

Policy 200-50 – Public Reserve Standards

Terminology and Definition:

In this document, Resort Village of Candle Lake Public Reserve areas are referred to as 'Parks'. These are small, lot-size areas which could be characterized as 'mini-parks' and as such do not necessarily provide a full range of Park amenities.

Part 1: Guiding Principles for Park development

Concept

1. Parks are small, localized areas that are intended to serve the local sub-division residents, within easy walking distance, however the park use shall not be limited to local resident use.
2. The parks should be open, mostly un-treed areas for recreation, picnicking and providing space for relaxation or meeting friends.
3. Too many uses should not be incorporated into an individual park as user conflict would be inevitable. While not all elements or features need be incorporated into every Park, it may be advantageous to provide all features within a sub-division, thus giving residents a range of features to enjoy.
4. Community (i.e. sub-division) involvement in both planning and maintenance* should be encouraged. 'Pride in Community' is to be supported and encouraged. Note: *by 'maintenance' it is meant that a local resident or group ('Keepers of the Park') clean beaches in spring, regularly trim grass and do minor clean-up in the summer as well as report any vandalism or problems to village staff. They would not be expected to take on a 'policing' role.
5. For financial consideration and demands on labor, parks should be of low-maintenance.
6. Parks should be colorful, aesthetically attractive and practical.

General

7. Safety issues of parks and their equipment needs to be paramount.
8. All or most of a park's area must be visible from the street.
9. Local sub-division residents or groups could be given the option of providing furnishings at their expense. Such furnishings or equipment would require prior Village approval and must meet Village standards.

Facilities

10. Furnishings and equipment should be difficult to move i.e. heavy or fixed in place.



11. All facilities and furnishings, whether purchased by individuals or the Village, and located on Park land shall become the property of the Resort Village.
12. Any existing structures or equipment not meeting Village guidelines will be removed.
13. The Village may re-locate seldom used facilities from one Park to another so as to achieve greatest use.

Maintenance and Upkeep

14. Village staff must be quick to re-paint, repair or remove unsafe or unsightly furnishings or equipment.

Boundaries

15. Park boundaries (i.e. property lines) should be easily recognizable to both park users and adjacent property owners (good "fences" make good neighbors).
16. Parks are NOT for convenience parking for near-by residents or their visitors.
17. Planning for the land / water interface needs to be taken into consideration. i.e. boat lifts, docks, and beaching of power-craft should not be permitted. Rationale for this principle is that children should not be playing in a parking lot and an attractive, inviting beach front open to power craft is the equivalent to a parking lot.

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Part 2: Detailed Development

General

1. An inventory of all the Public Reserves including where they are located needs to be completed; due to location and surroundings, some may need special consideration not already referred to in these recommendations.
2. For beach front parks, the potential for spring thaw lake ice coming ashore must be taken into account when establishing location of equipment.

Playground Equipment

1. The placement of playground equipment should be discussed on the basis of each individual park.
2. All facilities and equipment, whether provided by the Village or other donors shall become the property of the Resort Village.

Furnishings

1. High quality benches and tables are a must; a standard equivalent to Provincial Park tables would be acceptable.
2. Log gazebos should be considered (examples are to be found in Cypress Hills Provincial Park or the south bank of the North Saskatchewan River in Prince Albert. One gazebo per subdivision should be considered as an eventuality. Flooring of gazebos could be name-imprinted bricks (Saskatoon and Tisdale are some examples), although frost heaving is an important planning consideration.
3. There should be an adequate number of tables and benches per park.
4. The provision of fire pits should be discussed on the basis of each individual park..
5. Garbage cans should be placed in parks for easy access of pick-up..
6. The natural aesthetics should be utilized as much as possible.

Parking

1. Careful consideration must be given to the permitting of parking as it will be abused and it is an important safety consideration. For parks adjacent to high traffic areas (example: Lakeside Drive & Sackett Avenue), there should be no parking allowed.
2. Where traffic safety is not an issue and suitable space exists, parking should be provided.
3. Bicycle racks could be incorporated, separate from the vehicle park.



Boundary Marking

1. Provincial Park 'equivalent standard' posts should be installed to prevent vehicle passage. There should be no chain or cable used to inter-connect the posts.
2. Fencing, as such, is not required; boundaries do need to be clearly identified.
3. Gated access should be provided to accommodate maintenance equipment.

Trees

1. Additional trees may be added and existing trees may be considered for removal and / or trimming.
2. It is important for Parks to be open areas.
3. Security (open to view) is an important factor.

Ground Cover

1. In some parks, it may be necessary to provide some leveling.
2. A mixture of both grass and sand areas is desirable. It may be necessary to initially provide top-soil for low-maintenance grasses or sand for play activity.

Signage

1. Public Reserve signs are already in place in most parks.
2. Some additional notices are necessary. Several notices may be placed on a single combined sign and placed on the existing Public Reserve post, thus reducing the number of posts & sign costs. The font size of lettering should be such that the signs themselves do not have to be overly large. Such notices could include the following:
 - a. No Parking (applies only to specified Parks)
 - b. No pets (dogs) – already in place in some parks.
 - c. No camping.
 - d. No open fires.
 - e. Unsupervised swim area.
 - f. No power-craft permitted (this notice should also be a separate sign which should be facing the lake)

Beach area

1. Beaching of power-craft at Parks should not be allowed; install the equivalent to 'No-Parking' signs.
2. No boat lifts or docks allowed.
3. Where applicable, swim area marker buoys should be in place from June 1 to Labor Day annually.

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