



Date: 2/27/2024 File: 223321
To: Jayne Jagelewski, Director of Community Services
Municipality of Kincardine
From: Amanda Froese, Project Manager
Project: Station Beach Boardwalk
Subject: Implementing Consultation Feedback

TECHNICAL MEMO

Introduction

In the fall of 2023, The Municipality of Kincardine engaged GM BluePlan to carry out a public consultation for the design of improvements to the Station Beach Boardwalk in relation to the recommendations of the Waterfront Masterplan. Since that time, an in-person open house was hosted in November, with comments on the existing conditions of the boardwalk and its environment plus desires for the future were received. Meetings and communication with the Municipality's Accessibility Committee, Staff, The Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority, The Lake Huron Coastal Centre we also considered and a built into alternatives presented through an online survey for consideration and comments by the public. The recommendations from all the above were reviewed in conjunction with the recommendations from the Pier Safety committee into the recommendations presented in this memo and to Council on March 6th, 2024.

Background

The Waterfront Master Plan identified the boardwalk in the demonstration plots. With recommendations to consider alternative materials that are long lasting, planning for routine maintenance and moving the boardwalk to the east. Dune restoration including plantings, moving the boardwalk east and collaborating with the Lake Huron Coastal Centre was also recommended. Accesses to the beach were recommended to incorporate a form that would mitigate sand migration and situated in areas that promote safe beach access. The boardwalk replacement is only one piece of the recommendations for the Waterfront and its design needs to be cognizant of the future work and be able to be incorporated into the total Waterfront project.

Station Beach and its boardwalk are clearly an important place for residents and visitors. Balancing the users experience, preserving, and respecting nature while providing a safe and easily maintained boardwalk is a desire to many of the stakeholders as was apparent through the consultation process.

Consultation

We heard comments through in person PIC #1 November 21, 2023, at the Davidson Center, and online forms following that PIC. The comments are included in this memo, and are summarized below:

- ❖ Keep the Community Gardens,
- ❖ Need to have views to the lake,
- ❖ Protect the dunes, stop the sand from blowing through to the gardens,
- ❖ Maintain the existing better, use a more durable material,
- ❖ The boardwalk should be designed for people of all abilities, restricted to pedestrian use,
- ❖ Don't complicate the space, to be used for beach access, and walking on the boardwalk,
- ❖ Fencing to deter people from crossing the dunes, but not to stop the sand,
- ❖ Discourage people from going north (on the boardwalk and the beach), towards the marina, separate the two uses,
- ❖ Improve parking,



From the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA):

- ❖ Work within the dynamic beach shall allow sand processes to continue,
- ❖ Replacement of an at-grade boardwalk made of water-resistant material is supported,
- ❖ Dune restoration should be done in accordance with LHCC recommendations,
- ❖ Fencing shall be restricted to sand fence, low fence, simple fences.

From the Lake Huron Coastal Center (LHCC):

- ❖ Dune restoration plantings to incorporate snow fencing, Christmas trees should be used with caution,
- ❖ Fencing should not be used to stop sand migration, instead creation of a healthy dune will impede the sand migration.
- ❖ Curve pathways to the beach to avoid blow outs.
- ❖ Align the boardwalk farther east.

From ACC:

- ❖ The design should include easy passage as well as rest areas sized appropriately for mobility devices, while in use and parked including areas to access and enjoy the beach and views.
- ❖ Improve lighting,
- ❖ Improved and accessible signage should be incorporated,
- ❖ Regular maintenance to remove sand on the boardwalk is necessary to be able to use the boardwalk.

From Pier Safety:

- ❖ Redirection of all beach users to the southern portions of Station Beach,
- ❖ Discourage parking in the northern section of Station Beach,
- ❖ Remove beach access at the northern end of boardwalk,
- ❖ Improve signage for users.

From Municipal Staff

- ❖ The width should support the equipment used for sweeping,
- ❖ Modular sections can be utilized for ease of maintenance,
- ❖ Design should include some airspace below if wood is selected as a material,
- ❖ Secondary access point for emergency services should consider stretchers on the beach, with easy access to a vehicle in the parking lot.

Responses to each comment received is included in Appendix 1 of this report, describing how they were considered and if/how they were incorporated into the recommendations.

The online survey took these considerations and offered a boardwalk with alternatives including:

- ❖ Raised sections for views of the lake,
- ❖ Raised viewing platform at the northern terminus of the boardwalk,
- ❖ Removing one access point to the beach from the parking lot,
- ❖ Formal beach access points that are accessible,
- ❖ Re-aligned sections,
- ❖ Considerations on the Community Gardens
- ❖ Considerations for the Gazebo,
- ❖ Parking options at the washroom facility.

The feedback is included in this memo, but the results indicate that the citizens of Kincardine wish to have a rejuvenated boardwalk that is wider, more accessible and at the existing grade. It appears that the desire is best described as to breathe some new life into the boardwalk without changing too much. Respecting the

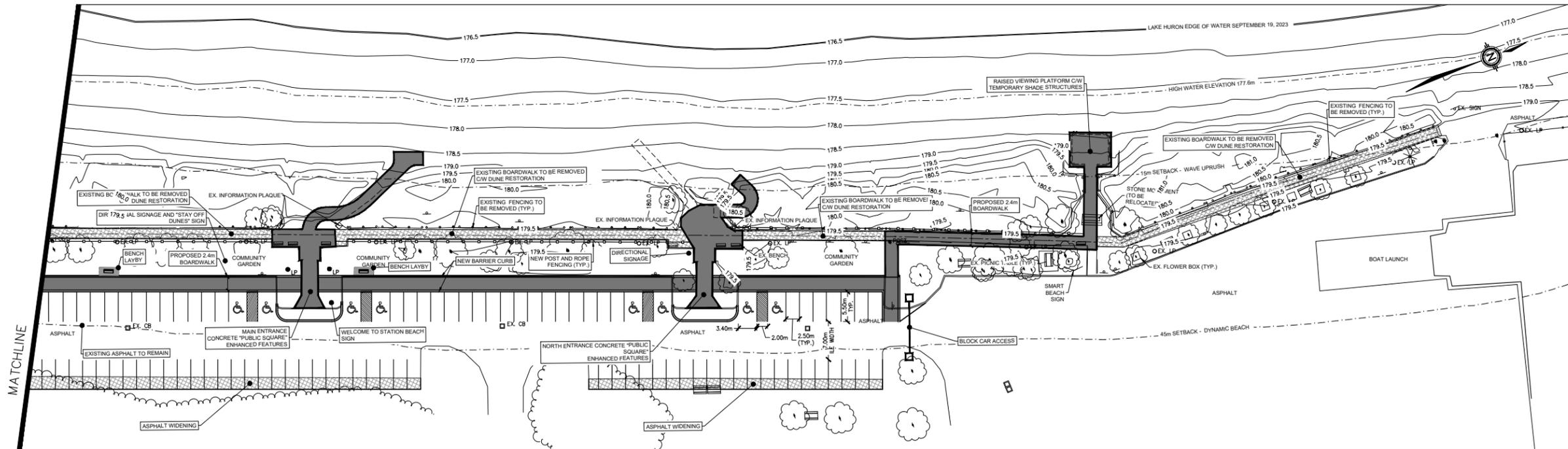
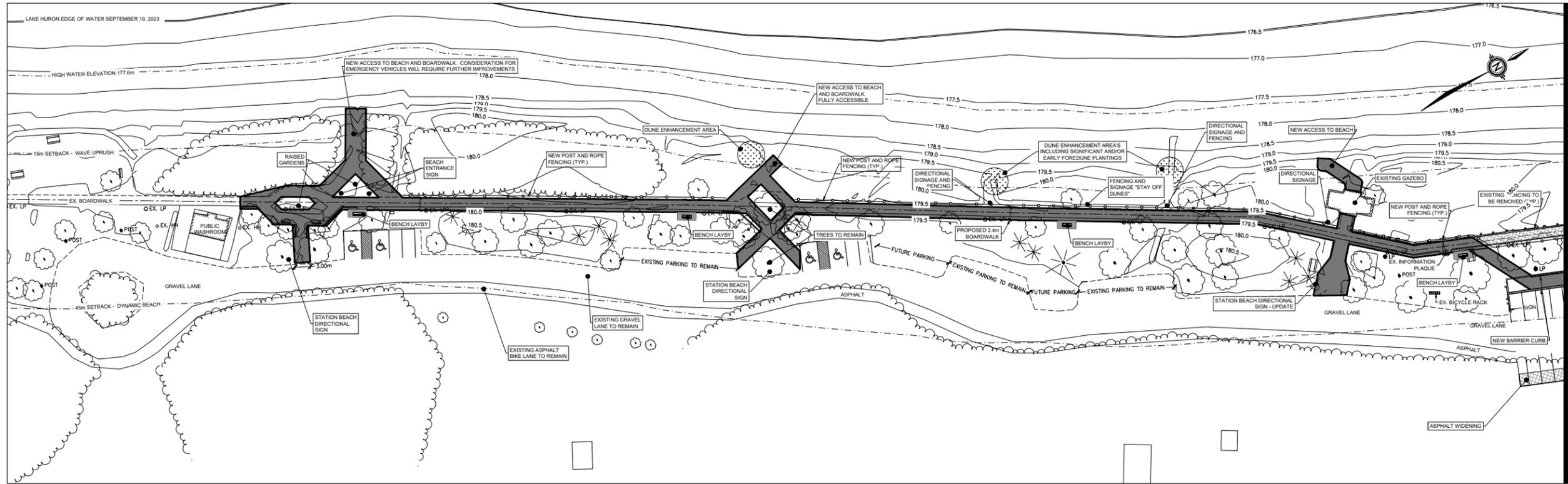
dunes and the dynamic beach process by natural restoration, vegetation and appropriate fencing are important aspects to be incorporated into the design. Comfort, safety, and durability coupled with easier maintenance is the goal of the new boardwalk. The results are included in Appendix 2 of this report. There is a recognition of the importance and the beauty of the dunes themselves and a desire to preserve and protect the dunes was observed. Station Beach is a known tourist attraction and with that consideration for providing appropriate information to first time and infrequent visitors is important, and the boardwalk will direct these visitors to the beach. Signage, fencing and spacing of entrances will guide visitors to appropriate entrances. The boardwalk itself is also a tourist attraction and something frequented by Kincardine residents on its own. The walking experience includes the community gardens, beach and lake views, and the desire for a safe outdoor walking space. The goal of the new boardwalk is to balance the needs of the users with the needs of nature. This can be done with some physical changes to the boardwalk as well as intentional maintenance programs that are considered in the detailed design, such as regular sweeping and construction type.

Recommendations

- 1) Maintain the Community Gardens in their current location, transitioning to municipally maintained gardens incorporating climate change adaptive methods as the plots are released by the volunteers.
- 2) Replace the existing wooden boardwalk with a composite material that is designed to minimize the high temperatures associated with said material.
- 3) Relocate a section of the boardwalk to be between the gardens and the parking lot that is constructed out of stamped concrete.
- 4) Terminate the boardwalk at the current look-out area, and eliminating this as an access point to the beach and relocate the Kincardine sign to a more prominent location.
- 5) Install dune restoration measures such as snow fencing, and vegetation in accordance with the Lake Huron Coastal Centre guidelines. Enable the dune to develop within the area of the removed boardwalk and accelerate as possible regeneration in the areas of the informal pathways from the boardwalk to the beach.
- 6) Implement a Christmas Tree Pilot Project for dune restoration.
- 7) Install fencing to discourage trespassing into the dunes.
- 8) Signage should include educational pieces about dune regeneration and directions to beach access points.
- 9) The boardwalk should be constructed to meet AODA standards (City of London FADs), with a width of 2.4m minimum, a material appropriate for mobility devices, with rest areas along the length and at a gentle vertical slope where necessary.
- 10) Lighting should be appropriate to the area it is located in. Overhead may be appropriate at entrances to the parking areas, and bollard style lighting along the length.

Conclusion

A new boardwalk with a rejuvenated material and alignment with designed beach access points can be constructed in a manner that will reduce sand migration onto the boardwalk, reduce maintenance requirements, protect the dunes and meet the needs of the residents of and the visitors to Kincardine's Station Beach.



SCALE = 1:400





Memo To: Jayne Jagelewski, Director of
Community Services Municipality of
Kincardine
GMBP Project: Station Beach Boardwalk
February 15, 2024
Page 4 of 19

Appendix 1 Comments Received and Responses

Appendix 2: Comments Received and Responses

Comment:	Response
Dune Restoration	
Does this apply to our situation?	Yes
Can the dunes be excavated from the bottom to lower them down (boomer ecoterrorist ideas)?	No, the lake will pull dunes out at high lake levels, and sand will build up in low lake levels as a natural function of the dynamic beach processes
Areas where the access goes through the dune causes issues for sand into the gardens noted as “area of concern”	Design of the access points to include an “S-bend” shape to help reduce sand blowing to the boardwalk.
Fencing	
Not overly protective and is lacking in maintenance	Fencing to be incorporated into the design has the intent of deterring people from crossing the dunes
Boardwalk Lighting	
Some overhead lighting would allow visitors a more secure/safe feeling	Overhead lighting may be incorporated into the design where appropriate
New Ideas	
Extend the road south	Potential Future Consideration
Move main entrance to beach to line up with new road per the WMP demonstration plan (access 3 rd south from harbor parking)	Included in recommended design
Close off the road at the harbor parking, force people to road at main entrance to beach	Included in the recommended design as a temporary barricade, to be incorporated in the future parking lot project.
Block off beach north of the harbor	The boardwalk is terminated at the north and dune restoration is proposed in this area. Recommendations for future consideration to include those from the Pier Safety Ad-Hoc Committee
Add parking on both sides of the road (90degrees to road)	Potential Future Consideration
Keep the ramps to the beach, they are good	Included in recommended design
Propose to have a boardwalk over the dunes instead of through the dunes, like at resorts	SVCA, and the survey results suggest a single low boardwalk is preferred, with accessible entrances to the beach
Have the main entrance to the beach down at the washrooms	Potential Future Consideration
Pave the gravel road to the washroom	Potential Future Consideration
Add more parking at the south end by bathroom	Potential Future Consideration
Add food/market/benches south of bathroom (in open space) – funnels people to the beach here because you go close to the amenities	Potential Future Consideration
Add accessible play	Potential Future Consideration
Add accessible lookout at washroom with Mobi mat	Two Accessible viewing areas are included in recommended design
Add dune restoration on beach side along the entire length	Included in recommended design
Add another minor access from parking to beach	Proposing 5 access points to the beach
Change the access to the marina parking lot to be from the road	Potential Future Consideration
Keep all the gardens	Propose to relocate the gardens to an area better protected from sand migration.
Put the boardwalk and a bike path between the gardens and the road, let the sand fill in the gardens and plant trees on the beach side, to trap sand.	The sand will continue to move inland over time, plantings on the beach side of the boardwalk will be proposed, with the gardens remaining on the other side. The bike path is to remain on the road, and any improvements will be part of a future project.



Allow people to sit on the top of the dunes under trees for shade and to watch children swimming	Large lookout is proposed on the north terminus of the boardwalk
Sand migration happens at access cut through dunes where the concept plan shows a main access	Sand does migrate through these areas, design to incorporate control measures at these entrances. Reduce number of entrances and relocation of the gardens to mitigate the impact.
The good swimming area is the north end of this area, south of the marina	Noted
Add more minor access points	Proposing 5 access points to the beach
Clean/fix the gazebo	Included in the recommendation to fix the gazebo
The hill in front of the gazebo is a good spot to sit with your lawn chair because the gazebo is too dirty	Included in the recommendation to fix the gazebo
Move the gardens farther south, allow them to be maintained by volunteers but add controls to what can and cannot go in them (move to behind poplar trees so the sand does not blow into the gardens)	Majority of the responses wanted the gardens to stay where they are
Very concerned with the reduction in parking spaces. Parking is at a premium now. The report recommends parking town, carpooling, transit? I do not find those logical. The 'overflow' parking spots that will be eliminated by moving the green space with further compound the problem	Potential Future Consideration for Parking Lot project
Keep replacing boards, is working well this year	Maintenance of the new boards will in the Operations budget for the Municipality, replacing all boards for this project is proposed.
Layout	
Would be nice to have views of the lake from the parking spots for seniors	Keeping the north end viewing platform is proposed, maintaining the dunes is a priority so this is not included.
Meandering please	It is limited by space, so not incorporated into recommendation
It needs rest areas, lookout areas with lake views	Lookout platform proposed at the north end, and fixing the gazebo as well as bench areas offset from the boardwalk are proposed.
No slivers	Noted
Needs to be maintained in fair winter months	Potential Future Consideration
Paved pathway to pier should also be maintained	To be disconnected from the boardwalk due to pier safety concerns
Should be pedestrian only	Included in the recommendation
Sand maintenance needs to occur weekly	Maintenance of the new boards will in the Operations budget for the Municipality
Good job maintaining wood on boardwalk this year	Noted
Raise the boardwalk above the dunes so you can see the lake	Majority of responses including SVCA was not to have raised sections
Gardens	
Keep current public gardens	Included in the recommendation
Gardens are a real jewel for the boardwalk	Noted
The gardens are beautiful and loved much but I do see the value in naturalized plantings	Naturalized can be beautiful as well, will be incorporated with dune restoration areas
Keep in the same location	Included in the recommendation
Gardens should remain along the boardwalk	Included in the recommendation



Day trippers come from surrounding communities and often comment on the gardens to volunteers	Noted
Gardens promote community pride	Noted
Every visit I have walked the boardwalk and loved the gardens	Noted
Provide areas without gardens for access to boardwalk for maintenance	Access points to the road are to incorporate maintenance access
Public Spaces	
Would not visit a market at station beach	Not included in recommendation
Would not like to see food/vendor/market	Not included in recommendation
Would like yoga at the beach	Not included in recommendation
Would not like yoga at the beach	Not included in recommendation
Maintain what we have without making drastic changes	The recommendation maintains the existing feel of the boardwalk while increasing the width and reducing maintenance needs caused by sand migration
Drinking water bathrooms	Potential Future Consideration
Too busy in summer for market	Potential Future Consideration as part of Parking lot project
Rotary food service should be bigger	Potential Future Consideration
Maybe outdoor market and/or vendors	Potential Future Consideration
Gazebo	
Keep the Gazebo, fix it up and clean it	Included in recommendation
Refurbish existing benches/big chairs etc. instead of scrapping them all and replacing with new	Reuse of the existing is included, where appropriate
Need more shade structures	Can be considered for the lookout, and at other rest areas.
Solid fencing on west side to mitigate drifting in.	Not supported by SVCA or Lake Huron Costal Centre
Need more seating to relax and see our beautiful water view	Included in recommendation
Outlooks would be good	Included in recommendation
Keep the trees that are on the east side of the drive/roadway	Noted
We do not need more areas to gather	Not included in the plan, can be part of the future considerations. Some areas for gathering are provided in the lookout and gazebo, as well as the existing space remains at the washrooms.
We need more benches and places to sit	Benches are included in the recommendation
Access Points	
Make the main access point the 3 rd one south of the northern most one	Included in recommendation
No boardwalk towards marina	Included in recommendation
I do not see the access points being a great problem, the general height of the dunes leads to the problem	
A welcome arch	Not included, future consideration



Safe, maintained pathway	Included in recommendation
Use solid fencing to prevent people from creating new paths through the dunes	Not supported by SVCA or Lake Huron Coastal Centre
Still need to be able to view the beauty of the dunes, do not obscure them but agree people need to be discouraged from creating new paths	Noted
Wood requires so much maintenance, consider something similar to the Southampton walkway, makes it accessible as well	Alternatives presented include non-wood. Different materials at different locations are possible
Should be for foot traffic only	Included in recommendation
Would like it maintained year-round, surface to support that.	Potential Future Consideration
Accessibility	
Seat at table on Boardwalk Working Group, to address accessibility during Process	Special Meeting held in January
Accessible access to the water;	Included in recommendation
Accessible parking in the vicinity of the accessible beach access	Included in recommendation
Accessible parking near accessible washroom	Potential Future Consideration
Improvements needed to Accessible washroom for accessibility	Potential Future Consideration
Drainage in front of the accessible washroom be addressed	Potential Future Consideration
Raised gardens in the vicinity of the accessible access and parking	Included in recommendation
Mobility device charging station	Potential Future Consideration
Accessible signage	Included in recommendation
Create an environment enabling participation by all	Included in recommendation
Accessible seating in all viewing areas, and extra in accessible viewing areas	Included in recommendation



Comments from Survey:	Response
<p>I can envision the boardwalk project encompassing both the boardwalks at Station Beach and at Dunsmoor Park. I do not foresee a replacement boardwalk should be constructed of the same material as the original (PT lumber). Some consideration should be given to elevating the boardwalk at Station Beach as there is not much to see with the height of the sand dunes. Or having the boardwalk (or some of the boardwalk/lookouts) loop through the dunes (see the Irving Eco Park in Bouctouche NB as an example).</p>	<p>Material alternatives are proposed, Dunsmoor Park is outside the scope of this work. Raised boardwalks were not supported by the majority of the comments, or SVCA.</p>
<p>Maintaining some wildness and sense of nature is what draws me to the boardwalk. I recall when the dunes were plowed and when, what is now the gardens were full of broken bottles and cigarettes. Maintenance of green space within Kincardine is reducing, with development of blank spaces being filled in. I do not personally support development of the beach with markets or vendor spaces.</p>	<p>Native plantings for dune protection are included. Market spaces are not included in the recommendation</p>
<p>Maintaining the sand dunes so it does not go into people's gardens and makes an easy path for the boardwalk. Use to be once a beautiful boardwalk in the 90s and 00s</p>	<p>Dune protection is included</p>
<p>Station Beach is a beautiful spot! It has a lot going for it, with some maintenance and TLC to revive the fixtures makes sense to me in many ways. Gathering spaces-- are good- be sure to keep any larger trees that provide shade. Market/vendor space- I do not see a need. Accessibility- maintenance of boardwalk would help, and ensure there are adequate pathways to all areas, including keeping the paved pathway to the south pier cleared of sand). The gardens are so beautiful and treasured- although I see the value in increasing native plantings. Preserving sand dunes-- the height of the dunes seems to be a problem; I wonder if they could be lowered by excavating from a low level. Parking-- I am very concerned by the reduction of parking spaces proposed-- parking is at a premium at the beach. Sunset views-- would be nice if there was more opportunity for lake views from the parking area (lowering the dunes, allowing cars to 'stop' in the open area at the north end of the boardwalk. I prefer the present location of the bandshell in Dunsmoor Park to the resituated location on the proposed drawings which would face south. In the present location, the audience can enjoy the sunset/lake view in the background, and the elevation of the land lends to a natural amphitheater seating. There are many groups and individuals who use the Station Beach area and I think some 'spit and polish' to address areas that need upkeep would benefit all more than costly changes such as rerouting the roadways.</p>	<p>An accessible boardwalk, dune preservation, and a lookout platform, revitalized gazebo are included Market spaces are not included in the recommendation Raised boardwalks were not supported by the majority of the comments, or SVCA.</p>
<p>I would like to see the area cleaned up, new boardwalk plants. A more professional look</p>	<p>This is the goal of the project</p>



<p>Please leave the boardwalk in the place it is. Replace the wood with trex decking or so it lasts. The replacement of the deteriorated boards has been abysmal. The gardens are beautiful, and the community volunteers should be encouraged although I would suggest only plants, shrubs, and trees in the gardens...no added statuary etc. Preserving the dunes is a must and needs to be permanently blocked from beach goers tromping over them. Washrooms are inadequate and need to be addressed...many more as well as built to be open in the winter. This is an all-seasons venue. Parking can stay as is, but if the town wishes income would have metered parking.</p>	<p>Material alternatives are being presented</p>
<p>I would like to see more protection for the sand dunes by placing a fence or an obstacle in front of the many paths developed by people walking through to the beach. A water source available to the Volleyball Courts. More Visible signage & life saving measures re water/swimming dangers. Market & areas elsewhere Please. Perhaps other vendors or food trucks allowed! Specific Dog poo garbage cans. People might use them...</p>	<p>Fencing is proposed to deter people from walking in the dunes, improved access points to the beach through the dunes and dune restoration are proposed.</p>
<p>Include bike lanes</p>	<p>Future consideration for the road and parking lot project</p>
<p>We love the boardwalk as we live on Goderich St., and it is a nice extension to our walkway going from Bruce Ave all the way down to the marina. I think the boardwalk needs better access points to go down to the beach, so people are not climbing over the sand dunes. I also think there needs to be better lighting for evening walks. I also love that there free parking along the boardwalk to go to the beach. Keep this area free and don't commercialize it like Grand Bend. There is no need for retail down by the beach but a clearly defined area with a few more food options by the parking lot would be nice.</p>	<p>Included in recommendation</p>
<p>1. Paint the big blue chairs 2. Nice new boardwalk with more shrubs and flowers 3. Some benches need a refresh</p>	<p>New boardwalk and benches are included</p>
<p>Having lived in Kincardine since 1973 I can remember a time when there were no sand dunes, just a beautiful sand beach. As a gardener on the boardwalk, the last couple of years have been very difficult due to the amount of sand from the dunes covering the gardens. Uncovering the actual garden required outside labour last year, for which I paid for. If the situation does not improve, I will have to give the garden up. The boardwalk gardens are greatly admired by tourists and residents alike, as well as being an important habitat for various species of birds and butterflies. Please preserve them. Fix the inaccessible boardwalk, or at least keep it free of the sand from the dunes. For the past 2 years being able to park near our patch of garden to maintain it has proved almost impossible, due to the volume of tourists using the area, please do as other local beaches have done and have pay parking for tourists with parking passes for residents. Recently commercial development seems to have taken precedence over an</p>	<p>The gardens are proposed to remain and the boardwalk move around it. Dune restoration is intended to manage sand on the beach side of the gardens, reducing the migration into the gardens. "S-bend" access points are to be incorporated to assist as well.</p>



<p>area of natural beauty, perhaps plant more trees for shade to the east of the parking area.</p>	
<p>Work the plan around the dunes. It has taken years for them to be rehabilitated. Reconciliation can be imbedded in the plan by respecting the dunes and the waterfront! Perhaps a couple of “lookouts,” as the one is very popular and accessible. I have had backlash from seniors who want the dunes ploughed down so they can see the water from their car.... this view is available on the north side of the river. It will likely never be available on the south side.... we do not have the same shape to our waterfront that Port Elgin and Sauble do but by God lots of people think it is a good idea to “earth move” Please Do Not! I would say there should be more than a suggestion for people to keep out of the dunes.... could angle parking fit on Huron Terrace south of the bridge on the hill for sunset views? The gardens are beautiful, but I understand pounds of sand blow over them and must be dealt with every spring. The gardeners are best to consult with about the future shaping of that. We could gain a bit of parking removing the “island dividers” on the most southern portion of the road.</p>	<p>The gardens are proposed to remain and the boardwalk move around it. Dune restoration is intended to manage sand on the beach side of the gardens, reducing the migration into the gardens. “S-bend” access points are to be incorporated to assist as well. Fixing the gazebo and the lookout deck to the north will provide areas to view the sunsets.</p>
<p>Has anyone considered moving the boardwalk. Put it on the beach side of the dunes, cut the dunes back so we still have a beach, and it can extend to where the boardwalk is now, just switch places. Move the dunes east, move the boardwalk west. Then you can actually have a nice view when walking it as opposed to just grass.</p>	<p>Not included as moving the boardwalk closer to the lake would result in increased sand migration on the boardwalk and be more difficult for maintenance. The recommended solution proposes restoring the dunes by planting on the west side and therefore slowing down the migration.</p>
<p>Develop the grass area between boardwalk and Huron Terrace into some picnic areas. Include some shade trees, gazebos, etc. A restaurant (not snack booth) would be an added benefit. Although the sand dunes help retain the beach, they also stop the view of the lake when using the boardwalk. Can they be lowered?</p>	<p>The grassed area may be part of a future project. Dunes cannot be lowered, in a dynamic beach they need to be allowed to grow to store the sand. In high water years, the lake will pull this sand back into the beach.</p>
<p>Community gardens ring a unique flavour to the board walk. They are an attraction to residents, tourists, and day trippers. Volunteers are used to accepting “thanks” from Passerby’s. It would be a shame to lose them or replace them with static vegetation.</p>	<p>The gardens are proposed to remain</p>
<p>We are regular station beach walkers. The dunes must be protected from an aesthetically and cost perspective. The signage is not working nor are the sanctioned paths. People tend to take the shortest route from A to B. The hard work people put into their garden displays is compromised by blow in from unauthorized paths through the dunes. It is time to put sturdy fencing along the boardwalk that prevents beach access at every point except sanctioned paths.</p>	<p>Improved access points to the beach, improved signage and fencing are included in the recommendation</p>
<p>Leave the flower beds alone that are looked after by volunteers- maybe you do not know (I did not) that there are people from other communities that drive JUST to look at the flowers and walk our boardwalk! Bayfield and Goderich come just to do that. Leave the dune grass - any spots where there is not some the wind</p>	<p>The gardens are proposed to remain Material alternatives are being presented for the boardwalk</p>



<p>pushes all the sand as far as the roadway. Unfortunately using wood for the walkway does require REGULAR maintenance. It is still the best solution!</p>	
<p>I love the boardwalk that is presently in place. I love the tall grasses and sand dunes with dune grasses. Also, the community gardens. I would like to see more signage on the actual rails informing people to stay off dunes. The trees and dunes support wildlife and cut the wind so we can walk year-round with some wind break. I would not like to see the boardwalk dunes or trees removed to allow for parking of cars. People can get out of their cars and sit on the beach. The dunes need some snow fence to keep them from blowing away. There is to be more sandpipers and shore birds along the shoreline. Very rare these days. We need to balance nature and people. I would not like if we just expanded the waterfront to have more and more people. It is rare that the beach is closed due to pollution. Let us keep a healthy beach with nature and some people. Thank you. Katherine Johnson resident</p>	<p>Different fencing options are included in the recommendation as is improved signage</p>
<p>I enjoy the gardens (stop and look and/or rest there every time) More is better. Farmers Market in one of the parks would be very good. It needs to be far enough away to let people walk past, but close so we can easy access it and see it from the walking trail. I never go to the farmers market now, -totally because it is out of the way for me. (Or a time I cannot go)</p>	<p>The gardens are proposed to remain Market idea can be reviewed as part of the future parking lot project</p>
<p>There needs to be a new engineering done to the South side of the piers. Originally built to close to the ground. Wet sand gets under and over the wood and over time rots them. Boards lift causing a tripping hazard, I have personally tripped several times. Maintenance comes to slowly. Look to the boardwalk on the north of the pier. Very little trouble with this section. Visitors ignore the signs about waking over the dunes. More access points should be created. I have seen people setting up lawn chairs on top of the dunes. Right beside there set up is a sign stating not to walk on the dunes. The gardens are beautiful. Visitors should look at them. Some feel that they can steal the ornaments that the volunteers have made. Just some thoughts, Marcel Dorey.</p>	<p>The pier is outside the scope of this project, and the boardwalk is proposed to be terminated away from the pier.</p>
<p>Solid Board fencing to prevent sand</p>	<p>Different fencing options are included in the recommendation</p>
<p>They look great the way they are, just replace rotting boards and give people a tax reduction if they look after the flower beds</p>	<p>Presenting different material options in the recommendation</p>
<p>Raise the boardwalk above the dunes so you can see the lake</p>	<p>This is not supported by the survey results, or the SVCA</p>
<p>I see in the summer you have live entertainment in the alcove near the picnic areas, it seems as though it is for the elderly. I suggest a karaoke day for passersby. It will have to be well advertised but I think it would be fun. You would need internet Wi-Fi, a laptop, projector speakers and a mic, someone to pick the songs and willing people.</p>	<p>Noted for future consideration outside the scope of this project.</p>



<p>I enjoy walking along the boardwalk and seeing the gardens tended by volunteers. I do not think vendors would be a good idea. We already have Monday and Saturday markets.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>Please ensure maintenance is kept up. Eliminate all beach sand from blowing onto the boardwalk. Widen boardwalk by at least 1 foot. Do not Eliminate sand dunes. If boardwalk is made of wood, ensure it is treated.</p>	<p>A wider boardwalk is included in the recommendation</p>
<p>We like the boardwalk as is. Separate bike lane should be better delineated and/or added especially away from existing main parking. Preference would be to add vendors spaces where the existing fry shack is located or different area away from sidewalks and boardwalk, not to create foot traffic.</p>	<p>The bike path is to remain on the road, and improvements can be considered in future projects.</p>
<p>how about a covered area with tables beside the Snack booth?</p>	<p>Noted for future considerations on the future parking area project</p>
<p>I THINK THE BOARDWALK IS JUST FINE THE WAY IT IS.</p>	<p>Noted but maintenance and accessibility improvements are proposed</p>
<p>I think the Boardwalk would be enhanced by: -providing year-round bathrooms so that people that live here all year can better enjoy the boardwalk. I often take my kids to Tiny Tots in winter and have nowhere to use the bathroom. -I would love if the Boardwalk had more opportunities for food trucks, vendor, and artisans to be present on a consistent or semi-permanent basis. -I think revenue from parking should be explored in a way that residents do not have to pay and the people that visit here do. You would not have to charge a ridiculous amount for day parking to help offset some of the expenses the residents incur from our visitors. Yes, we want to encourage tourism, but we also have a significant and growing permanent resident population and these taxpayers need to be considered as well. This could pay for more garbage and recycling bins along the boardwalk and the staff to maintain them. Or I would love if parking would pay for a better rec center with a hot tub and more accessible public swim hours! I greatly value protecting the sand dunes, maintaining, and enhancing the gardens, and preserving the sunset views. When I first moved here, I was awestruck at how the beachfront was ALL PUBLIC and so accessible. I hope it always stays that way.</p>	<p>Noted for future consideration but outside the scope of the boardwalk project</p>
<p>I do not think there is anything wrong with the current boardwalk, except that there are a few broken boards that need to be replaced. Instead, please consider letting an additional food truck to provide food to beach goers that is not outrageously priced</p>	<p>Noted for future consideration but outside the scope of the boardwalk project</p>
<p>Kincardine is a town known for its music. There are the weekly pipe parades, Wednesday music concerts in Dunsmoor Park, Sunday music, the Blues festival, Scottish Festival etc. We are the laughingstock of many musical organizations in the area because of the terrible hot box in Dunsmoor Park. A new bandshell would facilitate the enjoyment of many and make Kincardine a place that is desirable to musicians, actors, and many more. I play in a band from out of town and each time we are invited to play in Kincardine the rest of the band groans</p>	<p>Noted for future consideration but outside the scope of the boardwalk project</p>



because the 'hot box' is very uncomfortable to play in and not large enough to accommodate even a mid-sized band. Many of my musician friends also question why Kincardine has not built a bandshell. I respectfully ask that you make this a priority when you redesign the beachfront in Kincardine. Thank you!	
Security cameras are a great idea. Having paid parking (access)for out-of-town visitors would provide funds for upkeep and additions to the beach area. Passes could be issued to locals (within the municipality with proof of residency). This could also fund security to monitor those who do not respect the dunes in off limits areas. Station Beach and boardwalk are an amazing space in our beautiful city, we must work hard to keep it as natural as possible.	Noted for future consideration but outside the scope of the boardwalk project
We need one like Goderich with benches and work out equipment	Due to space constrictions, this is not included but it is noted for future phases
We need less garden and more Boardwalk-keep the Dunes-pave parking lots-1 more washroom in middle of Boardwalk-ice cream booth	The boardwalk is recommended to be widened but to keep gardens
- better water safety is #1 - something other than the water to attract people - maybe a decent restaurant to overlook the water - shops and craft area, again to attract people to the boardwalk	Noted for future consideration but outside the scope of the boardwalk project

Comments from Lake Huron Coastal Centre	Response
Dune restoration is needed to ensure the beach and dune system remains healthy and intact. It has been interrupted by cut-through paths and by some natural wave action. The LHCC has no experience using pre-cut coniferous trees however we are aware they have been used in other marine areas but with specific cautions (refer to the Woods Hole Marine Bulletin "To Tree, or Not to Tree", Dec 2020) . We are assuming these are 'natural' discarded Christmas trees, not artificial ones and they will be thoroughly cleaned and void of all Christmas decorations. Otherwise, you are introducing plastic pollution onto the beach which obviously is not desirable. Also please ensure these trees have no cones which could then disperse seeds which may not be suitable for the dune environment. Christmas trees grown on tree farms can potential be non-native tree species.	Recommend a pilot project for Christmas trees, with other areas of dune restoration using snow fence per LHCC details.
Fencing should be used consistently along the entire length of the park. This consistency will reinforce the notion that pedestrians should not cross it. We note that the concept plan seems to indicate an interruption in the proposed fencing. We caution municipalities not to expect to use fencing to prevent sand migration onto the boardwalk as some will happen regardless. The definition of the beach & dune system is 'dynamic' therefore expectations should not assume complete containment. However, a healthy dune with healthy vegetation should stop most sand migration inland except in extreme storm conditions. In those cases where sand does cover the boardwalk, some routine maintenance should be expected.	Recommending open fencing, with signage and vegetation for barrier to pedestrians



<p>Controlling the pedestrian crossings is critical and the way to ensure proper use is signs showing where the crossings are for both pedestrians and vehicle drivers exiting their cars. Again, LHCC has no experience with cut conifer trees however their use with sand fencing as a pilot project is warranted.</p> <p>If existing pathways are used, they need to be carefully spaced to balance convenience for the beach user and the threat of further dune 'blow-outs' causing inland sand migration. In access pathways, all opportunities to curve the paths so to avoid a straight line to the beach will also assist in limiting dune blow-outs.</p>	<p>Recommending open fencing, with signage and vegetation for barrier to pedestrians</p>
<p>If existing pathways are used, they need to be carefully spaced to balance convenience for the beach user and the threat of further dune 'blow-outs' causing inland sand migration. In access pathways, all opportunities to curve the paths so to avoid a straight line to the beach will also assist in limiting dune blow-outs.</p>	<p>Informal pathways to be blocked.</p>
<p>Board materials – see discussion below on increased anticipated heat impacts.</p>	<p>Proposing a composite material, and stamped concrete/flagstone where appropriate</p>
<p>Boardwalk aligned farther east, away from the beach is beneficial providing more physical space for the dune system to “do what it does.” This is also a climate adaptation measure assuming more variability in lake water levels and more extreme storms, protecting the boardwalk infrastructure. Raised boardwalks are commonly used in provincial parks where the location on the dune remains very mobile with limited dune building vegetation. The boardwalk construction should take advantage of modular sections that can be disassembled and moved / adjusted as needed. Examples of these can be found in Goderich and Pinery Provincial Park.</p>	<p>Proposing a section of realigned boardwalk to the east. No raised sections are proposed.</p>
<p>No comment other than that approach seems to make sense.</p>	
<p>Questions #1 - Has the proposal considered the impacts of Climate Change?</p> <p>Assuming a boardwalk design life of 25 to 30 years minimum, the boardwalk needs to have consideration for climate change that will occur over the life of the feature. Climate scenarios described below, are taken from the Climatedata.ca being the authorized source of climate change data from Environment and Climate Change Canada.</p> <p>Temperature Increases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kincardine like many other municipalities along the coast, will experience increased temperatures which will need to be considered when contemplating the impact of increased heat on people (e.g., availability of shade for pedestrians) and the impact of heat on structural materials (e.g., boardwalks, light standards, benches). 	<p>Proposing a composite material, and stamped concrete/flagstone where appropriate. Construction is recommended to include modular sections for ease of maintenance, replacement of sections as necessary.</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increased temperature example - Kincardine currently experiences on average 8 'hot days' (temperature exceeds 30° C.) per year which will increase to 18 days by 2050 and 40 days by 2080. • As a second example - Kincardine receives on average 6 evenings considered 'tropical nights' where temperatures do not drop below 20° C. which will increase to 13 days by 2050 and 33 days by 2080. <p>Increased temperatures need to be considered in construction materials for the boardwalk. Available materials for the boardwalk need to be carefully investigated to determine the possible impact and the need for improved heat resistant materials to construct the boardwalk. Also, consideration for how the material retains heat (e.g., how it heats up) assuming that beach pedestrians will be barefoot, and some materials may have more effective protection for bare skin. The lighter-coloured deck material is a positive option being considered.</p> <p>Higher water levels (and increased wind and storm activity)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The combination of these events will cause increased wave uprush levels horizontally up the beach, interacting with the dunes and the infrastructure being reconstructed. <p>Dune adjustment and possible blow-outs will occur during high winds and healthy, suitable dune vegetation will minimize any damage to inland areas.</p>	
<p>Question #2 – Have the dune areas been correctly assessed and are the choices being made to improve protection from pedestrian foot traffic?</p> <p>Dune Protection Fencing (as shown on the Concept Plan provided)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reason for the raised boardwalk is not stated. • The proposed raised boardwalk should also have dune protection fencing adjacent on the lakeside to provide consistent look, messaging and increase the public understanding that the dunes are valued shore protection and warrant the fencing for the entire extent of the park shoreline dune system. • Of the options for fencing, the solid vertical fencing is not recommended. It will create wind impacts that may cause more sand to deposit on the boardwalk. <p>Regarding the fencing options, an open structure such as the post and rope design is preferable as it provides the visual barrier needed to stop pedestrians from crossing, while providing wind flow through the area. The fencing is for human control, not sand control.</p>	<p>The proposal for raised sections has been removed.</p> <p>Open fencing is proposed.</p>



Comments from SVCA	Response
<p>Station Beach Boardwalk Replacement</p> <p>SVCA is generally supportive of the proposal to control beach access and restore dune integrity in consultation with the LHCC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SVCA staff recommend that the Municipality request input from the LHCC, in regard to the proposed raised boardwalk, before finalizing the design. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Boardwalks constructed of water-resistant materials, such as Vekadeck Cellular PVC vinyl decking, would be acceptable. ○ SVCA review staff would require details related to how the proposed raised boardwalks will be anchored *(e.g., deck blocks, steel posts, pressure treated lumber posts, etc.). ○ Please provide the approximate height of the raised boardwalks. • SVCA staff would review the removal, relocation, and replacement, of boardwalks. • Pathways proposed within the dynamic beach shall be constructed at grade. No fill or minimal/minor fill shall be required to create pathways. • Significant excavation, grading, clearing, etc. shall not be permitted to install boardwalks or establish paths. • Fencing, such as, but not limited to sand fences, low fences, simple fences, and snow fences, located in the floodplain and/or dynamic beach, must be designed to ensure that there is minimal impact on water or sand flow and/or deposition with appropriate board spacing. The dynamic beach processes shall not be negatively affected by the installation of fencing. The existing fencing style and rope fencing would be acceptable <u>within</u> the dynamic beach. Board fencing, as pictures on pg. 11 of the <i>Public Information Centre #1</i> presentation, would be acceptable <u>outside</u> the dynamic beach. Fencing will be of interest to SVCA review staff. • Native planting plans, created in collaboration with the LHCC, would be reviewed by SVCA staff. • <i>“Mechanical movement of sand to front ends of eroding dune edges”</i> (pg.6). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dune stabilization/restoration plans and designs should be supported and created in consultation with the LHCC. ○ Stabilizing the dunes with fencing and native vegetation would be reviewed by SVCA staff. 	<p>No longer proposing raised sections. Open fencing is proposed. Dune stabilization is proposed to be in alignment with the LHCC standards</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the site is accessed by machinery will be of interest to SVCA review staff. Construction equipment or vehicle access shall be limited west of the existing development and within the dynamic beach. • How components of the proposal will be installed (e.g., Christmas trees, snow fencing, boardwalks, paths, etc.), will be of interest to SVCA review staff. • Infrastructure details, such as: materials to be used, should be detailed in the designs and on the Application. 	
<p>Site Inspection A site visit will need to be arranged, so that I can inspect the area of the proposed works. This would help me determine whether the proposal meets SVCA's policies and regulations for approval, and under what conditions a permit can be issued. It would be beneficial to have yourself, or someone familiar with the proposal, present at the site inspection. Please note that the site inspection would be pending weather conditions. <i>We can confirm details if you wish to proceed.</i></p>	
<p>Drinking Water Source Protection SVCA staff has screened this application to determine the applicability of the Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Northern Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Plan, prepared under the Clean Water Act, 2006. The Source Protection Plan came into effect on July 1st, 2016, and contains policies to protect sources of municipal drinking water from existing and future land use activities. The subject property appears to SVCA staff to be located within an area that is subject to the local Source Protection Plan, where applicable policies may apply. A separate Notice from the local Risk Management Official may be required as specified under the Clean Water Act, 2006 to allow your project to proceed. SVCA staff have forwarded this application to rmo@greysauble.on.ca for their information. Please contact directly for more information on the Source Protection Plan policies that may affect your application.</p>	<p>IPZ-1 and IPZ-2 restrict Fuel Storage in this area, and do not affect the design.</p>

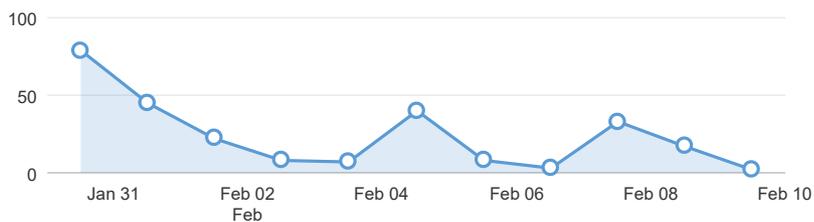
Appendix 2: Online Survey Results

Station Beach Boardwalk Final Engagement

Respondents

Reached end

Response timeline



N 264

The south entrance, as seen above, would be accessible for emergency services. For this area would you like to see:(Select all that apply.)

	Count	% of responses	%
Wooden or composite (plastic) boardwalk.	165		63%
Raised planter beds for accessible community boardwalk gardens.	107		41%
Enhanced parking with a focus on barrier-free spaces.	97		37%
Interlocking stone pathway.	57		22%
Short term parking (e.g., maximum 15 minutes).	34		13%

N 264

In the area shown above, there's a raised hill. Which of the following options would you most like to see here? Please note that some tree removal/replacement would be necessary to facilitate the higher boardwalk option.(Select one.)

	Count	% of responses	%
Two boardwalks with one raised on the hill with an area for benches.	79		30%
One boardwalk at the top of the hill with an area for benches. Removal of the existing boardwalk to allow the sand dunes to expand.	67		25%
One low boardwalk, without an area for benches (benches would be located at the entrances on either side of this area instead). Leave the hill as it is.	118		45%

N 264

A secondary beach access point through the dunes is proposed for the location shown above, just north of the southern-most access point. Which of the following would you like to see at this access point? (Select all that apply.)

	Count	% of responses	%
Accessible viewing areas constructed out of the same material as the boardwalk.	145		55%
Accessible modular boardwalk extending into the sand.	117		44%
Direct access to the parking lot.	101		38%
Mobi-mats located at the end of the boardwalk instead of wooden viewing areas.	62		23%

N 264

For the existing gazebo (shown above), which would you most like to see?(Select one.)

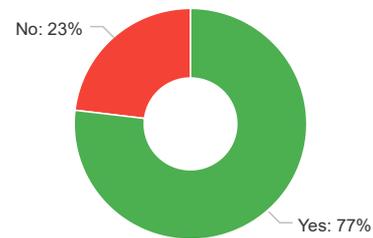
	Count	% of responses	%
Repair the existing gazebo as-is.	150		58%
Replace the existing gazebo with a permanent structure and access to the beach.	68		26%
Remove the existing gazebo and replace with a wooden deck/platform without a structure, but with access to the beach.	20		8%
Remove the gazebo and add a simple access point to the beach.	19		7%
Remove both the gazebo and access to the beach at this location.	2		1%

N 259

The image above illustrates two possible areas for the main entrance to Station Beach, one to the north, and one to the south. Where would you prefer to see the main entrance to the Boardwalk and Station Beach? (Select one.)

If Location 5A is selected as the main entrance, do you wish to see an access to the beach at this location that is connected to the parking lot directly? (Check one)

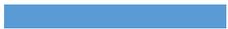
Location 5B - further to the north.: 52%  Location 5A - further to the south.: 48%



N 250

N 212

Based on the 3 images above illustrating the community-run Boardwalk Gardens, which options would you prefer? Please note that for options where the community gardens are removed, new plantings will be provided by and maintained by the Municipality, including low-maintenance and natural vegetation. (Select one.)

	Count	% of responses	%
Retain all gardens as is, except where necessary to facilitate the new boardwalk and entrances.	160		66%
Relocate the gardens to another location, to be determined with the gardeners and Municipality.	45		19%
Retain Garden Areas A, B, and C.	26		11%
Retain Garden Areas A and B only.	3		1%
Retain Garden Areas A and C only.	1		0%
Retain Garden Areas B and C only.	1		0%
Retain Garden Area A only.	2		1%
Retain Garden Area B only.	0		
Retain Garden Area C only.	5		2%

N 243

It is proposed to remove the current northern limit of the boardwalk, and end the boardwalk at the current northern-most beach access point. At this location, would you prefer:(Select one.)

	Count	% of responses	%
Retain the existing sign and boardwalk but replace the wood with the new boardwalk material.	125		52%
Remove the access point entirely at the end of the boardwalk.	24		10%
Install an elevated viewing platform that is accessed from the boardwalk and/or parking lot.	93		38%

N 242

Powered by [Medallia Agile Research](#)