

English Bay Provincial Recreation Area

The draft conceptual design for the English Bay campground focused on the following:

- Modern campsites designed to accommodate large RV units
- An improved boat launch on the northern end of the campground
- Parking for boat trailers
- A separate entrance for day-users, to minimise traffic through the overnight camping areas.

The following is a summary of the proposals in the draft concept design and what we heard back from the public.

General Design

What we said	What we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 185 sites - 30 metre campsite spacing - Trail linking camping loops - Hiking trail at south end 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain trees/grounds of the campsite Leave campsites as natural as possible, no gravel pads - Keep the sites large - Support for the spacing between sites - Too many campsites, which will have a negative effect on area and day users.

Utilities

What we said	What we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Power hook-up for 47 sites - 17 pull-through sites - No water hook-ups - Pit vault toilets - Waste transfer station - No showers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An equal mix of comments that are both supportive and against the inclusion of power hook-ups in the campground - No water/sewer to individual sites - Central sewer dump would be good - Group use facility building with rain shelter near toilets would be nice - Support for the inclusion of flush toilets and showers

Boat launch

What we said	What we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Current boat launch to be available for use prior and during construction in 2010- New boat launch to be located to the north end of the park- Old boat launch dismantled when campground development completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Support for leaving the existing boat launch available for public use during construction- Preference for keeping the existing boat launch, in addition to the new boat launch- North end location may not be suitable for a boat launch, due to steep banks and more shallow water- Moving the boat launch to lessen traffic in campsite is a good idea but does not justify costs

Parking

What we said	What we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Day use parking next to day-use area- Parking for boat trailers located at north end, next to boat launch- Additional, smaller parking next to playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Provide adequate parking for the day use areas- Important to have enough parking for boat trailers and vehicles after the boats are launched- Need better parking in the south end, next to the playground area- Convert some of the campsite next to the playground into a parking lot

Traffic and Signage

What we said	What we heard
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Entrance to the park will be relocated to the north side, close to the new boat launch location- New entrance location should reduce day-use traffic through overnight campsites- Current south access to be retained as an emergency access route only	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Support for opening up a second route to help keep traffic down- Suggestions to provide signage on Hwy 55 and either side of Hwy 897 indicating boat ramp open and day use only- Suggestions to pave more of the road, (Sec Hwy 650) right up to cul de sac end- Suggestions that the secondary road "emergency access" should remain open to lesson traffic- Signage needs to be clear for entrance to the park to ensure that park visitors

	<p>do not miss the entrance and be forced to use private roads/driveways to turn around. Might be best to put a turnaround at end of road for this purpose.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The road leading to the new entrance will increase the dust, as well as increase safety concerns for children waiting for the school bus. - Signage needs to be clear for entrance to the park to ensure that park visitors do not use the Hatchery entrance as the access to the campground.
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Other Comments

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Any plans to install fire protection (hydrants) in area? Esso has a big water tower right next door. - Allow for snow machine access from the lake to Sec Hwy 650. This will help to keep machines out of park. - Take over "Sandy beach" as part of the park. - Leave day use area where it is or swap out one for playground. Scuba divers would like access to this part of the lake. - You should impose a certain time for generators: eg: 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. - Do not like the RV campsites in such close proximity to the Fish Hatchery grounds. - Would like to have a fence to go around fish hatchery staff housing, in order to prevent visitors from coming on to the hatchery grounds and ensuring privacy for the staff. - Need to ensure sufficient access and parking next to pumphouse for maintenance vehicles, cranes, workers. - The original name of English Bay is Berry Point. - The First Nations community must be involved in the final development and naming of this facility. - Dene Suline still use that place for gathering food, fishing, berry picking, medicine gathering, etc. - It is regrettable that Parks did not commission a detailed archaeological study in advance of site clearing, as well as consultation at that time with Cold Lake First Nations.
