



September 21, 2015

**TO:** Park Board Chair and Commissioners  
**FROM:** General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
**SUBJECT:** Temporary Festive Light Installations - Morton and Alexandra Parks

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## RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve a request from the West End Business Improvement Association for temporary festive lighting installations in Morton and Alexandra Parks between December 7, 2015 and January 31, 2016.

## POLICY

Park Board approval is required for special events not included in the annual Calendar of Major Special Events and/or that are in variance with one or more Park Board by-laws.

## BACKGROUND

The West End Business Improvement Association (WEBIA) is collaborating with Lumière Festival Vancouver Society, British Columbia section of the Illuminating Engineering Society, Burrard Arts Foundation, Vancouver Pride Society, and dozens of other businesses and suppliers to host the second annual Lumière event in downtown Vancouver on December 11 and 12, 2015.

One of the key objectives of Lumière 2015 is to animate and beautify areas in close proximity to key arterial streets in the West End for the enjoyment of Vancouver residents and visitors to the city. The Lumière event features lighting installations in the West End and aligns with the directions/recommendations identified in the West End Community Plan. At a high level, the Lumière event takes its inspiration from successful lighting initiatives in Lyon, France. It is anticipated that the illumination will utilize a variety of lighting technologies, from common rope LED lights, to more festive lighting installations.

Lumière 2015 builds on successful initiatives executed over the past two years in which the WEBIA has worked closely with the City of Vancouver's Planning Department to host a Comox Greenway celebration (part of Lumière 2014), assisted in lighting the West End Community Centre and King George High School, raised funds for the Greater Vancouver Food Bank, and supported a toy drive for Gordon Neighbourhood House.

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## DISCUSSION

As a follow-up to last year's successful Lumière initiative, the WEBIA is proposing the following temporary festive lighting installations between December 7, 2015 and January 31, 2016:

- Morton Park - An illuminated three-dimensional whale motif in Morton Park (see Appendix A). This art installation would be located at the corner of Beach Avenue and Morton Avenue, near a grove of trees, in order to create separation from the Amazing Laughter sculptures and minimize any potential impacts to residents. In 2014, the palm trees in this park were illuminated with blue and white rope LED lights.
- Alexandra Park - An illumination of the Haywood Bandstand featuring decorative umbrellas installed by the Burrard Arts Foundation (see Appendix B). These umbrellas would subsequently be donated to the community at the end of the event.

Subject to Park Board approval, staff will work with the WEBIA to ensure appropriate site safety and security plans are in place, and address any neighbourhood comments/feedback.

## SUMMARY

This temporary lighting initiative by the WEBIA is designed to animate Morton and Alexandra Parks for the benefit of Vancouver residents and visitors. This lighting initiative, which is entering its second year, is expected to beautify and enhance the vibrancy of the West End neighbourhood. Accordingly, staff recommend that the Board approve the request from the organizer as outlined above.

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Rendering of Morton Park Lighting Installation



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Rendering of Alexandra Park Lighting Installation

