

PART 4

PUBLIC SPACE AND MOBILITY



4.1 Blue-Green Space* Network

Within the Edmonds community, a network of parks, trails, natural areas, streams, riparian habitats and other types of blue-green spaces* are highly valued and enjoyed by residents, workers and visitors alike.

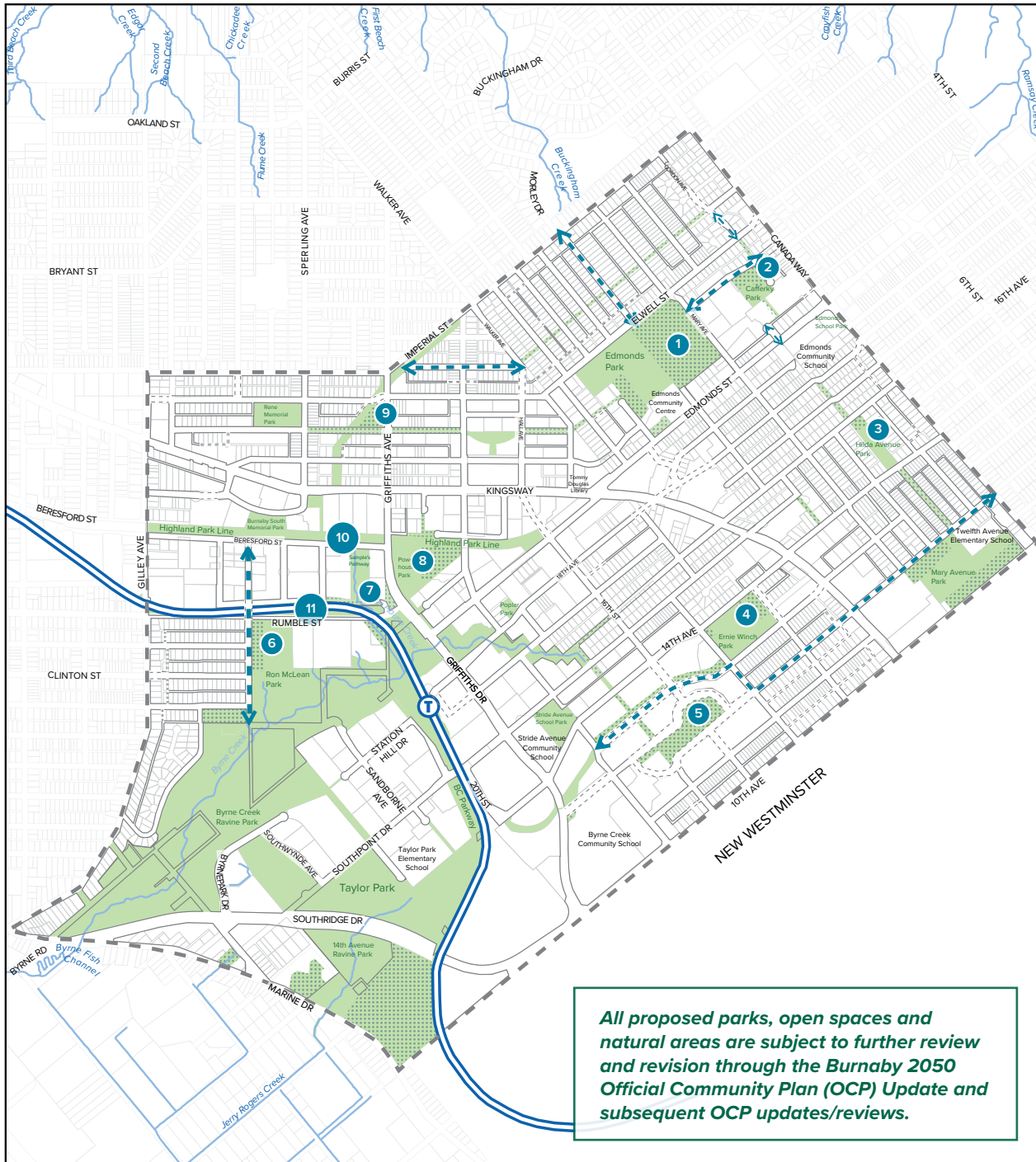


Byrne Creek, Edmonds, Burnaby

Figure 11 below shows the future proposed blue-green space* network for Edmonds, depicting how parks and other open spaces may be improved and expanded upon in the future, as well as how they may be more closely linked by an enhanced system of green streets*, green corridors* and trails. The primary goals of the blue-green space* network are as follows:

- » to provide overall better access to nature for residents and visitors and to enhance the usability of the community's various parks and open spaces
- » to establish a community-wide green walking loop, where people have the opportunity to safely and conveniently walk and cycle throughout Edmonds using a complete system of trails, green streets, green corridors and other connections
- » to help achieve the City's various climate action goals, including the encouragement of active transportation modes and the preservation of natural areas and habitats
- » to promote the improvement of water quality and the overall ecological health of urban streams and watercourses through measures such as daylighting and reducing stormwater run-off (e.g. by encouraging landscaping and rainwater management amenities in the public realm)

Figure 11. Edmonds Future Blue-Green Space* Network Map



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|---|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> --- Plan Area Boundary - - - Proposed Street / Lane — Watercourses T SkyTrain Station | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing Parks, Open Spaces and Natural Areas* Proposed Parks, Open Spaces and Natural Areas* <p>*Includes trails, green corridors and other components of the blue-green space network</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green Street 1 Edmonds Park Expansion 2 Cafferky Park Expansion 3 Hilda Ave / Mary Ave Park Expansion 4 Ernie Winch Park Expansion 5 Southgate City Park 6 Ron McLean Park Expansion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 Powerhouse Creek Daylighting 8 Powerhouse Park Expansion 9 BC Hydro Corridor / Balmoral Street Park 10 Highland Park Line Enhancements 11 BC Parkway Enhancements |
|---|--|--|--|

Supplementary Notes to Figure 11. Edmonds Future Blue-Green Space* Network Map

- » Where possible, the acquisition of land for future new or expanded park spaces and green corridors should be achieved through negotiation with developers/ property owners during the site specific development application stage.
- » Where parks, natural areas or other open spaces already exist, the intent of the community plan is to preserve, maintain or enhance these spaces in the future for their most appropriate public use. The plan does not support removing existing components of the blue-green space* network, unless under unique circumstances supported by Council through a community plan amendment process.
- » As communities grow, it is necessary to continue reassessing future park space needs and requirements. In addition to the future potential new park spaces shown in *Figure 11*, other areas within the Edmonds Plan area boundary may be identified by the City in the mid to long-term future to accommodate new park spaces as the community continues to evolve. This process would involve further public consultation, separate from the community planning process.

What are green streets vs. green corridors?

A **green street** is a street or section of a street that has unique back-of-curb design features (e.g. heavy landscaping, denser street tree plantings, enhanced rainwater management amenities and boulevards, curb-less design) to provide enhanced pedestrian and cyclist linkages to larger parks or green spaces in the neighbourhood.

While green streets may still accommodate vehicle traffic, they are designed to slow-down vehicle traffic as much as possible and to prioritize the pedestrian and cyclist experience even more so than standard streetscape designs.



Watling Street, Burnaby

A **green corridor** refers to a narrower (min. 8 metre right-of-way) pedestrian and cyclist orientated landscaped path. In many cases, these corridors provide mid-block connections to improve overall pedestrian and cyclist movement through the neighbourhood.



Green corridor in Edmonds, Burnaby

Park Space Expansions and New Blue-Green Spaces*

Figure 11 identifies specific proposed future park space expansions, new park spaces and daylighting opportunities which are further discussed below. As part of the Edmonds Plan, considering future park space expansions is critical to continue providing excellent, high-quality amenities for existing and future residents, and to provide sufficient parks and open spaces as Edmonds continues to grow and welcome more residents.

- 1 Edmonds Park expansion:** Edmonds Park currently serves as an important cultural and recreational hub for the community. In the future, there is an opportunity to explore expanding the park primarily eastward towards Mary Avenue. This will provide an opportunity to expand upon existing active sports play areas (e.g. sports fields, tennis courts), outdoor recreation and cultural amenities, programming and gathering places adjacent to Edmonds Community Centre and Tommy Douglas Library.
- 2 Cafferky Park expansion:** Cafferky Park is a small neighbourhood park that could be expanded northward in the future to meet Rosewood Street. This park space would continue to provide a smaller space for passive recreation and relaxation, with seating areas and lush landscaping.
- 3 Hilda Avenue Park/Mary Avenue Park expansion:** Hilda Avenue Park and Mary Avenue Park are existing parks that may be slightly expanded in the future and better linked together by a future green corridor where Hilda Street exists today.
- 4 Ernie Winch Park expansion:** Ernie Winch Park currently serves the surrounding neighbourhood with several active recreation uses (e.g. playground, tennis courts). There is an opportunity for a small future expansion along the park's eastern boundary. The park would continue to serve the surrounding neighbourhood as well as a potential new elementary school site north of 14th Avenue.



Edmonds Park, Burnaby



Cafferky Park, Burnaby

5

Southgate City Park: As part of the Southgate City Master Plan, a future central park will be lined by adjacent commercial and high-density residential uses. This large park will serve as a civic gathering space and activity hub for surrounding residents and visitors, characterized by water features, seating areas and greenspace for various relaxation or informal recreational opportunities.

6

Ron McLean Park expansion: A future westward expansion to Ron McLean Park to meet Hedley Avenue may be explored, which would provide an opportunity to expand upon existing active recreation uses in this park.

7

Powerhouse Creek daylighting: Through future development, there is an opportunity to explore the closure of Prenter Street south of Samples Pathway and westward towards Hedley Avenue. This closure and green space expansion would present opportunities for the daylighting and realignment of Powerhouse Creek south of the SkyTrain guideway, enhancing the riparian habitat around this watercourse and improving visibility and access to the creek. The alignment of the future daylighted creek section shown in *Figure 11* is conceptual only. The exact alignment is subject to further assessment at the site-specific development stage.

8

Powerhouse Park expansion: Currently, Powerhouse Park is a primarily forested area. A potential eastward expansion of this park may be explored in the future to provide for more active recreation uses and to better connect this park to the Highland Park Line.

9

BC Hydro corridor / Balmoral Street Park: North of Kingsway, there is an opportunity for a small new park space at the intersection of a north-south BC Hydro corridor and a new green connection where Balmoral Street exists today.



Ron McLean Park, Burnaby



BC Hydro Corridor, Burnaby

10

Highland Park Line enhancements: The Highland Park Line is an existing pedestrian and cyclist route that ends at Edmonds Street and Kingsway, running parallel to the BC Parkway before it diverges in Royal Oak. This trail provides an important linkage feature for Burnaby and requires future enhancements such as the provision of consistent lighting across the trail, benches and seating, garbage and recycling bins, improved wayfinding* elements and placemaking elements such as public art. Through the Hall Towers master plan development, the Highland Park Line will be augmented with the provision of a new garden and activated plaza space, providing a terminus destination for the trail.

11

BC Parkway enhancements: The BC Parkway is an existing pedestrian and cyclist route that spans from Royal Oak at Gilley Avenue into West Edmonds and ultimately traverses into the Station District, leading into New Westminster. This urban trail provides an important linkage into Burnaby, though there is much opportunity for future improvements to enhance its safety, usability and accessibility. While there is an enhancement project underway for the portions of the Parkway that intersect with Metrotown and parts of Royal Oak, there is also an opportunity to enhance the portion of the trail within Edmonds. This can be done through the provision of consistent lighting across the trail, benches and seating, garbage and recycling bins, greater wayfinding elements and placemaking elements such as public art.



Rendering of the Highland Park Line (left) where it meets the Hall Towers master plan development site