7.4 Garden City Greenway

Vision

This greenway will form a key link in the 'necklace' of green spaces that define and strengthen the perimeter edge and entrances into the City Centre. It will provide direct access along a north-south corridor linking numerous neighbourhoods to the City Centre and Bridgeport area as key destinations. The key principles will be promoting the 'Garden City' theme; ensuring the integration and coordination of the greenway into new developments and road construction along Garden City Road; a higher quality in materials and design reflecting the City Centre urban design standards; a greening of this urban corridor with rows of significant trees; and establishing strong links to the surrounding neighbourhoods.

Location

Garden City Way from Steveston Highway to River Road

Important Links and Destinations

South Arm Community Centre and Park; McRoberts and Whiteside Schools; Williams Road designated cycling lanes; Granville Avenue Greenway and designated cycling lanes; McLennan Park and Arboreteum; Richmond City Hall; City Centre commercial district; Kwantlen College; Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) lands; Westminster Hwy. and Alderbridge Way cycling routes and proposed greenways; Palmer/ Garden City School/Park; Garden City Mall; Moray Channel, Bridgeport and Oak Street Bridges; and the North Arm of the Fraser River

Other City and External Plans

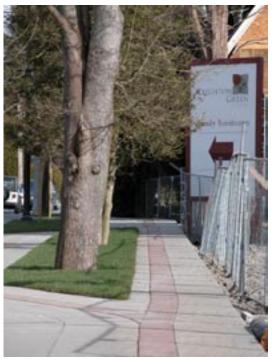
The Kit of Parts, established through the Beautification Strategic Team, has identified different greenway links and associated design criteria for Garden City Road. A number of large residential redevelopments are occurring along Garden City Road in the McLennan areas that will be responsible for constructing sections of this greenway as per the McLennan North Sub-area Plan and Kit of Parts. The potential ownership and land use designation of the DFO lands (also referred to as MoT lands) is under review. Alderbridge Way is a proposed cycling route and greenways that will connect to the Shell Road Greenway and the Nature Park. Garden City Road is presently being constructed north of Sea Island Way with the intention of extending it to River Road. Public art at the intersection of Garden City Road and Sea Island Way will reinforce this area as a 'gateway' into Richmond. Pedestrian and cycling links to Oak Street Bridge are being considered for the north side of Sea Island Way. The former Bridgeport Market site is being redeveloped with public waterfront access along the North Arm of the Fraser River.



Garden City at Cook Road (looking south)



Garden City at Cook Road (looking north)



New sidewalk treatment on Garden City, looking north from General Currie Road



Cycling path on Garden City (south of Francis Road)



South Arm Park

Recommendations:

Short Term

- 1. Adopt the name "Garden City Greenway" for this section of the trail system and design a logo for directional and information signs.
- 2. Promote the 'Garden City' concept by massive planting of naturalizing spring flowers on the existing off-road cycling and pedestrian corridor between Francis Road and Williams Road. Achieve this through an Adopt-a-Trail partnership potentially with Whiteside and Mc Roberts Schools.
- 3. Construct the Greenway path and boulevard standard (as per the Kit of Parts) along the edge of McLennan Park/Arboreteum as part of the park redevelopment.
- 4. Link the Bridgeport Trail to Garden City Road when the road is extended north by constructing a trail connection along the west side of the road to link to River Road and the waterfront.
- 5. Develop design standards for the Greenway between Alderbridge and River Road.

Medium Term

- 6. Strengthen the link between the existing Garden City Road bike/ pedestrian shared path and South Arm Community Park by redesigning the entrance area into the park and developing a continuous north-south trail to Ryan Road.
- 7. Construct a trail south of Ryan Road to Steveston Highway in the undeveloped Garden City Road right-of-way.
- 8. Designate and review opportunities to develop Saunders Road as an east-west neighbourhood Green Link that connects No.3, Rideau Park, Garden City Greenway, No. 4 Road, and McNair High School.

Ongoing / Long Term

- 9. Between Francis and Blundell Road seek opportunities to improve the pedestrian environment as redevelopment occurs.
- 10. On the east side between Blundell Road and Westminster Highway (McLennan South) consider developing a minimum 5.5 meter corridor with a 2.5 meter grass/tree boulevard and a 3.0 meter concrete decorative sidewalk. Refer to the Kit of Parts for design details.
- 11. When the DFO site redevelops create a distinct greenway/ linear park that is a minimum of 10 meters to 20 meters in width including two double rows of significant trees (as space allows) and a 3.0 to 5.0 meter path with seating areas along Garden City Road, Alderbridge Road and Westminster Highway.
- 12. Develop pedestrian links to the City Centre on the Lansdowne and Alderbridge Greenways.

