



# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 12, 2023

**For further information, contact:**

Chad Neufeld, Manager of Parks Planning and Development

T: 604-467-7338 E: [cneufeld@mapleridge.ca](mailto:cneufeld@mapleridge.ca)

## **Have Your Say on the Future Waterfront Park Along the Fraser River**

**Maple Ridge, B.C.:** The City of Maple Ridge is seeking community input on a new multi-use pathway and the future park vision that will provide residents with a scenic riverfront park connection between the Port Haney Wharf and Kanaka Creek Regional Park along the Fraser River.

This new multi-use pathway will provide residents with a safe and convenient alternative connection to transit, recreation, and the downtown, as well as visual and social connections to the Fraser River.

“For many years the Port Haney Wharf was an industrial log sort operation with no public access to the Fraser River,” said Valoree Richmond, Director of Facilities, Parks and Properties. “With the City’s investment to purchase this land, that’s about to change. Residents have an opportunity to share their input on a plan to develop a multi-use pathway that will connect two very popular locations in our community – the Port Haney Wharf and Kanaka Creek Regional Park. As part of the engagement process we are looking for “big ideas” for the next phase of park development at this new waterfront park. So, if you have a great idea for what this park could include, please share it with us.”

During phase one of the project, the public can have their say by:

- Taking the survey and sharing their ideas at <https://engage.mapleridge.ca/porthaneymup> by 12:00 p.m. on Oct. 29
- Attending an open house on Oct. 19 (4:00pm to 6:30 p.m.) at the Maple Ridge Leisure Centre.

“We are committed to honouring the history and culture of the Katie First Nation and Kwantlen First Nation as we move forward on this project,” said Chad Neufeld, Manager of Parks Planning & Development and project lead for this engagement.

### **Project Timeline**

This is a multi-year project, starting in 2023 with the concept plan development for the multi-use pathway, followed by community engagement this fall. Detailed design will continue into early 2024, which includes site investigation to determine any areas of archaeological significance and environmental considerations, along with consultation with Katzie First Nations and Kwantlen First Nations and other key groups.

Residents can learn more about the project and have their say at <https://engage.mapleridge.ca/porthaneymup>

## Background

The multi-use path alignment is part of the “Experience the Fraser” route, a project developed by Metro Vancouver, Fraser Valley Regional District, and their member municipalities in 2010. The goal is to create a network of multi-modal trails developed along the Fraser River, stretching from the Salish Sea to Hope. This project builds on the Experience the Fraser vision, enhancing access to the Fraser River and providing a new active transportation route along the waterfront.

The City of Maple Ridge announced in October of 2022 the acquisition of four parcels of land on the Fraser River waterfront, south of the CP Rail tracks. This 4.28-acre site, which had been known colloquially as the ‘Haney log sort’ lands, is located between the Port Haney Wharf and Metro Vancouver’s Kanaka Creek Regional Park to the east. The site’s acquisition was approved by Council in October 2021 and completed in December 2021 at a price of \$4,500,000.

Construction of the multi-use pathway is part of the City’s Capital program.

– 30 –