

COMMISSIONER ENQUIRIES - SUMMARY REPORT

Date Received	Topic	Summary of Request	Board Update	Status
May 17/21	Oppenheimer Encampment Estimated Costs	A Board member requested an estimate of all costs incurred by the Park Board, City of Vancouver and Vancouver Police related to the Oppenheimer Park encampment, including fence & equipment rentals, private security, refuse and material disposal, and park remediation, from the start date of encampment until the park's full return to neighbourhood use.	Staff have now consolidated Park Board and City costs related to the Oppenheimer Park encampment. The city-wide costs incurred from 2018 to May 31, 2021 amount to approximately \$2.1M. Forecast costs are anticipated to be approximately \$1.2M. Total projected costs are anticipated to be approximately \$3.3M. Recoveries in the amount of \$234K have been received from the Province to date.	COMPLETE
Jul 05/21		A Board member requested information on the funding approvals that authorized proceeding with the purchase and installation of the Portland Loo in Coopers' Park.	The Parks Washroom Strategy (approved Nov 2020) included recommendations for standalone washrooms, with plan to pilot Portland Loos at three sites: CRAB, Columbia and Coopers' Parks. The approved 2021 Capital Budget included a Multi-Year Capital Project Budget of \$8.5 million, with annual planned expenditures of \$3.4 million, related to the Washrooms and Fieldhouses Capital Program. This budget is managed by the City's Real Estate and Facilities Management (REFM) department, and as such, authorization of the purchase and installation of the Portland Loo in Coopers' Park followed the COV Procurement Policy, which required approval from the General Manager of REFM and the City's Chief Procurement Officer.	COMPLETE
Jul 05/21	Meadow Pilot & Fire Safety	In consideration of concerns from Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services regarding long dry grass being fuel for potential fires during the hot and dry summer season expected, a Board member asked whether staff are contemplating any changes to the meadow (low-mow) pilot.	As part of the Meadow Pilot,monitoring and inspecting is included as part of the Phase 1 risk assessment in the operational guide. The potential for prolonged summer drought was considered from the start of planning this initiative. Most of the meadow sites already have mown perimeters, trails and/or breaks to limit the possible spread of any fire. Further, a Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services (VFRS) inspector recently visited a number of the meadow sites and provided feedback to clarify any possible risks and how maintenance and/or buffers could be enhanced to reduce possible risks. Staff are actioning this feedback, and all future meadow sites will factor in VFRS considerations. Staff plan to report back to the Board later this fall with data, observations, and surveys of the 18 meadow sites.	COMPLETE
Jul 05/21	Golf Reserve Status	In light of the Board-directed hold on all non-essential spending from the Golf Capital Reserve Fund, a Board member requested that staff provide an update on the reserve's balance, projected to the end of 2021, along with a high-level summary of spending since the hold on all non-essential spending was imposed, with the projected spending to the end of 2021.	As part of the 2021 budget approvals in Nov 2020, a motion was passed to postpone all non-essential capital investments and maintenance improvement investments drawn from the Golf Capital Reserve Fund for Golf Course Improvements, with the exception of previously approved investments, until completion of the Golf Strategy. As at Jun 30/21, the Golf Capital Reserve Fund had a balance of \$3.3 million. Since Nov 30/20, \$0.1M was spent related to McCleery dewatering pump replacements (as outlined in a Feb 12/21 briefing memo), and \$0.1M was spent on Fraserview irrigation satellite replacements, which were deemed essential due to failing hydraulic and electrical components. For the remainder of 2021, staff forecast additional expenditures of \$0.9M related to the Langara drainage project (approved Apr 2018). The Golf Reserve is forecast to end the fiscal year with a balance of \$2.4M.	COMPLETE

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Jul 05/21	Golf Course Water Usage	A Board member requested data on the on the volume of water used in 2020 for irrigation at each of the 3 Park Board golf courses, with the water sources included where possible (e.g. onsite wells, ponds, etc.).	Golf courses are considered part of the Institutional Sector, which represents around 5% of the city's total water usage. In 2020, Park Board golf course water consumption (irrigation and domestic), accounted for about .05% of overall water use in the City. A comprehensive breakdown of the volume of water used at each golf course will be provided in a Board memo.	IN PROCESS
Jul 05/21	Urban Forest Summer Irrigation	A Board member requested an overview of the summer irrigation practices for both new and well-established trees in the Urban Forestry system (from street trees to those in parks), along with a high-level summary of staffing, resources and quantity of water quantity dedicated to this activity.	Urban Forestry plants an average of 2,000 trees per year in City boulevards along with several hundred trees in naturalized areas, parks and golf courses. Given the often-challenging conditions for the trees planted in City boulevards, the watering program is mostly focused on the street trees. A Board briefing memo providing an overview of the Urban Forest watering program was sent to Commissioners on July 19, 2021.	COMPLETE

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