



VANCOUVER
BOARD OF
PARKS AND
RECREATION

March 15, 2022

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

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

SUBJECT : **Riley Park Farmers Market Spring 2022 Operations – Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to follow-up on concerns raised about the potential disruptions to Riley Park Farmers Market operations due to the Vancouver Canadians' business activities in April and May 2022, and to provide an update on the collaborative work undertaken to reach positive outcomes for all involved.

As you might expect, the public spaces in the areas surrounding Riley Park, Nat Bailey Stadium, and Hillcrest Community Centre are in high demand and support a variety of dynamic uses. Occasionally, conflicts and/or competing uses may emerge between users, as was the case with the Farmers Market and the Vancouver Canadians. Park Board staff recognize that the activities of both organizations are meaningful in different ways to their respective communities, and when situations of this nature arise, staff work closely with all parties in an attempt to address areas of conflict so that both activities can be accommodated as planned.

After learning of the concerns related to the Vancouver Canadians' stadium preparations (Apr 2, 9 & 16) and afternoon games (Apr 23, May 7 & 21), Park Board staff worked closely over the past several weeks with representatives of both the Farmers Market and the Vancouver Canadians. I am pleased to advise that through the collaboration and flexibility of all parties, solutions have been found to address the identified operational issues, resulting in positive outcomes for all parties. The Riley Park Farmers Markets will proceed without service interruptions on the aforementioned dates, the Vancouver Canadians will be able to deliver their game-day and non-game-day business operations, and the Park Board will be able to meet its contractual obligations to the Vancouver Canadians for the provision of required game-day parking in the relevant lots.

I would also like to note that in response to some enduring concerns identified by the Vancouver Farmers Markets Society (such as long-term tenure and infrastructure improvements at key market locations), Park Board staff are actively participating in a citywide interdepartmental initiative aimed at finding solutions to issues impacting market operations at both Park Board and City locations. Further updates will be provided as this work progresses.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Donnie Rosa', written in a cursive style.

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

/os/clc

Copy to: PB Senior Leadership Team, PB Business Development, PB Communications