



# VANPLAY 2023 UPDATE

The Park Board's 25 Year  
Masterplan for Parks and  
Recreation Services

Regular Board Meeting  
Monday, January 30, 2023



**Vancouver is within the  
unceded traditional  
territory of the  
Musqueam, Squamish  
and Tsleil-Waututh  
Nations**







The Parks and Recreation Services Master Plan is intended to guide the work of the Vancouver Park Board over 25 years. It represents a strong commitment to equitable delivery of excellent parks and recreation opportunities in a connected, efficient manner which celebrates history of the land, place, and culture

# WHY WE PLAN



Planning provides a toolkit for efficient, defensible decision-making and action.





# WHAT VANPLAY DOES

VanPlay is an **adaptable**, **action-oriented** strategy and helps us find **success** together as a team, with **fairness** and **efficiency**



# DEEP COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

VanPlay engaged over  
**30,000**  
residents and stakeholders  
in imaging the future of  
parks and recreation.



VanPlay Smart City Talks



VanPlay Video



Digital Campaign



Hashtagged Social Media Posts | Instagram



# VANPLAY

## VISION

To be the leader in parks and recreation  
by connecting people to green space,  
active living and community.

## MISSION

Provide, preserve and advocate for parks  
and recreation to benefit all people,  
communities and the environment.





# VANPLAY REPORTS



## Inventory & Analysis

### 10 Goals to Shape the Next 25 Years

### 3 Strategic Bold Moves

### The “Playbook” (Implementation Plan)

### VanPlay Framework



1



2



3



4



5



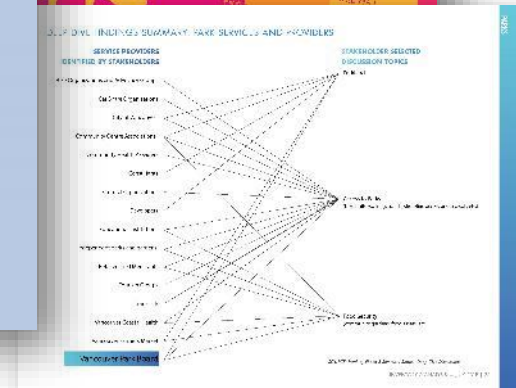
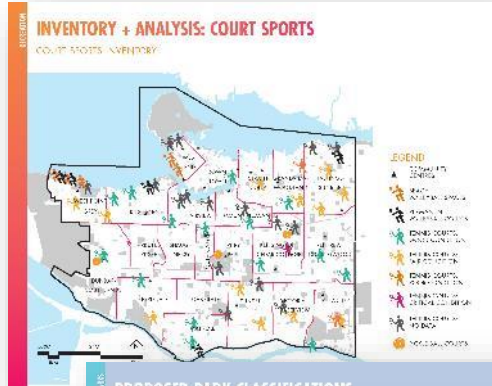
# VANPLAY REPORTS

1

## INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

A compilation of the current state of the City's parks and recreation system.

July 2018



# VANPLAY REPORTS



2

## 10 GOALS TO SHAPE THE NEXT 30 YEARS

Aspirational statements for the future.

*July 2018*

- Goal 1:** **Grow and renew parks, community centres** and other assets, to keep pace with population growth and evolving needs
- Goal 2:** **Protect existing parks and recreation spaces** from loss encroachment and densification
- Goal 3:** **Prioritize the delivery of resources** to where they are needed most
- Goal 4:** **Focus on core responsibilities** of the Park Board, and be a supportive ally to partners
- Goal 5:** **Adapt our parks and recreation** amenities to a changing climate
- Goal 6:** **Create a green network** that will connect our parks, waterfront and recreation areas
- Goal 7:** **Restore Vancouver's wild spaces** and vital biodiversity
- Goal 8:** **Foster a system of parks and recreation spaces that are safe** and welcoming to all
- Goal 9:** **Seek truth as a foundation for reconciliation** with Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations
- Goal 10:** **Secure adequate and ongoing funding** for the repair, renewal and replacement of our aging parks and recreation system

# VANPLAY REPORTS



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## STRATEGIC BOLD MOVES

Outlines three bold moves to create a more connected and equitable future:

**Equity, Connectivity and Asset Needs.**

*October 2019*





# VANPLAY REPORTS



4

## THE PLAYBOOK

The plan for **implementation** and operationalization.

*October 2019*

## REPORT 4: THE PLAYBOOK

POLICY

COMMUNICATION

DATA + MAPPING

### 24 Approaches for Action

Groundwork



Parks



Recreation



Facilities



Nature



# VANPLAY REPORTS



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## VANPLAY FRAMEWORK

Brings together all components of VanPlay in one place and provides a framework for streamlining decisions.

*October 2020*



## VanPlay Framework:

- 1 Mission
- 1 Vision
- 1 Purpose Statement
- 10 Goals
- 3 Directions
- 3 Bold Moves
- 24 Approaches for Action



# VANPLAY FRAMEWORK



**Deliver  
Services  
Equitably**

A fair and  
effective parks  
and recreation  
system.

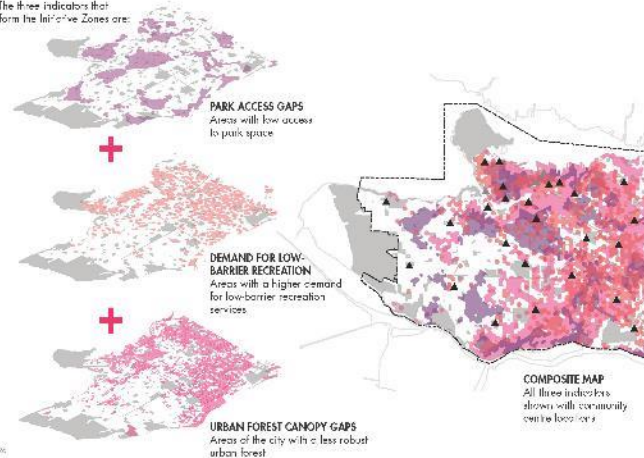


## Bold Move: **Equity**

### APPROACH

#### INITIATIVE ZONES MAPPING

The three indicators that  
form the Initiative Zones are:



- Equity Initiative Zones map
- address inequities
- Identify and challenge colonial structures
- Nurture partnerships

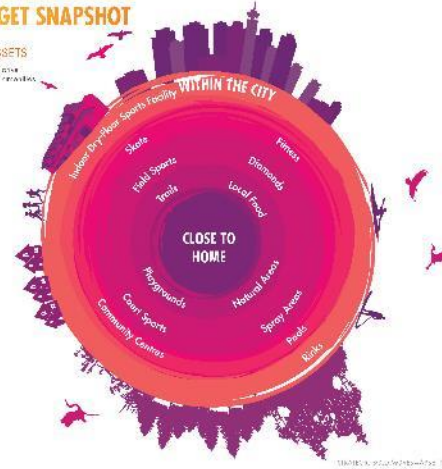
# VANPLAY FRAMEWORK



## Bold Move: Asset Needs

### ASSET TARGET SNAPSHOT

**DISTANCE TO ASSETS**  
This diagram describes the relative location of various types of recreation facilities.



- Use Asset Targets to increase capacity and quantity
- Provide safe, clean and welcoming parks and recreation spaces.
- Reduce barriers to access
- Listen, learn and co-create



**Welcome Everyone**

Parks and recreation experiences that improve quality of life.

# VANPLAY FRAMEWORK



## Bold Move: Connectivity

### GUIDING PRINCIPLES

This vision is guided by four main principles:

1. Physical, active connections



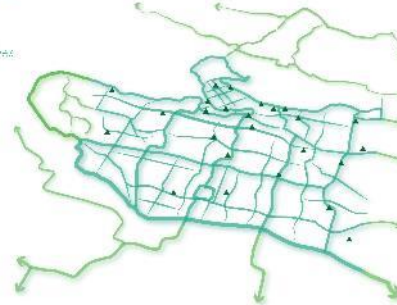
2. Flow of water



3. Sense of place



4. Thriving ecosystems



- Routes to parks and recreation places
- Thread the unique history
- Provide flexible amenities
- Improve the quality of rainwater
- Connect and enrich ecosystems



# VANPLAY'S IMPACT



# VANPLAY'S IMPACT

## Getting Through the COVID-19 Pandemic Together



# VANPLAY'S IMPACT

## VancouverPlan's "Three Big Ideas"



Equitable Housing + Complete  
Neighbourhoods



An Economy That  
Works for All



Climate Protection + Restored  
Ecosystems



# VANPLAY'S IMPACT

## VancouverPlan's "Three Big Ideas"



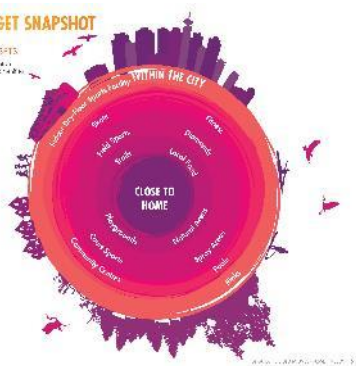
Equitable Housing + Complete Neighbourhoods



An Economy That Works for All

### ASSET TARGET SNAPSHOT

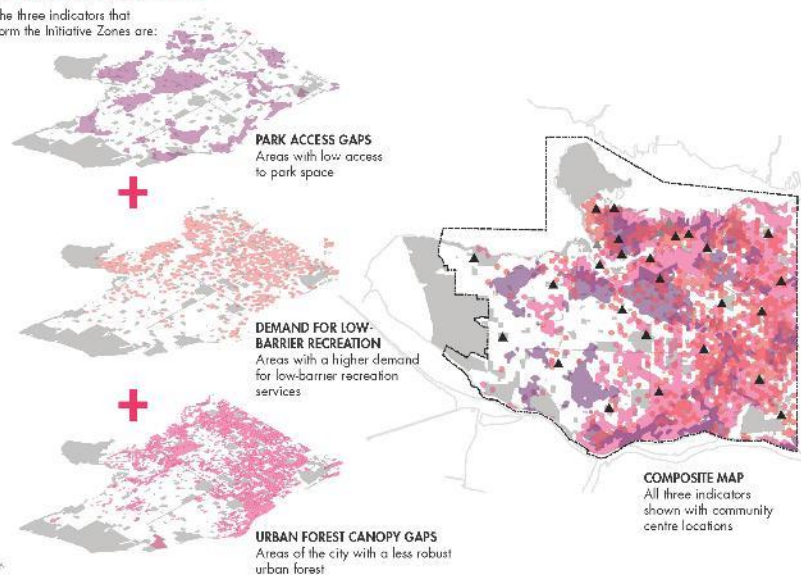
DISTANCE TO ASSETS  
Distance to assets  
Distance to assets  
Distance to assets



### APPROACH

#### INITIATIVE ZONES MAPPING

The three indicators that form the Initiative Zones are:



# VANPLAY'S IMPACT

## VancouverPlan & VanPlay's Connectivity Bold Move



Climate Protection + Restored  
Ecosystems





# **THE 'PLAYBOOK': IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

## **2022 HIGHLIGHTS**

# THE 'PLAYBOOK' AT A GLANCE

## 24 Approaches for Action

### Groundwork



#### G.1

Policy Framework

#### G.2

Evidence Based  
Decision Making

#### G.3

Customer  
Service

#### G.4

Complete  
Communities

#### G.5

Community  
Engagement

#### G.6

Reconciliation

#### G.7

Partnerships

#### G.8

Arts & Culture

#### G.9

Stewardship

### Parks



#### P.1

Safe, Clean &  
Accessible

#### P.2

Connections &  
Network

#### P.3

Protect &  
Acquire

#### P.4

Responsive

#### P.5

Diversity

### Recreation



#### R.1

Capacity, Quality +  
Diversity

#### R.2

Sport for Life

#### R.3

Local Food

### Facilities



#### F.1

Expand Access

#### F.2

Welcoming Spaces

### Nature



#### N.1

Shoreline &  
Waterway Integrity

#### N.2

Freshwater  
Resources

#### N.3

Ecological  
Network

#### N.4

Connection to  
Nature

#### N.5

Urban Forest

## 3 Directions

DELIVER  
SERVICES  
EQUITABLY

### EQUITY

A fair and effective parks  
and recreation system

WELCOME  
EVERYONE

### ASSET TARGETS

Parks and recreation  
experiences that improve  
quality of life

WEAVE THE  
CITY  
TOGETHER

### CONNECTIVITY

Parks, nature, recreation  
and culture integrated into  
everyday life



# URBAN RELATIONSHIPS

## TAKE A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT APPROACH TO MANAGING URBAN PARKS

Staff are working with a rights based lens and a community development approach to decision making with individuals sheltering in Crab Park, park members, the community at large and service providers to bring well-being to all involved.

Portland Loos were recently installed to enhance the park for the community.



# OPERATIONS

## RANGER SERVICE REVIEW

Staff are exploring ways in which Park Rangers can achieve compliance while upholding the Vancouver Park Board Park Control By-laws.

This includes: review of best practices, engagement with stakeholders and determining alternatives and/or innovative ways of achievement to propose a model that works for the Vancouver Park Board.



DELIVER  
SERVICES  
EQUITABLY

# OPERATIONS

## INCREASE TREE CANOPY IN EQUITY INITIATIVE ZONES

Urban Forestry plants approximately 2000 street trees annually – 65% in 2022 were in low-canopy neighbourhoods

Specifically, 30 new tree planting sites were created along the 600-800-block of East Hastings and Climate Levy funding was utilized to remove stumps downtown to replant with new trees in 2023.



WEAVE THE  
CITY  
TOGETHER



# DECOLONIZATION, ARTS AND CULTURE

## PARK NAMING POLICY AND PROCEDURES

DAC staff developed an interim park naming process which was piloted to great success at the new downtown park, sθəqəlxenəm ts'exwts'áxwi7.

The learnings from this collaborative MST-led naming process will inform a future Commemoration Framework.



WEAVE THE  
CITY  
TOGETHER



# PARK DEVELOPMENT

## POP-UP PARK ACTIVATION AND AMENITIES

Sunset Beach Pop-Up Plaza opened in June 2021 to provide a colourful new space along Vancouver's waterfront.

For 2022, the sunset mural received a fresh update by Musqueam Coast Salish artist Chrystal Sparrow.

Food trucks are planning to return for the 2023 summer season.



# RECREATION

## IMPLEMENT HIGH FIVE GUIDELINES FOR HEALTHY CHILD DEVELOPMENT

All recreation amenities, programs and facilities will meet the **HIGH FIVE guidelines for healthy child development** by incorporating staff implementation training and support.

In collaboration with CCAs, this program will extend to include all Program Contractors.

WELCOME EVERYONE

73%

OF PEOPLE SAY  
THEY **BENEFIT**  
from accessible local  
**RECREATION & PARK SERVICES**

Parks and Recreation Ontario Recreation and Parks, Essential for Life, 2009

**HAVING A SAFE PLACE TO PLAY IS POSITIVELY INFLUENCING HER FUTURE**

**WWW.HIGHFIVE.ORG**

HIGH FIVE® A quality standard for children's sport and recreation  
Founded by Parks and Recreation Ontario

THE BEST WAY TO PLAY™

# STRATEGIC OPERATIONS

## DEVELOP INTERNAL CULTURE OF WELCOME, INCLUSION, ANTI-OPPRESSION AND TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

As part of our commitment to hear from the Women of the Park Board, we held an in-person discussion for those who identify as women to share their experiences.

For the first time since 2019, staff also attended the 2022 Pride Parade celebrating Vancouver's 2SLGBTQIA+ community.



WELCOME  
EVERYONE



# COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT

## IMPROVED IDENTITY STANDARDS, SIGNAGE AND WAYFINDING & ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Staff in the Communications, Engagement and Marketing office are working on a system-wide refresh to improve the clarity and transparency of our work online and onsite.



WELCOME  
EVERYONE



# PLANNING, POLICY AND ENVIRONMENT

## SPORT FIELD STRATEGY

Major strategy to create and refresh the city's sport fields over the next ten years.

The Sport Field Strategy will examine priorities, identify locations and optimum service levels and standards and review field use allocation policy and fees.

In 2022, data and input from stakeholders and the public helped to better understand trends, gaps and future needs.



WELCOME  
EVERYONE



**Van  
Play**

*Imagine  
parks+recreation*

**NEXT STEPS**

# READY TO DELIVER

A

A plan was created to guide the equitable delivery of results



B

Pandemic made it difficult to follow through but VanPlay was used for Capital Planning



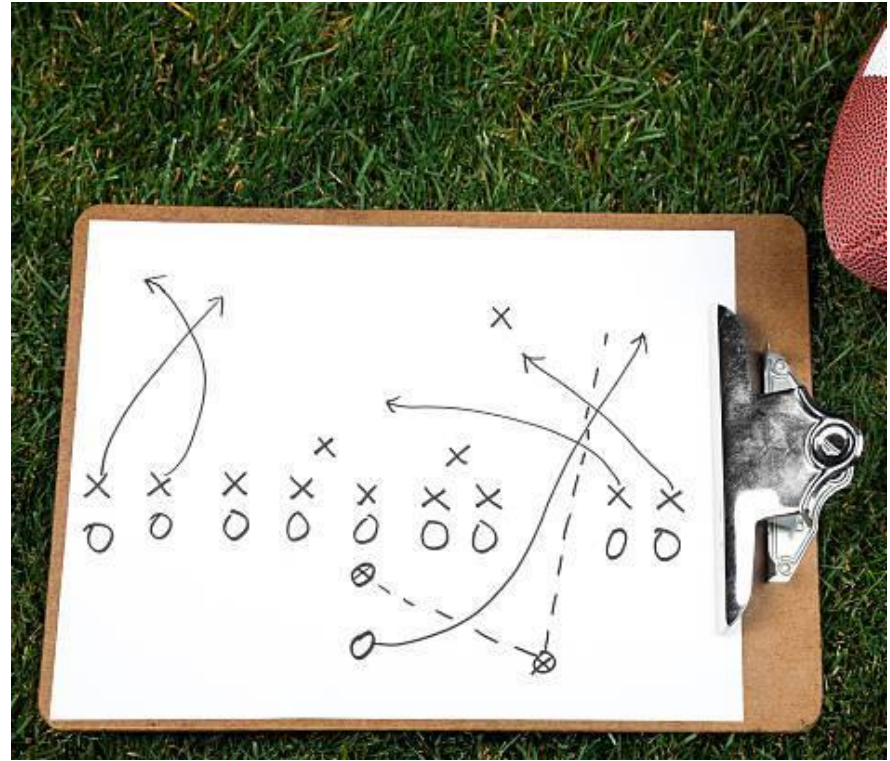
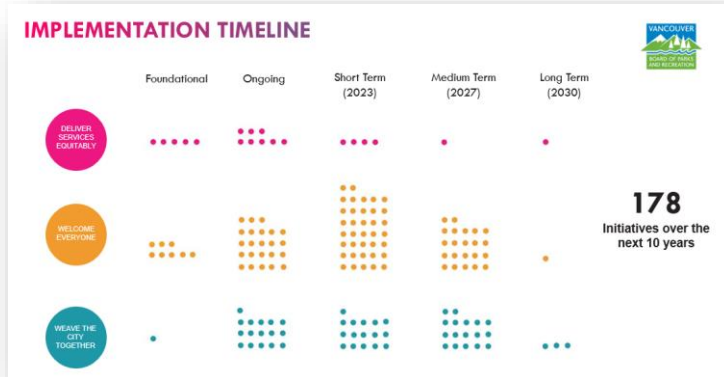
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**Now is the time for implementation**



# THE NEXT PLAY

## The VanPlay Playbook is **adaptable**







# Van Play

Imagine  
parks+recreation

