



December 9, 2019

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

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

SUBJECT : **Park Board Climate Emergency Interventions & Investments**

Dear Commissioners,

In response to a Commissioner enquiry, I am writing to provide you with information on some of the Park Board’s planned interventions and investments to address the climate emergency that the City of Vancouver declared earlier this year.

Urban Forest and Natural Features

As part of the 2020 budget preparation process, Park Board staff participated on a cross-departmental working group to develop actions to address climate change.

Key actions under the Park Board’s mandate that were identified to address the climate emergency included the provision of Biodiversity Enhancements (\$750K new multi-year budget, \$1.3M planned 2020 spend), and the Park and Street trees planting program (\$3.2M new multi-year budget, \$3.4M planned 2020 spend) as part of the Urban Forest Strategy.

The following table compares the initial draft budget to the final proposed budget, adjusted to address the climate priorities set by Council:

	Draft	Proposed	Increase
Biodiversity Enhancements	\$0.25M	\$0.75M	\$0.5M
Park and Street Trees	\$2.16M	\$3.16M	\$1.0M
Totals	\$2.41M	\$3.91M	\$1.5M

Funding for the increased climate focused efforts is provided by the 2019-2022 Capital Plan. Pages 41-45 of the [City’s 2020 Draft Budget](#) provides further details around actions being taken to address Climate Change.

Emission-Free Landscape Equipment

The City’s Fleet and Manufacturing Services (FMS) team is supporting Park Board staff in assessing the electrification of landscape equipment such as chain saws, hedge trimmers, blowers etc. The proposed budget for replacement of end-of-life small equipment is \$625K in 2020. Staff will assess the ability to complete additional conversion beyond this should additional funding come available.

A full report back to the Board on this initiative is planned for early next year.

Fleet Electrification

The City’s FMS team manages the city-wide fleet vehicles, including those used for Parks and Recreation. As part of the vehicle replacement strategy, the FMS team investigates electric vehicle (EV) options where technologically feasible and financially in line with the capital plan.



There are currently 34 vehicles for Parks and Recreation that are planned for replacement in 2020 -- primarily turf mowers, various truck types, chippers, and vans. None of these are scheduled to be replaced with electric versions. The only area of the market in the light duty segment that has EVs is sedans. Parks and Recreation has ten sedans, four of which are already electric.

FMS currently has contracts in various stages of execution that include electric option evaluation in a number of fleet classes including, but not limited to, electric passenger cars, medium and heavy duty trucks, ice re-surfacers, off-road utility vehicles, and various types of turf equipment. Once finalized, these new contracts will expand and support future opportunities for the further electrification of the City's fleet.

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

/sj/clc

Copy to: PB Senior Leadership Team
PB Communications