

# **COMMUNITY NEED SUMMARY (REVISED)**

# Parks & Natural Resource Protection

### Strategy

### Target Outcome

We envision additional land acquisitions and increased access to parks and recreational trails.

# **Related Strategies**

- <u>Regional Climate Action Strategy</u>
- <u>Regional Parks Strategic Plan</u>
- Land Acquisition Strategy

- <u>Special Task Force on First Nations</u>
  <u>Relations</u>
- <u>Statement of Reconciliation</u>

### **Core Service Levels**

#### Planning, Resource Management & Development

Contribute to effective and efficient decision making through plan and policy development, natural and cultural resource management, capital development planning, project management and geographic mapping; development of the Strategic Plan and park management plans; provide oversight of the land acquisition program; and guide the implementation of scientific and technical work related to environmental management.

#### **Regional Parks Operations**

Responsible for the daily operations and maintenance of regional parks, attending to nature centres, campgrounds, washrooms, trails, beaches, picnic areas, parking lots, bridges, kiosks and signs; implementing restoration projects and overseeing park safety and security, including bylaw enforcement and fire management.

#### **Visitor Services**

Connect people with the natural environment, conduct social science research and planning, provides park volunteer opportunities for residents, cultivate community partnerships and

provide administrative services; provides web-based park information and publications to the public, and issue park use permits for group picnic shelters and special events

#### **Regional Trails**

Manage Regional Trails system to protect and operate three regional trails that provide a transportation and recreation function and that provide non-motorized trails for active transportation and recreation to connect municipalities, electoral areas and the region with adjacent jurisdictions.

#	Initiatives	Description	Budget Year	New FTEs For 2020	Budget Impact
6a-1	Regional Parks Strategy Update	Ensure appropriate funding for parks & trails infrastructure, improvements & maintenance by updating the Regional Parks Strategy with consideration to ecological, recreation & reconciliation principles, land acquisition capacity, & expanded partnerships with First Nations & park user groups	2020 - 2021		Absorbed in Core Service
6a-8	Capital Reserve*	Increase in funding to Capital Reserve, in order to address high value and critical capital infrastructure in regional parks	2020		Included in Provisional Budget
6b-1	Invasive Species Management	Provide residents with information for advancing with invasive species management by increasing the number of partnerships	2020- 2022		Already funded

#	Initiatives	Description	Budget Year	New FTEs For 2020	Budget Impact
6b-2	Environmental Stewardship Programs	Pursue stakeholders to be involved with stewardship programs	2020- 2022		Absorbed in Core Service
6b-3	Environmental Stewardship Volunteers	Leverage volunteer hours for restoration & stewardship	2020		Absorbed in Core Service
6b-4	Enhance Parks Operations*	Enhance operations service levels	2020	5.0 ongoing	Included in Provisional Budget
6b-5	Mountain Bike Policy*	Develop an overarching approach to mountain biking in CRD Regional Parks	2020- 2021		Included in Provisional Budget
6d-1	Engage with First Nations	Undertake engagement with First Nations regarding greater collaboration & Parks management *	2020- 2022		Absorbed within Core Service
6e-1	Land Acquisition Fund Renewal	Determine renewal of Land Acquisition Fund beyond 2019 & use of those funds for capital improvements, as well as land purchases	2020		Absorbed in Core Service
6f-1	Dog Management Policy Framework	Dog Management Policy Framework for Regional Parks and Trails	2020		Absorbed in Core Service

\* New - Initiatives not in the 2019-2022 Corporate Plan

### **Business Model**

### **Value Proposition**

#### **Regional Parks**

The Regional Parks division protects and manages approximately 13,000 hectares of natural area in 30 regional parks and three regional trails, and supports approximately 8 million visits per year, thereby improving the well-being and enjoyment of residents throughout the region.

#### **First Nations**

The First Nations Relations division enhances relationships with First Nations by streamlining the CRD's cross-departmental approach to First Nations engagement, increasing the CRD's profile as a relevant government to First Nations needs and aspirations, and providing advice to the Board, executive leadership and staff on developing relationships.

#### **Environmental Protection**

The Environmental Protection division protects the environment by monitoring and assessing liquid and solid waste, enforcing environmental bylaws and promoting best practices of water consumption, waste reduction and climate action to the community.

# Who Contributes

- All municipalities
- All EAs

### **Metrics**

### Metric #1

**Target:** 100% of critical infrastructure in good or better condition.

**Current Status:** Currently 75% of major critical infrastructure within the Regional Parks and Trails system are in good or very good condition.

## Metric #2

**Target:** Maintain a visitor experience satisfaction rate of 85% or better for Regional Parks and Trails.

**Current Status:** The 2017 resident survey demonstrated a satisfaction rating of 85%. This survey will be conducted again in 2022.

# Metric #3

**Target:** An average annual parks and trails asset renewal investment of \$2.5 million.

**Current Status:** Current average annual parks and trails asset renewal capital investment is \$1.6 million/year.

# Metric #4

**Target:** A 25% contribution of land acquisition funding from community partners.

**Current Status:** To date, community partners in land acquisitions have contributed almost \$16.8M, representing 27% of overall costs.

# Metric #5

Target: Maintain a volunteer base of greater than 500 people.

**Current Status:** The current number of active volunteers (2018) is 526 people.