



## Park Board General Manager's Report

July 23, 2018

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

### PARK DEVELOPMENT

#### Alder Bay Dock Concept Plan

Meetings with stakeholders and user groups are complete with the final open house held on July 17, 2018 in Sutcliffe Park. The False Creek Community Centre Association and CMHC Granville Island representatives, consultants, and staff attended this event, along with over 50 interested residents and boaters. There was also a large turn out from the False Creek Racing Canoe Club. The concept plan for an expanded and accessible dock has been well received and supported. An [online survey](#) is available for two more weeks. Staff will compile results and make some design adjustments based on input received, before finalizing the next steps and cost estimates for the project.

#### Douglas Park Playground

Construction of the timber play elements is proceeding well and staff continue to collaborate with the Douglas Park Community Centre Association on the project. Unfortunately, the remaining play equipment was destroyed in a boat fire while in transit. This will delay the project but the overall impact is still unknown. We should know more in the next week or so.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### VSO Symphony at Sunset

In collaboration with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, staff delivered on the Board motion to present a free, open-air concert at Sunset Beach Park on Saturday, July 14. The Symphony at Sunset concert was set amongst the sweeping views of English Bay and kicked-off the VSO's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary season. This free and accessible family event, which was also alcohol and smoke-free, proved extremely popular and attracted over 8000 Vancouverites to our iconic park. Park Board staff and their VSO colleagues are continuing to work together to make this a sustainable annual initiative.

#### Corpse Flower at Bloedel Conservatory

The Park Board's rare Titan Arum or Corpse Flower bloomed last week at Bloedel Conservatory. The plant, dubbed "Uncle Fester" by Vancouverites in an online naming contest, is one of the largest flowers on earth and is known for its putrid bouquet. Corpse Flower blooms are very rare and unpredictable, and this is the first time a titan arum has bloomed publicly in British Columbia.

Public interest and social media engagement was extremely positive throughout Uncle Fester's entire bloom cycle journey. Staff worked tirelessly to commemorate and promote this unique natural spectacle, including extending conservatory hours on July 16 & 17, from early morning into late evening, to allow as many visitors as possible to experience the event. During the 3-day peak bloom cycle, which occurred between July 15 and July 17, over 10,640 guests visited Bloedel. During the full 12-day display period from July 10 to 22, a total of 21,230 guests visited Bloedel, generating revenues of over \$137,000. By comparison, attendance at the Conservatory totaled 5,930 during the same 12-day period in 2017, while revenues approximated \$48,000.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Vancouver Mural Festival Celebration Concert**

The Vancouver Mural Festival Celebration Concert, approved by the Board on June, 4, 2018, has announced their artist line-up. The event is taking place on August 11, 2018, at Jonathan Rogers Park, and will feature Indigenous music group 'A Tribe Called Red' and queer singer 'Charlotte Day Wilson'. The program is intended to celebrate, showcase and promote inclusivity, empathy and acceptance amongst all races and genders.

### **Vancouver Pride Parade**

The Park Board will once again participate in the 40<sup>th</sup> annual Vancouver Pride Parade. Commissioners and staff will walk in the parade to support the LGBTQ2+ community. This year's theme is biodiversity and gender diversity. Gardeners are working hard on creating a very special float, come join us on Sunday, August 5, to join the fun!

### **Vancouver International Bird Festival**

2018 will be the Vancouver International Bird Festival's first year, running from August 19-26 in venues across the city. The festival was created to build on the success of Vancouver Bird Week, which has been enjoyed in the city since 2013. Key events include the Festival Preview on August 18 at the Vancouver Public Library, which will include displays, talks, unveiling of a children's bird mural and more. On August 20, "Birds on Parade!" will start along the seawall at around 3:00pm, arriving at Jack Poole Plaza around 4:00pm for the official festival opening.

## STAFF UPDATE

### **Acting Director of Planning and Park Development**

Dave Hutch has been promoted to the position of Acting Director of Planning and Park Development for a 12 month period effective immediately. This role will provide integrated leadership and direction to our Planning and Development teams and will work as a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

This new position will allow us to have a single-point of leadership over both teams, along with senior representation of the Park Board at major City of Vancouver planning and development initiatives. Over the next year, we will further assess the long-term responsibilities in this role to support the Park Board and its mandate.

## COUNCIL BUSINESS

### **Final 2019-2022 Capital Plan and Plebiscite Questions**

On July 24, 2018, Council will be receiving a report on the [Final 2019-2022 Capital Plan & Plebiscite Questions](#). The purpose of the report is to share with Council the public feedback gathered on the Draft 2019-2022 Capital Plan. It also requests Council approval of the Final 2019-2022 Capital Plan and associated funding strategy, and approval of the borrowing plebiscite questions that will appear on the ballot in the October municipal election.



## 2018 Q2 Capital Budget Adjustments and Closeouts

On July 24, 2018, Council will also be receiving a report on the [2018 Q2 Capital Budget Adjustments and Closeouts](#). It requests Council approval of an increase of \$13.8 million to the 2015-2018 Capital Plan and \$24.3 million to Multi-Year Capital Project Budgets with no change to the overall 2018 Capital Expenditure Budget. It also requests Council approval of a \$600,000 increase to a capital grant to Gordon Neighbourhood House and the closeout of four (4) completed capital projects with a surplus or deficit exceeding \$200,000.

## 2019-2023 Budget Outlook

On July 24, 2018, Council will also be receiving a report on the [2019-2023 Budget Outlook](#) for information. The Budget Outlook will provide Council with the context and factors that will influence the development of the 2019 Budget and five-year financial plan, and identified potential revenue and expenditure changes. The final budget strategy along with the results of the public engagement process will be presented to Council in early December 2018, for deliberation and final approval.

## Board Briefing Memos – July 10 to July 23, 2018

Date:	Issued By:	Topic
Jul 10	Dave Hutch – Manager, Planning & Research	<a href="#">Arbutus Greenway Design Vision &amp; Implementation Strategy</a>
Jul 10	Malcolm Bromley – General Manager	<a href="#">Titan Arum “Corpse Flower” at Bloedel Conservatory</a>
Jul 10	Dave Hutch – Manager, Planning & Research	<a href="#">Cambie Corridor Utilities Plan and Rainwater Management Update</a>
Jul 11	Sadhu Johnston – City Manager and Malcolm Bromley – General Manager, Park Board	<a href="#">Impact and Costs of 2018 4/20 Cannabis Protests</a>
Jul 12	Dave Hutch - Manager, Planning & Research	<a href="#">Local Food Action Plan – Progress Update and Next Steps</a>
Jul 18	Malcolm Bromley – General Manager	<a href="#">Swimming in False Creek</a>
Jul 18	Malcolm Bromley – General Manager	<a href="#">West End Community Centre Renewal and Expansion</a>