



Summary Report of Public Engagement
Viking Park – Phase II
Fall 2017



FOREWORD

The purpose of this Report is to present the results of the Viking Park consultation process that occurred in September and October of 2017 produced from a variety of public engagement platforms.

We have summarized the survey responses and the comments received to inform the Viking Park Committee and the Icelandic Festival of Manitoba of what many Gimli citizens, people with Gimli roots, and visitors to the Community are thinking.

While the summary is a useful overview, we encourage all readers of this Report to take time to read fully through the comment section and the record of the September 23rd public meeting. It is clear that those who responded very much enjoy Viking Park Phase 1 and hope to see an expansion of the Park's features with better site access in the design consultation for Phase 2.

It should be noted that the preparation of this Report is a volunteer effort. We bring to the preparation of this Report and the planning of Viking Park Phase 2 our experience in Manitoba municipal government, and in the public consultation, design, and completion of successful major infrastructure projects including Gimli's last two waterfront projects in 1988-1991 and 1997-1999 both of which brought significant positive change to Gimli's economy and its image as an international destination.

DJ Sigmundson

William Barlow



Introduction

The Viking Park is an initiative of the Icelandic Festival Committee to create a new experience on Gimli's waterfront. The Park opened to the public during the Icelandic Festival in August 2017.

The first phase of the Park (Phase 1) has been very successful on many fronts, as the public comments in this report attest. The fundraising effort and the level of supports resulted in a project almost entirely funded by donations. That effort included grant application to the Build Canada Small Communities Fund. This application was submitted in August 2016 and was approved for a \$1,000,000 project (\$600,000 in grants contingent on \$300,000 contribution from the IFM). This approval did not occur in time to assist with the funding of Phase 1 but did provide a new opportunity to take the Park to yet an even higher level in Phase 2.

The project description for the grant is as follows;

Project Title: Icelandic Festival of Manitoba Project Number: SCF #5306

A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Build park surrounding Viking Statue including accessible bike lanes and pathways which will include sidewalk paved with paving stones, landscaping (including shoreline planting to reduce erosion), beautification of area around statue, lighting, markers and dedication plaque as well as extension of sidewalk from park to connect with harbour area sidewalk providing a continuous accessible pathway from the harbour to the park and into south end of the town of Gimli.

Public Engagement Overview

Prior to any new construction taking place, the Icelandic Festival's Viking Park Committee conducted a public consultation process to gather feedback on Phase 1 of the project and to receive the public input that will provide focus for the first draft design of Phase 2.

The following opportunities were available for the general public to provide their thoughts about the next phase of this project.

- A public meeting – Held September 23, 2107, this meeting was well attended with approximately 60 people present. This meeting was promoted in the local newspapers, social media and direct emails to members of the Icelandic Festival and volunteer data base. A summary of this meeting can be found in appendix A. Those not able to attend the meeting were encouraged to let their thoughts be known through other channels. This resulted in numerous conversations and a few emails (appendix B)

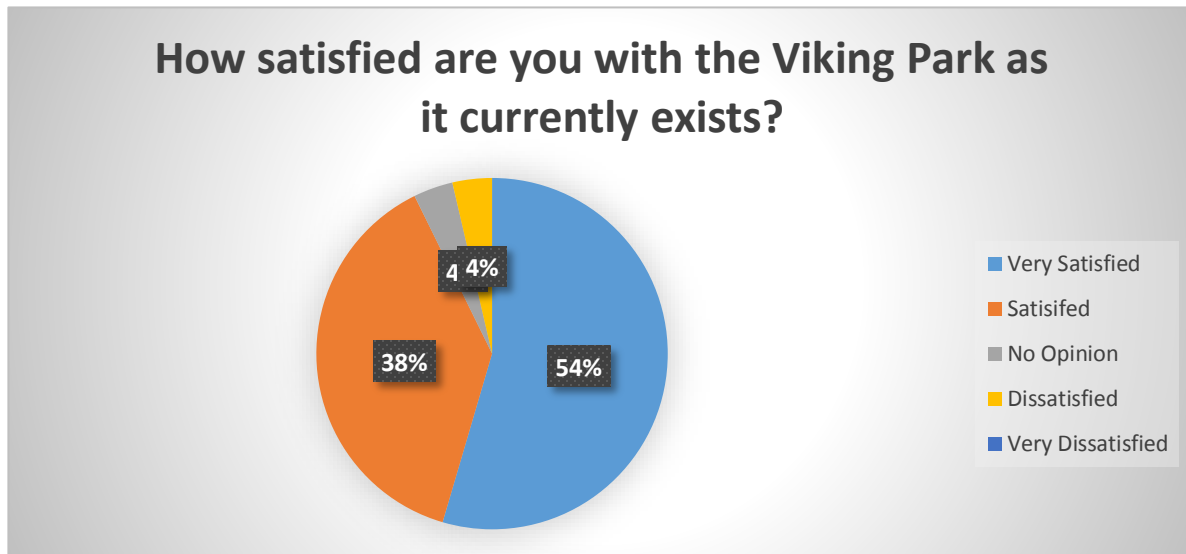


- Social Media – Numerous conversations and comments occurred on a few different FaceBook pages. These comments are included in appendix B.
- Survey – An electronic survey was developed and promoted through social media. The questions were developed referring to the approved project description as per the Building Canada Grant and incorporating comments and concerns from the engagement process described above. A total of 55 respondents took an average of 5 minutes to complete the 10 question survey.

What We Heard

Survey Questions and a sampling of responses

1. How satisfied are you with the Viking Park as it currently exists?



What do you like the most (or least) about the Viking Park?

This open ended question provided a wide variety of answers. The full responses are included in the appendix of this report. Perhaps the most telling of the acceptance of the Park among the people who completed the survey, all but a couple took this question as an opportunity to praise the park. The huldfolk houses, history and benches were often mentioned, but the vegetation seemed to be the big hit of the park. Those who expressed concerns mentioned poor placement of recycle bins, less than expected clarity on the paving stones and lack of handicapped parking.

"I like the natural flora and the somewhat rustic, rocky terrain in the gardens"



Comments from the public meeting and survey

“Thank you - I think it’s wonderful and when we finally got to go through the park. It’s a beautiful place and it’s a treasure.”

“I want to applaud your on this effort wonderful park project.”

People want to see a better plan for the waterfront area!

At the open house September 23, 2017 this issue was raised several times;

“We have great opportunity with this grant for our community. The issues of parking and entry ways are going to be ongoing issues. With the multiple land owners, perhaps a larger, broader consultation will be required to determine a plan for pedestrian and vehicle traffic.”

“Listening to this discussion, is there any vision and leadership that can advise the process? Seems to me that this is a primary area where the RM of Gimli could take on the leadership of a project of this nature to keep the project moving forward.”

“I’d be in favour of using some of the grant monies to develop a larger and more comprehensive plan for the entire boardwalk and breakwall/harbour.”

Editorial Comment

‘Master plan’ on the waterfront missing in action

By Jim Mosher

Successive Gimli councils have, at the least, considered the municipality’s harbourfront and waterfront areas as jewels in the crown.

The latest edition of council, three years into its four-year mandate, appears to have washed its hands of the harbourfront area that is managed by the Gimli Harbour Authority. Beyond the management purview of the harbour authority, there are areas of public waterfront, both to the south and north, that are managed by the municipality.

A cohesive overall plan for the whole waterfront, which includes the harbour area, is needed. Though it may be too late for the current council, its members should begin the pro-

cess of bringing all parties together to better understand what citizens and various community organizations think might be a best fit for all. (If nothing else, it would look good on the résumés of those council members who choose to seek re-election in October 2018.)

A waterfront plan would have dovetailed with a municipal strategic plan. Such a plan was released in February 2008 by then-mayor Tammy Axelsson and her 2006-2010 council. That nearing-10-year-old plan has been largely dormant, though there has been movement on some identified fronts. Its weakness was that it did not proscribe specific action with specific timelines. But it is a reasonably good template.

It’s time for an update — one that includes the waterfront — and

identifies actions. This consensus document, including all partners and citizens, could be crafted in the year this latest council has remaining in its mandate.

The aesthetics of the waterfront is an important, if intangible, asset.

The ghastly-looking boathouse and workshop proposed by the Small Craft Harbours branch of Fisheries and Oceans Canada for a site on First Ave. across from the iconic T-33 jet and the Cenotaph is an affront to many.

But a cement pad for the building has already been poured even in the absence of a required public variation hearing. It must be said, however, that Fisheries and Oceans has invested millions in the last few years in the Gimli

Harbour area. But it should be further noted that the proposed Coast Guard building is on municipally-owned land. Local zoning and variation rules must apply.

It must be asked why the Coast Guard was granted a permit for the cement base even though the footprint is clearly outside existing rules for buildings in the open space zone, where it is located.

It remains to be seen if council will allow the significant setback and height variations the federal government needs to coincide with the existing concrete footprint.

Someone missed the boat on this one.

“I think the elephant in the room is that the harbour and the waterfront is the central part of the town and the RM of Gimli needs to take on strong leadership on this and all future development. People want attention paid to what’s going on in the harbour area. We are just beginning to see some development in the harbour area. Until recently, these were not areas people even thought about.”

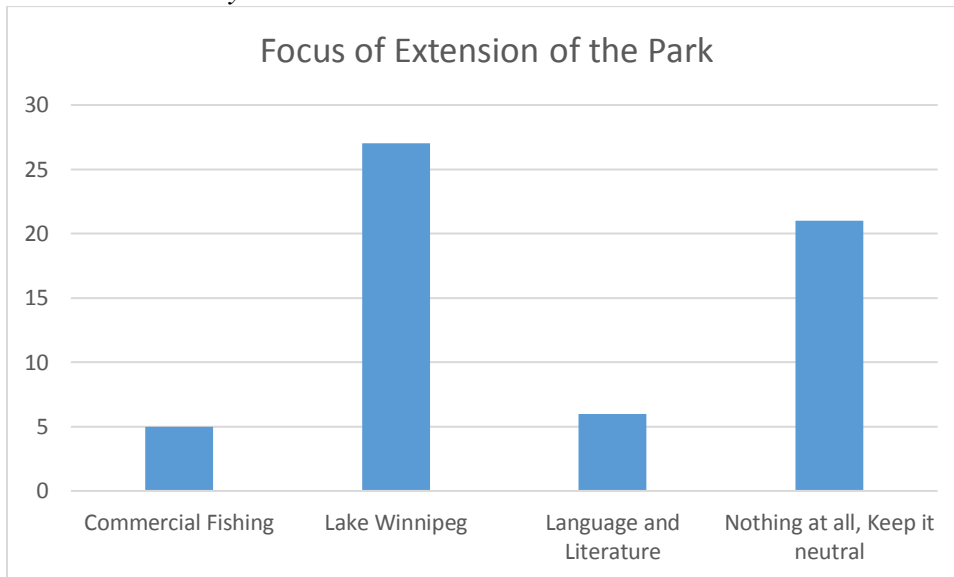




The public is split on a theme for phase 2.

The survey provided a few options based on earlier conversations in the engagement process. The top suggestions were celebrating the fishery or Lake Winnipeg. About ½ the respondents favoured a focus on Lake Winnipeg while nearly as many preferred a neutral approach.

2. *If an extension to the Viking Park was to focus on celebrating one aspect of the community what would be it be?*



It should be noted that the Lake Winnipeg Visitor Centre, located in the Gimli Harbour area is currently the focus of a volunteer effort to provide information on the challenges the lake is facing.

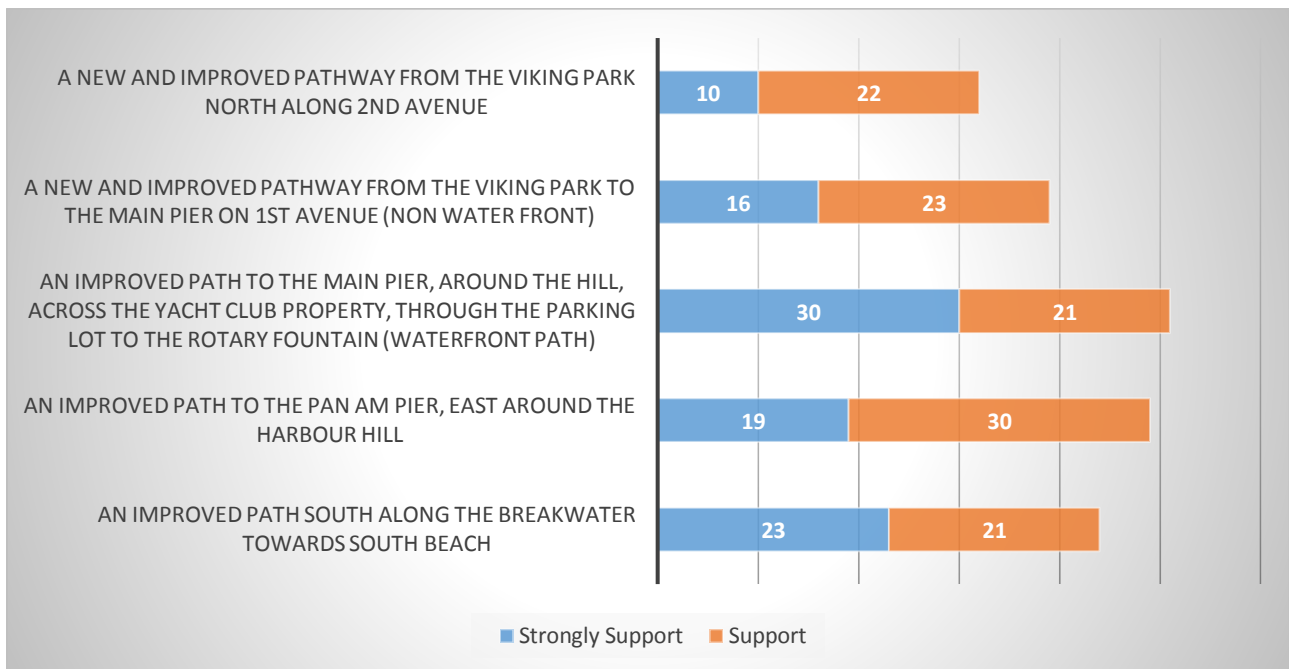


From a Facebook post.
 “At the Viking Park meeting on Saturday, one of our members spoke about "nodes", or points of interest, along our waterfront pathway. I'm involved in a rejuvenation of the Lake Winnipeg Visitor Centre, owned by the Municipality and presently operated by the New Iceland Heritage Museum. Here's an early concept of the interactive exhibit we're working on for the Harbour facing wall featuring the challenges of Lake Winnipeg and its watershed.”



A Waterfront pathway is the most preferred option

3. This next phase will include the development of new pathways and/or improvement to existing pathways. Please rate the following options.



Pathway planning has challenges

A full waterfront pathway was the preferred choice of the options provided for possible pathway extensions. This was not unexpected as the full waterfront walk had been available to the public since 1999. Currently this pathway is disjointed and wanders through a variety of properties owned by a combination of owners.

Pathways – A central theme among respondents

- “It would be wonderful to create a walk way and bike path with even room for some economic enterprise for rentals of bikes and maybe an electric tram that would connect the park area to the harbour front. Some kind of covered structure for concerts, markets, art shows, demonstrations of all kinds that could be used in all seasons. Maybe



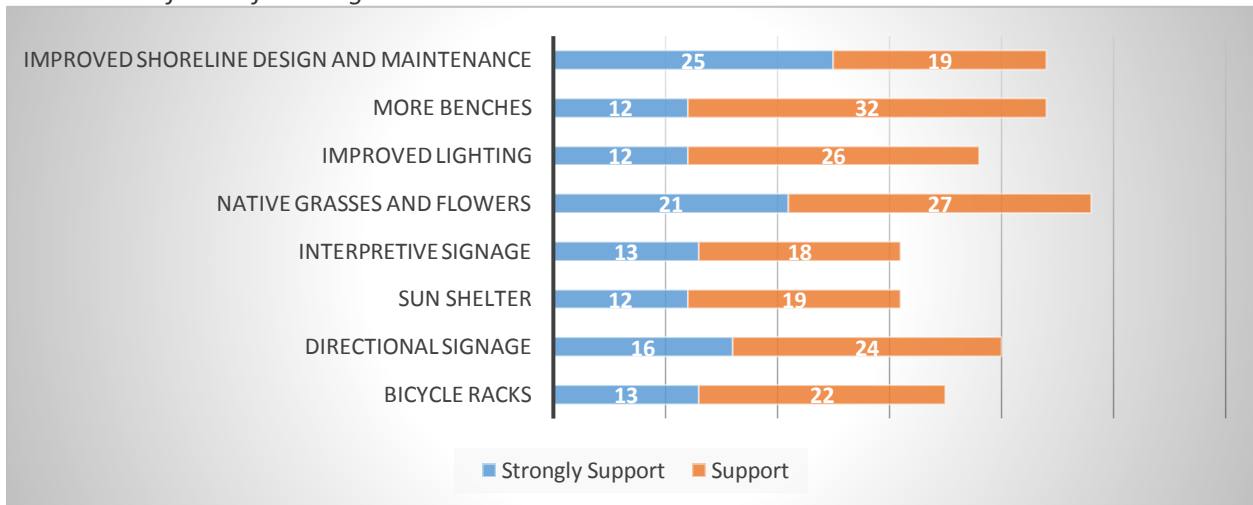
even reviewing the original plan from Bill's Hill. That proposal had plans for building temporary kiosks for rent along the path between the harbour and the hill “

- I would love to see the path around Bill's Hill become strictly pedestrian and cyclist traffic. The parking lot that is currently along that path not only detracts from the beauty of the area, but also creates a danger for pedestrians. Everyone could benefit from a few extra steps in their day so let's move that parking
- The secondary gravel parking strip south the the main marina parking lot, and east of the main gravel parking lot should be pedestrian only. It's the natural continuation of the path around the hill, and it's always odd as a cyclist or pedestrian to see idling trucks there. It's a hazard and possibly a liability for the RM, as its use isn't clear to pedestrians or motorists (ie no signage
- We don't have a link and there does not seem to be a plan to link the Breakwall and Park area and the boardwalk on the north side of the harbour. Could we broaden our scope to include that kind of thinking? It would be a good idea to have a continuous pathway along the coast. How we fill in the middle piece and bring the two areas together however that may not be possible in Phase 2.”
- “Just be sure that the pathways are accessible for wheelchairs, walkers so everyone can enjoy the park”
- “Walking from the farmers market south can be a zoo. We need to segregate the walkers from the parked cars. You don't walk through parking lots at the forks. We shouldn't in Gimli”
- “Wider paths pls.”
- I don't like walking through the parking lots along the waterfront



People feel strongly about better shoreline maintenance and prefer native grasses and flowers

4. Phase 2 could include numerous small improvements beyond new pathways, please rate the need for the following:



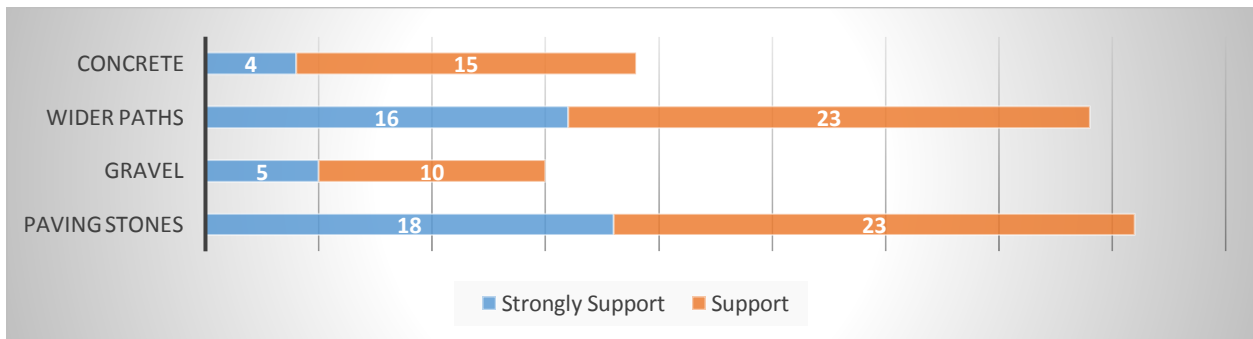
- it would be great if the shoreline could be improved. It would be nice to see the little marsh that was once there grow larger, and then the animals and birds can be seen there more often
Let's get rid of the willows
- please let them know we don't need anymore shoreline planting to reduce erosion when bills hill has armor Rock in fact we need to cut out all the trees so you can see the lake from the statue all the willows need to get cut out
- This is a Park More Pathways and Benches for people to sit on and enjoy the view !Also clean up all the growth growing along side of the Lake so we can see sam
- Most of the growth is along the path and in the limestone barrier that protect the shoreline they were never planted there it's just nature
- willows growing up and now when you're at the statue you really can't see the lake so it's not a matter of erosion just a matter of trimming the trees
even trimmed them to 3 feet tall 4 feet tall people can walk the path and see the lake
we are a Lake community



- “Public planting of natural grasses is gaining popularity in Western Canada and is a smart choice. Native species are drought and weed (e.g dandelion especially) resistant, and require no cutting maintenance - or at most rough cuts 12" in from walking paths, akin to golf course management. Education is key especially to questions from those who prefer mowed and weed treated turf”

These comments primarily address the vegetation along the gravel path east of the original breakwall. This land appears to fall within the RM of Gimli road allowance or with Betel.

5. Pathways can take many shapes and surface types. Please rate the following options;





CONCLUSION

While it is true that the consultation responses detailed in this Report may not truly represent a cross-section of opinion regarding Viking Park 1 and the next steps to Viking Park 2, the views we heard from a significant number of clearly interested people were thoughtful and well-considered, and should provide good guidance to the Viking Park Committee as it moves forward. Throughout the consultation process the call for a comprehensive plan for the Gimli waterfront was heard early and often. The Icelandic Festival may very well want to consider leading the planning process utilizing the Grant funding. In that regard, there is a need for project designers to work with a focus group that would meet prior to public presentations as many times as necessary. The focus group would represent a cross-section of the Gimli community, as well as representatives of private and public lands in the project area. We would be prepared to offer further advice on how this focus group should be structured and who should serve. That elusive local buy-in is essential to the project's success.



APPENDIX A

Open House Minutes

Viking Park Community Consultation

September 23, 2017

Kathi Thorarinson Neal and Grant Stefanson, Cabinet Co-Chairs welcomed participants at 1:10. 4th community consultation to date. Explained that the design, construction and completion costs for Phase 1 are in the range of \$900,000.00. Finances for Phase 2 are undetermined at this time. The federal and provincial funding of up to \$600,000.00 is a public/private partnership. To maximize the grant we will need to continue to fundraise around \$250,000 to \$300,000. The purpose of the consultation is to help us determine where and what should be included in Phase 2. The intention is to the return to the community with design plans once they are prepared. Participants were reminded that the Icelandic Festival does not own any of the property that the Park sits on. The land is owned by the RM of Gimli, Betel Home Foundation and the Gimli Harbour Authority (GHA).

Feedback on the existing park: Grant outlined the existing Park and the area that makes up the Phase 2 conception. Grant explained that we are still cleaning up on some deficiencies – these will be completed by the end of October.

Community Feedback included: “Hoping that somebody has done some research the elf houses. These are not Huldufolk houses so I hope they are not going to be used.”

“Thank you - I think it’s wonderful and when we finally got to go through the park. It’s a beautiful place and it’s a treasure.”

Mayor Randy had the privilege of hosting some delegates from all over the world. They commented that for a town of this size it was amazing that we have such a wonderful park. Such a real world class park.

“You commented that the potential of the park to expand to the harbour area is on GHA land. Where the art wall is. Congrats on the Phase 1 work to date. Many communities have not managed their harbour areas well. Are there development guidelines in existence from the RM or the GHA? There are a multitude of entities that have authority over the entire harbour area.” Grant reminded participants that our goal is to maintain the views and there are no plans at this point to

“Who decides what bushes or wetland plants are in the areas of the park and the lake area?”

Kathi informed that it is always the Landlord who decides. “I would like to see a continuous, homogenous flow all the way from the harbour through the park and down the breakwall – that everything matches and is part of a whole.”



“I am one of the homeowners along the waterway. Our yard is not public property. Most people who walk down the breakwall are polite however we have seen an increase in rude and inappropriate manners. I should not have people coming onto my property. We are not happy with this.”

“We need to keep it clear where the private property and public areas start and end.”

Lighting: When we have all the lights installed, however the electrical inspector required every light and fixture, switch and line be CSA approved. We are told by the end of October the park will be lit.

We have a contract with Shelmerdine for a 1 year period for maintenance and management of the plantings and the park.

“What happens after the 1 year? Are they mentoring or teaching anyone to manage the park.” After the 1 year, there is an agreement with the RM of Gimli to take on some of the maintenance. The Park development also includes some maintenance. We will be hoping that we will have some support from the community. “Perhaps Shelmerdine could be entrusted to mentor some people in the community to learn how to maintain the area.” The plants were chosen to be low maintenance and hearty to the region.

“How will the walkways be swept and kept clear?” We will get advice from the stone contractor on the use of a sidewalk brush and it’s use in the park.

“It’s really remarkable to see how many people are now stopping and getting out of their cars to walk through the park and visit and investigate the park as opposed to previous years when people would drive up, take a picture and drive away. I would caution that there is a very tight area left for winter snow clearing and grass areas on the edge of the roadway. Parking is going to be an ongoing issue. The numbers of people who are coming are amazing.”

“Is there a way to direct people to park at the first Avenue gateway? That could be accomplished with signage and direction. The parking lot being suggested is currently a public parking area.”

“We have great opportunity with this grant for our community. The issues of parking and entry ways are going to be ongoing issues. With the multiple land owners, perhaps a larger, broader consultation will be required to determine a plan for pedestrian and vehicle traffic.” Kathi reminded that we will have to stick to the parameters of the grant in our development.

Phase 2:

“I represent the Viking Village of MB. I would like to increase our participation so that our Village can continue and even expand That is my concern.” We have no intention to reduce the greenspace of the Harbour Hill.



“We don’t have a link and there does not seem to be a plan to link the Breakwall and Park area and the boardwalk on the north side of the harbour. Could we broaden our scope to include that kind of thinking? It would be a good idea to have a continuous pathway along the coast. How we fill in the middle piece and bring the two areas together however that may not be possible in Phase 2.”

HTFC will be included in community consultation once there is a design plan in place to discuss and respond to.

“Listening to this discussion, is there any vision and leadership that can advise the process? Seems to me that this is a primary area where the RM of Gimli could take on the leadership of a project of this nature to keep the project moving forward.” The current leadership at the RM has been very supported and anxious to work in partnership with us. “There was a plan developed in 1998 that seems to have fallen aside.”

“I’d be in favour of using some of the grant monies to develop a larger and more comprehensive plan for the entire boardwalk and breakwall/harbour.”

“Is it your hope that the pathway stones would continue around the hill and not just a gravel pathway?” The location of the next wave of pathway stones will still have to be determined.

“I’d like to see an interpretive plaque around the Yorkboat.”

“I was under the impression that the breakwall was owned by the home owners. Is that not so?” “Having read the final agreement between the Federal Gov’t and the RM of Gimli that the maintenance of the breakwall was the responsibility of the RM of Gimli. I think it’s still a puzzle as to who owns the land.”

“I think that the first priority should be given to the 1st Avenue gateway.”

“Are we looking at a walking trail or a biking pathway?” Phase 1 was designed as a walking pathway.

“I think the elephant in the room is that the harbour and the waterfront is the central part of the town and the Rm of Gimli needs to take on strong leadership on this and all future development. People want attention paid to what’s going on in the harbour area. We are just beginning to see some development in the harbour area. Until recently, these were not areas people even thought about.”

“One more comment, I’d like to acknowledge Bill Barlow and his Council for their efforts in the development of the harbour area.”

“I want to applaud your on this effort wonderful park project.”



“Question on fundraising. Are you collecting for stones for Phase 2?” YES. We will continue to sell the pathway stones and then install them in the following year.

“In your budget, do you have money for more signage to direct people through the town.” We will discuss this with the RM of Gimli and the signage will be forth coming.

“What is the timing on this grant? Is there a deadline.” We have potentially 4-5 years to fundraise for the matching grant.

We will hold another consultation in the future with design plans to present.
Wrapped up at 2:20.



APPENDIX B

Open ended Question Comments.

Question 1.

What do you like the most (or least) about the Viking Park?

- The statue
- It's peaceful
- I love the plants
- Everything
- My stone, the elf houses and the design.
- The look in general and the honor stones are a big hit I believe
- some areas are uncomfortable to walk on barefoot. not a real complaint though.
- The statue of the Viking is historically inaccurate
- Not sure...
- Statue, info plaques, the most. The least, stepping stones are not as clear as I thought they would be. Wondering how they will last.
- The look. Very appealing to visit
- The history
- Least. Garbage can and recycling can in the foreground of the wide angle view from the turnaround. Can this not be integrated in the design so it's not in every photo?
- I like the landscaping and the paving stones
- Welcoming visual appeal
- The natural rock and the paving stones
- It looks very nice.
- Benches facing the water are nice
- Plants and storytelling
- the new houses for Nomes & Faires
- love the new landscaping and plantings
- The land around it just looks cleaner and nice, more of an attraction than just a random statue.
- Being able to buy personalized stones
- I like all of it
- I like least that there are pillars for people who have a lot of money, and not all the original settlers are recognized. We need a way to recognize all those people.
- The grandness of it all



- The ting hold-a-folk house were wonderful, when they were there
- Most. The hiuldafolk s houses. The way it's always sunny there. The access to wheelchair s and walkers Least. The parking. Maybe it should be handy cap only
- The walkway
- I like the natural flora and the somewhat rustic, rocky terrain in the gardens.
- Love the landscaping and the paving stones.
- The statue
- New landscaping and other new additions are great
- Creating a focal point in the community
- It incorporates community and culture
- The pleasing appearance
- The whole design is very well done
- The benches looking out at lake
- Enhances the Viking with the beautiful layout. New walking destination. Personalized paving stones are fantastic.
- I like the gardens the best
- Creative interaction (messages to decipher, trolls to visit and chat with, personalized messages on stones)
- The ease in which anyone can walk about.
- commemorative stones
- the look, feel and general finish
- The openness and the high quality of all in the Park.
- Love the settlement markers and benches
- It gives the lonely statue a home and makes it a multi faceted park



We want to create safe spaces. Do you have any safety concerns regarding the Viking Park and improved pathway systems ?

- Actually it took me a bite to figure and I just used the 1 brick path from Betel not the best way I'm sure. But widening the to 4 Or 6 bticks would actually look very unique !
- All good
- be inclusive in design
- I think this came up before about the rocks.. one can overthink safety to the point you don't improve anything .. I say no
- It's safe as is
- Just be sure that the pathways are accessible for wheelchairs, walkers so everyone can enjoy the park
- Lighting is important
- Lighting is the prime concern but also how to dim or reduce it in fishily season
- More lights
- Please ensure they are wheelchair/handicap accessible.
- Try to keep it open without blocking in or closing off spaces so it doesn't become easy to vandalize anything. Although I do like the paving stones, the pathways have to be maintained so there isn't anything someone could trip over.
- Walking from the farmers market south can be a zoo. We need to segregate the walkers from the parked cars. You don't walk through parking lots at the forks. We shouldn't in Gimli.
- wider paths pls
- Yes, the boat launch area. And that parking lot of the south hill utilizes a pedestrian pathway for vehicles



New open ended comment

- Bike trails need to join 21st century. Connect2Camp Morn/W Beach
- Clean and weed free/One thing I did not like at the park was I was starting to see wearing an the pledged stones. I would have liked to have seen a more creative way of display...
- I don't like walking through the parking lots along the waterfront
- it would be great if the shoreline could be improved. It would be nice to see the little marsh that was once there grow larger, and then the animals and birds can be seen there more often
- Let's get rid of the willows
- Lighting - solar powered and subtle so as not to loose the ambiance of the area. Interpretive signage - adding signage, more benches - only if there aren't too many so the natural beauty of the hill, lake and walking path aren't compromised
- Path a little further fro my shoreline to prevent erosion
- space for commercial kiosks
- Would LOVE to see the hill reduced or removed!!!

- Anthing that makes it so it is walker and wheelchair accessable would be fantastic.
- Don't want to bike on hwy.9- that's deadly.
- Gravel is hard for anyone with mobility challenges
- Maintain the appearance and esthetics already installed
- need to be accessible - gravel is not great for folks in chairs
- Should support walking and bike access
- Something wheelchair friendly please
- The pathways must be maintained



Emails

The upgrades to the Viking Park are educational, historical and beautiful. Much better than I expected. Kudos to the committee.

What I would like to see for future upgrades, is to level/remove the hill!! It blocks the view of the lake, especially for the Betel residents. The area would be much more functional, there could be a walking path, benches, a garden, maybe a pergola for residents and visitors to sit and enjoy the lake. I would not like to see any commercial businesses, barbecues or picnic tables in this space. Leave that to downtown, the beach area and the Gimli Park.

Another idea would be to spend some money upgrading the Gimli Park:

- washrooms need upgrading
- the north field is so uneven that people fall down during the sports events during the Icelandic Festival
- plant more trees to replace the old trees which have fallen

It would be wonderful to create a walk way and bike path with even room for some economic enterprise for rentals of bikes and maybe an electric tram that would connect the park area to the harbour front. Some kind of covered structure for concerts, markets, art shows, demonstrations of all kinds that could be used in all seasons. Maybe even reviewing the original plan from Bill's Hill. That proposal had plans for building temporary kiosks for rent along the path between the harbour and the hill.

In all of this it is important of course to have someone responsible for coordinating these events. As witnessed this summer with almost no entertainment on the bandstand area and very few buskers on the streets.

An outdoor classroom area would be an opportunity for education of the history of the area and an opportunity to engage the New Icelandic Heritage Museum. Also workshops could be help by conservation specialists featuring the ecology of Lake Winnipeg.

The harbour area development is a unique opportunity to link the past with the present and to create a real community meeting space. After a summer of working the Farmer's market, which has been seen historically as a threat to local business, it is sad to see that alot of the vendors are not local and that many local people do not attend. This is a missed opportunity for the town and for tourism. Markets all over the world are community meeting places that bring friends, family and neighbours together to visit, eat and socialize. We need to embrace this concept and build on an idea that has never received much local support. Again, this leads back to leadership and where does this fall?

I thank DJ Sigmundson for coordinating this consultation and for helping the residents of Gimli to take advantage of this opportunity to continue this wonderful project.

Thanks for listening!



Social Media Comments/Conversations

These have been grouped based on conversation. Some conversations were prompted, other organic.

- What we really need there is a large open flat space to host events and for people to play on. The hill is very limited in its uses
- Linking First Ave. to Second Ave via a paving stone walkway would be great! Right along the old breakwall. Here's a bit of a switch up in ideas ... what about a variety of outdoor workout stations that many towns and cities have? I'll look for photo examples and post shortly
- Covered picnic areas.
Also something that the residents of Gimli could use year round, especially our children/teens.
- This is a Park More Pathways and Benches for people to sit on and enjoy the view !Also clean up all the growth growing along side of the Lake so we can see sam
- A picnic area and more trees and shrubs would be nice
- What about a tent maybe 1/2 the size of the kenora Harbour tent in place of the art club ?? Let's look at long term people
Weddings music art shows farmers markets winter festivals
- malecon is really wide, has lots of seating, shade on one side and open beach view on the other side. There's always something wonderful to see along this path
- What about a tent maybe 1/2 the size of the kenora Harbour tent in place of the art club ??
Let's look at long term people
Weddings music art shows farmers markets winter festivals
- Please let's keep in mind that structures and trees will further block the view of the Betel residents, who are in their final homes before moving on! They like to spend their days looking out at our beautiful lake
- Phase one of the Viking Park is amazing! I'm hoping the committee proceeds with more paving stone paths, gardens, lighting & landscaping. Please do not turn this beautiful location into a " Picnic Area
- Good on the Icelandic Festival for calling the Sept. 23 meeting with a clear intent of initiating a grassroots process that will develop a community-ideas-based plan for this next phase of waterfront development
- I always send pedestrians looking for the statue down 1st because 2nd is not pedestrian friendly
- My main concern is the unclear unsafe path from the main harbour area. Generally people enjoy walking, biking the waterfront. Many walk the length from south beach to lake avenue on a regular basis. There are two places where pedestrian and vehicles share a



road or path. The congestion and confusion at crossing south from the art club to the hatch club path is not best practice for a safe pedestrian pathway

- Extending the boardwalk, repairing the boardwalk en route to the p
- I would love to see the path around Bill's Hill become strictly pedestrian and cyclist traffic. The parking lot that is currently along that path not only detracts from the beauty of the area, but also creates a danger for pedestrians. Everyone could benefit from a few extra steps in their day so let's move that parking!

I'm not crazy about additional lighting because the hill is one of the few areas along the shore with little light pollution making it an excellent place for stargazing! Perhaps there is a way to light the pathway without creating a great deal of light pollution? My last note, and I'm not sure if this fits the grant description, but I would love to see the harbour stage area reconfigured in a way that makes sense. I would build a new stage closer to the waterfront and design a beautiful green space in the surrounding area

- The harbour should be green spaces, picnic areas, stages for entertainment that's what a tourist area should be
- a longhouse. heavy timber frame construction
- The secondary gravel parking strip south the the main marina parking lot, and east of the main gravel parking lot should be pedestrian only. It's the natural continuation of the path around the hill, and it's always odd as a cyclist or pedestrian to see idling trucks there. It's a hazard and possibly a liability for the RM, as its use isn't clear to pedestrians or motorists (ie no signage)
- Wow I've seen some fantastic ideas posted - floating stage, covered hall, moveable benches. I too enjoy spaces that are flexible enough to accommodate multiple purposes, can be changed out quickly, and have a seasonal strategy.

I think New York's Rockefeller Center plaza and the High Line do this quite well. And of course who wouldn't love to sit at bistro tables with their friends, sipping coffee or artisan well water, and enjoy the views of the water and Viking statue. Think Italian plazas. This article showcases some public space principles and provides examples <https://www.pps.org/reference/squaresprinciples/>

Thinking specifically about pathways, the commonalities of my favourites across the world are: much wider than a normal sidewalk, have seating, lighting and shady spots, beside water, and activities are changed up regularly.

The wider width of a pathway allows for activities to suddenly pop up along the pathway that doesn't stop the movement of people. Along these pathways I've seen outdoor art and ice sculpture competitions, night markets, Etsy pop-ups, buskers, artists demoing and selling their work, street chalk art, cooking (or how about fish filleting and tasting!) demonstrations, food cart festival, tables set-up to make a lantern for a lantern festival, and



games like super-sized chess. The activities could be a couple weeks long or just a few hours, but they're always changing

- Public planting of natural grasses is gaining popularity in Western Canada and is a smart choice. Native species are drought and weed (e.g dandelion especially) resistant, and require no cutting maintenance - or at most rough cuts 12" in from walking paths, akin to golf course management. Education is key especially to questions from those who prefer mowed and weed treated turf
- please let them know we don't need anymore shoreline planting to reduce erosion when bills hill has armor Rock in fact we need to cut out all the trees so you can see the lake from the statue all the willows need to get cut out
- This is a Park More Pathways and Benches for people to sit on and enjoy the view !Also clean up all the growth growing along side of the Lake so we can see sam
- Most of the growth is along the path and in the limestone barrier that protect the shoreline they were never planted there it's just nature willows growing up and now when you're at the statue you really can't see the lake so it's not a matter of erosion just a matter of trimming the trees even trimmed them to 3 feet tall 4 feet tall people can walk the path and see the lake we are a Lake community