



## Park Board General Manager's Office Report February 7, 2022

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

### **West End Calisthenics Park in Barclay Heritage Square**

The new West End Calisthenics Park in Barclay Heritage Square opened to the public in January and is being enjoyed by local residents. As outlined in an April 2021 [Board briefing memo](#), it was one of fourteen potential initiatives identified through the [West End Participatory Budgeting process](#), also known as WeChoo\$. This project received the highest number of community votes and a \$50,000 grant towards implementation. Located carefully beneath existing, mature trees, and in a location to preserve the open green lawn area, the installed equipment includes an incline bench, parallel bars, push up bar, decline press, Swedish ladder, plus a separate, accessible hand-cycling station.

### **New Park at Main & 7<sup>th</sup> – Design Process**

A new and vibrant 1,000sqm urban park is to be developed at the northwest corner of Main Street and 7th Avenue in the Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood. In February 2022, staff will issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) requesting consultant services for the design, engagement and build of the space.

In 2021, staff completed the first round of public engagement for the future park space and received nearly 2,500 visitors to the [project webpage](#). The feedback heard will be incorporated into the consultants' designs and help guide the look and feel of the future park. In the interim, a temporary park space has been installed on the site for the neighbourhood to enjoy, including six long harvest tables, raised planters with native species, and beach log lounge areas on top of the existing colourful ground murals.

### **Kitsilano Beach Park Seaside Greenway Project – Engagement Update**

The third and final round of public engagement for the [Kitsilano Beach Park Seaside Greenway project](#) will be launching in mid-February. The project will improve the Seaside Greenway for people walking, rolling, and cycling by developing a separated cycling path between Balsam Street and McNicoll Avenue, including a section within Kitsilano Beach Park.

In the first round of public engagement in August 2021, staff heard that the top three values for a separated cycling path in the park were greenspace, connection, and directness, followed by impact and parking. In the second round of engagement in November 2021, staff asked people to evaluate a few different cycle path options based on these values. Staff have developed a proposed cycle path route incorporating these findings as well as safety, comfort, and technical and operational considerations.

During this final phase of engagement, staff are asking the public to review the proposed cycle path route and provide feedback through a public survey launching on February 14. Staff will be available for virtual 'office hours' during this period. A Board update on public engagement outcomes and a recommended cycle path route is planned for spring 2022.

### **Upcoming Council Business (related to or impacting parks & recreation):**

Council will be considering a members' motion titled [Aligning Vancouver's 2023-2026 Capital Plan with Increased Climate Emergency Action](#), with recommendations seeking to ensure the needed capital funding is in place in the 2022-2026 Capital Plan to complete new climate emergency projects funded through the City's annual \$9 million climate levy, including those noted in the City's 2022 Operating Budget.