INTRODUCTION

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Grand Promenade Landscape Design Strategy represents a unique opportunity to address the Strategic Framework priority of enhancing the natural and built environment to create more opportunities for interaction and collaboration.

The Grand Promenade will act as both a vibrant academic and social hub that will bring people together on the primary multi-modal pathway connecting buildings and public spaces. It will contribute to the identity of the campus and also aid in fostering respect and reconciliation with Indigenous communities by contributing to a welcoming, inclusive campus environment.
IDEAS FAIR

An Ideas Fair took place at the University of Victoria on October 4, 2018. Approximately 200 people attended. This report summarizes the feedback received from the campus community regarding the Grand Promenade. The piechart below indicates the breakdown of the attendees who participated in the “dotmocracy” format of the fair.

Feedback was provided in the form of placing coloured dots and post-it notes on the Open House boards. Green dots signified places or ideas that the public loved. Red dots indicated places or ideas that need work.

Attendees were asked for feedback on the objectives, to identify places they like and dislike along the promenade, and what they would like to see along the promenade. The number and location of dots, and the written comments provided are summarized in the following pages.

![Pie chart showing the breakdown of attendees. 64% are students, 22% are staff, 6% are nearby residents, 4% are faculty, and 4% are alumni.]
On these boards feedback was solicited and instructions were provided on how to use the dots.

**ABOUT THE PROJECT**

**CURRENT ISSUES**

- PROPOSED BUILDING
- WATER FEATURES
- INTEGRATED SEATING
- PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLING SAFETY

**KEY OBJECTIVES**

- What is most important to you? Place dots next to your top 3.

**TIME**

- SPRING 2019
- FALL 2019
- PHASED IMPLEMENTATION

**THE GRAND PROMENADE IDEAS FAIR**

**PROJECT INTRODUCTION**

The Grand Promenade is a critical and defining element of the university community in Indigenous-engaged learning to enhance the extraordinary academic environment and also aid in fostering respect and reconciliation with Indigenous communities by contributing to a welcoming, inclusive campus environment for all. It will contribute to the identity of the campus, more opportunities for interaction and collaboration.

The Grand Promenade Landscape Plan represents a unique opportunity to address the Strategic Framework priority of increasing the vibrancy of campus life by enhancing the natural and built environment to create a more interactive and engaging campus experience.

**IDEAS FAIR COMMUNITY**

- IDEAS FAIR
- PROMENADE
- THE GRAND
- SAANICH
- HICKMAN
- CORNETT
- SAANICH
- BAY
- HALL
- McPHERSON LIBRARY
- THE QUAD

**YOUR IDEAS**

- Use green dots to show us the places along the promenade that you love
- Use red dots to show us the places along the promenade that need work
- Use the yellow squares below to tell us why

**YOUR IDEAS**

- Use the dots and stickie notes to tell us how you feel about the following

**WHY?**

-bike racks
- existing trees
- existing forest
- lawn

**LEGEND**

- Bike Racks
- Existing Trees
- Existing Forest
- Lawn
- Paving, Drainage and Alignment
- Sedge
- Sedge
- Existing Grand Promenade Site Plan - Central
- Existing Grand Promenade Site Plan - West
- Existing Grand Promenade Site Plan - East

**Tell us what else you think the Grand Promenade needs?**

- Tell us what you think about the following
These boards were intended to be primarily informational, however some attendees unexpectedly placed dots on these boards.
Five key objectives for the Grand Promenade Landscape Plan were identified by summarizing the project deliverables and big ideas from the Campus Plan. These objectives were found to be of varying importance with objective number three, pertaining to protecting mature trees, being of special significance to the attendees.
THEMES IN COMMENTS

ACCESSIBILITY

"Smother concrete for strollers, wheelchairs, bicycles, etc."
"Bench with backing"
"Be careful about noise level!"

SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION

"Consistant lighting along the promenade to encourage safety."
"Seperate bikes from pedestrians as much as possible."
"...more bike parking."
"Control truck access to promenade and Quad."

VEGETATION

"Native plant use to help support wildlife."
"More native edible plants"
"100% Bring in the Arbutus."
"Green spaces."
"Climbing plants to create natural shade."

SUSTAINABILITY

"More places to recycle on the walk way."
"Ethnoecology and Permaculture class projects"
"Increase bird habitat to increase biodiversity."
"Softer pavement/moss."
"Waterbottle refill stations."

MAKE IT BEAUTIFUL AND MULTI-SEASONAL

"More sheltered areas would be helpful in increasing the vibrancy and creating more opportunities for interactions and collaboration."
"No more concrete colour. Sustainable materials."

RETAIN HISTORY AND MORE PUBLIC ART

"More indigenous rights focus."
"Emphasize First People’s House."
"More public art and sculptures along promenade."
"Interactive art."
PROMENADE TREES

INFORMATIONAL

This board was originally shown for informational purposes only to summarize the trees, by species, that had been surveyed along the Promenade. Some attendees unexpectedly placed dots on this board but this information has not been quantified because the board lacked instruction (ex. red= bad, green= good). However, in conjunction with the comments, it can be surmised that the attendees love the mature trees on campus and want to see these trees protected. The dots give the impression that the Garry Oaks and Red Oaks are amongst the favorite trees on campus while the pine trees are not as well loved.

WHAT WE HEARD

“Trees don’t always have to be surrounded by grass.”

“More native plants. Arbutus!”

“I love the trees so much.”

“I love the greenways. I would love to see both Gary Oak rehabilitation...”

SUMMARY OF PRIORITIES

High priorities for the area are preserving the mature trees on site; with special attention towards the Garry Oaks and Red Oaks.
WEST GRAND PROMENADE

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Based on the clustering of red dots, the section of the promenade from Gordon Head Rd to West Campus Way is most in need of improvement. Consistent with East and Central Promenade, intersections are established as areas of concern. There are drainage issues at the West Campus Way intersection and location of crosswalks and bus stops needs to be improved. Crosswalk for bike traffic on Midgard road is not in an ideal location.

The clustering of the green dots emphasizes the love for the mature trees lining portions of the grand promenade.

WHAT WE HEARD

“I love the greenways. I would love to see both Gary Oak rehabilitated in zones 1, 2, 6, 5.”

“Intersections 1, 6 and 4 are incredibly dangerous.”

“To look good passageways need well defined and maintained edges.”

“Seating overlooking UClub pond.”

SUMMARY OF PRIORITIES

High priorities for the area are improving location of crosswalks and bus stops, more seating, safety improvements to intersections, and retaining and rehabilitating existing mature trees.
CENTRAL GRAND PROMENADE

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Consistent with East and West Promenade, the clustering of red dots and the comments establish intersections as areas of concern. Area 6 was specifically identified as a cyclist and pedestrian conflict area. Green spaces, as found in area 2, and the Petch fountain were areas the attendees liked.

WHAT WE HEARD

“[Area 5] Steep downhill (fast speeds by cyclists)/uphill (hard in a wheelchair).”

“First Peoples pole carving area is cool.”

“Walkway between 2 and the fountain always floods in the winter.”

“Intersection at 6 is congested and sometimes dangerous.”

“Please move sculpture between library and Elliott to a more visible place.”

“Soft asphalt (?) around trees.”

“[#’s 6 and 1 are locations of] pedestrian conflict zone during class change”

“Better filtration system for the fountain.”

SUMMARY OF PRIORITIES

High priorities for the area are resolving pedestrian-bike-vehicle conflict, addressing drainage issues in areas 2 and 8, safety improvements to intersections, and increasing the amount of green space in the area.
The location and clustering of green dots suggests the allee of mature trees and the green islands are a favorite amongst the stakeholders. This is further reflected in the written comments. It should be noted that a portion of the area above shows proposed future conditions with more allee trees.

 Thresholds from one space to the next are weak and are consistently identified as areas in need of improvement. This is indicated by the strong clustering of red dots around intersections and entrances to parking areas.

### What We Heard

- “Green roofs. Living walls. Art on the outside of the building. A mural.”
- “Green spaces. The more the better. Support the local environment and students, staff, faculty mental health.”
- “What makes the [UVic] promenade so unique is the mature trees that line the path.”
- “6: Good place for more bike parking”

### Summary of Priorities

High priorities for the area are bike infrastructure, more green spaces, connectivity, improvements to intersections and plazas, retention of existing mature trees and the thoughtful integration the new Student Housing and Dining Project’s Landscape Design into the Grand Promenade Design.
SITE FEATURES
WHAT ELEMENTS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE?

MOVEABLE FURNITURE
67 Total Votes

- NO
- MAYBE
- YES

“It will be stolen.”
“Picnic table...would be sweet.”

INTEGRATED SEATING
74 Total Votes

- NO
- MAYBE
- YES

“Looks great! Won’t be stolen.”
“Let people decide what space is for”

“Integration without loss of green space/greenery.”

WATER FEATURES
71 Total Votes

- NO
- MAYBE
- YES

“Use this to manage flooding and drainage problems.”
“High maintenance cost.”

“Previous water features failed because of algae etc.”
“Balance between people [and] space.”
**SITE FEATURES**

**WHAT ELEMENTS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE?**

### COVERED OUTDOOR AREAS

- **NO**
- **MAYBE**
- **YES**

- **68 Total Votes**

- “It rains here.”
- “Outdoor covered spaces in green spaces.”

### OUTDOOR SPACES TO STUDY AND PLUG IN

- **NO**
- **MAYBE**
- **YES**

- **74 Total Votes**

- “Smaller tables but more of them.”
- “Fresh air! Should also be sheltered as it is rainy.”
- “Internet connection to go along with the outlets…”
- “Useful in theory but it rains/is too cold far too often.”

### IMPORTANCE OF EVENT SPACE

- **NO**
- **MAYBE**
- **YES**

- **43 Total Votes**

- “Bookable classroom spaces - covered”
- “Lots of buildings have existing event space indoors.”
TOPICS OF CONSIDERATION

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE FOLLOWING?

**SUSTAINABILITY**

- "[M]ake sure we have the means to maintain it."
- "Sustainability is what makes UVic, UVic."

83 Total Votes

**SHARING PROMENADE WITH DELIVERY VEHICLES**

- "It is just annoying to walk with... but if it’s the best way keep it"
- "This is a large problem all across campus."
- "Depends on what kind and how many...."

74 Total Votes

**PROMENADE SAFETY**

- "Dark!"
- "Consistent lighting along promenade to encourage safety."

41 Total Votes
The feedback gathered from this Ideas Fair offered valuable input regarding the community aspirations, concerns and valued areas and characteristics of the Promenade. Moving forward, this feedback will drive the development of Design Principles and help prioritize areas that have the most significant challenges and opportunities. The next step will be to hold a Design Charrette which will be an intensive planning session where stakeholders, designers, and others can further collaborate and provide feedback on the vision for development.

High level design concepts, developed based on the ideas from the Ideas Fair and Design Charrette, will be presented to the Advisory Committee in December for feedback.

The next Public Open House will occur in the Spring and will present the Draft Landscape Plan for additional feedback and input.