



FAQ on the Candle Lake 20 Year Master Plan for Parks, Open Spaces and Trails

Why is a 20-Year Master Plan for parks, open spaces and trails needed?

A Master Plan is an expression of our intention for the future when it comes to parks, open spaces and trails, and it will provide us with guidance to accomplish that vision. It will help us preserve the quality and character we want for our community in the long-term. Based on research, it includes recommendations that will help meet the needs of residents and visitors for the next 20 years. The benefits of having a Master Plan includes better and more informed and consistent decision-making, predictability for the future, and leads to better planning and use of resources. The document should also serve as a template for planning spaces left over through existing development, and at the beginning of the land use planning process of new development plans.

What was the total cost of the Master Plan?

The cost to prepare the plan and conduct the public engagement was \$53,070 with \$50,000 funded by a grant.

Will everything in the Plan be completed within a 20-year period of time?

It is important to note that the role of the Plan is to be a planning tool. It provides an overall viewpoint for planning environments that contribute to the building of an exemplary community. The recommendations include activities that could be completed in phases, based on priorities that were uncovered during the research phase of the planning. Prior to any of the major improvements being made, studies may still be required. The Resort Village acknowledges it will need to seek sources of funding and revenue, and partnerships/cost-sharing opportunities to complete most of the action items in the plan.

What are some of the actions that could be undertaken in the short term?

The Plan recommends the Resort Village first invest in repairs of existing infrastructure, and on-going maintenance to meet safety and accessibility requirements.

- A short list of some of the activities identified in the first three years of the Plan includes actions like improving existing amenities to ensure they meet safety standards and accessibility requirements. Other shorter-term actions include undertaking an Inventory of environmentally and ecologically significant areas in and adjacent to the Resort Village, identifying existing beaches and waterfront park areas that may be vulnerable to human and climate change impacts, and improving signage for all amenities throughout the Resort Village. [See the Master Plan for more action items identified in the first phase of the plan.](#)

What are some of the longer-term action items in the Plan?

Longer term action items are identified in the Plan as being conducted at least seven years into the future and include items like:

- Developing an ATV designated trail network suitable for recreational and off-road use.
- Establishing an all-new Adventure Park as a destination park and an all-new Pump Track
- Implementing winter design principles, and new winter recreation opportunities

What will it cost to implement the Master Plan?

The actions identified in the Master Plan are recommendations only. Costing of the action items would be based on available funding and revenue.

Will residents have an opportunity to comment on the implementation of the Plan?

The action items included in the Master Plan are recommendations only. All decisions made on spending on parks, open spaces and trails will be done through our existing annual budgeting process.

As action items in the Plan are implemented, how will the Resort Village effectively manage growth in both population as well as increased visitors each year?

Candle Lake is a desirable area of our province, and each year we experience growth both in the number of full-time and seasonal residents, and visitors. Thorough planning for growth and development is required in order to ensure that we can maintain the quality of life we have created here. The Master Plan provides us with information we can use to help us plan for the future.

Can changes be made to the Master Plan?

Yes, progress on the implementation of the Plan will be monitored to determine the best course of action for further implementation of the action items. It is intended to be a living document and will be undergo and review and update every four years or so. Plan updates will include input from residents, visitors and stakeholders.

Who led the creation of the Master Plan?

The Master Plan was completed by Crosby, Hanna and Associates in partnership with Wallace Insights. The project was guided by RVCL Staff, including the Department of Recreation and Community Development, and Council. Stakeholder and public consultation occurred throughout all stages of the Master Plan development.

What type of research was conducted to formulate the plan?

Current plans, policies and maps were reviewed to help achieve an understanding of existing conditions. This led to the completion of base maps of existing conditions and a review of pertinent documents relevant towards the network design. Visual inspections of areas were completed, and information about topographical and geological features of these sites were collected.

Who was consulted in the creation of the Master Plan?

The preliminary Master Plan concept included interviews with key informants, focus group meetings with user groups, and stakeholder interviews, as well as RVCL staff. Once the Master Plan concept was developed, presentation boards were completed and shared online and in public settings for public input and feedback. Public engagement was also completed through a pop-up event and an online survey. The information gathered was taken into consideration in the completion of the final Master Plan.

Specific recreation and user groups consulted included:

- Candle Lake Trails Advisory Board
 - Candle Lake Parks and Recreation Board
 - Communities in Bloom
 - Candle Lake Health Committee
 - Candle Lake Sno Drifters
 - Candle Lake Seniors Club
 - Pickleball
 - Badminton
 - Fitness
 - Ducks Unlimited
 - Candle Lake Chamber of Commerce
 - Candle Lake Golf Resort
 - Candlewood Cove Marina
 - Candle Lake Provincial Park
 - RM of Paddockwood
 - Ministry of Environment – Wildfire mitigation program; ecological management
- Resort Village of Candle Lake
- Council and Administration

Who can I contact to ask more questions about the Master Plan?

Please contact Andrea Crowdis, Manager of Recreation and Community Development, by email at parksrec@candlelake.ca or by phone at (306) 929-2236.