



Park Board General Manager's Report May 14, 2018

The following report is intended to provide an overview and update on recent and upcoming activities within the Park Board.

PARK DEVELOPMENT

South False Creek Seawall – Cherry Trees

The City and Vancouver Park Board are continuing a process to improve conditions for people walking and cycling along the [South False Creek Seawall](#) between Cambie Bridge and Burrard Bridge. The separated cycling and pedestrian paths opened in April. An important feature of this project was the replacement of cherry trees at Alder Bay Walk, east of Sutcliffe Park. These have been successfully replanted and the trees bloomed this spring.

People Parks and Dogs Strategy Roll Out

Renewed and new dog off-leash areas are to be built at Sunset and Renfrew Community Parks this year, and fencing is being added at the existing Sunset Beach and Crab (Portside) Park dog off-leash areas. Staff are prioritizing the new signage program identified in the [People, Parks, and Dog strategy](#) and are obtaining quotes for the fabrication of the custom dog park signs. The first group of signs will be installed in the following 10 parks: Coopers, Crab (Portside), Devonian Harbour, George Wainborn, Hinge, Jericho, Nelson, New Brighton, Sunset, and Sunset Beach. These will be treated as pilot locations to test the manufacturer's quality and public interest. Additionally, we are proposing a new dog off-leash area at Pandora Park through an ongoing community engagement process for park updates.

A Dog Park Stewardship Ambassador will visit a number of these locations through the summer of 2018 to answer questions and to receive feedback about the new signs. This staff member will also encourage dog park users to become engaged as stewards at their local dog parks.

Stanley Park Seawall Restoration - Project Update

The seawall restoration project is proceeding very well. The contractor is now starting work near the Beaver Creek outlet on the east side of the park and continuing work at Ferguson Point. The contractor is planning to move further north towards Third Beach in the coming weeks.

RECREATION

Strathcona Community Centre Association (CCA) Funding Model Update

The [interim funding model](#) at Strathcona has been underway since August 2017. This program provides Strathcona residents facing financial barriers with access to the community centre's recreation programs at reduced cost. This enhanced Leisure Access Program provides increased levels of subsidy based on income (25%, 50%, 75% discount), features a streamlined application process, and localized marketing in Strathcona. Uptake in the program is increasing as residents become more familiar with the program and its benefits.

Park Board continues to work closely with Strathcona CCA to investigate options for a long term sustainable funding model. Staff are currently working with procurement to hire a consultant to manage this project and expect to bring recommendations back to the Park Board in Fall 2018.



Kitsilano Pool Rehabilitation Project Update

The rehabilitated [Kitsilano Pool](#) will be opening May 19 as per the regular seasonal schedule: during the first three weeks it will open at noon, and then starting June 11, to align with warmer weather and increased use, the pool will open at 7:00am for the remainder of the season. The pool upgrades will significantly reduce the use of potable water (approximately 430,000 gallons per month), making the water feel saltier. As well, the new electric power supply eliminates the need for gas-powered pumps (used to replenish seawater and dewatering) and means the seawall will no longer need to be closed to accommodate the pumps. Noise and emission associated with gas-powered pumps will also be eliminated.

BC Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA) 2018 Symposium

For the first time in ten years, the 2018 Symposium was held in Vancouver with over 72 municipalities represented, from April 30 to May 2. The Park Board team received great praise from the BCRPA Board of Directors for their hospitality and for delivering sessions at the conference on Trans and Gender Diverse Inclusion, Inviting Creativity, & VanPlay, to name just a few.

Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA) 2018 Conference

The CPRA conference was in Regina, SK from May 8 to 10, and the Park Board was touted as the leaders in the country with respect to Inclusion, Diversity, and Reconciliation. There was also mention of the leading edge work of VanPlay using the “Parks for All” framework – a national focused-document developed with much input from our own Park Board Planners.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Heather Lands Policy Statement

On May 15, 2018, Council will be receiving a report on the [Heather Lands Policy Statement](#) which contains a set of policies to guide consideration of an anticipated rezoning application for the lands. The Policy Statement considers the future mix of uses, density and height, building forms, parks and public spaces, circulation and community amenities, to service the new existing community. The policies will lead to the creation of a sustainable new district, a range of affordable housing opportunities, and a significant amount of new parks and open spaces.

Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy

On May 16, 2018, Council will be receiving a report on the [Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy](#). The strategy includes bold actions to reduce use of plastic and paper bags, polystyrene foam take-out containers and cups, disposable hot and cold drink cups, take-out food containers, and disposable straws and utensils. The strategy proposes that the City work with businesses and the community on implementation, and support the transitions needed.

As communicated in the April 6 Board briefing memo, several changes have already been implemented in Park Board concessions and golf clubhouse operations in support of this strategy, including:

- Recyclable plastic beverage cups with sippy style lids that do not require straws;
- Biodegradable paper straws available upon request; no plastic straws at PB facilities;



- Recyclable coffee cups and lids;
- Biodegradable wooden cutlery;
- Compostable, paper-based, PLA-free take-out containers & silicone-free sandwich wrap.

2019-2022 Draft Capital Plan

Council is scheduled to receive a presentation on May 16 as a precursor to the draft 2019-2022 City-wide Capital Plan that will be presented in June. The content and materials are still being finalized and will be posted once available.

Board Briefing Memos – May 1 to 14, 2018

Date:	Issued By:	Topic
May 1	Dave Hutch – Manager, Planning & Research	Oakridge Centre Redevelopment
May 3	Malcolm Bromley – General Manager	Park Board Tree Farm
May 5, 7 & 9	Steve Jackson – Director, Finance	Draft 2019-2022 Park Board Capital Plan Updates
May 9	Tiina Mack – Manager, Park Development	Metro Vancouver Pump Station Generator Projects in Parks
May 11	Shauna Wilton – Deputy General Manager	Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy
May 14	Dave Hutch – Manager, Planning & Research	Heather Lands Policy Statement Update
May 14	Dave Hutch – Manager, Planning & Research	Marpole Community Ctr Needs Assessment Study Update
May 14	Tiina Mack – Manager, Park Development	Smithe & Richards New Park – Progress Update
May 14	Shauna Wilton – Deputy General Manager	Summer Concession Operations Update
May 14	Donnie Rosa – Director of Recreation	Canada Summer Jobs Initiative – Community Centre Funding Impacts