

Photo by Scarlett Black

DARTS HILL GARDEN PARK

MASTER PLAN

This draft
Master Plan
was presented at
the March 7, 2020
Annual General
Meeting.

THE ORACLE SUPPLEMENT EDITION APRIL 2020

The Darts Hill Garden Conservancy Trust Society and the City of Surrey began the Master Planning process for the garden in August of 2019.

It is an ongoing process with implementation in three stages over a long 30-year term and, of course, is dependent on funding.

This supplement Edition is for information purposes. The following plans have been developed over the last 6 months.

Take a moment to review
the information.



SUMMARY OF 2020 MASTER PLANNING PROCESS FOR DARTS HILL GARDEN PARK

On July 22, 2019 the draft Stage #1 Plan for the Darts Hill NCP (Neighbourhood Concept Plan) was approved by council. https://www.surrey.ca/bylawsandcouncillibrary/CR_2019-R163.pdf. The Darts Hill NCP encompasses the lands from 168th to 176 Street and 16th to 24th Avenue. Upon final approval this document will act as a guide for development of the lands surrounding Darts Hill Garden Park for the next 20-30 years (For more information please see here: <https://www.surrey.ca/city-services/20607.aspx>). Please note that the NCP as shown in stage 1 may change and develop as feasibility studies are carried out, prior to approval by council.

The Draft stage 1 plan shows additional park lands to the North of Darts Hill Garden Park. To explore how the interface between Darts Hill Garden Park and the proposed community park would look City Staff in consultation with the Darts Hill Garden Conservancy Trust Society (DHGCTS) underwent a planning exercise to develop a Master Plan for the garden. This master plan is to be used as an internal document to help guide development of the Garden over the next 20-30 years.

The Master Plan has been developed with feedback and input from City Staff and the DHGCTS Board and Membership. The Planning process consisted of multiple phases with feedback from the board on findings at each stage.

The initial stage began in August of 2019 with background research. Historical documents were reviewed, including past Master Plans (1999 & 2009), context of Darts Hill Garden Park within South Surrey and the Lower Mainland and site opportunities and constraints. Findings and preliminary drafts were reviewed with the board during this first phase. It was concluded that in the next phase the broader membership would have an opportunity for feedback.

During the second phase a survey was formulated based on initial findings and circulated to the entire DHGCTS membership. Thank you to those who participated. In October, the information was tabulated and presented to the board with two revised optional plans based on the feedback received at the presentation in August and the survey results.

A final plan was developed and presented to the DHGCTS Board in November of 2019. It was at this meeting that the board accepted and adopted the proposed master plan with a few modifications that have since been adopted.

The Master Plan and supporting information was presented at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on March 7, 2020. The following are PDF copies of the boards which were on display at the AGM, made available so that members have an opportunity to review the information at their leisure. When reviewing please keep in mind that the Darts Hill NCP has not been officially approved by Surrey City Council and adaptation to the official Darts Hill NCP may be necessary.

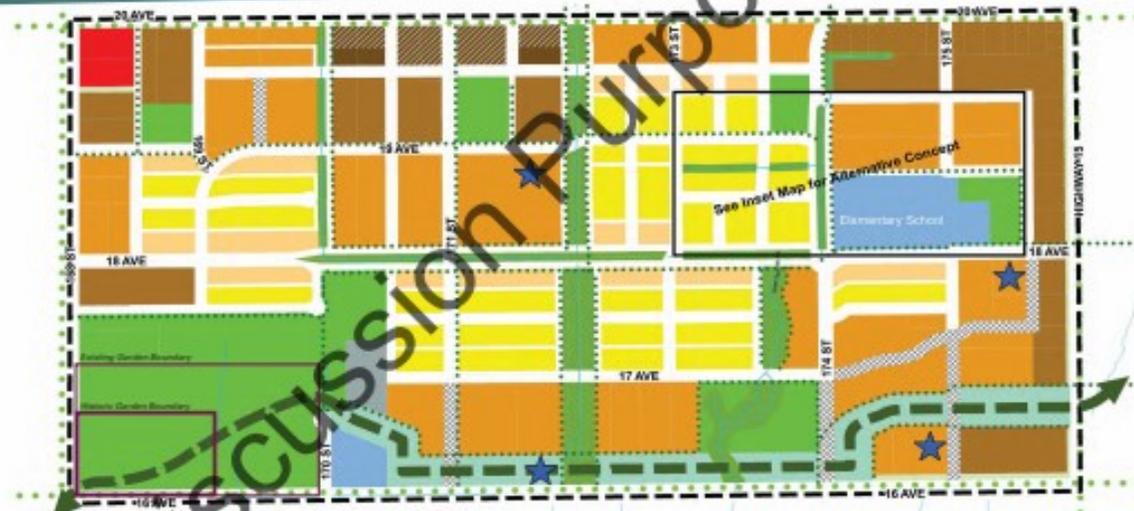
OVERVIEW

The City of Surrey is in the process of developing the Darts Hill NCP (Neighbourhood Concept Plan) they have approved the draft NCP shown here.

The draft- stage 1 plan shows additional park lands to the North of Darts Hill Garden Park. To explore how the interface between Darts Hill Garden Park and the proposed Community Park would look we underwent a planning exercise to develop a Master Plan for the garden. This master plan is to be used as an internal document to help guide development of the Garden over the next 20-30 years.

For more information:

<https://www.surrey.ca/city-services/20607.aspx>



Grandview Heights NCP #3 - Draft Stage 1 Plan
For Council consideration July 22, 2019

LEGEND

- Neighbourhood Commercial
- Low Rise Mixed-Use
- Low Rise Apartment
- Townhouse
- Multiple Residential
- Semi-Detached Residential
- Detached Residential
- Institutional
- Institutional or Multiple Residential
- Landscaped Buffer
- Park
- Biodiversity Preserve
- Riparian Area
- Watercourse
- Local Greenway
- Regional Greenway
- ★ Potential Detention Pond
- Flex Road



WINTER 2015

Initial Consultation
(Oct 2015-Mar 2017)

Exploring Options
(Sept 2017-Nov 2017)

Developing The Plan
(May 2018-July 2019)

PLANNING & ENGAGEMENT

WE ARE HERE

Refining the Plan & Approve Plan
(July 2019-Fall 2020)

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

TBD

DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PARK

TBD



EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

Key Elements:

+ Impacts from the surrounding roads.

16th Avenue and 168th are major roads, which currently impacts the garden with noise pollution.

There are two potential crossing points for local residents at 18th ave. and 16th ave. Currently 16th is not a pedestrian friendly corridor and the bulk of the local residents would have further to walk to gain access to gardens.

+ Topography.

The steep slope of the garden provides for excellent growing conditions and opportunities for views to the South.

The steep slope limits possibilities when it comes to parking. The current location of the parking lot is ideally situated with easy access from both Highways 15 and 99.

Accessibility in the garden is limited.

+ Circulation

There is currently one way in to the garden and one way out of the garden which makes things challenging during large events when there are both carts and pedestrians on the same paths.

+ Developed vs. Undeveloped Areas

The topography and the development of Green Field vs. Brown Field areas limit the potential of where to locate buildings that support the garden's services.

Quote from Francisca

"My home is my garden, so I argued, think when they (people) come to see my garden, they feel more at home because they look at it and say 'Gee, I could grow that' or 'I could do that.'"



THE ENTRANCE / RECEPTION AREA

Immediate Priorities:

- + As the Entrance/ Reception Area was identified as the first Stage of the Master Plan to Develop, a prioritized list of projects to be worked on over the next few years was developed as follows:
- 1. Reception Building: providing shelter from the elements for visitors and volunteers; expanding the washroom facilities; and, an information area.
- 2. Enhancement of Historical Beds: regenerate the beds in the oldest part of the garden through cultural practices and augmenting the collection with new purchases.
- 3. Enhancement of Beds 62e&w: Improvements to this bed will help define the entrance for new visitors.
- 4. Enhancement of the Detention Pond: Once the Reception building is done and the paths have been realigned this will be an entrance feature with educational components.



MAPLE MEADOW COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTRE

Key Features:

- + The Garden Pavilion would be one of the first projects in Maple Meadow, it would provide flexible covered space for both workshops and the propagation group. Later, once the Workshop Compound and Administrative Offices are established the building could be converted into a teahouse, overlooking the site.
- + The Workshop Compound combines the needs of the garden's Maintenance and Programming. The current adjacency of the Society's and the City's work areas has been beneficial.
- + The Layout is independent of the Park Development to the North. The current parking lot could stay until development to the North is completed.
- + The Flexible Outdoor Space could be constantly shifting depending on the garden's needs: Classes, Installations (Art or Garden Demos) and Events.

Quote from Francisca

"Experience is a great teacher. If you are thinking about doing something, just do it, and learn from what you do."
Vancouver Sun, 2013

