



July 19, 2023

In May 2023, Metro Vancouver finalized the purchase of 24 parcels of land at Cape Roger Curtis on Bowen Island. Planning and engagement for the proposed regional park at the site are ongoing. **At this time, the land is not open to the public for day or overnight use (no camping).**

Metro Vancouver is growing the regional parks system into a connected network of parks and greenways that protect regionally important natural areas and connect them to residents. The proposed park at Cape Roger Curtis presents a unique opportunity to protect valuable habitat, and connect with nature through trails, education, stewardship, ocean viewing, and the opportunity to spend the night in nature — an experience that is increasingly difficult for residents to get.

Metro Vancouver is continuing to work closely with Bowen Island Municipality on the park planning and municipal rezoning process. Metro Vancouver has submitted a rezoning and Official Community Plan (OCP) amendment proposing a passive park designation, with a variance to allow for supervised overnight camping.

At the council meeting on Monday, July 10, Bowen Island Municipality referred the rezoning and OCP amendment application to advisory committees ahead of the second reading, which is anticipated in fall 2023.

Phase Two Public Engagement

Public engagement will run from July 29 to August 16. Metro Vancouver will share a draft park vision, guiding principles, park concept, and technical studies for feedback. Your input will help shape the concept plan for the proposed regional park and will inform the Bowen Island Municipality rezoning and OCP amendment process.

You will be able to provide feedback in the following ways:

- Online feedback form (opens July 29)
- Public open houses ([Cates Hill Chapel, 661 Carter Road, Bowen Island](#))
 - Saturday, July 29, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
 - Wednesday, August 2, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
- Webinars
 - Tuesday, August 1, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm
 - Thursday, August 10, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Visit the [project webpage](#) for more information.

Technical Reports

Metro Vancouver has produced technical reports on transportation, visitation, ecology, emergency planning, and water usage as part of the planning and rezoning process for the proposed regional park. The reports are

produced by professional consultants and experienced Metro Vancouver staff, including registered professional biologists, engineers, planners, and landscape architects.

Metro Vancouver’s vision is to connect people to nature while protecting sensitive ecosystems. Using accurate, reliable, and transparent data in the planning process will help make this a reality.

View the technical reports on the [our website](#) (under “Project Updates”).

A Park for Everyone

Metro Vancouver aims to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to benefit from exceptional experiences in nature ([Regional Parks Plan](#)). The proposed regional park at Cape Roger Curtis is a unique opportunity to make access to nature more inclusive.

Ensure people have a responsible and exceptional experience in nature

From trails and lookouts to facilities that support low-impact overnight use, everyone can enjoy the benefits of being in nature. Inspiring educational programs, volunteer opportunities, and ecological stewardship will foster diverse experiences, deepening people's connection to the ecosystems at the proposed park, encouraging appropriate and responsible visitation on Bowen Island, and nurturing future nature stewards.

Connecting people with sustainable access

Access to a vehicle is a barrier to many people accessing nature. Prioritizing access to the proposed regional park by transit/shuttle, walking, and cycling will reduce barriers to those without vehicles, reduce greenhouse gas emissions by encouraging fewer car trips, and avoid putting pressure on local infrastructure and ferry capacity.

To learn more about the proposed regional park, visit the [project website](#).

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Metro Vancouver is a federation of 21 municipalities, one electoral area, and one treaty First Nation that collaboratively plans for and delivers regional-scale services. Its core services are drinking water, wastewater treatment, and solid waste management. Metro Vancouver also regulates air quality, plans for urban growth, manages a regional parks system and provides affordable housing. The regional district is governed by a Board of Directors of elected officials from each local authority.

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