



COMMISSIONER ENQUIRIES - SUMMARY REPORT

Date Received	Topic	Summary of Request	Board Update	Status
Jan 20/20	Lawn Mower Inventory	A Board member enquired if an inventory of all Park Board mowers can be made available; should include all grades of mowers from push to ride-on for golf courses and other large areas.	The Park Board turf maintenance inventory is comprised of 148 pieces of equipment, including: 52 ride-on mowers, 86 push mowers, and 10 PTO / 7 gang flail trailer attachments that are pulled by tractors. Staff continue to explore options to replace fossil fuel based equipment with suitable electric alternatives.	COMPLETE
Jan 20/20	Off Leash Dog Area - Strathcona Park	A Board member enquired about the detailed schedule and scope of public consultation planned for the off leash dog area in Strathcona Park and if that information could be made public.	One of two dog off-leash areas in Strathcona Park was removed last year due to safety concerns stemming from it being co-located with a ball diamond. Staff have reached out to residents regarding improvements that can occur in the short term, while also initiating an ongoing relationship with residents interested in forming a Strathcona Dog OLA Stewardship Group. This information will be posted on the People, Parks and Dogs website by the end of February.	ONGOING INITIATIVE
Jan 20/20	Chafer Beetle Update	A Board member asked for an update on the progress made to combat infestations of the European Chafer Beetle, along with the extent of the infestation and any further treatment plans.	The European chafer beetle infestation has spread to nearly all Lower Mainland municipalities. In Vancouver, beetle damage can be found throughout the city on boulevards and in parks and sports fields. Current management strategies are based on the Best Management Practices developed by Metro Vancouver's Invasive Species Subcommittee. Park Board staff are currently working on an invasive species management plan that will guide best management practices moving forward.	COMPLETE
Jan 20/20	Green House Gas Reductions	A Board member asked for a chart showing the Park Board's greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions and how they compare to the Greenest City Action Plan goals.	As of the end of 2019, Parks & Recreation reduced the number of vehicles in its fleet by 20% and achieved a 26% reduction below the 2007 baseline against the city-wide fleet 30% GHG reduction target. For buildings, as of the end of 2018, Parks & Recreation achieved a 24% reduction in GHG emissions from 2007 levels against a city-wide 20% reduction target. This amounts to a 42% reduction from 1990 levels. A Board briefing memo sent on March 4, 2019 provides more details on the Renewal Energy Strategy for Park Board facilities. Additional comparative metrics will be provided when available.	IN PROCESS
Jan 20/20	Mobile Pump-Out Service 2020	A Board member enquired about the 2020 mobile pump-out service, where and when it would be operating, and if there are any Park Board implications for the program.	On February 12, 2020, Council approved the delivery of mobile pump-out services in False Creek for the 2020-2024 boating seasons and requested that staff provide annual updates on service performance as part of the City's False Creek Water Quality Improvement Initiative. The stationary pump-out stations at Burrard and Heather Civic Marinas are used by the mobile service, which is currently operated by CoV Engineering.	COMPLETE
Jan 20/20	Youth Ranger Program - Update	A Board member asked for an update on the Youth Ranger Program that was approved by the Board in 2016.	Park Board Rangers have provided educational outreach to children and youth on an ad hoc basis for many years. With the Youth Ranger Program board motion approved in September 2016, staff began investigating opportunities to develop a more formal program. In 2017, a pilot program based out of the QE Park fieldhouse, in partnership with UBC's Faculty of Education Community Field Experience program, provided opportunities to engage children in park stewardship, environmental responsibility, civic leadership, community engagement, and safety. The pilot was well-received, however it was recognized that dedicated funding would be needed to continue the programming. The ongoing delivery of the Youth Ranger Program is being explored through the overall review of the Park Ranger Service model.	IN PROCESS



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Jan 20/20	Tree Removal	A Board member enquired if the Park Board keeps records on tree removals (#s, reasons, locations) and if there is historical comparative data that can be provided.	Urban Forestry tracks all tree removals, including the location, reason, and historical data for comparison purposes (summary of 2015-2019 removals is attached). On average, approximately 1% of the tree inventory is removed annually for a variety of reasons, including: removal for a construction project or for utilities; whole or partial tree failure (dead/dying or damaged); deemed a public hazard or unstable; inappropriate tree and/or location.	COMPLETE
Jan 20/20	Tree Guardian Program 2020	A Board member asked for an update on the Tree Guardian Network campaign for 2020 and whether watering bags will be distributed (and how this compares with prior years).	For 2020, staff will be working with Business Improvement Associations in Downtown, Strathcona, & Mount Pleasant to increase awareness of the Tree Guardian program and identify champions to water the trees in these priority areas. In addition, staff will trial a new tree tagging program to provide information about the tree along with watering instructions. A social media campaign will be launched in May to educate the broader public about how they can get involved in the program. Urban Forestry staff are recommending that watering bags no longer be used as they do not promote proper root growth, can result in rot around the tree trunk, are not re-usable for health and safety reasons, and are not recyclable. Instead, encouraging the public to water trees for 5 minutes twice per week provides the tree with more water and promotes better root development.	ONGOING INITIATIVE
Jan 20/20	Recognition of Dal Richards	A Board member requested an update on the Feb 2016 motion directing staff to identify opportunities to recognize the contributions of Dal Richards.	In April 2017, the Park Board agreed to put all naming processes on hold for staff to work with the Nations to develop a new process to recognize Indigenous place names. This work is ongoing; the review of commemorative naming is included in the development of the new cultural framework policy referenced in the Arts & Culture planning update presented to the Board on February 24, 2020.	ONGOING INITIATIVE

**Tree Removal Summary (by reason)
2015-2019**

Removal Type	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		Definition
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Construction	57	3.6%	48	3.6%	62	4.7%	63	4.3%	74	5.0%	Removal for a construction project
Dead	709	44.4%	510	38.5%	689	52.1%	827	56.3%	735	50.1%	Tree is dead or dying
Engineering	9	0.6%	17	1.3%	58	4.4%	18	1.2%	47	3.2%	Removal for Engineering
Failure	45	2.8%	69	5.2%	57	4.3%	37	2.5%	36	2.5%	Whole or partial tree failure
Hazard	28	1.8%	21	1.6%	82	6.2%	32	2.2%	23	1.6%	Tree deemed a public hazard
Hydro	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%	2	0.1%	Removal for Hydro
Inappropriate	10	0.6%	2	0.2%	5	0.4%	16	1.1%	28	1.9%	Inappropriate tree and/or location
Motor Vehicle Accident	41	2.6%	27	2.0%	47	3.6%	53	3.6%	54	3.7%	Tree hit by vehicle
Pests	39	2.4%	39	2.9%	26	2.0%	39	2.7%	47	3.2%	Removal due to insect pest or disease
Storm	378	23.7%	140	10.6%	127	9.6%	85	5.8%	138	9.4%	Storm damaged tree
Unstable	64	4.0%	77	5.8%	107	8.1%	196	13.4%	189	12.9%	Tree unstable
Utilities	6	0.4%	6	0.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.1%	Removal due to Utilities
Vandalism	5	0.3%	6	0.5%	5	0.4%	8	0.5%	13	0.9%	Willful damage to the trees
Unclassified	205	12.8%	361	27.3%	57	4.3%	93	6.3%	80	5.4%	No removal reason listed in work history (may be in tree details)
TOTAL	1597	100%	1323	100%	1322	100%	1468	100%	1468	100%	