

2.0 TRAIL STANDARDS AND EXISTING CONDITIONS

2.1 Trail Classification Standards

The City has aligned the trail classification standards with the provincial guidelines in order to assist with the implementation of the trails network. These standards include a system for establishing the trail type and what supportive facilities should be included.

Trail Type

The City has established a trail classification system based, in large part, on the Provincial Trails Classification strategy. The City has applied this trail classification to many of the marked trails in Kamloops, particularly in Kenna Cartwright Park and Peterson Creek Park. It would be difficult for a trail rating system to be totally objective or valid for every situation; therefore, it is recommended that these ratings be used as a tool in combination with common sense to provide a diverse trail network. Assigning trail types is based on three considerations and criteria including:

a) *Tread Width*

Tread width is calculated in metres as the average width of the active tread or beaten path of the trail.

b) *Trail Grade (Maximum and Average)*

Maximum trail grade is defined as the steepest grade of the trail that is more than 10 m long and is measured using a clinometer. Average grade is the steepness of the grade over the entire length of the trail. Average trail grade, as opposed to maximum trail grade, is generally used to apply rankings of trail grades. However, if there are significant fluctuations in grades along the trail, then this can affect how the trail type is designated.

c) *Trail Tread Surface*

The stability and material of the trail tread surface will determine the level of difficulty of travel of the trail. The City of Kamloops trail types, based on the difficulty level of individual trails and corresponding trail marker symbols for multi-use trails, are summarized in Table 2.1. It is important to note that the predominant determinant of trail type is the grade.

Table 2.1: Trails Type

Type	Corresponding Symbol	Difficulty Level	Average Tread Width	Average Trail Grade	Maximum Trail Grade	Trail Tread Surface
Type I	White Circle	Easiest	2 m	< = 5%	8%	Hardened /Prepared
Type II	Green Circle	Easy	1.25 m	5-8%	10%	Prepared Surface
Type III	Blue Square	More Difficult	0.75 m	As Required	15%	Natural Substrate
Type IV	Black Diamond	Very Difficult	0.5 m	N/A	N/A	Natural Substrate
Type V	Double Black Diamond	Extremely Difficult	<0.5 m	N/A	N/A	Natural Substrate

The photos below illustrate, in general, what each of the different trail types look like.



Type I



Type II



Type III



Type IV