



MEMO TO: Park Board Commissioners

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

SUBJECT: Seaside Greenway Improvements Kits Beach Park - Board Briefing Memo

## Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to update you on the project to connect the Seaside Greenway and improve walking, rolling, and cycling routes through and adjacent to Kitsilano Beach Park.

## Background

The last update on this project was provided in a <u>Board briefing memo</u> dated March 6, 2020, which laid out a timeline for broader engagement with stakeholders and the public and framed this project in the context of a future Kitsilano Beach Park Master Plan.

With the emergence of pandemic restrictions in mid-March, staff resources were redirected to other projects and broad public engagement work needed to be paused. With the roll-out of new online engagement processes and tools, along with new staff members coming on board in late 2020, a team is now fully dedicated to the project and a work plan has been developed.

This year staff will build on engagement work that took place in 2013 and 2016, and more recently with key stakeholders, and expect to provide recommendations to the Board on alignment for a bike path through and adjacent to Kitsilano Beach Park in late 2021, as illustrated in the estimated project timeline shown in Figure 1 below.

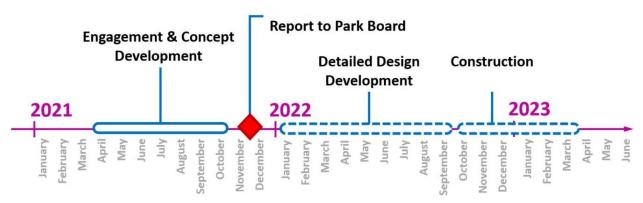


Figure 1: Seaside Greenway Improvement Kits Beach Park - Estimated Project Timeline

In the meantime, anticipating another busy summer cycling season with higher than usual volumes due to the pandemic, staff will be installing interim cycle path safety improvements in the south parking lot this spring. This area is a known conflict zone and a near-term intervention is required.



## **Next Steps**

Park Board and Engineering staff are working closely to conduct a planning and design process that will include two rounds of engagement to help develop a preferred alignment for a separated bike path that mediates the existing transportation conflicts and addresses concerns regarding impacts to Kitsilano Beach Park. Options will include looking at street space reallocation. Staff will also explore opportunities for collaboration with Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

Following is an outline of the stages of work planned for 2021:

- Q2 2021 Engagement Round #1 Priorities and Possibilities will ask people to:
  - Describe what they consider to be priorities, opportunities and challenges with respect to integrating a bike path into Kitsilano Beach Park; and,
  - Review alignment options and assess their opportunities and challenges.
  - Feedback will be used to develop a preferred alignment for the bike path.
- Q2 2021 Install interim cycle path safety improvements in the south parking lot.
  - Addressing the existing conflict potential
  - Separating bikes and vehicles, likely with some form of barrier
  - Removal of some parking to accommodate separation
  - Modification treatment for parking lot/driveway entrance
  - Adjustment to traffic flow in parking lot
- Q3 2021 Engagement Round #2 Preferred Alignment will ask people to:
  - Assess the opportunities and challenges of the preferred alignment for the bike path.
  - Feedback will be used to finalize alignment that will be presented to Board for decision
- Q4 2021 Report to Board for decision on final alignment and implementation schedule

If you have any questions about this project, feel free to contact me directly.

Regards,

Donnie Rosa (she/her they/them)

General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

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Park Development PB Communications

**COV Transportation Design Engineering**