

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

FISH CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK

Central Corridor Pathway – Phase 1

What is the Central Corridor Pathway?

The Central Corridor Pathway is an existing 19 km asphalt pathway artery that connects all day use areas and key points of interest within Fish Creek Provincial Park. The two-lane pathway is used for a range of recreational activities such as walking, hiking, biking and bird watching.

Portions of the Central Corridor Pathway are also segments of the Rotary-Mattamy Greenway and Trans Canada Trail. For information, please visit:

- Rotary-Mattamy Greenway
[The Rotary Mattamy Greenway — Parks Foundation Calgary \(parksfdn.com\)](https://parksfdn.com)
- Trans Canada Trail
[Trans Canada Trail | Explore the Map \(tctrail.ca\)](https://tctrail.ca)

Why is the Central Corridor Pathway being refurbished?

In collaboration with stakeholders and the public, the Alberta government developed a Trails Master Plan for Fish Creek Provincial Park in early 2022 to inform improvements to the trail network, and overall sustainability of the park. The Plan proposes a multi-use trail network throughout the park that will accommodate a wide variety of users and recommends phased upgrades to pathways in poor condition. The highest priority area for refurbishment is the Central Corridor Pathway.

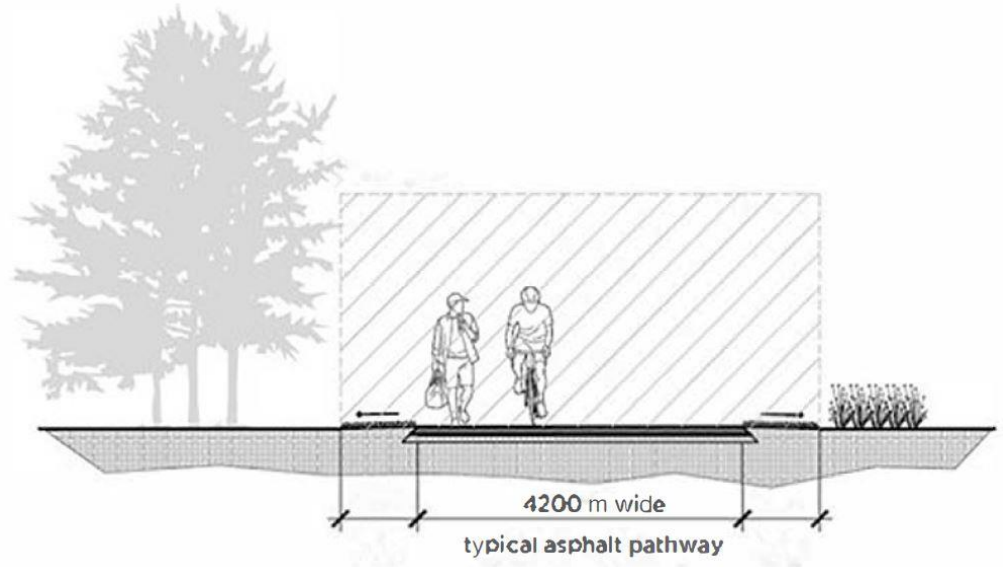
How is the design of the Central Corridor Pathway consistent with the Trails Master Plan for Fish Creek Provincial Park?

During detailed design of the Central Corridor Pathway in 2023, the profile of the pathway was updated from the Trails Master Plan to further address public safety, accessibility, constructability, long-term maintenance requirements and future recreational trends. The final design is an expanded multi-use pathway with the following profiles:

- A typical 4.2 m width (2.1m per lane) for the majority of the Central Corridor Pathway (illustrated on page 2)
- A 3.5 m width in constrained locations (as a result of environmental impact or topographical conditions)
- A 5.0 m width in high visitation areas (such as approaches to day use areas)

Although strategic pavement markings and realignment of intersections is planned per the Trails Master Plan recommendations, the use of coloured asphalt was not feasible as a result of cost, constructability and long-term maintenance considerations.

Illustration of Typical Central Corridor Pathway Profile:



What is involved in the refurbishment, and how will the pathway change?

The Central Corridor Pathway project will include new asphalt that improves public safety, accessibility, and wayfinding. Rest stops and signage will also be implemented. Most segments of the pathway will be widened to 4.2 metres (an increase of approximately 1.2 to 2.2 metres). Some constrained areas will be narrower, with total widths of 3.5 metres, and some high visitation areas will be widened to 5.0 metres (an increase of approximately 2.0 metres).

The design process considered factors such as public safety, accessibility, visitor experience, wayfinding, and environmental stewardship.

Where and when will each phase of construction occur?

The overall Central Corridor Pathway project will occur in three phases of construction, with anticipated completion in 2028:

Phase 1: Eastern Segment with Special Project Areas (2024-2025)

- Mallard Point Day Use Area to Bow Bottom Trail SE Crossing
- Special projects to improve public safety:
 - Realigning a small pathway segment away from the eroding Fish Creek shoreline (East of Glennfield Day Use Area).
 - Removing a staircase and adding a trail connection to the community of Evergreen Estates.
 - Fixing a small pathway segment in Marshall Springs that has drainage challenges.

Phase 2: Central Segment (planned for 2026 onwards)

- Bow Bottom Trail SE Intersection to MacLeod Trail SE

Phase 3: Western and Southern Segments (planned for 2027 onwards)

- MacLeod Trail SE to Shannon Terrace Day Use Area
- Bow Bottom Trail SE Intersection to Sikome Aquatic Facility

Please refer to the enclosed map for more information.

Will areas of the pathway and park be closed?

No, the park will remain open. However, please anticipate short delays to safely accommodate construction activities, and take note of the following:

- Pathway construction areas will not be fenced.
- Construction flaggers will direct temporary delays (no through traffic) and / or temporary detours, as needed.
- Please abide by all signage and do not approach construction equipment or cross construction barriers, where present.

The enclosed map outlines areas where short delays and temporary closures will occur. A more detailed summary is provided:

Construction Item	Anticipated Delays and Closures
Mallard Point to Bow Bottom Trail SE Crossing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermittent / short delays to safely accommodate construction activities
Path realignment east of Glennfield Day Use Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermittent / short delays to safely accommodate construction activities
Staircase removal and trail connection to Evergreen Estates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermittent / short term delays to safely accommodate construction activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staircase will remain open while new trail connection is under construction ○ Once new trail connection is open, staircase will be removed and site will be naturalized ○ Avoid reclamation areas

Marshall Springs pathway construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closure of pathway required to safely accommodate construction activities • Alternate park access routes will be available during construction
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Facilities and services in Fish Creek Provincial Park will not be impacted. Visitors looking for trail alternatives can call the Alberta Parks Information Line at 1-877-537-2757, or stop by the Bow Valley Rancho Visitor Centre: [Bow Valley Ranch Visitor Centre - Fish Creek Provincial Park | Alberta Parks](#).

What measures are in place to minimize environmental impact?

A qualified third-party ecologist with knowledge of the park’s flora and fauna was involved in the Central Corridor Pathway design process. They reviewed construction plans and provided recommendations for minimizing environmental impact. As well, wildlife sweeps will occur prior to construction, to ensure wildlife in the park and critical habitats are not impacted.

Why are tree stumps present along the pathway?

Tree stumps may be present along the length of the Central Corridor Pathway for two reasons:

- A tree was identified as hazardous by a qualified arborist and removed for public safety, or;
- A tree was removed in preparation for Central Corridor Pathway construction, as it conflicted with the planned trail alignment. (Where feasible, tree removal was minimized.)

Arborists classify hazardous trees through numerous considerations that are not limited to decay in mature trees or visual observations of disease and rot. For example, a hazardous tree could appear healthy but have a significant lean towards an area with high visitation or could have a weak fork which unfortunately compromises its structural integrity.

New trees will be planted in facility zones, day use areas and around newly created pathway resting nodes following construction as part of the landscaping work. Alberta Parks will continue to monitor areas where hazardous trees have been removed and determine whether planting additional trees is necessary to supplement natural forest succession.

How will current or future facility bookings in the park be impacted?

Phase 1 construction is planned for locations away from facilities that offer reservations. No impact is anticipated for any booking up to the fall of 2025.

For future phases of construction, facility bookings will be scheduled to avoid conflicts with construction. For more information, please visit [Facilities & Services - Fish Creek Provincial Park | Alberta Parks](#).