



April 18, 2018

TO: Park Board Chair and Commissioners
FROM: General Manager – Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: Volleyball BC Vancouver Open – Licensed Area Expansion

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve a request from Volleyball BC, organizers of the Vancouver Open, to increase the capacity of the tournament's licensed area at Kitsilano Beach Park from 350 guests to 500 guests on July 13, 14 & 15, 2018, with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager of the Park Board.

POLICY

As per the [Vancouver Charter](#), the Park Board has exclusive jurisdiction and control over park land use in the City of Vancouver, including any structures, programs and activities, fees, and improvements that occur within designated parks.

Park Board approval is required for special events that are in variance with one or more Park Board by-laws.

BACKGROUND

Volleyball BC is a not-for-profit organization that actively encourages participation and fosters the development of volleyball in BC. As the provincial sport governing body, they are dedicated to making volleyball accessible to all British Columbians. Volleyball BC offers programs for athletes of all ages ranging from grassroots to high performance, as well as coaches and officials. As part of its mission, Volleyball BC hosts provincial, national and international events to showcase the sport of volleyball to all members of BC. Their flagship professional beach volleyball tournament, the Vancouver Open, is held annually at Kitsilano Beach. The event is free to attend and attracts over 20,000 spectators annually from all over Canada and North America.

DISCUSSION

In 2014, the Park Board approved an increase to the size of Volleyball BC's licensed area from 250 guests to 350 guests; this licensed area has operated without incident for the past several years. For 2018, Volleyball BC is seeking permission to increase their licensed operations to include an all-ages 500-person licensed area. In order to accommodate this change, the new licensed area will be integrated and co-located with the event's north bleacher seats. Fencing will delineate and separate the licensed area from the remaining tournament areas, thereby complying with Vancouver Police Department and BC Liquor Control & Licensing Branch requirements. If approved, the requested changes are expected to:

- Improve spectator experiences by permitting for a more integrated and family friendly environment; and

- Provide the event organizer with additional revenue streams to assist in offsetting expenses associated with delivering this annual event.

The hours of alcohol service delivery at the tournament will remain unchanged from 2017, and be as follows:

- Friday, July 13 – 2:00pm to 8:00pm
- Saturday, July 14 – 11:00am to 8:00pm
- Sunday, July 15 – 11:00am to 7:00pm

This proposal has been reviewed and conditionally approved by key FEST Committee members, including the Vancouver Police Department, Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services, the Park Board and City of Vancouver's special events departments, and the BC Liquor Control & Licensing Branch.

SUMMARY

The Vancouver Open is a popular and established annual summer event that unites the volleyball community, promotes active living and inclusivity, and enhances the vibrancy of our city. Staff have carefully reviewed this application and are confident that this initiative can be delivered in accordance with all permit terms and conditions. Accordingly, staff recommend that the Board approve this application as outlined above.

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Vancouver Open – Preliminary Site Plan

