

## NEWS RELEASE

February 23, 2018

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### March 17 is “Parks on the Street Day” in Parksville

Working with Master of Community Planning Program students from Vancouver Island University, the City of Parksville has begun a consultation strategy to update the Parks, Trails and Open Spaces Park Master Plan. This new plan will update the 2005 Parks and Trails Master Plan.

The first public engagement event for this project is set for on **Saturday, March 17 from 10 am to 3 pm** when VIU students will be located at Foster and Springwood parks and also be set up with a tent in downtown, along the Alberni Highway in Parksville, to deliver a questionnaire to residents about what they would like to see for the future of City parks, trails and open spaces.

“Parks on the Street Day” is the first of many opportunities for residents to provide input and suggestions on the future of parks, trails and open spaces throughout the City. We encourage residents to seek out these enthusiastic students on March 17. A similar event was held in 2017 to kick-off the Community Park Master Plan with students gathering information on the day from more than 200 residents and who now expect this event to be even better.

The students are planning an online survey and a “Mini-Spring” event and a parks open house at Foster Park in May. More information will be provided next month.

This project involves extensive analysis and asset inventory of all City park spaces, detailed GIS mapping, a qualitative assessment of park spaces, evaluation of parks and trails connectivity and a needs/gap analysis. The results of the information gathered during public engagement sessions will be presented to the community throughout events in 2018 and will be used to provide data and information to enhance City spaces. A draft plan will be presented to Council in early 2019.

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**For more information:**

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