



MOTION ON NOTICE

Increased Accessibility to Public Washrooms

MOVER: Commissioner Kirby-Yung

WHEREAS:

1. Vancouver City Council unanimously passed a motion at the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on November 2, 2016 supporting increased public washrooms;
2. The Vancouver Seniors Advisory Committee passed a motion on September 23, 2016 regarding increased access to public washrooms;
3. Access to public toilets is a basic human need and is a component of delivering recreational services that are inclusive and welcoming to all;
4. Older adults require access to public washrooms. Seniors are a growing demographic in Vancouver with the city's population aged 65-74 expected to increase by 74%, and age 75+ to increase by 105% by 2041;
5. Sports field users including children and youth (noting that fields in Vancouver experience sustained high use) require access to public washrooms;
6. Park users require access to public washrooms;
7. Such facilities provide comfort for all. Ready availability can encourage Vancouverites to get outside more often and for longer periods, thus encouraging active, healthy living; and
8. One of the most frequent complaints received from the public are related to the cleanliness of and access times for public bathrooms in parks.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Vancouver Park Board request staff to:

- A. Report back to the Board with an assessment of locations in the Vancouver parks and recreation system that may be underserved with accessible public washroom facilities, and identify any budgetary or operational constraints to providing sufficient regular servicing of public washrooms in the parks and recreation system;
- B. Establish appropriate design specifications for accessible public toilets, in consultation with groups such as the Seniors Advisory Committee, the Vancouver Field Sports Federation, Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee, TGVI Steering Committee, and other advisory committees as may be relevant; and
- C. Include accessible public toilets in needed locations in current and future park planning projects, as well as include provisions for proper maintenance to ensure well-functioning, safe, and accessible facilities.