



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Regular Park Board Meeting
Monday, November 15, 2021

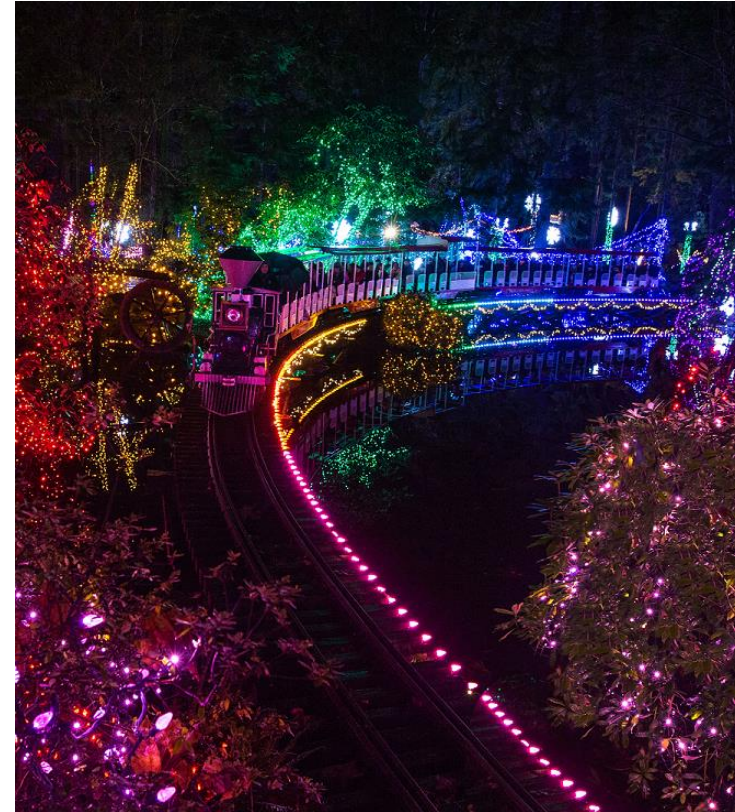


- A magical winter wonderland with over 1 million lights will cover 15 acres of VanDusen Botanical Garden this year from November 26 to January 3.
- A number of COVID-19 safety measures have been implemented to provide a safe holiday event experience.
- New features this year will include new themed areas with unique lighting effects that reconnect the public to the garden.
- Over 100 staff work together to produce the show including gardeners, operations workers, cashiers, park rangers, building workers and event leads.



Bright Nights in Stanley Park

- The Bright Nights event returns November 26, 2021 – January 2, 2022
- Modified event will feature the train, a reduced plaza light display by the Burn Fund, and food & beverage options on the plaza
- Capacity has been held to 60% of maximum, with over 85,000 tickets available. Online-only ticket sales launched October 25 with tremendous response - almost 20% sold the first day
- No proof of vaccination status required. Masks are recommended; physical distancing markers in train station lineup
- This event will once again serve as a major fundraising source for the Burn Fund. Volunteers will be on site on weekends, and electronic options for donation will be available on weeknights.



Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement

- All City of Vancouver employees and volunteers are required to be fully vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine series by December 6, 2021.
- The Policy, which includes Park Board staff and volunteers, has been finalized and posted on the City website.





- “Public Access to Green Space” project
- Pilot conducted to increase hours on natural grass fields.

- New fitness layouts to create more accessible and inclusive environments.
- Services have returned to near pre-COVID capacity at Park Board operated fitness centres.





- Arena rentals at full capacity for prime-time use.
- Public programming saw an overall fill rate of 88%.
- Arenas Services and Access Services teamed up to restart Adapted Skating Lessons.



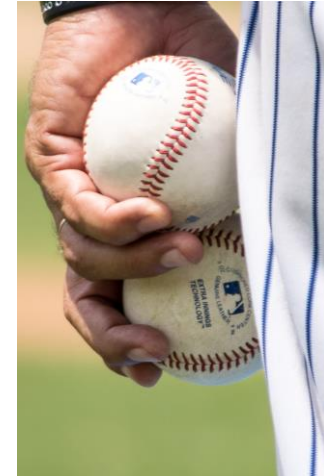
- Daily attendance at outdoor pools reached 5,000 swims.
- Summer attendance for indoor pools was 142,900 and 326,400 for outdoor pools.
- The use of a ticketing app for outdoor pools provided efficiencies and increased capacity.



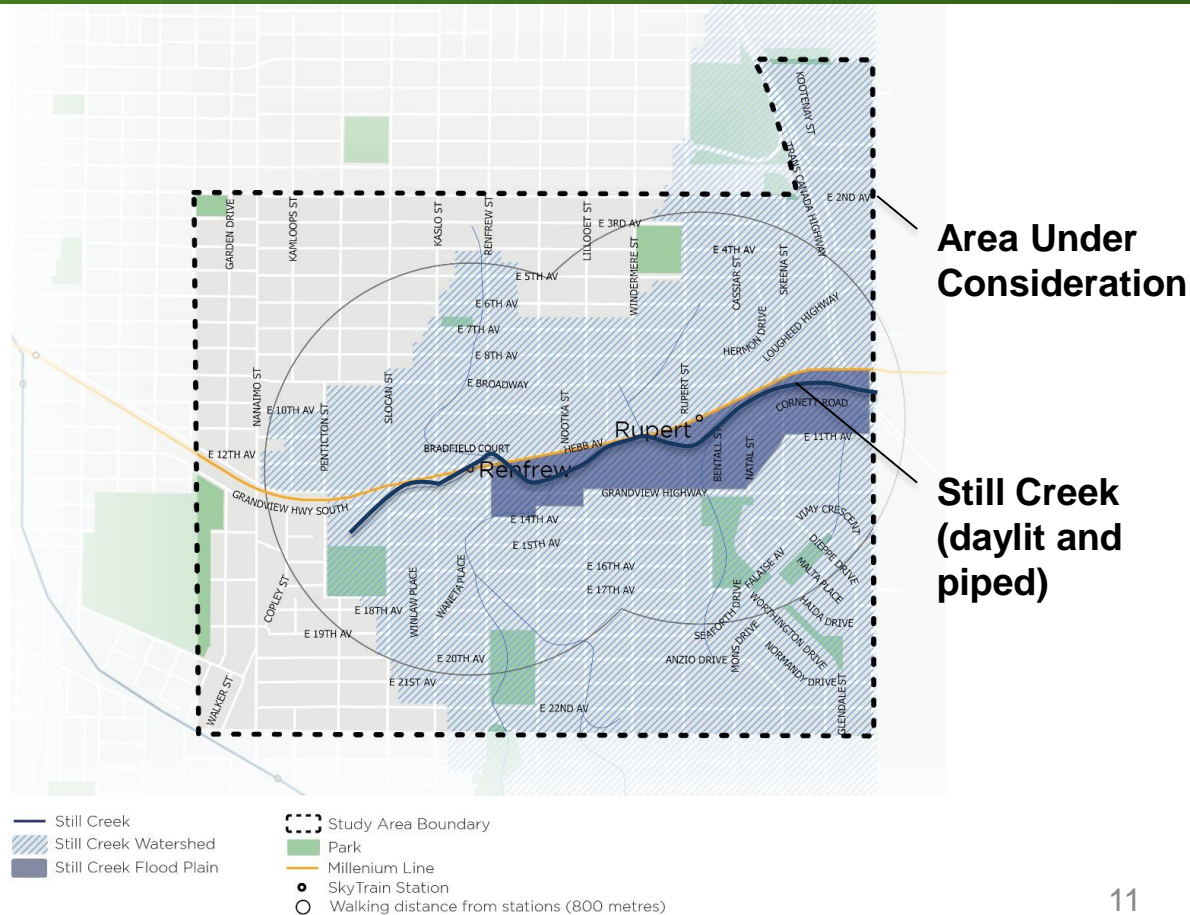
- New outdoor lifeguard uniform to provide greater protection, aligning with the Sun Smart policy and international Lifesaving standard.
- Swim Lessons were re-introduced at all indoor pools.
- 14 Wading pools were opened (*closed in 2020*).

Sport Field Strategy Update

- Phase 1 of Engagement scheduled to start end of November, and includes:
 1. City-wide External Advisory Group
 2. General Public Survey
(<https://shapeyourcity.ca/sport-field-strategy>) – open from November 29 to December 13)
 3. Targeted User Group / Permit Holder Engagement (December & January)
 - a) Targeted User Surveys
 - b) Workshops with Stakeholders and Partners
- Scientific review of Turf Typologies, Trends & Environmental/Health Considerations underway
- City-wide Inventory, Mapping, & Spatial Analysis of Sports Field Facilities underway



- If approved, Park Board will be part of staff team, to advocate for both Still Creek, and existing / potential future greenspaces within the watershed



Bat Survey in Parks and Golf Courses

- Bats are an indicator of overall ecosystem health.
- Parks staff contracted Echo Ecological to complete bat surveys on parks and golf courses with ponds in summer 2021.

Table 1: Bat species confirmed at City of Vancouver parks and golf courses in summer 2021.

Location	# Bats Recorded						
	MYLU	EPFU	LACI	MYYU	MYCA	LANO	MYVO
John Hendry	X	X	X		X	X	
Vanier			X				
Jericho	X			X			
South Memorial							
McCleery	X	X	X	X	X		
Fraserview	X	X		X	X		X
Queen Elizabeth	X	X	X			X	

Their survey showed that 7 species of bats were present in the parks and golf courses and all but one (a primarily mown turf grass park) survey site hosted bats. The report provides staff with a better understanding of how naturally managed areas support bats, and recommendations for future management.



A Report on Rupert and Renfrew Station Area Planning and Enhanced Rezoning for 3200 East Broadway and 2625 Rupert Street recommending that Council direct staff to initiate a planning process for the area around the Rupert and Renfrew SkyTrain stations in alignment with the Vancouver Plan.

Board Briefing Memos and Emails: October 19 to November 15, 2021



Date	Topic
Oct 20	Indoor Aquatics Services Lifeguard Shortage
Oct 20	Metro Vancouver Kersland Reservoir Upgrades in QE Park
Oct 22	Bloedel Conservatory 2021 Holiday Event
Oct 28	CitySkate Strategy: Phase 2 Public Engagement Update
Oct 29	Seaside Greenway Kits Beach Park – Project Update
Nov 4	Jericho Lands Policy Statement: Phase 3 Public Engagement Update
Nov 5	Lumiere Festival 2021-22 Update
Nov 5	Broadway Plan Public Engagement – Refined Directions
Nov 8	Outdoor Pool Study Report

