



**Fort Williams Park
Looking Towards the 50th
Anniversary
December 1, 2014**

























- The master plan for Fort Williams Park should be updated as soon as possible.
- The Town should approve short term achievable actions that could generate revenues for Fort Williams Park while looking at the implementation of longer term measures following an update of the master plan.
- The park needs additional maintenance funds and an additional \$80,000 should be budgeted each year for park maintenance. This amount should be annually adjusted for inflation.
- A dialogue should occur between the Fort Williams Advisory Commission and the Fort Williams Charitable Foundation to prioritize projects that have potential for fundraising and to reassess suggestions to spend monies in areas which appear to have limited potential for fundraising.
- The Fort Williams Advisory Commission should update its capital project needs report to prioritize projects based on an assumption of \$600,000 being available from revenues generated within the park over the next five years.
- The staff recommends demolition of substantial portions of the Goddard Mansion and of the bleachers within the next five years with the sites partially repurposed based on the portions of the structures that remain and in conformance with the master plan update.
- Some of the rental space at Fort Williams Park should be available for lease to “for profit” entities as long as such uses do not detract from the predominant park nature of the property.
- The Town should review its approval process for events to be held in the park to free up the Fort Williams Advisory Commission and the Town Council to focus on longer term issues.

- The group use policy for Fort Williams Park provides people intensive group uses pay a fee of \$1.00 per person. This needs to be increased and to apply to all large group uses. The group use policy should also be reviewed to determine if the approval process for special events could be streamlined and to review the fees for exclusive use of large fields/spaces.
- The Town should more actively promote donations within the park with more signage and collection points.
- Fort Williams Park has developed a reputation as a preferred location for weddings. A small wedding area should be constructed to accommodate wedding ceremonies and other gatherings.
- A food concession opportunity through push carts should be offered in order to experiment with food service within the park, but any permanent arrangements should be after an update of the master plan.
- The rental units in the park should be available for rent to appropriate for profit entities.
- The Town should consider for 2012, pursuant to a recent Town Council vote, whether or not to have fees for vehicles with large numbers of passengers.

• Tree Maintenance and New Plantings	\$ 65,000
• Stonewall Reconstruction	\$100,000
• Pedestrian Paths	\$ 70,000
• Building Repair- Windows, Doors, Roofs	\$100,000
• Athletic Fields and Tennis Courts	\$ 50,000
• Miscellaneous	\$ 10,000
• Playgrounds and Play Structures	\$ 50,000
• Current Picnic Shelter Repairs	<u>\$ 35,000</u>
• Total	\$475,000



Update of the Master Plan	\$ 25,000
New Wedding/Picnic Space	\$ 75,000
Goddard Mansion Site	\$100,000
Bleachers Demolition and Site work	\$100,000
Perimeter Fencing and Gates	\$130,000
Visitor Center Design	\$ 50,000
Invasive Plant Removal	\$ 75,000
Miscellaneous	<u>\$ 45,000</u>
Total	\$600,000