

I chose to live here and I care about Huntsville – here are my comments for consideration in the visioning process of the Community Master Plan:

1. River Mill Park should include:

- A swimming area, upstream from the dock, complete with a sandy area for little children (could even install sand and berm it from the water's edge)
- Boat slips for overnight docking – then we could market to a new segment – boaters who would like to travel our lake system.
- Boat docking for tour providers, complete with information signage
- A 'What's on in Huntsville This Week' sign maintained by the Chamber
- Solar lighting for night sky friendly and energy savings
- Recycled materials used for dock decking, as well as furnishings such as benches, tables to bandstand – lots of Muskoka Chairs (anchored to the ground of course)
- A shade shelter – open laddered roof
- Recycling Containers
- A sound system or at least some electrical outlets
- A bike rack
- Washrooms that are bright (skylight?) with automatic plumbing on sensors and lots of toilet paper! What's the latest in public washroom safety? Please check.
- Signage for directions, signage for heritage information – all in downtown theme
- A crosswalk from Town Hall across Main Street to the park – if we put this in before the park opens, perhaps no one will be injured – just lucky so far!
- Paid parking in this lot? Is this lot for both the retailers and the people using the park?
- Plant trees not affected by the current insect infestations in North America
- Insure public access through King Street (presently a cul-de-sac) with a public meeting regarding the stop up and closure of King Street to vehicular traffic
- Use the park as a demonstration of what can be done to have a truly "GREEN SPACE" by finding a solution to the issue of storm water that will not reduce the usable square footage of the park – try something innovative!
- Insure that should a residential unit be built as planned, it should be a demonstration eco-friendly, energy efficient structure, with everything from grey water recycling to a wind turbine and solar DHW panels, as well as no garbage chute – just various organics and recycling containers on each floor. We only have one opportunity to make this part of the sales agreement for the property!

2. Entrances to Huntsville -Highways 11 & 60 as well as 141, 2 and others (Town and District can cooperate on this)

- Limit the number of billboards on the road side
- Provide annual maintenance on Welcome to Huntsville entrance signage to insure they are each well manicured
- Consider having sections of roads looked after by residents and designating them as resident-cared-for roadways

3. Archives

- We need a facility and personnel to deal with our items of Huntsville's heritage – whether it be photographs, artefacts, documents, or collections, as well as the required storage of municipal documents and we need it in the 2008 budget as a start.
- The public needs to be able to access the information stored in the facility

4. Voting – Encourage vote by mail and internet
5. Public access to water
  - Do not close any water access points on any Town owned property with water front within Huntsville
  - Identify the locations of these right-of-ways to insure all residents of Huntsville have access, not just those owning waterfront properties. Even encourage improvement of these access points.
  - Post signage to insure visitors driving through may access the water should they wish – too many locations Muskoka you can see the water on a map but cannot see the water with your eyes (or toes)
6. Help Huntsville become a HEALTHY COMMUNITY
  - Look at new housing – are there walking paths / sidewalks / bike trails?
  - Look at new developments – is there access to public transportation in the proposal?
  - Is the vending equipment located in our public buildings providing healthy options?
7. Help Huntsville become a GREEN COMMUNITY
  - Do an energy audit on all Town owned facilities (and vehicles) – find the areas for improvement and make the changes, including shutting off non essential computers and printers after hours.
  - Publish the results so the taxpayers know Council is leading the charge in energy conservation.
  - Review all new development with an eye to conservation of energy, land, transportation needs
  - Review all new development with attention to the needs of location of containers for organic collections and recycling needs, as well as snow storage/removal
  - Encourage development that puts less stress on our both our electrical grid – such as homes that are more energy efficient with use the off peak power supply, and our water supply – through the use of water saving devices and grey water recycling,
8. Adult Education
  - Facilitate the use of our schools and the facilities they have for after school hour adult education
  - Encourage the option of training upgrades though adult education at the facilities
9. Theatre for seniors
  - Offer more programs that are more economical for the senior population – many who are on fixed incomes. Use the theatre (Town owned and operated) during the afternoons to greater advantage – even for educational programming rather than evening courses that can create problems for seniors regarding night time transportation
10. Encourage more local information on our radio station – suggest using public ‘spotters’ for traffic, weather conditions and power outages. But radio station and Town Hall must be on the air when power is out.
11. Try out a summer shuttle trolley connecting downtown to the two shopping centres. Hourly?