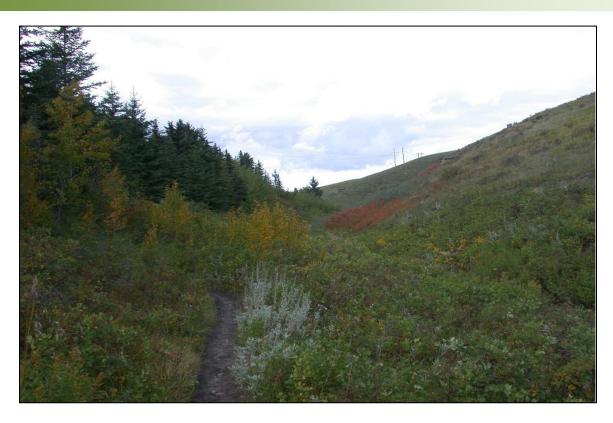
# Ward 1 Parks Projects + Programs — July 2015

- 1. 12 Mile Coulee Natural Environment Park
- 2. Bow River Pathway, Hextall Bridge Pathway 2013 Floor Repair
- 3. Bow River Pathway, Shouldice Park to Crowchild Trail
- 4. Bowmont Natural Environment Park, Land Use Amendment
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- 11. P.U.P.P.Y. Project
- 12. The Litter Cleanup (TLC)
- 13. Bowness Park Agreements NEW PROJECT

## **#1.** Ward 1 Parks Project — 12 Mile Coulee Natural Environment Park



#### Summary:

Parks will be managing ongoing projects throughout the park to restore habitat, better understand wildlife and ensure a safe visitor experience. This will include public engagement and examining how the park pathways will integrate with the Rotary Mattamy Greenway regional pathway as well as an assessment of current trail network and the development of an overall management plan.

#### Update:

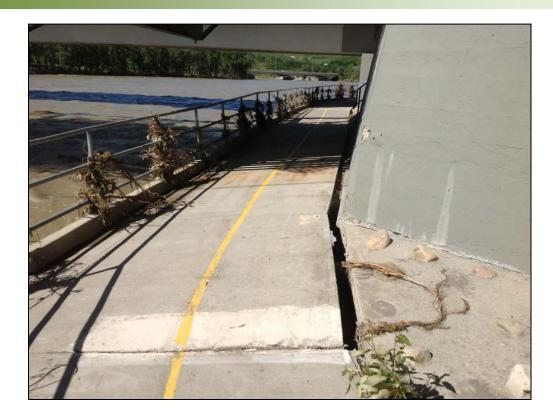
July 2015:

• No change since June.

June 2015:

• Work for constructing primary elements of the management plan is slated for 2017.

### #2. Ward 1 Parks Project — Bow River Pathway under Hextall Bridge, 2013 Flood Repair



#### Summary:

High water during the 2013 flood event caused significant damage to the regional pathways on both sides of the Bow River, under the Shouldice and Hextall Bridges. Both pathways show visible settlement and lateral displacement from the bridge abutments. Pathways are sloped, up to 5% in some locations. Gabion structures supporting the pathways are visibly bowed on both sides. The work has been deemed eligible for cost recovery under the Disaster Recovery Program by the Province of Alberta.

#### Update:

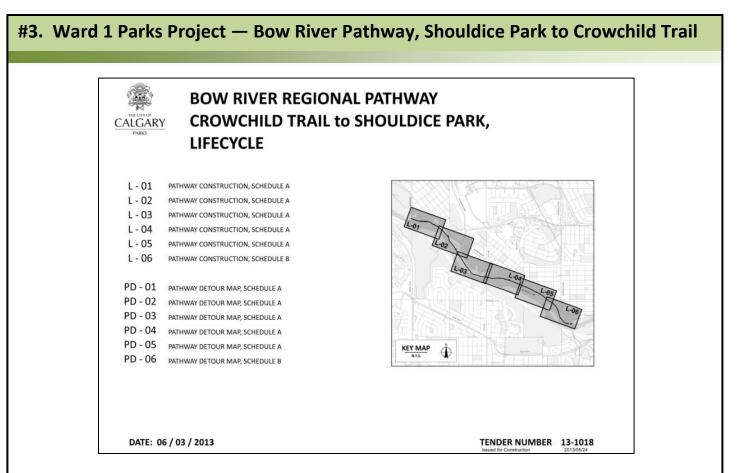
July 2015:

• No change since June.

#### June 2015:

- Applications for regulatory approvals will be submitted in the summer of 2015.
- The repairs will be performed in the spring/summer of 2016.

- Parks is working with consultants to provide the engineering services required to remediate the pathways.
- Planning & design is ongoing.



### Summary:

As part of the ongoing Pathway Lifecycle Repair program, the pedestrian pathway from Shouldice Park to Crowchild Trail (on the north side of the river) is being repaired, realigned and widened where applicable.

### Update:

July 2015:

• Construction commenced the first week of June 2015. Construction is ongoing.

June 2015:

- Construction is scheduled to begin the first week of June 2015.
- In order to accommodate commuter cycling traffic some of the work will be performed between the hours of 9:00 pm and 5:00 am.

- The majority of the work is complete, with minor paving and landscaping scheduled to be completed as soon as conditions allow in spring of 2015.
- Construction is tentatively scheduled to commence in late April or May 2015.

#4. Ward 1 Parks Project — Bowmont Natural Environment Park, Land Use Amendment



#### Summary:

The land use designations of parcels within Bowmont Natural Environment Park are being reviewed, to reflect current and future uses and activities within the park.

#### Update:

July 2015:

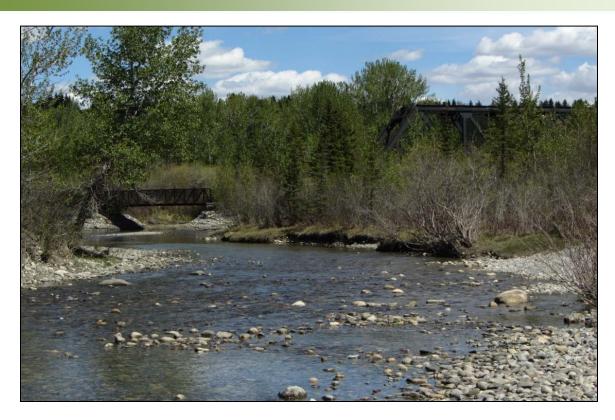
• Currently investigating feasibility of updating and consolidating all Bowmont Park parcels to reflect entire park land use. The application for all of Bowmont Park is proposed to be submitted in the next month; therefore the public process is being initiated.

#### June 2015:

- O2 Planning and Design Inc. have been retained to complete the land use amendments.
  Review and update the 2003 Bowmont Natural Environment Park Management Plan.
- Finalize land use designation in 2016.

- Consultant to review land use designation and provide recommendations.
- Consultant to prepare and submit application for circulation.
- Application will follow current policies and procedures.

## #5. Ward 1 Parks Project — Bowmont Natural Environment Park, Management



#### Summary:

A review of current management practices, resource protection and land use within Bowmont Natural Environment Park is being undertaken to better balance resource protection with current and future land use. This review will include public engagement and a communication strategy.

#### Update:

July 2015:

- First phase of engagement is being launched.
- First external stakeholder workshop complete (took place on June 16, 2015).
- Second stakeholder workshop scheduled for September.
- A public open house will take place in mid-October.
- Site analysis and management recommendations still in progress.

#### June 2015:

- First phase of engagement is being launched.
  - o Currently conducting City of Calgary internal engagement amongst various business units.
  - Phase I of external engagement will run June 1 July 31. This consists of online surveys and feedback tools. The first external stakeholder workshop will consist of small groups and is scheduled for June 16, 2015.
     Q2 and Q3 2015:
  - Initial site inventory, analysis and information gathering.
  - Initial engagement sessions with stakeholder groups.
  - Gap analysis to follow.

### Q4 2015:

• Management recommendations.

#### Q1 and Q2 2016:

- Final engagement session.
- Finalized recommendations and report.

## May 2015:

• O2 Planning and Design Inc have been retained to complete the management overview.

## #6. Ward 1 Parks Project — Bowmont Natural Environment Park, Operational



#### Summary:

Ongoing projects and restoration tasks to restore habitat, understand wildlife in the park and provide a safe visitor experience.

#### Update:

July 2015:

- The removal and replanting of trees and shrubs has started.
- A new trail segment was installed.
- New permanent fencing will be installed at the top of the slope at Silver Springs Blvd.

#### June 2015:

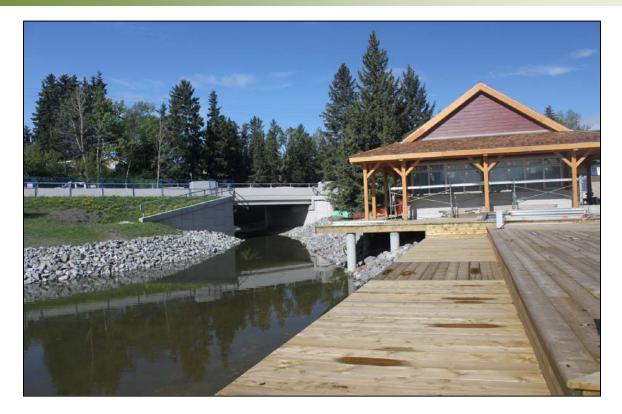
• Caragana tree/shrub removals have commenced.

#### May 2015:

Ongoing work through this field season will include:

- Caragana tree/shrub removals.
- Willow staking along riverbank.
- Tree wiring (to protect against beavers).
- Snake den (hibernaculum) monitoring.
- Public Safety: Install fencing, build a redirected trail segment, and reclaim old segment to redirect trail traffic.
- Operations crew to conduct a variety of tasks from fence repair, trail closure, planting along banks, fort removal, litter cleanup, and weed pulls.
- Volunteers to help with planting along riverbank as well.

# **#7. Ward 1 Parks Project — Bowness Park**



#### Summary:

Bowness Park is a popular all-year-round destination park. Recreation opportunities include year-round activities. Bowness Park is loved for its natural attractions, its proximity to the Bow River and its various park amenities. It is one of Calgary's oldest parks and is listed as a <u>City historic resource</u>. Redevelopment work is necessary to maintain and preserve this outdoor area.

#### Update:

July 2015:

• The Building Permit process is currently underway along with site start-up and preparation.

June 2015:

• The Tender for construction of the new wading pool and washrooms has closed and been officially awarded to Graham Construction and Engineering LP. Construction. Start-up will occur shortly.

2015:

- A formal re-opening event, in partnership with the community, occurred on 2015 February 7 and centred on a skating party.
- Components completed: entry bridge, parking lot, lagoon control structures.
- Flood damage to the river edge to be repaired in spring 2015 and overall flood repairs 80% complete.
- Lagoon courtyard 100% complete.
- West side 95% complete.
- East side 75% complete.
- Tenant in place for café (see Bowness Food Tenant Agreement below).
- Still working towards completing the flood repairs to the river's edge.
- Continuation of the east park redevelopment and flood repairs.

#### 2014:

- East side of the park (refreshing the picnic areas, initiating the rehabilitation of the mini train, strengthening the health of the forest, and transition of the road to an accessible pathway).
- The park re-opened to the public in November 2014.

### 2013:

- Lagoon Courtyard (a new pedestrian focused courtyard, a new food service and rental building and a large deck, bringing people to the water and ice, replaced an existing parking lot).
- West side (improved the picnic areas and washrooms, strengthen the health of the cotton wood forest, and transition of the road to a multi-use accessible pathway).
- Lagoon control structures (improved water and ice levels for better boating and skating).
- Flood repairs due to the 2013 flood.

### 2012:

- Entry bridge (aligned with lifecycle, widened for better pedestrian use and raised for improved skating).
- River edge (stabilization of the eroding bank and access to the water for visitors).
- Parking lot (centralized the parking to one area so the majority of the park is safe from vehicles and people can walk along the edge of the river).

## **#8. Ward 1 Parks Project — East Bowmont Park**



#### Summary:

The East Bowmont Natural Environment Park (NEP) is located in the northwest quadrant of the city surrounded by the communities of Silver Springs, Varsity, Montgomery and Bowness. Water Resources identified the East Bowmont NEP site as a potential storm water quality retrofit project location. The plan addresses all of the lands formerly known as the Klippert property and those immediately adjacent to the former gravel pit. The goal is to provide treatment for storm water runoff in an integrated park environment; ensure sustainable public access, safety and use; restore natural areas; and upgrade other landscapes and amenities within the surrounding area. The plan reinforces the overall vision of the Bowmont Natural Environment Park Management Plan as a multi-use regional park within Calgary.

#### Update:

July 2015:

• No change since June.

June 2015:

• Tree removals within the construction area have taken place; a bird sweep was undertaken prior to work to ensure no nesting birds were impacted.

- The planning and design process for the Design Development Plan was launched in January of 2012 and continued through to November 2013. Key community stakeholders were invited to participate in the planning and design process for East Bowmont NEP.
- Final construction documents were prepared and the project tendered in fall of 2014.
- Provincial approvals are currently underway. No date has been given for approvals however construction is expected to start in 2015.

# **#9. Ward 1 Parks Project — Haskayne Legacy Park**



#### Summary:

Haskayne Park was first conceived in 2006 as one of three ENMAX Legacy Parks. The overall site consists of two parcels on either side of Bearspaw Reservoir at the western City limits:

- Bearspaw 60 ha of relatively undisturbed natural landscape
- Haskayne 126 ha of parkland adjacent to the northeast bank of the Bow River, west of Tuscany

The vision for the site is to be a key piece within a green corridor extending from Calgary to Cochrane, including Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park and a section of the TransCanada Trail. The Park concept is for a large, flexible open parkland space that will be organized around centralized site facilities including an interpretive centre, public art, demonstration gardens, road access, and parking. The balance of the site will include naturalized grasslands with pathways, picnic and rest areas

The CPR mainline runs through the site. On the south side of the tracks the park concept contains a waterfront facility that could include a concession / restaurant area along with water access for non-powered boating.

#### Update:

#### July 2015:

 Until recently, Haskayne has been a landlocked site with no opportunity for construction or public access; however, access may soon be finalized from the west. As the site is developed, and for the short term, this will serve as access to the park.

#### June 2015:

- The concept design has been completed for the park.
- Land Use re-designation will be underway throughout 2015.
- Consulting team is currently working on refining the concept, public engagement will follow.
- Construction starting as early as Q3 2015.

# #10. Ward 1 Parks Program – Agents of Nature App



#### Summary:

The Agents of Nature app is filled with fun challenges designed to connect young people with nature in these City parks: Nose Hill Park, Bowmont Park, Devonian Gardens, Prairie Winds Park, Ralph Klein Park and Sandy Beach Park. The app is free to download at <u>agentsofnature.com</u> on iPhone or android. Children use the app to explore the park while solving fun nature challenges and collecting virtual gold coins for correct answers.

Rise to the challenge and become an Agent of Nature. Be prepared for adventure, mystery and a whole lot of fun!

#### Update:

July 2015:

- Bowmont Park had 103 downloads to date (January to the end of June).
- All six sites together had 1,473 downloads, 2,095 hours spent outside playing and learning, 2,011 kilometres walked from January to the end of June 2015.

# #11. Ward 1 Parks Program — P.U.P.P.Y. Project



#### Summary:

With over 120,000 dogs in our city, it is clear that Calgarians enjoy sharing their lives with canine companions. In order to maintain, preserve and utilize the City's parks and green spaces in a sustainable manner, The City of Calgary Parks, in partnership with <u>Animal & Bylaw Services</u>, has created the Pick Up Pooch's Poo Yourself (P.U.P.P.Y.) program. The P.U.P.P.Y. program provides opportunities for Calgarians to learn about the importance of picking up and disposing of pet waste and to become familiar with responsible pet ownership, as outlined in Calgary's <u>Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw</u>.

#### Update:

July 2015:

- Next event: Saturday August 15 at Bowmont Park from 11:00 am 2:00 pm.
- Thursday June 25 at Bowmont Park 5:00 pm 7:00 pm:
  - 71 park participants.
- Tuesday June 16 at Varsity Ravine Park 5:00 pm 7:00 pm:
  31 park participants.
- Three sponsored pet waste bag dispensers were added to Bowmont Park in June.

#### June 2015:

- 2015 Dates: 11:00 am 2:00 pm.
- **Saturday May 30** at Bowmont Park. Approximately 30 park participants. Primary questions were around dog waste bag dispensers.

- 2015 Dates: 11:00 am 2:00 pm.
- Saturday May 30 at Bowmont Park.
- Saturday August 15 at Bowmont Park.

# #12. Ward 1 Parks Program — The Litter Cleanup (TLC)



#### Summary:

This is a new initiative created to address the year-round need to keep Calgary's parks, pathways and waterways clean. The Litter Cleanup (TLC) kits provide citizens with all the necessary tools to host their own cleanups. Each kit contains enough equipment for ten participants; gloves, bags, hand sanitizer, an information card and a thank you package of native wildflower seeds. Bags are currently available at nine locations across the city:

- Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, <u>2425 9 Ave. S.E.</u>
- Ralph Klein Park, <u>12350 84 St. S.E.</u>
- Renfrew Aquatic Centre, <u>810 13 Ave. N.E.</u>
- Shouldice Aquatic Centre, <u>5303 Bowness Rd. N.W.</u>
- Sir Winston Churchill Aquatic and Recreation Centre, <u>1520 Northmount Dr. N.W.</u>
- Southland Leisure Centre, 2000 Southland Dr. S.W.
- Thornhill Aquatic and Recreation Centre, <u>6715 Centre St. N.W.</u>
- Village Square Leisure Centre, <u>2623 56 St. N.E.</u>
- Wildflower Arts Centre, <u>3363 Spruce Dr. S.W.</u>

#### Update:

July 2015:

June 1 - 13 volunteers cleaned for two hours in the Silver Springs community.

#### June 2015:

- 2 groups picked up TLC kits in Ward 1:
  - May 21 1 volunteer cleaned for three hours in Bowness community.
  - **May 26** 30 adult volunteers and 125 children logged 310 volunteer hours in University Heights. Feedback: Was a great time - we had community members involved as well as both of the schools in the community participated. Our community overall wasn't that dirty, but were able to still make a difference. Thank you for providing the kits!

## **#13.** Ward 1 Parks Projects — Bowness Park Agreements



#### Summary:

As part of the Bowness Park Redevelopment project a new concession with a teahouse/café, rental shop and public washroom has been developed. New tenants and operating agreements are currently underway.

#### Update:

July 2015:

- A lease agreement with the operator of the Tea House was signed and keys were handed over on June 12, 2015.
- It is anticipated that the new Tea House will have its official opening in fall 2015.
- The Tea House operators began providing limited food service on Saturday, June 27, 2015 from a food cart. This will remain in effect until the restaurant is fully functional and open for business.
- Initial operating hours are between noon and 5:00 pm daily (weather permitting).
- The Tea House operators will also offer home-made baking (bake sales) to connect with Bowness community history. They plan to partner with volunteers from local charities to operate the bake sale tables, who will receive a percentage of their sales in return.
- Parks is in the final stages of finalizing an Operating Agreement with University of Calgary Outdoor centre for the operation of the skate and boating rentals.
- The facilities are anticipated to open summer 2015.