ADVISORY GROUP MEETING #3

February 17, 2022 | 3:30 – 5:30 pm | Online via Teams

Agenda

1) Welcome & Goal for Today's Meeting

- Set the stage for finalizing our concepts

2) Groupings of Wellness Station Components (See Table Next Page)

3) Preliminary Concept Sketches – Opportunity for Preliminary Feedback from the Group

4) Preliminary Concepts – Our Request (i.e. Homework for AG Members)

5) Overview of Where We are Going Next

- Review & presentation of final concepts
- This meeting will be open to the broader public to view

Attendees

- Jim Booth, Seniors' Advocate
- Jikke Gyorki. Tourism Fernie
- *Mark Rowlands, City of Fernie*
- *Kim Unger, Consultant with McElhanney*
- *Kirstin Mulholland, Consultant with McElhanney*

Grouping of Advisory Group Ideas

From the mapping work that the AG did two weeks ago, we grouped the plotted elements into the following table and assigned an AG advocate for each item. These groupings are split into components that will exist along the trail (e.g., signage, plantings, and bicycle racks) and the individual wellness stations themselves (four total).

Ideas Heard so Far	AG Member	Meet Grant Parameters?	Council Parameters: Fitness, Spirituality, or Mental Health?	If not through this project, can the City pass this idea to the park plan update process?	How?	If not, mark as a Future Great Idea	Rough Cost
Projects Underway / Outside the Scope of this Assignment							
Music & Celebration Space + Public Art	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	Already under construction		
Watercraft Launch	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	Already proposed in the current dike designs.		
Along the Trail							
Garden (Local/Natural Seeding Along the Trail) + Riparian Enhancements	Lee-Anne						
Bicycle Racks + Benches (at Every Station) + Bicycle Counter & Tool Set	Kim	Yes	Yes				
Wayfinding Features, Interpretive Signage	Jikke	Yes	Yes				
Wellness Stations							
Station 1: Fitness Trail / Equipment	Mark	Yes	Yes				
Station 2: Young meeting the Old (Conversation Zone) + Chess Board + Book Bungalow	Jim	Yes	Yes				
Station 3: Labyrinth + Yoga / Meditation	Sylvia	Yes	Yes				
Station 4: Parkour, Climbing, Bouldering + Adventure Park + Outdoor Classroom	Marie-Eve & Jocelyn	Yes	Yes				
Photo Op		No	No			*AG to Decide*	

Preliminary Concepts

From the groupings, a preliminary sketch was prepared for each component. See following pages.



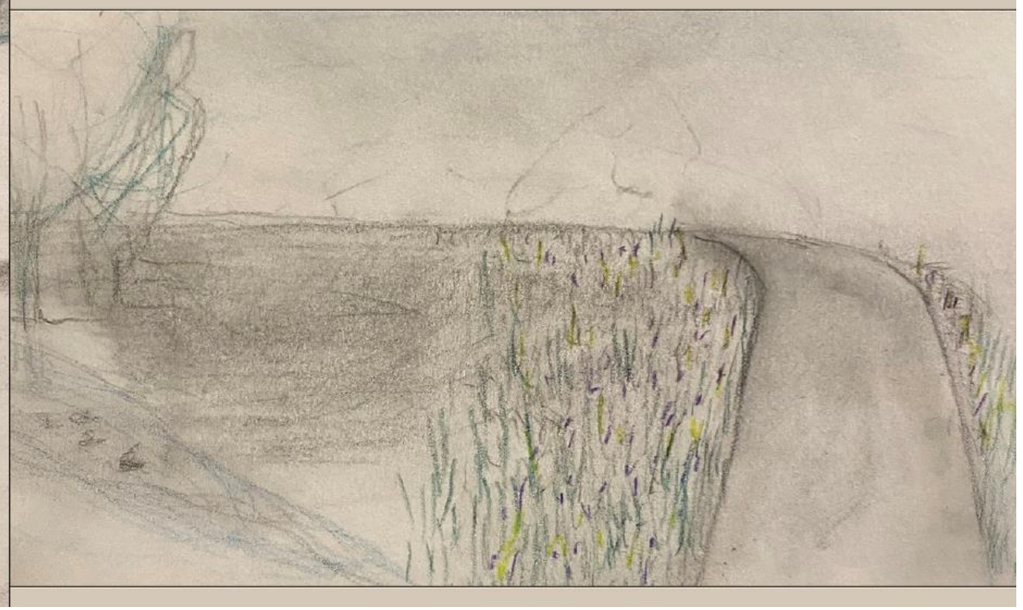


Benches, Exercise, Native Seed and Forbs

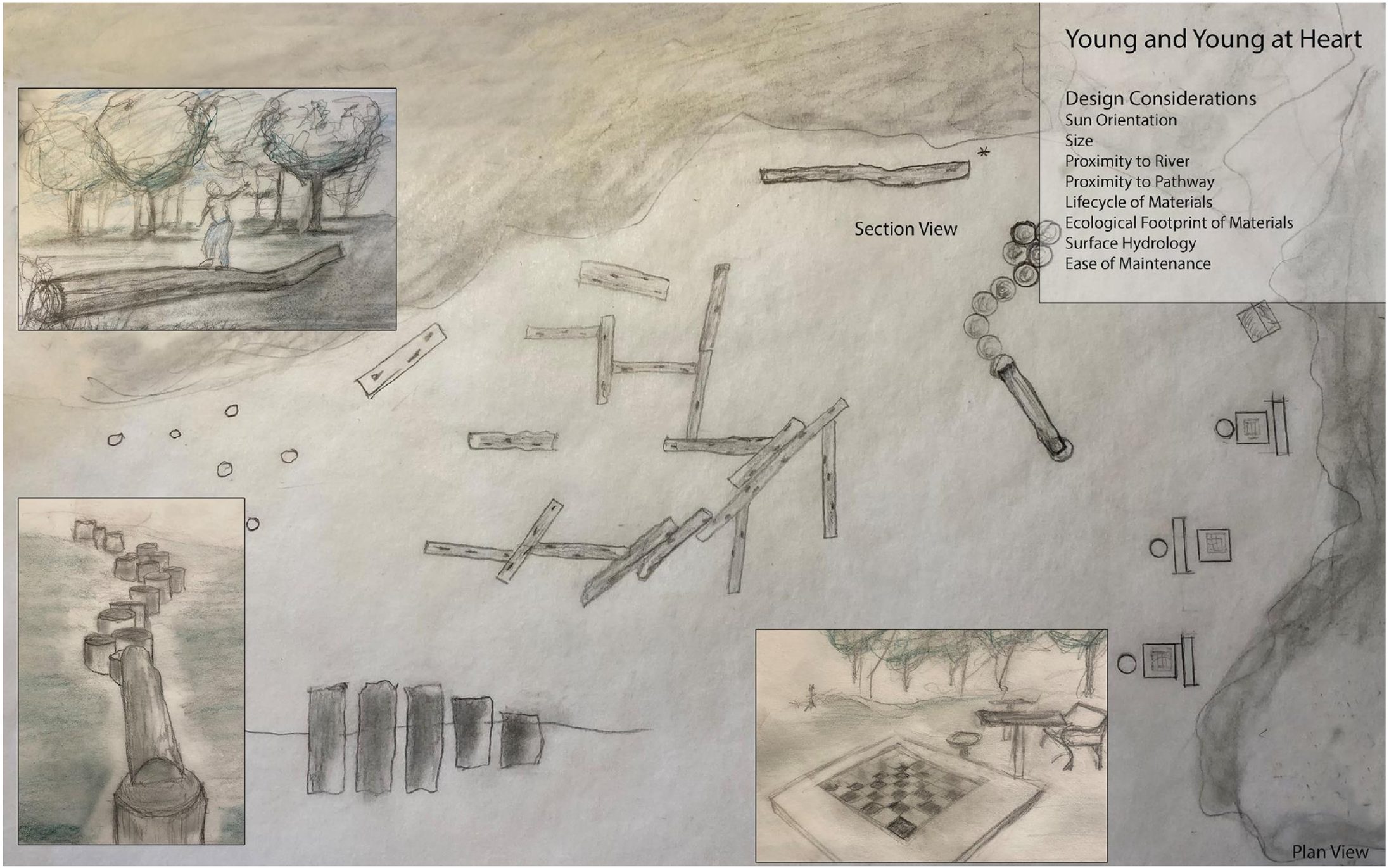
Design Considerations

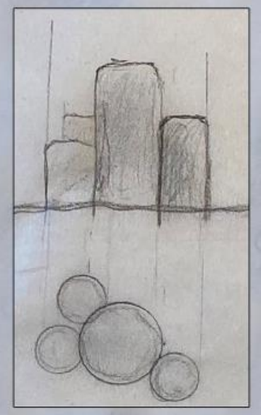
Sun Orientation
Size
Proximity to River
Proximity to Pathway
Lifecycle of Materials
Ecological Footprint of Materials
Surface Hydrology
Ease of Maintenance

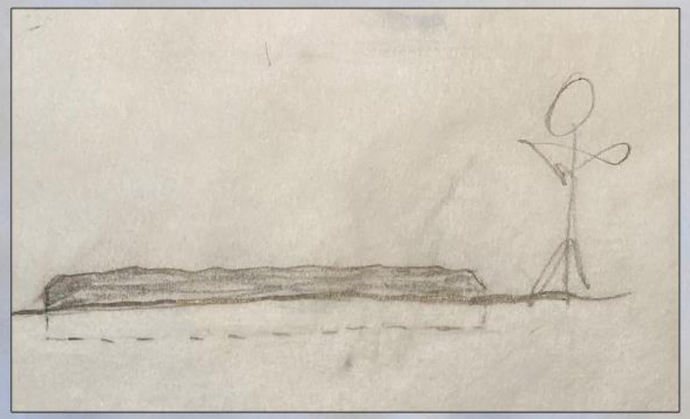





Labyrinth
Design Considerations
Sun Orientation
Size
Proximity to River
Proximity to Pathway
Lifecycle of Materials
Ecological Footprint of Materials
Surface Hydrology
Ease of Maintenance
Perspective View
Section View
Plan View


Young and Young at Heart
Design Considerations
Sun Orientation
Size
Proximity to River
Proximity to Pathway
Lifecycle of Materials
Ecological Footprint of Materials
Surface Hydrology
Ease of Maintenance
Section View
Plan View

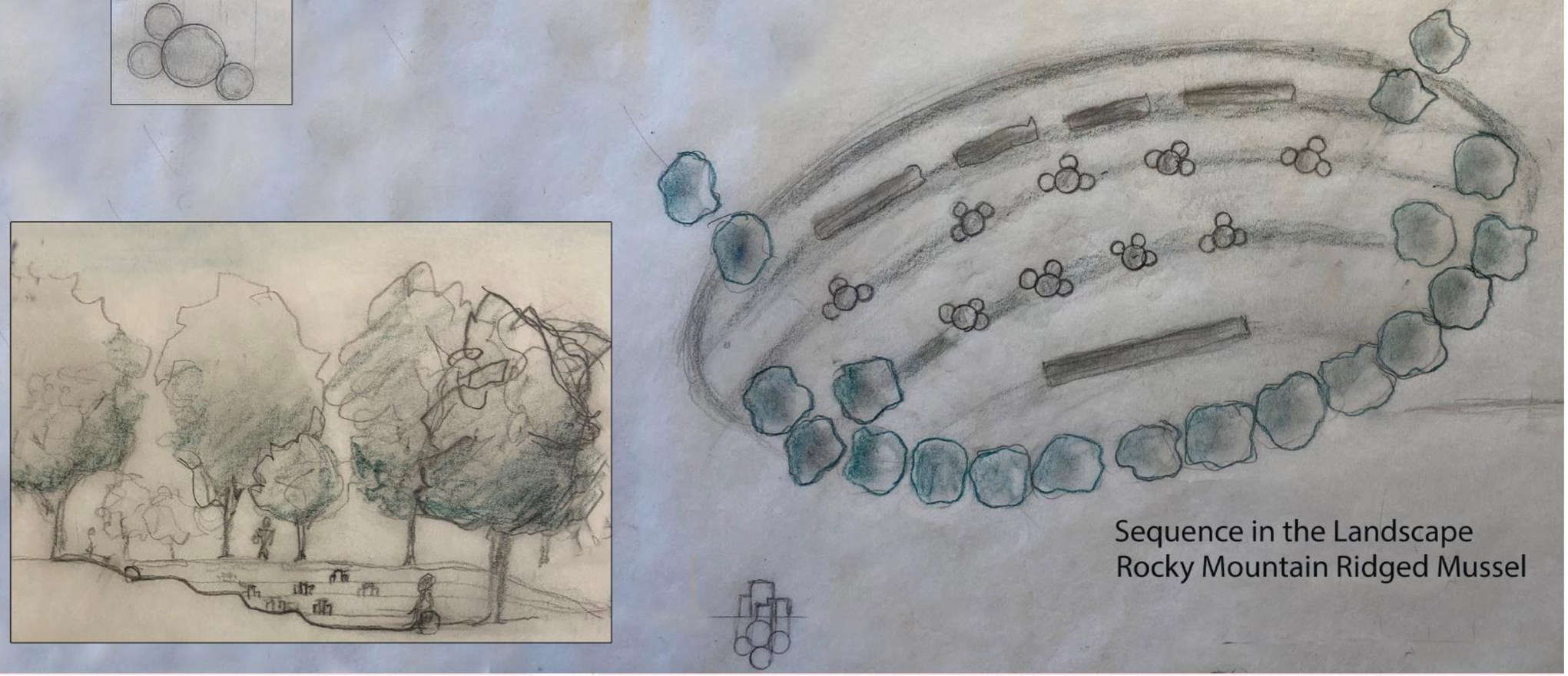




Outdoor Classroom

Design Considerations

Sun Orientation
Size
Proximity to River
Proximity to Pathway
Lifecycle of Materials
Ecological Footprint of Materials
Surface Hydrology
Ease of Maintenance



Sequence in the Landscape
Rocky Mountain Ridged Mussel

Stories that we've heard could be told:



Our Request (AG Homework)

Now that we've briefly discussed the preliminary concept sketches, please take your assigned concept away and review it with others from your stakeholder group.

Provide the following feedback back to Kim (via email) for Thursday, February 24. If there are any questions, Kim will set up a time to discuss.

Lee-Anne, Kim, Mark, Jim, Sylvia, Marie-Eve, & Jocelyn:

1) Referring to our mapping exercise (see next page), where along the trail do you think that your assigned elements or station should be placed?

2) What resonates with you about the preliminary concept?

3) How would you change the preliminary concept?

4) Can you find any images that illustrate what you think this should look like?

5) Can you identify a community group that might be interested in sponsoring or adopting the station?

Jikke (Slightly different as you have been assigned the signage):

1) At what points along the trail should signage be placed?

2) What stories or information should be provided on the signs?

3) Are you aware of any approved story lines that align with your response to #2 above?

4) Can you find any images that you like that illustrate what you think this could look like?

Next Steps

From here, final concepts will be developed. These final concepts will be shared at the next AG meeting (which will be our final meeting). The broader public will be invited to view the next meeting – they will provide feedback on the concepts via the Let'sTalk Fernie website.

For Reference

Activity #1: Locations

N N N N N N

Are we missing any key locations? Or alternatively, do any of these locations not make sense?

Stickies to Capture the "Why"



Activity #2: Physical Expressions of Wellness

Have we missed any items? Next, we will place them on the map noting the "why".

Signage Idea: Riparian & Native Plant Species

Signage Idea: Looking up at the stars (glow in the dark)

Signage Idea: Mountain Views

Benches

Signage Idea: Insert Face / Selfie Spot

Parking Lot

- Binoculars
- Simple Fitness Equipment - bar, stretch, prompts
- Wayfinding
- Lighting

Note: you can plot an item more than once and a station can have more than one expression.

Notes

Kim opened the meeting with a discussion around ramping up email communications and deliverable timeframes to ensure that this project makes it across the finish line in alignment with tendering on the broader project. She provided a reminder to AG members that the next meeting (March 3) will be opened to the broader public to attend as observers only. The logistics of the meeting were discussed.

Kim provided AG members with the rationale between grouping the proposed elements into four distinct stations (as opposed to eight) – 1) fitness trail/equipment (physical focus); 2) young meeting the old/conversation station (mental focus); 3) labyrinth/yoga zone (emotional focus); and 4) outdoor classroom/parkour area (family focus). It was noted that in addition to the four stations, there will be elements that fall along the trail such as plantings, signage, and benches (experiential focus). Kim noted that to advance the preliminary sketches into firm concepts, each AG member would be assigned a station or an element to work with over the next week.

There was a brief discussion around budget and The City clarified an order of magnitude budget of ~$80K for the project ($12-15K per station and $20k for the rest of the components). The City spoke to how certain elements raised by the AG might better fall under the Parks budget or a Parks project. If the ideas brought forward are unable to be funded, these will be carried forward as the City looks for either sponsorship or additional funding. Ideas that are not advanced with this project will be added to the Active Transportation Action Plan for future consideration.

A member of the AG spoke to consistency with regards to signage on the project. The City confirmed that this project will tie in and align with an adjacent tourism signage project to ensure a similar look and feel as well as perhaps a shared storyline. With regards to signage, this will be tendered separately from the broader project so there is less of a rush on this component – there is time to get it right.

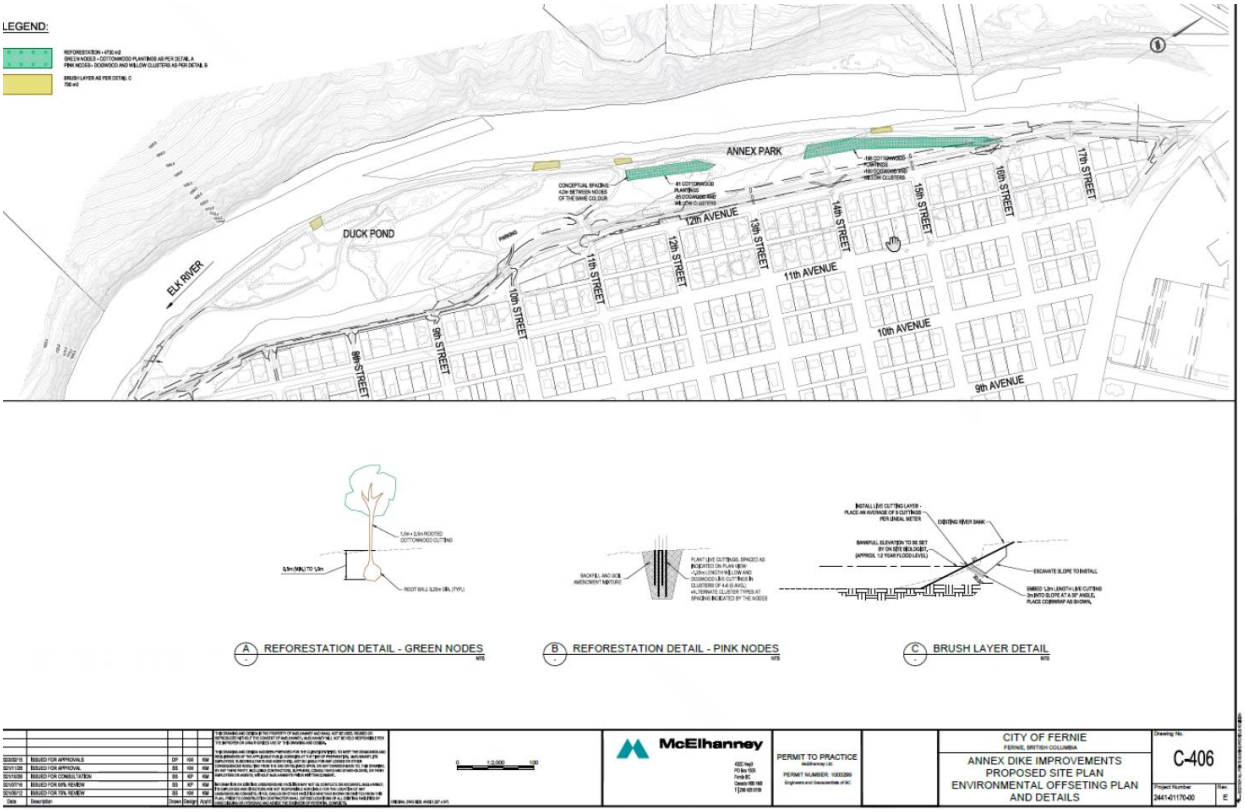
The City spoke to a meeting with the Ktunaxa Nation who have agreed to participate in the project. As the signage and storyline for the project starts to take shape, the group will engage further with the Nation.

Kim presented the preliminary concept sketches to the group. These ideas promote the use of local materials within the project (balance beams, wacky posts, etc). A natural look is consistent throughout. With regards to climate change and life cycle maintenance – the materials proposed can essentially be placed in the forest to decompose at the end of their life. The items are made with heavy materials and can be installed on a concrete pad to ensure that they aren’t pulled away by flooding.

As the concept for a bench was shared, the AG spoke to the potential conflict of concrete and steel with the natural environment. Kim noted that through painting and natural plantings, the “unnatural elements” of the concrete could be disguised. Kevin spoke to cutting into the bank might be a more affordable way of approaching the design.

As the group reviewed the concept for the labyrinth. The AG spoke to perhaps bringing in social elements, but Kim clarified the intent of the labyrinth is that it is a meditative space / healing landscape. The group spoke to the possibility of having yoga spaces at the center of the labyrinth. There was some concern with regards to vehicular traffic at the current proposed location. The AG member assigned this station will review the location.

The group reviewed the plan for tree plantings along the trail. A specialised seed mix will be used to thicken the riparian buffer zone and for erosion control. Cottonwood trees will be planted due to the shallow nature of their roots. The AG raised concerns with views being obstructed and questioned whether there would be an ability to move them around. The City confirmed that this piece of the project will go through DFO and Biologists for approval so there might be some opportunity to move things around but nothing much. The City noted that these plantings could be in a way to accommodate a better experience at the wellness stations.



The AG briefly discussed stories that could be shared through the signage. Stories of the river are an option that the group likes – something that speaks to natural processes, creation. QR codes were discussed with regards to allowing individuals to access more information/imagery.

The AG asked about construction timing of the dike and requested clarification around the interruptions to the active transportation network. The City confirmed that the project will break ground on July 1st and construction staging will be up to the contractor. The AG spoke to this information being important with regards to tourism planning for the summer. The City will provide the contractor with some specifics around strategically closing down – perhaps keeping one side of the network open at a time.

The City confirmed that an accessibility consultant will review the designs prior to tendering/construction.

Kim walked through the next steps and timeframes – members of the AG will work through an exercise that will allow Kim to further refine the concepts. These concepts will be presented at the next (final) AG meeting.