

July 9, 2026

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Director, Park Planning and Development

SUBJECT : **The Villages Plan – Parks and Recreation – Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to provide the Board with an overview of Park Board staff's involvement in the development of the City of Vancouver's [Villages Planning Program](#) and to summarize key parks and recreation considerations as the Plan proceeds to Public Hearing and Council decision on July 14, 2026 (this date is subject to change).

Background

The Villages Plan is one of the first implementation plans prepared under the Vancouver Official Development Plan (ODP). It establishes a long-term land use framework for 17 Village areas across Vancouver to support additional housing choice, neighbourhood-serving commercial areas, and complete neighbourhoods.

The Plan anticipates gradual population growth of between 34,000 to 37,000 additional residents by 2050 across the 17 Village areas. Given the gradual and dispersed nature of redevelopment, the Plan adopts a monitoring and evaluation approach to support future consideration of infrastructure and amenity needs over time, rather than identifying village-specific projects.



Figure 1: Villages Plan – Plan Areas, Existing and Future Parks.



Discussion

Park Board staff participated in the development of the Villages Plan as part of the City's interdisciplinary technical staff team led by Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability (PDS). Park Board staff provided technical comments on matters related to park provision and urban forest canopy, including review of growth assumptions, policy direction and implementation considerations from a park planning perspective. Recreation facility planning was not undertaken as part of the Villages Plan and population growth projections prepared through the Villages planning process will be a part of citywide long-term recreation facility planning to support broader service planning discussions.

The Villages Plan identifies parks, public spaces and other community amenities as important components of complete neighbourhoods. Rather than identifying village-specific park projects, the Plan establishes a monitoring and evaluation approach to support future consideration of infrastructure and amenity needs through existing capital planning processes as growth occurs over time. Continued planning efforts to improve access to existing parks and green spaces, while expanding ecological corridors and the urban tree canopy will be important both within and adjacent to the village sites. Ongoing collaboration with the Engineering Department and the development community will also be essential to identify and create new open space and connectivity opportunities as these village areas continue to grow and develop.

Conclusion

Should Council adopt the Plan, Park Board staff will continue to participate in implementation activities, as appropriate, including monitoring growth trends, providing technical advice on park provision and connectivity, and supporting future capital planning, budgeting, and implementation processes, prioritizing efforts where growth occurs.

Regards,

Tiina Mack

Director, Park Planning and Development - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

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