of this map. Again, the value of the river valley is in its trees. Cutting them down is a terrible idea. There are MANY river-viewing areas throughout Dawson Park.
More established public boat launch
Improve the shelter and washrooms
trails and main path need lighting to feel more safe and ensure possible night time use all year round (i.e running, and cross country skiing)
Hike natural trails see few people and much wildlife.
Hike the trails and encourage bird watching. Keep the homeless and drug users/traffickers out of the Kinnaird Ravine. Have native trees/plant identification by way of signage like some Vancouver Island communities do. It's a special ecosystem unique in Edmonton.
I would like to see some sort of all ages play ground a smaller section for the smaller children and maybe a bigger section for some of the older children. Also picnic tables and more signs posted about the off leash park so that more people are aware that there are dogs running around and to slow down on their bikes.
I would like more signage to remind dog owners to share the trail, so that cyclists (who should be going at a responsible speed) can pass safely. "Sharing" means everyone has a responsibility, not just the cyclists
like
like
I don't like the idea of a playground; kids should be encouraged to engage with nature in the river valley, rather than being entertained. I also agree with the point elsewhere that dogs should be on-leash in the river valley and that there should be new fenced-in areas built as off-leash areas. Dogs and bikes will always clash. Dogs and wildlife, even more so.
it would be cool if there where signs up about some of the vegetation and wildlife that are in the park.
An offleash area for dogs
Outdoor pool
Please no. There are several spray parks in area which can be used, which are in areas that will accomodate parking etc.
Do not support no need
I enjoy the single-track bike trails and would like to be able to continue using them. There are many areas for people to walk with their dogs already.

Agree. Keep the dogs away.
like
I agree
like
Have the Kinnard Ravine become a place plantan arborterium in Kinnard Ravine with indicators to specific plant species found there. Other than that, leave it alone for nature hikes and bird watching. Keep the
I agree.
like
like
I agree.
like
See more dirt trails for running and biking
like
Add more open fire bbq stands and tables
Another person commented on the condition of the paved trails...it would be great to see the trails upgraded/repaired.
Get rid of the golf course and allow it to return to natural parkland. It hogs a huge amount of the river valley for the exclusive use of the very rich.
Agreed! Or at the very least, make it a natural, links-style course that does not use any pesticide, fertilizers, or watering. And cut animal passage holes into that awful chain-link fence surrounding the golf course.
Been there since 1929. It's historical and is well managed. "Natural Parkland" means more itinerant users. Trail is oriented so that it can be walked in the summer and is well used by dog walkers in the winter.
like
like
Create openings for views and access to the Rat Creek ravine bottom. More visibility for interest, safety and security.
I totally disagree. What evidence is there that openings create safety and security in a park? As Jane Jacobs has made clear, it is other people who create safety and security--and people are drawn to trees, not open areas (look at Churchill Square as an example). The most important element of the river valley parks system is THE TREES.
Formalize an access to the trail from Ada Boulevard. There are about 3 historical, informal access points.
Repair the benches in Jane Salisbury Park.
I want the entire park to stay as natural as possible. This means city work picking up garbage and maintenance of the current paved trail only. It also means no more trail-widening, no weed-eating alongside dirt/gravel trails, and no pesticide use. I like the current picnic shelter and tables. The only infrastructure I would update are the signs/maps, but with wood materials and a "natural" style.
The current picnic shelter is run down and past its prime.
is also not safe for the dogs; I have seen a few run onto thin ice after a coyote, and another hit by a cyclist. I would prefer to see fenced-in enclosures in a number of city parks for them (yes, paid for through taxes) and all trails to be on-leash zones only.
No new river crossing, and no new trails. The beauty of this park is its tranquility and the feeling of "getting away from it all," and I depend on the park to provide this for me. The reference on the "Maintenance Safety" page of this plan to "feeling trapped" in the park is a wrongful assumption and this must be corrected. I have never heard anyone say this; nor have I ever felt this way.
more marked trails that feel safe
update wayfinding
Finish the informal trail behind 112S Ave between 77 and 78 Streets. It gets a lot of use. If it was more formal and open it would be more safe and provide an interesting route. It is currently heavily used and has closed and hazardous portions. Engage the neighbours in the detail when this proceeds.

Open House

An open house was held for the general public on Monday September 12 from 5–8pm in the gymnasium at the Alex Taylor School (E4C). The event was advertised through a mail-out flyer, email invitations from City of Edmonton community liaisons, on the project website, in a Riverdalian newspaper article and on the sounding board in Dawson Park.

Presentation boards displaying our initial understanding of existing conditions were available to view and comment on throughout the evening. The boards included the following information:

- » Master Plan and Engagement Process
- » Related policies and plans
- » Surrounding community development
- » First look at the history of the site
- » Access and Circulation
- » Amenities and Nodes
- » Activities and Festivals
- » Maintenance and Safety
- » Service and Utilities
- » Topography and Hydrology
- » Vegetation and Open Space
- » Wildlife and Habitats

Those who attended were asked to respond to the information presented on boards by letting the project team know of anything we had missed. Other major questions included:

- » What is your favourite thing to do in this park? Why?
- » What would you like to do in this park in the future? Why?
- » Why is this park important to you?

Eighty-six people attended the open house. Their comments are listed on the following pages:



Open House
River Valley Parks Information Board
Maintaining pathways should include single track, for all users, ie hikers, dog walkers, trail runners and mountain bikers. Single track trails must be signed for EMS to respond adequately
Really? What about 4 year bike trail closure for LRT construction (in response to Relevant City Policies)
Snowshoeing, mountain biking on single track, bird watching, orienteering, nature walk (in response to "what can we do in the river valley?")
Really? What about the Valley Line LRT? Or the funicular? Or ACT rec centre? (in response to "what can we do in the River Valley?")
Keep the single track mountain bike trails
Keep the existing natural trail network as is - the mountain bike community will maintain it
Yes to maintained single track for mountain biking
Could have interpretive signage for vegetation and landscape
Cyclist - pedestrian conflict a big issue, signage for rules of the trails please
Keep restaurants out of the parks
Improve access for river swimming
More cleanup of needles and abandoned carts and camps
Leave the single track mountain bike trails. Don't widen and gravel/pave them over. Leave as natural as possible. Love to hike on them - feels like in the mountains
Without dedicated cycling infrastructure on roadways, the river valley paved and aggregate trails bridge some of that need - maintain them!
Put in a place for low impact food service at river level
Proper maintenance of existing gravel paths before new ones are added
Need for single track trails take mountain bike off the multipurpose. Need for trail signs for safety
Need single track trails to keep mountain bikers off multi-use trails. Trail (single track) signage is a MUST. If someone is injured emergency response needs better location details
Signage on single track
Why spend money on ritzy infrastructure (funicular) to access a park system that is not maintained!? (multi year closures of aggregate trails/ entire areas)
We don't need/want more paved paths in the river valley
River Valley is an unbelievable place to get away into nature like that right in the middle of the city. Speed boats echo through the valley and sound like Harleys on Whyte Ave. Work with other levels of government to enforce existing noise laws that are in place on bodies of water.
Acknowledge that single track exists and enable and support those who want to maintain them - this is high leverage value for tax dollar spending
Yes! Volunteers = free labour (in response to trail maintenance volunteer comment)
Do a better job of linking parks with paths and better signage marking routes
Don't put "closed" signs up unless it is really closed
Breathe: Edmonton's Green Network Strategy Information Board
Edmonton's air quality has gotten worse since living here. Please do not allow the river to become another highway for petroleum / gas vehicles, motor boats etc
Use manicured land to grow veggies!! Share with Boyle St./Mustard seed etc. You sow you pick!
"Open" does not necessarily mean large grass area. Existing forest is also open space
Financial sustainability and economy will always be priority
Developing Communities: Community Context Board
Would like to see mural on wall under Dawson Bridge to commemorate area history
Replacement single track where the new gravel path removed it
Preserve natural areas and single track trails. Don't pave and 'manicure' parks
Thank you; I agree. Parks serve us best as nature

Yes to trail maintenance and erosion prevention. No to trail widening and gravel
Need trail maintenance for safety of all users including dog walkers, hikers, trail runners and mountain bikers. This includes single track
Why is the Northlands ARP and Virginia Park not considered? V.P. is very connected to Kinnaird Ravine
Northlands ARP just begun re: City Council motion - needs integration
Site History Board
Include this historical info in the park on placards
Downloadable app...
1920-1937 Peenier (sp?) Mining Co. operated in Kinnaird Ravine + still evident
1920-30 (?) Wastewater Treatment Plant north of Dawson Bridge to treat sewage from the Rat Creek Tunnel
Wooden drainage system, wild asparagus
1980s fitness trails, push up and sit ups near hoodoos, fitness circuit
Access & Circulation Board
Single track trails
Boyle Street Community Centre has a clean up program. Can we see if we can get them to clean the ravines?
Work with Boyle Street to hire those people to help maintain the park
Better human focused lighting
Address issue of homeless living in parkland - year round cleaning of park for needles
Informal trail and traffic (at LRT station) street people and campers
Would connecting this trail to transit/LRT help or hurt this plan?
Some have erosion problems (re. slopes in Kinnaird Ravine), maintain for single track trails for both walking and biking
Better access needed on top of bank (Jasper Ave) to allow access to Dawson Park. Needs to be safely lit
Single track mountain bike paths
No to mountain bikes. They have already created too much erosion
Protect the hoodoos
Need formal access/stairs along Jasper Ave
Keep as a "natural" park
Provide more formal links
Clean up under bridge (Jasper Ave. bridge)
Enhance parking (a little) to ensure sufficient for users
Keep as off-leash park but improve signage
More picnic tables - more picnic friendly
Improve park access from downtown - new stairs, path and lighting
Natural materials for signage; maybe pine-beetle kill wood?
Add (better) signage of where trail connects to bike path system/river valley trail/park
Stairs need more lighting
Need slower speed limit on Rowland Rd. More police enforcement
More parking
No more parking. Improve bus instead!
Mural/Public art needed under Dawson Bridge and deter graffiti
Need public education for bike/pad users
Mountain bikers exist. Need for single track trails to take off main walking paths. When built properly these trails do not
Mountain bikers actually maintain your trails. When maintained and built properly erosion is less likely to occur as rapidly.
Keep both paved and gravel paths without widening. Variety of use.
Walking bridge here to connect to golf course trail (close to the junction of all the trails)
Signage for narrow trails
Signage on single track indicating that riding muddy trails requires extensive work to fix

Maps of the smaller trails, mountain bikers - need signage for this!
Repair paved trail; it is in terrible condition
Yes! Need signs safety if someone needs assistance
Love the informal trails! Leave them as they are
Love the Braille Trail!
The number of unknown homeless means women and kids go down much less if at all
Amenities & Nodes Board
Need to clean out the huge old camps in Kinnaird Ravine
Need to stay on top of the homeless camps trying to establish
Add sustainable energy-solar panels to bathroom, etc.
Like existing small fishing area near Pavilion; well signed location
Covered (small) picnic table areas
Playground and more picnic tables
Don't need a playground in every park!
Determine bdy's of Dawson Park more clearly
Confirm zoning of park land (A or AP?)
Reclaim area on go St north of Rowland as parkland if still zoned for sale
heated shelter in winter
mud play
nature play parks/ creek play with water
slack line posts
I like the wood tables and infrastructure and they are still in good shape
Need new amenity building at Dawson Park
Fix trails on Southeast bank so bikers and hikers can travel from Dawson
No ice rink in field - not used (re ice rink in Sheriff Robertson park)
better safe washroom like on 82 Ave
water fountains and bottle refilling areas
Need trash cans along here (Kinnaird Ravine near bridge)
Expand mural project (in Kinnaird Ravine)
Keep Kinnaird Ravine as is. Natural!
Signage directing you to exit the park (near the flat area of Kinnaird Park)
Better wayfinding
Would like to see more benches, picnic tables along trail (Dawson Trail)
Better signage to access Kinnaird (from Dawson)
Dawson)
There is sufficient signage and trail maps on the trails.
Not on single-track (re. sufficient signage). There is no signage on single-track. We need for emergency response to find people who may need police/fire/EMS
Emergency posts / signs
Need City to come pick up piles of scrap we collect along river bank
Have a city sponsored botanist help us take out invasive plants
No commercial facilities
100% disagree (re commercial facilities) Some seasonal refreshment would be nice
bike lock racks on top of bank gravel trail
cross country ski trails
facilitate a "winter park" - cross country trails, "warming" shelters
Dock and access for boaters - make it easy to access parking lot

Viewing pier in Dawson Park
This is a private dock!!! EDBRC only
This is a private dock!! To the Dragon Boat people
Maintenance & Safety Board
Keep tracks off grassy areas - destroys grass, causes muddy spots
Don't pave trails over or mow trees down to make it "safe". It is a natural park. Use at own risk
For "hoodoo" area - build retaining wall to hold back the soil when it rains
The pump station often smells - maintenance issue
I feel excess loose gravel is less safe than hard packed dirt - no more gravel!
Install a gate on the road. Locked at 11pm to reduce crime and traffic
Would drive these activities into the surrounding neighbourhood! (re installing a gate)
Add more lighting
More access from Jasper Ave to Dawson Park
No, we don't need more paths. Keep Riverdale a hidden gem (re more access from Jasper Ave)
Make it more safe. Less camps/less homeless
Work with inner city agencies to deal with campers
Educate homeless to clean up after themselves, provide resources when needed (Crazy?) more affordable housing
Theft in Riverdale opportunity theft. Lots of bikes.
These trails are fine but please don't destroy existing natural single track to make them
I enjoy the idea of feeling away from the city in nature
Will maintenance destroy existing natural areas?
Am ok with orange paint marking extreme path conditions (or just signage ...)
Make sure these aren't "out of order" (re emergency phone)
that is not steep to everyone; hikers love them too! (re steep paths)
Mountain bikers want these; let bike groups maintain these; hikers want them too (re informal paths along steep slopes)
More (re emergency phone)
Footbridge (from pathway junction to golf course across river)
No dogs off leash Disagree!!!
Bike / Ped conflict (along upper trails)
Erosion (at tip of Kinnaird Park Terrace area)
Kinnaird theft from backyards
Is signage clear how to cross bridge safely here? (up close to Wayne Gretzky)
Keep Kinnaird Ravine Natural
Ice dangerous when they flood in Sheriff Robertson Park
Sign and gateway post holes unsafe (up near top of bank in Kinnaird Ravine, north side, east of stairway)
Trees in poor condition (along Kinnaird trail)
Spruce trees require pruning, grass mowed more (I think in off leash dog area on north side of Kinnaird Ravine)
Benches vandalized (in Kinnaird Terrace)
Paved trail gets very icy in the winter/spring
Create beginning so trail signage to address "safety tips" and make maps with call box located in area
Signs for safety, to determine location if in need. MUST!
Keep the single track!
Stop widening walking paths through the wooded areas. It has destroyed the ambience
Dragon Boat dock needs to be looked at for flood protection of homes nearby
More bike racks at pavilion for lock up to enjoy area (could be creative here)
Better police patrolling of parking lot - used for drug deals and prostitution at night

Maintain paved trails
Plans need to be reviewed with a lens of "I am a woman alone" using trails mentality
Service & Utilities Board
Dangerous ice Sheriff Robertson Park rink
Graffiti and homeless camps prevalent under Latta bridge
Garbage, junk, campsites, old bikes (re access path under Latta bridge)
Add solar power and use sustainable energy in play
Lots of garbage, used needles under this bridge - needs monitoring
Make informal path under Latta bridge to Valley
Address sewer outfalls on upper trail here (close to southern tip of project boundary)
Add energy / H2O efficient washroom at Pavilion
Add (working and safe) water fountain with water bottle refill at pavilion
Need a dock for all to use!
Existing pavilion needs to be protected from flooding
pout dock
Eliminate smell
Stinks here - bad odor Yes; true
Any unnecessary utility boxes should be made aesthetically pleasing with art
Why is this necessary? A target for graffiti (re electrical box Kinnaird)
Dangourous! We find it uncovered during cleanups!
Broken culverts on hillside (north side of Kinnaird Ravine, east of 82 St. Bridge) Need removal or repair. Have been in this condition for years. City sent someone out in Spring. Nothing done yet
Natural Features: Topography & Hydrology Board
Confirm this will be retained as parkland not developed (corner section off Rowland Road in project boundary)
Confirm this is Dawson Park (area south of Dragon Boat dock)
Footbridge (from Junction across the river) Why?
When you cross at Capilano you are exposed to noise and car exhaust
Natural Features: Vegetation & Open Space Board
Food foragers - mushrooms, wild asparagus, choke cherries, saskatoons
Eliminate burdock weeds that are overtaking natural vegetation
More native plants to attract butterflies; see ENG for ideas
So what is the plan for vegetation?
Willows and other native plants would be nice in Dawson Park
best maintained with natural areas/plantings mixed with manicured areas
Eradicate all Caragana and Common Burdock Baby's Breath
Say NO to garden Balsam
We need to get on top of all the invasive plants
We need to slowly take out all the Caragana replaced by indigenous plants
Would love to see fruit trees, raspberry etc for the public use
Like to see gardens as well as naturalized areas. Park is big enough to hold great variety of vegetation for all likes
Need more garden plots at Riverdale
Allow for tree tunnels over paths
Keep Kinnaird Ravine natural!
Beautiful vegetation in Kinnaird Ravine! Just control spread of Impatiens along trail
Natural Features: Wildlife & Habitats Board
Rabbits Rabbits Rabbits

Pileated Woodpeckers, Downy Woodpecker, Yellow Shafted Northern Flicker, American White Pelican
Blue Heron
Garter Snakes, Moose at Sheriff Robertson Park
Porcupine
Deer
Coyote, hawk, owl, rabbits
Coyotes especially in winter, porcupines
Deer
Bald eagle, hawk, coyote
Beaver
Bear
Sasquatch
Add educational features in park to raise awareness of natural species
Lots of mosquitoes! :) Snakes
Porcupines, coyotes, owls, hares, variety of birds
Wood pecker, owls, squirrels, chipmunk
Moose and coyotes on 81 St
Moose obviously lost!
Future Conditions: Dreams & Wishes! Board
Address access from Parkdale into the Ravine
Small trail enough! (re access from Parkdale
Formal trail needed! To discourage campers
I love scrambling up the hoodoo site
Expand the mural project. Provide better access to the river for swimming
This park needs an identity, NAME. Tied to historical roots. River Lot 26 (re Kinnaird Terrace)
I love climbing up these informal trails - keep them as they are
Kinnaird is a beautiful natural area - we want to keep it that way!
Install a pier in Dawson Park
Historical stops/walks. Points of interest
Walking on the informal tails, kayaking on the river (using EDBR dock), biking on paved trails
Safety is a priority
Fire protection plan
Repave trails!
Please keep off-leash Love it!!!
Acknowledgement of single track engagement with bike clubs (free labour!)
Interpretation of history of area; eg int. signs, programs, apps, etc.
Enforcement of loud jet boats/collaboration of other levels of government (loud boats is federal law on bodies of water)
Maintain or allow for good air quality limit/restrict motorized boats bikes keep trees
Overview of River at Dawson Park incorporating historical information about the park and river
Aggressively remove all homeless camps (I like what ECS is doing)
Some limited commercial business on seasonal basis ie. Coffee shops, ski rental, bike rental
Keep it natural. No commercial ventures in park
more/easier access to actual river - along shore
My family does not feel safe in Kinnaird Ravine
Remove sand from Sheriff Robertson Park - replace with rubber bricks - safer for kids
Uninterrupted natural ribbon from end-to-end in river valley

Official marked and signed mountain bike trails
No dumpsters for homeless to dig in
Add more picnic tables and playground to Dawson Park. More family friendly
Better access to Dawson from Jasper Ave between 93 St and 82 Ave. 1 or 2 stairs
Restrict mountain bikes creating new trails Why? No No No
Signage for safety and location sharing
Need regular patrols to keep out drug dealers!
Increase access for Parkdale residents!
Garbage from campers and McDonald's a BIG PROBLEM
Natural feeling and looking playground with logs and climbing features
Playground for kids - leading edge (see ... from Amsterdam)
Need boat dock
Nature play area / creek play (mud) in Dawson Park
I like walking on this trail - solitude, no dogs (re embankment trail west of parking lot)
Rock climbing, ice climbing, sculpture structure
This access needs proper development. Paved and lit. As it goes under a bridge goth and Jasper. Do a stepped trail as it is a natural access. Erosion is prevented
I love walking in Kinnaird Ravine! Please keep it natural/gravel!
Natural does not mean gravel
Walking dogs in off leash areas
Better access from top of bank - Jasper Ave
Better / formal access from Jasper Ave (stairs)
Maintain natural area. No commercial development
Maintain and improve the paths
Solar power
Public art under Dawson Bridge
Flowers/planters at picnic shelter
More picnic friendly
Great cycling along the river but path (paved) not well maintained
Winter/year round park warming shelters
No commercial development
Year round regular clean ups to keep park safe from homeless camps
Mountain biking (single track) now and in future signed as well
bike trails park (Edmonton doesn't have one!)
Not in this area. Bike path that exists is just fine (re bike trails park)
Host mountain bike races in the river valley
Keep Kinnaird dirt trail and heavily treed. Keep it natural as is!
Outdoor skating rink, ice sculptures, better groomed xc trails to promote Winter City
Annual food truck rally to show off park. What the Truck puts together these kind of rallies. No! No! No! No!
What if there was a space for temporary amenities? Food trucks? Bike maintenance trucks? No! Too commercial
Why can't our parks be a park system? Better connected better signed?
Clean up deadfall in Kinnaird. Fire hazard
Enjoy the existing River Access here - please remove the car tires and scrap metal (when the River water level is low)
Clearer signage and paths around golf course
Walking dogs
Area requires regular, routine maintenance and upkeep
View Point Park. Put benches and tables in Kinnaird Park. Make it safe. Cut the low hanging tree branches

hoodoos maintenance and protection
Get proper signage for all park entrances. Lighting
Cross country ski on groomed trail
Designate the new gravel trail as on leash trail, as alternative to off leash trail at bottom.
turn Kinnaird Ravine into an off leash dog park as it leads to Dawson Park dog park
No disagree
Disagree x2 x3 Too many off leash parks! And unsafe here, with the camps
Park with different kinds of slides and tree houses :)
Kids park! ...
Garbage cans!
A locked gate after 11 pm!
Locked gates after 11pm Waste of mone. People climb over 6 ft fences
Safe washroom with clear walls for good visibility (like Whyte Ave)
Reclaim access north of Rowland west of 90 St as Parkland (used to be residential)
Remain in natural state
Area (small) for young kids to play while picnicking (near shelter)
Regular patrols of parks by homeless agencies to help residents find housing
Public art with sustainable / eco friendly theme
Historical information about the parks on plaques
Access for boaters (canoes, kayaks) a dock or boat launch (non-motorized)
Covered picnic tables (small like at playgrounds)
Single track trails should be signed so people can be located by rescue personal. I am alergic to wasps and it would be nice to describe where I am.
Use manicured lanes and vacant lots to grow community veggies. Share with food bank, mustard seed, etc. Community shares growing, weeding, picking!
Looking forward to the next session
I am encouraged and looking for opportunities to be involved. Specifically: Dawson park access and integration from Jasper Ave. side is a great idea.
I feel the work done to date is very inferior. Contracted staff need to complete [illegible] projects fully + properly. Respect the park aspect and the River Valley. No commercial development in the River Valley. No residential development in the River Valley. Keep the River Valley a Park.
Please don't just maintain -- improve all of the areas in question. Lets take care of this gem.
You were not ready at 5 pm -- still doing setup. Not prepared.
More advance notice & a weekend time slot might see a larger group of people
Safety is a large concern of mine. I will not use the park by myself as there are too many people living in the wooded area.
Need to recognize the value of natural areas and not pave/manicure everything. One of the greatest things about the river valley is the long single track trail --> should prmote this for mountain biking + trail running. Preserve these trails, its unique like being in the mountains steps fro your door. Summer + winter tourism! -- promote healthy active living! Wide loose gravel trails aren't good for everyone/anyone. Keep diveristy of paved + single track. Look @ squamish, Bragg Creek, Valemont.
We have the largest urban park in the world? Many, other commnities with far less resources have transformed their summer time economies by promoting their mountain bike facilities. Why doesn't Edmonton. We are missing the boat as we have a major tourist attraction right under our noses. Is ther a bylaw? that keeps the City from being liable for personal injury from use of the River Valley?
None of current state signs acknowledge the huge issue of park being the highest density of homeless camps in the city. Need to address homeless living on parkland issue as part of strategy. Continue to update adjacent communities through community newsletters.
Our river valley is an amazing draw for tourism -- people would come here from many places to stay and mountain bike or trail run if they only knew how great it was. We are missing out an oppportunity. But these singletrack trails need to be signed and acknowledged by the city and stop destroying them to build multi-use paths especially in places where there is already an option for multi-use. As an avid mountain biker I want the single track to stay! Thanks for having this open

<p>Please keep our beautiful ancient natural single trails as they are! They are a real special benefit. A fabulous getaway from hustle/bustle. As beautiful as being in the mountains. Beautiful views. Good to have paved trails to encourage more people to enjoy. But please do not destroy the natural trails. Very special attribute to Edmonton, runners, hikers, naturelovers, etc.!! Thank You!! I love the River Valley, keep it as naturally beautiful as possible.</p>
<p>I am a strong advocate for responsible use and development in the river valley and [illegible] system for single-track mountain biking. This does not imply exclusive use -- single track use by walkers, hikers, runners, dog walkers, sightseers, needs to be encouraged and mountain bikers must respect these other users! Edmonton has the best urban mountain biking trails anywhere in North America and this should be used to promote tourism and economic development. Please work with us to protect these trails.</p>
<p>Sincerely I hope that inviting public input is genuine and that concerns will truly be considered. The closure of the cloverdale pedestrian bridge and the push to build the south-ext of the LRT shows that the City already has an agenda, regardless of environmental impact or citizen concerns - truly disheartening. We used to enjoy our trails much more before the detours and closures in cloverdale and Rossdale. ** Dawson/Kinnaird Ravine does not need any redevelopment. Maintain the existing paths and trails (no widening), return it to a dog-leashed area (we weren't asked our input when it suddenly became off-leash -- a terrible idea) and patrol the area better to discourage the homeless from setting up camp. Will my voice be truly considered?? Please don't disappoint again.</p>
<p>Please keep me posted! Would love to provide further input reginemaier@live.com I am glad to see that most people tonight have similar thoughts -- that will make planning easier.</p>
<p>The river valley does not need to be manicured or paved - it is fully functional in its current state. Preserving natural vegetation and wildlife is more important than developing a gentrified green space for humans to use.</p>
<p>Please confer, in a more focus group like format, with key stakeholders like the immediate neighbourhood (homeowners north of Rowland Rd on 87 St and 89 St.), mountain bike community, runners (e.g. running world), dog walkers (put up notice near park). You may want to find some way of interviewing people who are using the picnic sites. Also the Edmonton Dragon Boat Racing Club since their dock is used by the public. They likely have some thought about the park (especially the parking available during their season.)</p>
<p>Striking the right balance will be tough but remembering the original vision is important for us to keep in mind. Not sure if my stickers went under the best panel board.</p>
<p>I came late but didn't see or hear what changes to the park area have been proposed. Would like proposals to be circulated to the community.</p>
<p>Wilding is so important. People who spread non-native species could be addressed at entrances to parks" the city developed a panel foldout of horticultural alternatives to invasive species. The Dawson, Kinnaird + Rat Creek areas are so small. I would like to see them remain in a 'wild' state. Perhaps Park Warden/Naturalists could give talks or walks at the Stadium LRT for Rat Creek, the Playground/Park at the 82nd St. entrance to Kinnaird. not only about vegetation + wildlife but about meanders in rivers + change in topography related to river dynamics.</p>
<p>If someone not in the area wanted to provide feedback how would they know if they didn't see one of the above methods? Could post ads about upcoming forums on 311 app or on home page of City of Edmonton w/ wifi after logging in (could make it so you tag areas or neighbourhoods of interest to receive notifications via app or txt.</p>
<p>Concerns of immediate area neighbourhoods need to be considered + incorporated into planning. We must live with the decisions daily.</p>
<p>I'm not yet formally aligned with a mountain bike club, but I mountain bike and speak with other mountain bikers. I understand that the city holds a contradictory position on single tracks; working with clubs to approve maintenance but not officially acknowledging trails -- I don't get it. There is a huge untapped resource in mountain bikers -- free labour! The cost of maintenance is little, materials, and lots labour. Why not leverage \$ spent in river valley maintenance? Leveraging public money is a quantitative metric. Collecting hours, worked data from clubs would create undeniable leverage, metrics to gain further support from other levels of government and the philanthropic sector. Better mountain biking has so many positive outcomes, the least of which is not that mountain biking is a "gateway drug" into bicycle commuting -- at least it was for me! More citizen engagement with city and city parks. Healthier lifestyle (leverage with provincial government re: healthcare savings). Less road congestion/pollution/CO2 (bike commuting). Market city as a Mountain biking is an extremely popular sport in Edmonton and surrounding communities. We are so fortunate to have this gem out our backdoor. We only need to head out of our door + down to the river valley. The single track is also used for commuters. Calgary doesn't even compare. They have to drive 45 minutes for m+b trails that we have under our noses. We need to promote more mountain biking events here + promote our city as a mountain biking mecca. Tourism!! along with this our single-track trails need to be signed. Emergency response has no way of finding people in need of police, or medical response. All users need emergency response -- dog walkers, trail runners, hikers and mountain bikers. Even the homeless who live in the trails. Safety is #1. This means the trails need to be maintained for safety of all users. We need to make this process easier and more streamlined. Get rid of red-tape. Make use of EMBA. This way trails are built and maintained properly -- in accordance with EMBA.</p>

Mountain biking is a very popular activity in the rivervalley. It is a healthy, social sport. Great tourist attraction. Single track trails take the bike traffic off the wider multi-purpose, better for safety. Signage is needed for increased tourism, safety, knowledge is power. I belong to an all female bike club that has to cap our membership at 150 members each year, we fill every year. There is huge interest in this activity and potential to attract big events to boost the economy. Help us build/maintain proper sustainable trails so the unauthorized building can stop.
Edmonton has an amazing chance to become an urban mountain biking destination, while still serving the needs of other user groups. Preserving our single track will lead to: wellbeing; tourism; care of river valley. Sarah - Harcore bikes / EMBA
Maintain and ... single track to get mountain bikers off the multi-purpose. Also better signage on single track
Please clean up graffiti and litter in Latta Ravine underneath the Latta bridge. Fewer people are using the path ... less 'friendly'
Would love to see more "gathering" spaces, for eating, "picnic" spots or historical tie in and "food" places. A stop for coffee on seasonal basis
Post map of amenities and circulation
Visibility from track to see if occupied
Ensure bank is flood protected for any new amenities added
Playground for kids ie leading edge; building in natural amenities; really natural playground
Make pavilion 4-season and usable by cross-country skiiers, runners, etc
I would like to! (re picnicking)
Trail needed; ongoing maintenance (re tip of Kinnaird Ravine)
Numerous homeless camps - need to monitor and remove more regular before get big - unsafe, fire, unsanitary
Like variety in paved + gravel paths (hills, grade/slope) skill, add some more winding trails
Develop this goat path to standard to allow community access (re path under Jasper bridge)
Homeless are congregating under the bridge. Having people access could reduce the issues
Com. Services removed natural river embankment @ EDBRC dock thereby increasing flooding...BAD!
Create app where you could look up edibles/non-edibles... add link to trail markers
Add wildlife to vegetation app previously mentioned
Revitalize the park bldg. It's in need of a reno! Open bathrooms
This trail is in desperate need of cleanup. Lots of litter and graffiti. It is not inviting as a walking path. Latta Ravine under Latta bridge
App for river valley parks - interactive,informative, include many aspects of area (vegetation, animals, history...)
Slack line posts to draw teenagers
Expand parking lot to eliminate parking on street.
European inspiration natural parks (re kids park)
Better lighting
Flood prevention measures
Retaining wall needed in hoodoo area to prevent soil erosion

External Stakeholder Workshop

An evening of focused discussion and workshop activities for external stakeholders took place on Tuesday September 13 from 5–7pm in the gymnasium of the Alex Taylor School (E4C).

- » Master Plan and Engagement Process
- » Related policies and plans
- » Surrounding community development
- » First look at the history of the site
- » Access and Circulation
- » Amenities and Nodes
- » Activities and Festivals
- » Maintenance and Safety
- » Service and Utilities
- » Topography and Hydrology
- » Vegetation and Open Space
- » Wildlife and Habitats

Representatives from the following organizations attended:

- » Catholic Social Services
- » Centre for Spiritual Living Edmonton
- » Dawson Dog Walkers
- » E4C
- » Edmonton Mountain Bike Alliance (EMBA)
- » Friends of Kinnaird Ravine
- » River Watch
- » Sierra Club Canada

The format of the evening included two components:

- » Workshop activities
- » Focused conversations around specific opportunities and constraints in Dawson Park and Kinnaird Ravine

Comments were recorded by participants and moderators on sticky notes and index cards, and in moderator notebooks. Twelve people participated in the workshop. Their comments are listed on the following pages:



External Stakeholder Workshop
River Valley Parks Information Board
24 Hour Mountain Bike Race
Horse trails Snow Valley to Hawrelak Park to be designated
Breathe: Edmonton's Green Network Strategy Board
Would love to see more "gathering" space, for gathering, "picnic" spots, historical tie in and "food" places, a stop for coffee on seasonal basis
Developing Communities: Community Context Board
Factor in recent Council motion on Northlands - Part C of motion
Site History Board
There are 2 historic posters done in 1970s of Kinnaird's famous residents - I can email if you don't have it
Access & Circulation Board
LRT Station needs to be safer lighting path to under bridge.
Formalize dog park - baggies etc (re small dog park north of Rat Creek)
Extend Kinnaird Ravine Trail - Went under 82nd Street Bridge
Historic Sign and MAP to go at top of improved trail (re the new gravel trail from Jasper Ave)
Pedestrian and off leash on improved trail
New trail is washing out - and needs wooden steps and bike rail too
Better lighting requested for pedestrian safety (re entrance off Jasper Ave with short staircase)
Develop a great promenade on the south side of Jasper Ave and fill in with staircases to Dawson Park
Park is key connector
City to remove its tire dump from the beach and provide dock here to enjoy river - by the tree swings
Amenities & Nodes Board
Beautiful look-out (re Kinnaird Park looking south)
Access from surrounding community - currently lots of physical/road barriers now
Winter uses of Highlands Golf Club - 1. Cross country ski 2. dog walking 3. hikes
Maintenance & Safety Board
Trails DO Connect!
The park is mainly used as connector between downtown and Rundle and Capilano
Natural Trails are maintained by volunteers from EMBA Over 100 hrs in 2016 alone
Dawson Pavilion is unsafe. Most people feel threatened and avoid
This is a positive! (re areas out of public view)
"Formal" - used and maintained by volunteers (re Informal paths along steep slopes)
Missing paved connector from Capilano Bridge
Natural Features: Topography & Hydrology Board
Restored sturgeon habitat
Hoodoos are an environment to protect
Natural Features: Vegetation & Open Space Board
Overgrown caragana tunnels are an attraction
Natural Features: Wildlife & Habitats Board
Lynx, fox, rabbits, voles, skunks
Future Conditions: Dreams & Wishes! Board
cycle, snowshoe, run, hike
Preserve natural trails in Dawson
Better signage on trails
Connection (re over the rail line into the ravine)

Regular maintenance and garbage pick up required at this park (Kinnaird Ravine)
Standard Coal Mine in Kinnaird Ravine - North side below Jane Salisbury Park
Trail signs
Natural surface trails designed for and too IMBA standard
urban garden
Bouldering/climbing park
Playground and safe pavilion
Raft access for River Watch rafts * no dock
Reica Coal Mine - below Ava Boulevard just north of Trail adjacent to Highlands Golf Club
The Future: 1. Educational Signage 2. Connect 3 trail systems in loops - bikes, pedestrians, dog walkers 3. .5 FTE Park
The Future: 4. Boat Dock + Beach use by accessible trails with stairs 5. Stairs on all steep inclines - gravel trail first!
The Future: 6. More garbage cans 7. Winter use of Highlands Golf Club (City Land) for hikes on their cleared paths - make it a loop too 8. More LED Lights
Homelessness eliminated
left natural and restored
lots of natural play throughout the park
natural gathering places
view points/lookout
better maintenance trails stairs
access for all people - wheelchairs
safety
Enough park rangers - feel safe
Water sports
lots of signs
water back in Rat Creek
Boat launch at Dawson Bridge
No homeless
Trail access (no steep parts)
Safer route to LRT station
Historical signage
Urban gardens in Kinard Park
Enhanced "beach" use
Playground with natural features
Safety - fire suppression in Kinnaird Ravine
Safety - for safe traveled evening personal safety
Top of bank view points with gaterhing points
Discussion: Opportunities
Part of River Vally Park system
Increasing population
Usage can expand easily
Natural area in city centre
Contribute the revitalization of surrounding area with provision of access by people living in Parkdale, Mac Cully, boyle Street, Virginia Park, Highlands
Ease of access - more Jasper avenue access
Extend Kinnaird Park / Ravin west over the 82nd st. bridge to the LRT station.
Reclamation Show case
Involve users/residents with "camper" engagement/management

Social [illegible] of area
Artistic expression from murals and graffitti wall
Become a community resource for physical, mental health through physical activities. Summer and winter.
More sanitation points along the trails. E.g. waste disposal, toilets, water access.
Utilise the space for kids through playgrounds and nature, history education - geology and environmental signage
Connect trail for dogs to loop, connect trail for bikes on dirt with bike friendly trail - currently they are too steeply connected. Connect trail by Rat Creek to Dawson for pedestrian focus.
Longest beach in Edmonton is there.
The beach (east end connection) can be cleaned of tires and metal and enhanced for family use by stairs, and floating summer use dock in the shallows, and stairs below Capilano Bridge leading up to the trail there. You can walk on water in the shallows along the beaches.
Interpretive signage.
More waste receptacles and police - neighbours clean up all the time - with pride in the DC.1 historic neighbourhood (since 1907) More Park Rangers patrol and police patrol to "show" enforcement and this may help the safety issue. Fire hazard <----- annual fire
Clean up
Not being treated the way it should be
Spots for fishing
Exploration as a child/friends
Use as dog park
Safety concerns ie lighting impact on plants
curve in river, lookout points
Connection
Making come in points bike friendly
Dog walking
Concern for safety
Have it meet everyone's needs increas ability to use and enjoy
access limited - mobility- difficult for low mobility - maintain seclusion/security
Family use, all ages -- affordable
Spiritual connection to earth from biking
Lookout points away from people
Curve of the river key feature
Kids get into environment
Connected for bikes. Belvedere links to Terwillinger
Continuous loops good on dirt paths
Increase accessibility/safte of the park
Balancing seclusion + security
Build more access stairways down
Fairly unspoiled vegetation
The slopes feel like a nature [illegible]
Kinnaird Ravine is a jewel in the city - escape for the city
Natural, close to downtown but yet natural.
Trails.
Snow shoeing, cycling
Community in the pavillion. Connecting
Outdoor feeling -- natural
Trails for biking
[illegible] to play and explore

Fauna
Born at edge of park
Grow food -- community gardening
retain off-leash area
Redeveloped Dawson pavillion
Development of pavillion
Better wayfinding for all trails: paved, gravel, natural
Enhance signage annd lighting at entrances
Natural gate play areas for young children
Great outing
Enhance beach area in off-leash area --> dock?
River access - not as established currently
Increase accessibility and meet the needs of low income including homeless
Discussion: Constraints
Lack of integrated city planning - ARPs, BRZs, Recreation and Park play - Dawson/Kinnaird
Limited in how citizens can be more hands on.
Keeping the green ribbon as natural as possible
Limiting lighting/power
Too many city departments. Parks? Info
Lack of overall community [illegible] response by community / residents to engage, participate and [illegible] Need program of community development activation
Lack of [illegible] to implement recommendations quickly.
Economics of time and money
[illegible] not unlimited
Multiple uses conflict
Secluded: perceived as dangerous
If the flat parts of Kinnaird Park are treed - naturalized- then campers will flood there for easy access downtown and unsafe like a "tent city"
Dog walk trails are heavily used and need to be connected around from Rat Creek trail (currently not off leash) to the riverside dog walk trail
Homelessness -- leaving wet blankets, stolen bikes, bats (baseball), knives, shivs, needles -- can't be removed immediately - takes 3 weeks
Mixed user group concerns and education of such
Security and safety.
Needs signage and lighting. Needle disposal. Upkeep and maintenance.
Poson ivy
New trail cut-off connection
Amount of detritus
Homeless concerns
Daughter's security
Many local people are not using the park
Sierra Club used to the inner [illegible]
Worried about proper ecology of area ex. Poison ivy close to trails.
Close to downtown could be better safety.
2-3 times a week, 20 years
Number of camps how dirty it gets
Safety, [illegible], lack of maintenance
Safety, [illegible], lack of maintenance

[illegible] not feel safe
Poor lighting at facilities
Many homeless camps
Many needles on ground
Safety concerns along Rat Creek
Major use as dog park every day
Location - very narrow, long
Lack of enforcement
lack of funding and awareness from city
funding
Lack of enforcement
Safety in general vs. ecology
Funding
Lack of funding and awareness from city
Remove [illegible] (Manitoba maple)
Remove [illegible scientific name] poison ivy
Remove caragana
General forest restoration
Trails are not universal access. Should be redesigned to ADA (or equivalent) standard [illegible]. This should be the top priority for park infrastructure.
Access to main trails, Mire Hill - lower section is too steep.
Point Hill - lower section too steep
Discussion: Vision
Youth clubs
Lighting at entrances
Interpretive signage. Sign #3 refers to Betonitic clags as "white dirt"
Historical sites should be identified
Sign to Baker's Folley
Restore natural runoff
"Rat Creek" is now a sign on a shed at the top of the outfall!
Nature playgrounds
Feedback Survey
You took a lot of pictures of our "community involvement" but would like to see involvement as the Master Plan develops -- say a couple more sessions to confirm what we asked for was understood and well-prioritized. Thanks!
Looking forward to more engagement like this. Replace open Houses with more interactive methods like this. Much better ran than open house.

External Stakeholder Toolkit & Emails from the Public

A take-home information package and survey was made available for stakeholder groups who were unable to attend the stakeholder session in person. A large map of the project area, small-scale information boards and survey were included in the toolkit.

The survey asked participants to provide feedback on the information that was presented at the Dawson Park and Kinnaird Ravine Master Plan open house and stakeholder session. Toolkits were sent out after the open house sessions and the City of Edmonton is in the process of gathering this feedback. The responses we did receive, as well as emails from interested members of the public, are listed on the following pages:

External Stakeholder Toolkit
Access the park at the pavillion parking, or from the river.
Present access from the river has greatly deteriorated, way too steep... and due to regular floods this access/egress site needs regular maintenance.
I have used the park both with MacEwan U, and EEOC for orienteering, and again with both MacEwan U and Ceyana Canoe Club for river access/egress.
We trust that the presently planned river access upgrades will be completed.
In about 2008 we hosted the Alberta Colleges Cross Country Championships in Dawson Park. And we've seen other runs in the park. EEOC offers a weekday evening "O" meet here usually once or twice a year.
By the about 2012 I quit using the park for MacEwan U "O" instruction due to the large number of homeless folk in the area... my female students had been both mildly harassed and often reported their fears.
(In response to what are the natural features of the park that you value the most?) 1 - river access, 2 - varied terrain for orienteering, 3 - variety of trails for walking/dog walking, and birding.

Emails
External stakeholder providing additional information on the history of Dawson Park and Kinnaird Ravine and the surrounding neighbourhoods
An email outlining design options that work well for people with limited visibility
Member of the public suggesting options for better off-leash amenities and water access
External stakeholder providing feedback on the External Stakeholder workshop
Member of the public concerned about the middle and lower trails leading from Jasper Avenue into Dawson Park
Member of the public wishing to be kept up to date on the Master Plan process
Member of the public writing to provide a historic photo of the park area
311 inquiry about receiving the advertisement for the open house late
Member of the public offering suggestion for more single track trails for mountain biking in Dawson Park and Kinnaird Ravine and Oleskiw River Valley Park

