



VANCOUVER
BOARD OF
PARKS AND
RECREATION

February 9, 2018

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Malcolm Bromley
General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT : Harbour Green Dock - update

Dear Commissioners,

Further to my memo of November 1, 2017, following is an update on the physical condition of the Harbour Green Dock and the viability of ongoing commercial services.

The dock was designed for, and historically restricted to, pleasure craft only with posted signage on the dock. Last summer, as a result of public complaints, we discovered two commercial operators running commuter and tour services from the dock. Pacific Ferries agreed to cease operations until a review of dock use was conducted by staff. Bowen Land and Sea Taxi, which was conducting a commuter service from this dock, was given a temporary operating agreement until January 31, 2018. This was intended to provide time for a staff review to be completed and not disrupt the commuter service.

While the dock was originally meant to accommodate pleasure craft only, as a result of unregulated commercial activity over the years the infrastructure has prematurely degraded. In September 2017, an engineer specializing in dock infrastructure was retained to assess the condition of the dock and pilings and discovered long term capital and immediate maintenance issues requiring attention. Repairs were undertaken in September and October to correct the maintenance concerns, and the long term capital requirements outlined by the engineer are being used to inform recommendations on the future leisure and commercial viability of the dock. Since the repairs, staff have visually inspected the dock on a monthly basis and recently discovered additional piling rings that have failed, resulting in unsafe mooring conditions. On February 5, 2018, a letter was received from our third party engineer confirming these findings.

As the dock is not regularly patrolled, due to safety and liability concerns we must close the dock until it can be repaired. Bowen Land and Sea Taxi was going to be provided an extension to their temporary agreement, but given the safety and liability issues, will now be asked to relocate their service to another dock by February 15, 2018.

Repairs will be on hold until such time as a determination can be made as to the future permissible uses. It is estimated that \$100,000 will be required to address the short and long term maintenance and capital issues, which will allow for the continued restricted use of pleasure craft only. Staff are currently working with engineers to determine the additional improvements and costs required to allow both pleasure and commercial vessels to operate from the dock. It is estimated that this information will be available within 6 to 8 weeks.

Taking costs into consideration, staff are planning to bring a report to the Board in Q2 2018, with recommendations to either maintain the dock's current restricted use or to pursue the viability of changing to commercial use. If the latter is recommended and approved, public



consultation will be a part of the continued process before coming back to the Board in Q3 2018 with a final recommendation. Dependent on the approved use, improvements to the dock can be designed and a contractor procured to undertake the repair work as early as Q4 2018.

In the interim, access to the dock from the park will be restricted via the current gates at the top of the gangways, and signage will be posted on the dock to advise boaters that the dock is temporarily closed.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Malcolm Bromley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Malcolm Bromley
General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

/sa/clc

Copy: PB Senior Leadership Team
PB Communications
Sev Araujo, Manager Commercial Operations