



City of Delta
COUNCIL REPORT
Regular Meeting

To: **Council**

File No.: **6740-20**

From: **Parks, Recreation & Culture
Department**

Date: **June 10, 2025**

Chisholm Street Wharf Update

The following report has been reviewed and endorsed by the City Manager's Office.

▪ **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- A. THAT the Phase One Community Engagement Summary for the Chisholm Street Wharf be received as information.
- B. THAT staff consult with the community on the updated Chisholm Street Wharf design and report back to Council with a summary of the engagement results.

▪ **PURPOSE:**

To update Council on the results of Phase One Community Engagement for the Chisholm Street Wharf concept design, the subsequent design development and proposed Wharf plan, and to receive endorsement to proceed to final engagement based on this updated design.

▪ **BACKGROUND:**

The Chisholm Street Wharf ("Wharf") is playing a key role in the City of Delta's efforts to revitalize the Ladner Village waterfront. Once complete, the wharf will become a vibrant public space where people of all ages can connect, relax, and enjoy the beauty of the Fraser River. This transformation began in the winter and spring of 2024, when the City of Delta undertook repairs to the Wharf's concrete deck to address structural concerns and ensure its long-term viability. As part of this early work, the City removed a derelict deck at the Brackman Ker site and completed site clearing to improve views of Ladner Harbour from both the Wharf and surrounding dike areas. The City also engaged an environmental consultant to manage the spread of Japanese Knotweed along the dike – this is an effort that will require ongoing monitoring and treatment in the years ahead.

Building on this transformation, Council reviewed and endorsed a reimagined Wharf concept plan in October 2024. The plan focused on creating a vibrant public space that included an upgraded dike pathway, flexible programming and seating, improved accessibility, enhanced lighting and shade elements, and opportunities for activation through food and beverage vendors. At this meeting, Council directed staff to consult

with the community on the concept design plan and report back with an updated design incorporating community feedback.

▪ **DISCUSSION:**

Phase One Community Engagement

In late October and early November 2024, staff engaged the community to gather input on the project's direction, building on the initial feedback received by the City during the summer of 2024. The City launched a month-long engagement program that included a feedback form and a pop-up event at the Wharf, offering residents an opportunity to share their thoughts on the proposed concepts. The City heard from more than 150 residents, expressing a range of priorities summarized below. Additional details can be found in Attachment A.

- Residents expressed a desire for a vibrant and inclusive space with year-round programming, events, and gathering areas to foster social connection and walkability.
- There was strong support for adding lush greenery, shaded areas, and accessible pathways to accommodate all users, including water access options.
- Balancing human activity with environmental preservation was a priority, with calls to minimize light pollution, protect wildlife, and add pollinator-friendly plants and trees.

Design Update

In March 2025, the City retained Perry and Associates ("P&A") as the lead consultant to advance the detailed design plan for the Wharf. The design team has continued to refine the concept design plan, integrating feedback gathered during the initial phase of community engagement. The resulting detailed design plan (see Attachment B) incorporates a variety of elements / design features, including:

- Creation of vibrant and flexible gathering spaces with a variety of seating options, including movable and feature furnishings, designed to support community use and year-round special events such as movie nights / viewing parties, concerts, and craft / farmers markets.
- Stepped seating at the base of the Wharf creates a welcoming social space and an easy transition from Chisholm Street up onto the dike, strengthening the connection between the road and the waterfront.
- An improved dike pathway / promenade with natural features such as raised planters, shrubs, and street trees, to preserve residents' connection to the Fraser River and environment.
- Relief from the summer heat is provided through a playful misting zone that gently sprays upward from the wharf deck, vibrant 4-metre-wide umbrellas that add colour and shade, comfortable shaded seating with tables, and strategically placed street trees for additional cooling for stepped seating.

- The lighting plan is designed to accommodate projection lighting creating an engaging and distinctive feature at the Wharf, enhancing safety and ambiance while minimizing light pollution.
- Pop-up container concession zone will support food and beverage service in a relaxed, inviting setting.
- Fully accessible Wharf with durable concrete paving around the perimeter, ensuring safe and easy access for everyone.

Phase Two Community Engagement

The Phase Two Community Engagement Plan aims to confirm the refined design direction with the community and build awareness of the upcoming improvements to the Wharf. Subject to Council direction, the second phase of engagement is scheduled to launch June 24, 2025, through an updated Let's Talk Delta project page. This page will feature an online feedback form allowing residents to review the detailed design plan and share their input. An in-person pop-up engagement event will be held at the Wharf on July 5, 2025, providing a direct opportunity for community members to learn about the proposed design enhancements. To ensure broad community participation, the engagement opportunity will be promoted through a mail-out to area residents, a news release, newspaper ads, and a targeted digital advertising campaign. The engagement period will conclude on July 11, 2025, after which all community feedback will be compiled and analyzed to inform the final design and implementation plan.

Project Schedule

Should Council direct staff to proceed with the Phase Two Community Engagement Plan, staff will report back to Council summarizing the results of engagement and confirming any design changes on July 28, 2025. The project team would then work quickly to finalize design drawings and to tender the project in fall 2025 to support construction of the project with a target completion in late spring 2026.

Implications:

Financial Implications – The estimated cost of the Chisholm Street Wharf improvements is \$4.5 million which is provided for in the 2025 Financial Plan.

▪ CONCLUSION:

The Chisholm Street Wharf project has progressed significantly through community engagement and thoughtful design development, resulting in a detailed design plan that reflects local priorities for accessibility, vibrancy, and environmental stewardship. With Council's direction to proceed, the upcoming second phase of engagement will help confirm the community's support for the updated design. The project remains on track for tendering in fall 2025 and completion by late spring 2026, contributing to the revitalization of this important public space.



Josh Turner
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture

Department submission prepared by: Dan Cooper, Director, Parks & Planning and
Paula Kolisnek, Manager, Corporate Events and Initiatives
DC/fb

This report has been prepared in consultation with the following listed departments.

Concurring Departments		
Department	Name	Signature
Communications & Engagement	Deanie Wong	JK for DW
Finance	Navin Chand	NC

▪ **ATTACHMENTS:**

- A. Socialize Here – Phase One Engagement Report
- B. Chisholm Street Wharf Revitalization Design Package

[https://delta.escribemeetings.com/Reports/Chisholm Street Wharf Update.docx](https://delta.escribemeetings.com/Reports/Chisholm%20Street%20Wharf%20Update.docx) - Wednesday, June 18, 2025, 4:25:39 PM