



# GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Regular Park Board Meeting  
Monday, July 22, 2024





In 2024:

- 4.6 hectares of new meadows
- Greater interdepartmental alignment & information sharing
- Seeding enhancements and custom wildflower blends

In 2025:

- Aiming to expand by 1-3 hectares
- Introduce overwintering (no mow) at select sites
- Additional opportunities to share knowledge and collect data

# Riley Park South Playground Renewal

- Focuses on play provision for 5–12 year-olds
- New features include:
  - Rubberized accessible surfacing
  - Supernova spinner
  - Variety of swings for self or co-play
  - Parkour climber
  - Zipline
  - Play hut
  - Natural play elements
  - Variety of seating
- Construction initiated January 2024 and was completed June 2024





# Coopers' Park Dog Off-Leash Area Renewal

- Open to public in early August.
- 1,500sqm larger than the previous off-leash area
- Includes accessible footpaths, seating, lawn, wood chip and gravel play surfaces, and drinking water for dogs
- Enclosed and includes a separate area for shy dogs



# “Gibby’s Field” New Natural Park

- Approved by the Board February 2023
- Scheduled to open this week
- Features a rain garden, accessible pathway, and natural vegetation
- Partially funded by City Engineering and a Federal grant
- Official park naming and launch event to occur at a later date





# Kitsilano Beach Park Seaside Greenway Improvements

- Construction on a separated cycling path connecting Balsam Street to McNicoll Avenue to begin this fall
- Park Development led the design development with support from City Engineering staff
- The project is jointly funded by the Government of Canada, the Park Board and City Engineering
- Lafarge Canada Inc. was awarded the construction contract via the Parks Procurement Efficiency Program



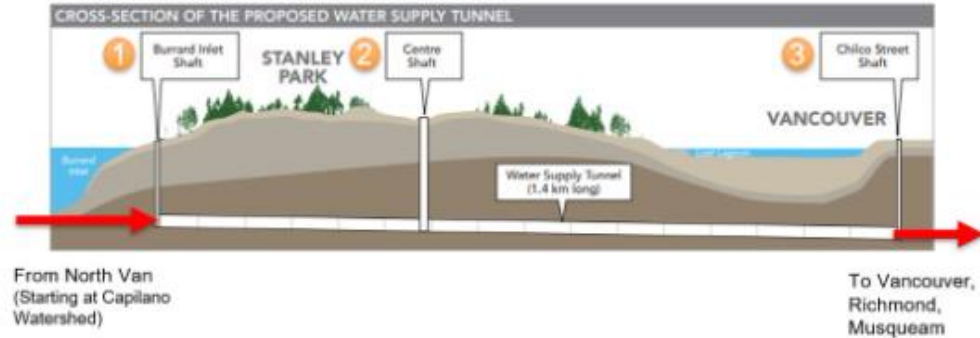
# VanDusen Learning Garden

- Collaboration between Vancouver Botanical Gardens Association and the Vancouver Park Board
- Enables hands-on educational programs about plant-pollinator relationships, ethnobotany, food security, biodiversity and conservation
- Garden includes raised planters, sensory and vegetable gardens, seating and accessible pathways
- Construction began March 2024, and was completed in early July



# Stanley Park Water Supply Tunnel – Update

- On July 26, Metro Vancouver’s Board will vote on the contract award with primary work activities starting this fall
- Project duration: 6 years.
- Public and media relations to be managed by Metro Vancouver
- Potential project impacts and mitigation strategies have been studied and developed by Metro Vancouver in consultation with Park Board staff.





- Top priority per Service Plan
- Annual storm/flood repair costs of \$1-2M and hundreds of staff hours
- First step: Coastal Hazard and Vulnerability Assessment (CHVA)
- CHVA will map hazards, assess asset vulnerabilities, and develop high-level design typologies
- CHVA will guide and streamline future detailed design & implementation
- CHVA RFP to be issued Q3 2024 and take approx. 1 year to complete



# Tatlow and Volunteer Park Steam Restoration

- Opened to the public on July 3rd
- "First Creek" was buried as a result of colonial practices and urban development
- Park Board staff, with support from the City's Engineering team, daylighted the creek and connected it to English Bay
- Improved public access to the beach and shoreline
- Construction commenced in March 2023 and was completed this July



# Alcohol on Beaches – Summer 2024 Re-Pilot

- Re-pilot of Alcohol on Beaches launched July 1
- Communication plans include social media, on-site signage, radio and print ads
- No significant issues on the beaches to date
- Data collection underway and on-site surveys will soon launch across the 10 pilot sites:
  - Spanish Banks, Locarno, Jericho, Kitsilano, Sunset, English Bay, Second Beach, Third Beach, New Brighton and John Hendry





# Summer Event Season

- 150 special events will be hosted across 62 parks between Canada Day & Labour Day weekends
- Range of activities, from community farmers markets to larger initiatives such as Carnaval del Sol, KitsFest & the Vancouver Triathlon
- During this peak period, over 500,000 guests & event goers will enjoy our park spaces



# Symphony at Sunset

- Park Board's beloved Symphony at Sunset event took place on July 6
- Concert goers were treated to music from Star Wars, Pirates of the Caribbean and E.T., alongside a selection of classical favorites
- Most well attended Symphony at Sunset concert with over 12,000 spectators
- Event featured an arrangement of the Coast Salish Anthem



# Honda Celebration of Light

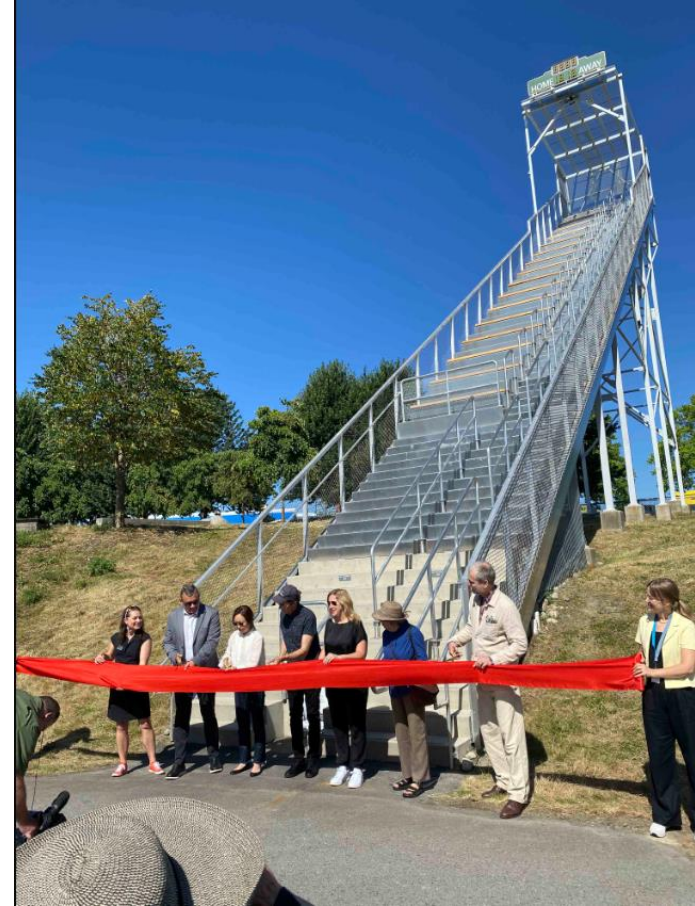
- 32nd Honda Celebration of Light kicked off this past Saturday, July 20
- Festival will feature displays from Portugal, Malaysia & the United Kingdom
- Approximately 150,000 to 250,000 spectators nightly
- New drone show added before each firework performance





# Home + Away at Empire Fields

- New public art installation “Home + Away” was unveiled on July 15
- Designed by internationally celebrated Seattle artists, Lead Pencil Studio
- Echoes the historic structures Hastings Park is known for:
  - Empire Stadium (1954-1993)
  - Ski run (1950s)
  - Wooden roller coaster at Playland (built in 1958)
- Commissioned and funded through the City’s Public Art Program, with support from the Park Board



# New Temporary Public Artwork at Oppenheimer Park

- Staff attended the Vancouver Nisei Baseball 64th year Celebration
- Commemorated the 1951-1960 championship years of the Vancouver Nisei Baseball Team
- Celebration of resilience, perseverance, and teamwork in the face of racism, inequities, and post-war injustices
- Park Board staff are working with the committee to install a temporary public art sign on the baseball backstop
- Unveiling is planned for mid-September 2024.



- Council to receive a report on July 23, 2024, titled “[2023-2026 Capital Plan Mid-Term Update](#)”, which would approve adjustments to the 2023-2026 Capital Plan, including at an adjustment of \$19.4M to the Parks and Public Open Spaces budget.
- Council to receive a report on July 23, 2024, titled “[2024 Community Services and Other Social Grants](#)”, which would approve a number of funding initiatives, including program enhancements and infrastructure improvements at childcare facilities.



Date	Topic
July 22	VanSport Leagues – Update

