



March 06, 2023

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Donnie Rosa
General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT : **Jericho Lands Planning Program Update**

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to update Park Board Commissioners on the ʔəy'alməx^w / ly'álməxw / Jericho Lands (Jericho Lands) planning program, including details on upcoming public engagement and next steps. This memo also provides a link to and summary of a 2021 Board briefing memo with further information on the project and contextual changes to the area. In that memo, staff share an intent to address the impacts and opportunities of these proposed changes through a future park planning process for surrounding Jericho, Locarno and Spanish Banks Beach Parks with the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh (MST) Nations.

Jericho Lands Planning Program

Background

The 90 acre Jericho Lands site is located in West Point Grey and is bound by West 4th Avenue (north), Highbury Street (east), West 8th Avenue (south), and West Point Grey Park (also known as Trimble Park) and Queen Elizabeth Elementary School (west). The City's Jericho Lands planning program will help create a Policy Statement (including a site plan and associated policies) to guide future redevelopment of the site. The development of Policy Statements is led by the City of Vancouver Planning Urban Design and Sustainability (PDS) Department, with involvement of staff from other departments and Park Board through the City's technical team. A Policy Statement provides broad directions for the future rezoning of a site. During rezoning, refinements of a proposal occur.

The Jericho Lands Policy Statement is being created at the request of the landowners, a joint venture partnership between the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Sk^wxwú7mesh (Squamish), and sə'ílwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) (MST) Partnership, and Canada Lands Company (CLC).

Process Update

The City staff team last engaged with the public in late 2021 when two draft conceptual site plan options were introduced. For much of 2022, the landowners paused the project. Since fall 2022, the landowners have re-engaged the City staff team and conducted additional engagement with Host Nation community members. Park Board staff have been involved on the City's staff team throughout the process.

Upcoming Public Engagement



Starting March 6, 2023, City staff is providing the public with a project update. This will include the circulation of over 15,000 newsletters to Host Nations members, local and citywide residents; the sharing of online information boards via the project's [ShapeYourCity website](#); and an additional installment of the Inspire Jericho Talk series, which will focus on celebrating MST culture with the project. The information boards will include an update on the planning process, the cultural site planning elements, previous engagement highlights and next steps. A site plan will not be presented as part of this round of engagement.

Jericho Beach Park

The project site is directly across West 4th Avenue from Jericho Beach Park. As noted in a [briefing memo](#) to the Board in summer 2021, Park Board staff anticipate a significant increase in the use of Jericho Beach Park and a need to mitigate potential impacts from land use changes and increased residential population, more frequent upland and coastal flooding and anticipated rapid transit to the area.

The memo includes contextual information regarding Jericho Beach as a site of significance for MST, a biodiversity hot spot and destination waterfront park. It outlines the future need for a park planning process for Jericho Beach Park and adjacent Locarno and Spanish Banks Beach Parks. Given the importance to MST, the memo recommends a joint process. There is not yet a timeline or resources for initiating a master or comprehensive plan for these parks.

Through the Jericho Lands planning program, the developer is responsible for assessing opportunities and constraints to managing on-site and off-site stormwater in Jericho Beach Park. The outcomes will be considered by the Park Board through the future park master plan. Undertaking a full Jericho Beach master planning process and associated public and stakeholder engagement is not currently prioritized for funding through the 2023-2026 Capital Plan. Funding and timing is being considered through a Park Board-wide prioritization process.

Next Steps

In summer 2023, the City expects to hold a further round of public engagement, when a preferred site concept and emerging policies will be presented. Park Board staff will continue to work with the project team to ensure that parks and recreation interests are considered in the development of the Policy Statement and will update the Board as the process unfolds. Staff will provide further information on the Park Board's role in this and other Major Projects led by the City's PDS Department at a spring Board briefing.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donnie Rosa".

Donnie Rosa (*she/her they/them*)
General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

Copy to: PB Senior Leadership Team