



MOTION ON NOTICE

Parking Fees - Spanish Banks Beach Park

MOVER: Commissioner Crawford

WHEREAS:

1. As outlined in the Fees and Charges report of the 2018 Park Board Operating Budget, over 40% of the Park Board's operating budget is funded by fees and charges. Pay parking is a critical source of revenue, providing funding for necessary enhancements to the safety, security, and cleanliness of our parks and facilities;
2. The remaining portion of the operating budget of the Park Board is supplied by the city (approx. 56%). Since 2008, city funding contribution of Park Board expenses has decreased from approx. 70% (~7% of the total city budget to ~4%). To make up the difference, the Park Board has added new fees and charges and increased others;
3. To supplement revenues, staff proposed implementing peak season (Apr 1 to Sep 30) pay parking at the four lots at Spanish Banks Beach Park (810 spaces) to align with practices at other destination parks and beaches. It was estimated that this will generate revenue upwards of \$300K;
4. In consideration of the public feedback received, and review of alternate transit options, staff recently proposed adjusting the 2018 implementation plan in an effort to reduce impacts to regular users, including:
 - i. Shorten duration of pay parking period (mid-May to early Sep; delays implementation by 6 weeks, ends 4 weeks earlier (25 weeks to 16 weeks);
 - ii. Offer free early morning parking (6am-9am)
5. Other measures staff will be taking include encouraging public transit and car/bike share providers to improve services and access to Spanish Banks and exploring opportunities to offer subsidized parking to low income residents via the Leisure Access Program;
6. Staff considered allowing the first two hours of parking at no-charge, but technical limitations of the current parking systems do not allow this functionality;
7. Current plans do not include implementing parking fees in the lots adjacent to Locarno Beach (~56 spaces) nor the street parking along NW Marine Drive (fall under City Engineering jurisdiction); and
8. After the introduction of these changes to the implementation plan, citizens continue to express concerns about the potential high cost of parking for individuals and families that have enjoyed Spanish Banks Beach Park for long summer visits picnicking, playing and visiting with friends and family. Much of the correspondence suggests that these new costs add to the increasing expensive of living and recreating in Vancouver



THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to revise the plans for the implementation of pay parking at Spanish Banks Beach Park, implementing a policy that the first two hours of parking will be no charge, the remaining time to follow the proposed rate schedule;
- B. THAT until such a time that the Park Board has the technical ability to institute the policy in 'A', new parking regulations are not to take effect at Spanish Banks Beach Park;
- C. THAT once implemented, during the first year of pay parking at Spanish Banks, staff will monitor the effectiveness of the above measures, along with the overall impacts on both park usage and the surrounding neighbourhood, to help inform recommendations moving forward; and
- D. FURTHER THAT staff be directed to report back with recommendations on future parking fees at Spanish Banks Beach Park as part of the operating budget planning.