

Notes:

This document contains a consolidation of vision and principles for each park Area to be used for communicating the Park principles and potential activities.

a. Gateway Area

The Gateway Area will connect the Downtown Area with lake based attractions and programming within Innisfil Beach Park. Options are being examined which can provide a variety of shopping, food, and cultural attractions inside the park along Innisfil Beach Road. How these areas will look will be the subject of consultation this summer. The gateway will reward visitors who make their way into the park by foot with high quality public space, amenities, and landscaping. Changes are also proposed to Innisfil Beach Road itself including measures to slow traffic and reduce road width, allowing for easier and safer crossing into the park from surrounding areas.

a. Buildings in the park

- i. Plan will consider variety of building forms for private-commercial, residential, and community uses, which balance neighboring building types, park character and intensity of use.
- ii. Demonstrate a high quality of urban design to assist with creating a vibrant streetscape, transition to passive park areas.
- iii. Examine alternatives for business operation in the park, including private ownership, leasing on public lands.

b. Built environment and streetscape environment

- i. At all opportunities, take full advantage of opportunities to enhance and maximize public and semi-public space.
- ii. Facilitate more active street frontage through pedestrian scaled architectural elements, transparent building frontages, and numerous inviting public and semi-public spaces.
- iii. Ensure that private spaces are always integrated with supporting public amenities and space.
- iv. Utilize high quality landscape design throughout to retain natural park character.
- v. Consider and broaden the range of possible attractions compatible with a downtown park destination.

c. Pedestrian-friendly environment

- i. Throughout the Gateway Area, the pedestrian experience will be prioritized.
- ii. The Plan will consider options to locate parking areas underground, within above ground parking facilities located away from the street, and to target on street parking for convenience pick up, accessibility and delivery spaces.
- iii. The Plan will strive for fully accessible facilities, buildings and outdoor spaces.

d. Nature enjoyment

- i. Landscaping will be a part of the park climate change adaptation strategy.
- ii. Expansion of landscaped areas will support wildlife habitats and create opportunities for nature enjoyment.

- iii. A wide range of calming, suitable green spaces will be considered.
- e. Lighter, quicker, and cheaper initiatives (interim or phased)
 - i. The Plan will examine opportunities for short term/interim opportunities for longer term projects.

b. Port of Innisfil

The Innisfil Beach Park Master Plan envisions the Port of Innisfil as new destination for Lake Simcoe, serving as a landmark and a gateway for Alcona. Amenities like beach retail, food kiosks, and restaurants could be clustered in a multi-use public space to create a lively environment where visitors can play and interact with the water. Rental opportunities which support visitor experience will also be explored. The plan will maintain existing water access points but also expand tree and plant buffers along the lake. The Port of Innisfil will be a hub connecting to other areas of the park and to outside the park through a multi-use trail system.

- a. The Port of Innisfil will be distinguished by a plaza with a cluster of activities along the shore, including:
 - i. Opportunities/ activities to play and interact with the water and Lake Simcoe;
 - ii. Multi-use/temporary public space that can be used for event and entertainment space;
 - iii. Options for rental equipment (e.g canoes, pedal boats); and,
 - iv. Healthy food and drink options.
- b. The Port of Innisfil will become a prominent landmark and gateway to and from Lake Simcoe.
- c. The Port of Innisfil area will prioritize a safe and accessible pedestrian experience.
- d. Shoreline areas away from the busy Port of Innisfil Area are being considered for restoration and expansion of natural buffers with natural vegetation.
- e. Opportunities to improve water quality will be proposed.
- f. The Plan will examine opportunities for short term/interim opportunities for longer term projects.

c. Beaches

As one of the park's busiest attractions, the Beaches area will maintain the affordable family-oriented activities which have made the park so popular, such as barbequing, picnicking, and playing in the water. Changes to parking areas will be explored which serve to make it easier to find parking spaces, pick-up and drop-off our families and friends, and free up more space along the shoreline for activities. Facilities like washrooms, change rooms, and fountains will be expanded where existing and added where missing to make visits to the beach more enjoyable. The plan will improve user experiences for all by making the Beaches more accessible and safe for children and persons with disabilities.

- a. The Beaches has historically been the busiest area of the park. To relieve the congestion of picnickers and beach goers in this area, options will be explored to shrink parking areas closest to the beach, introduce technologies to streamline park capacity and wayfinding, removing some conflicting amenities, and expanding beach recreation areas.

- b. A unique water feature will be proposed which enlivens the experience of visiting the water and arriving from the water.
- a. Beach expansions will be proposed in coordination with renaturalization of other shoreline areas, and other ecological offsetting.
- b. The beach experience for all users will be improved by adding safety and accessibility features for children and persons with disabilities.
- c. The Beaches has been targeted as an opportunity for more year round programming and facilities. Opportunities will be examined to ensure the park remains active year round.

d. Neighbourhood Area

The Neighbourhood Area focuses on sustaining community connections and will contain amenities for the surrounding community. It aims to preserve a quiet and secluded neighbourhood park character which is separate from the bustle of the Port of Innisfil. Fire pits, programmed spaces, and community gardens are the types of uses which are anticipated to help neighbors gather and socialize.

- a. Experience of local users will be the priority for this Area. Therefore steps will be taken to create a park within a park by creating Neighborhood Area parking options, encouraging foot path access for those within a ten minute walk of the park, introducing buffers to discourage Beaches and Port of Innisfil users from occupying the Neighborhood Area.
- b. Ongoing programming considerations for the Neighborhood Park to encourage local ownership and management of the facilities.
- c. Use of park land for commercial and residential uses will be explored as part of Innisfil Beach Park Master Plan exercise. Where these uses are considered next to the Neighborhood Area, the designs would transition to the character of the park, and espouse the feel, experience and character of public space on the ground floor.
- d. A proposed road configuration may be run along the edge of the Neighborhood Area. Routing options will be considered to minimize disturbance to residents (noise, traffic).
- e. Plant native vegetation will be proposed that provides shade and creates a buffer to protect habitat, and creates a buffer between surrounding uses.