



PARK BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS — March 11, 2024 —

The following information is intended to provide a brief overview of the Board's governance work at the Committee and Board meetings. The full agenda, meeting materials, video clips and official minutes can be found on the [Park Board website](#).

STAFF REPORTS / PRESENTATIONS

Non-Motorized Watercraft Launch at Select Beaches - By-Law Amendment Update

The Board approved the [Non-Motorized Watercraft Launch at Select Beaches – By-Law Amendment](#), which permanently allows the launch and recovery of non-motorized watercraft at Kitsilano Beach, Spanish Banks East, Spanish Banks West, and Sunset Beach. This by-law amendment was based on the successful pilots of the On Water Non-Motorized Beach Access as part of the implementation of [On Water \(2019\)](#), Vancouver's Non-motorized Watercraft Recreation Strategy.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Bastyovanszky [highlighted recent events](#) attended by Commissioners:

- Stanley Park Mobility Study Stakeholder Meeting – Commissioner Digby participated in the meeting held at VanDusen Gardens on Tuesday, February 27 with Doug Shearer, the Manager of Planning Policy & Environment and planner Emily Dunlop.
- Pink Shirt Day 2024 – In honour of Pink Shirt Day, Commissioners wore pink on February 28 to support a work environment where every person is treated with respect and dignity.
- February Library Board Public Meeting – Commissioner Jensen attended the Library Board Public Meeting held on February 28, alongside members of the VPL Board, where they acknowledged Pink Shirt Day.
- Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Centre Meeting – Chair Bastyovanszky attended the Roundhouse CCA meeting on February 28, 2024.
- Sleep Out Vancouver – Commissioner Jensen, accompanied by VSB Chair Victoria Jung and VSB Trustee Christopher Richardson, joined 137 other participants in the Sleep Out event held on February 29 at Covenant House Vancouver, demonstrating solidarity with youths experiencing homelessness.
- Connaught Park Fieldhouse – Chair Bastyovanszky and Commissioner Digby inspected the fieldhouse at Connaught Park on March 2.
- International Women's Day Vancouver March – Chair Bastyovanszky, along with Commissioners Christensen, Digby and Jensen attended the International Women's Day March at Vancouver Art Gallery on March 3, 2024.
- Mini Rugby – Chair Bastyovanszky attended the U12 Mini Rugby Jamboree at Brockton Oval in Stanley Park.



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The General Manager [presented](#) an overview of the [GM's Report](#):

- East Park Engagement Launch – Round Two – Staff advised that round two of public engagement for East Park, a new park location in the Southeast False Creek neighbourhood, will be running from March 26 to April 16. Feedback from round two engagement will be used to refine the design and develop a concept plan that will be presented to the Board for decision in Q4 2024.
- Alberta Street Blue Green System & Columbia Park Renewal – Staff advised that, following two rounds of public engagement, a concept plan is being shared with the public on the Shape Your City project page starting on April 8 regarding the Alberta Street Blue Green System and Columbia Park Renewal project. The concept plan is targeted for Board decision in Q3 2024.
- Daylighting of Canyon Creek at Spanish Banks – Public information signage has recently been posted onsite at Spanish Banks Park regarding the ongoing work to daylight Canyon Creek. Staff are currently advancing detailed design and tendering, with construction aimed to start in late 2024.
- Council Agenda Items:
 - Council to receive a report on March 12 titled "[2024 Community Services and Other Social Grants](#)", which would approve several grants, including 62 Core Support Grants totalling \$2.68M, 11 Neighbourhood Organization Grants totalling \$1.34M, and 27 Building Safe Communities Program (BSCP) Grants totalling \$2.27M.
 - Council to receive a report on March 12 titled "[Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants – Spring 2024 Intake](#)", which would approve 16 Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants totalling \$89,000.
 - Council to receive a report on March 13 titled "[Climate Change Adaption Strategy 2024-25 Update](#)", which would direct staff to begin implementation of the 2024-2025 Climate Change Adaption Strategy 2024-25, and also direct staff to report back in 2025 with a five-year update to the Strategy at the same time as an update to the Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) is brought forward.

BOARD MOTIONS

Waiving the 2024 Park Board Fees for the Vaisakhi Parade

The Board approved an urgent [motion](#) directing staff to waive the 2024 Park Board Fees in the approximate amount of \$11,000 for the annual Vaisakhi Parade. Staff were also directed to report back at a future board meeting in Q4 2024 with information related to Park Board event fees for all free public festivals held annually in Vancouver.

Stanley Park Train

The Board approved an urgent [motion with amendments](#) directing that the tickets for the wheelchair-accessible spots on the Stanley Park Train accessible carriage be issued free of charge for the remainder of 2024, as an interim measure to provide redress while longer term accessibility measures, programs, and accommodations are explored by the Board. The motion also affirms by the Board that inaccessibility should be understood as a reflection of structural and systemic ableism, and that removing existing accessibility should be understood that it may be a violation of the human rights of people with disabilities. The Board also commits to making



all efforts to maintain or improve the previous level of accessibility as a result of any maintenance, construction, renovation, or other improvement or alteration to Vancouver's environment, space, programs, events, attractions, services, or communications.

The motion also directed staff to ensure that all reasonable efforts are made to prevent any loss of existing accessibility in any of the Park Board's services, including the Stanley Park Train.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next Committee and Board meetings are scheduled for April 8, 2024.

