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Date: 4/9/2021 9:01:55 AM
Subject: Strathcona update
Attachments: GM ORDER - Strathcona Park Encampment - Full Park Restrictions - 2021-04-09.pdf
Update to Strathcona residents - April 9 2021.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

This morning, Donnie Rosa will be issuing a General Manager's Order for the whole of Strathcona Park stating that all existing tents, temporary shelters, and structures must be removed from by April 30, 2021. This order is a necessary next step to allow us to end the encampment in the park, facilitate the transition of people into indoor spaces and return the park to community use. A copy of the GM order, including a map, is attached for your reference.

The City and BC Housing continues to work together to prepare spaces and incrementally move people into housing that matches their needs, as it becomes available over the following weeks. Once people have moved from the park into accommodation, staff from the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation will erect a fence barrier to temporarily close off the area, assess the condition of the park and develop a remediation plan.

Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation staff will be speaking to people in the park about the order at 9:30am this morning and will then post signage about it. We will also be issuing an information bulletin to media at 10:30am and including the news in the attached bi-weekly update to the local community.

We will continue to update you on any new developments with regard to the current GM Order, as well as any other significant activities related to Strathcona Park and the people experiencing homelessness in the park.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
Acting City Manager
City of Vancouver

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməŋəm (Musqueam), lóóvú 7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

Order from the General Manager of the Park Board

Effective Friday, April 9, 2021, pursuant to the Parks Control By-law, the General Manager of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation orders that temporary shelters and structures will not be permitted anywhere in Strathcona Park, as shown in the attached map, to allow the Park Board to remediate and return the entire park to recreational use and programming for all park users.

The Parks Control By-law states:

11. *No person shall erect, construct or build or cause to be erected, constructed or built in or on any park any tent, building, shelter, pavilion or other construction whatsoever without the permission of the General Manager, except that this provision does not apply to a temporary shelter that complies with the provisions of this by-law.*

11B. *A temporary shelter:*

(a) must not be erected:

- i. within 25 metres of a playground or school;*
- ii. in, on or within a:*
 - A. beach, pond, lake or dock;*
 - B. trail, bridge, seawall, roadway or park entrance;*
 - C. natural area;*
 - D. garden or horticultural display area;*
 - E. pool or water park;*
 - F. sports field, sports court, skate park, fitness amenity or golf course;*
 - G. community centre or fieldhouse;*
 - H. bleacher, stage, gazebo, public monument, designated picnic site, picnic shelter or washroom;*
 - I. designated off-leash dog area; or*
 - J. designated special event area for which permission has been given in accordance with this by-law;*

Temporary shelters, which are currently not permitted on the west side or northeast corner of Strathcona Park, will also not be permitted in any other area of the park effective immediately. All existing tents, temporary shelters, and temporary structures must be removed from Strathcona Park by 10:00am on Friday, April 30, 2021.

Date: Friday, April 9, 2021

Address/location: Strathcona Park, 857 Malkin Avenue, Vancouver, BC



General Manager
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

April 9, 2021

Date



People experiencing homelessness and living in Strathcona Park are encouraged to talk to Outreach Staff who are in the park daily and to accept offers of indoor accommodation being provided by BC Housing. Temporary shelters are currently not permitted on the west side or northeast corner of the park and, by 10am on April 30, 2021, any temporary shelters or structures located elsewhere in the park must be removed.

If you would like information on housing availability or other supports, please contact Carnegie Outreach 604-665-3318 or BC Housing Orange Hall 604-648-4270.

Strathcona Park Neighbours: Update seven

April 9, 2021

We recognize that it has been a difficult time for the neighbourhood and we want to thank you for your patience. This week, the [Province announced an MOU with the City and Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation](#) which formalizes our commitment to work together to bring the Strathcona encampment to a close and help prevent similar encampments in the future.

GM order update

- Today, the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation issued a General Manager's Order stating that all existing tents, temporary shelters, and structures must be removed from Strathcona Park by April 30, 2021. This order is a necessary next step to allow us to end the encampment in the park and return the park to community use.
- The City and BC Housing are working together to prepare additional spaces and offer people accommodation that matches their needs, as more spaces become available over the following weeks.
- Once people have moved from the park into accommodation, staff from the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation will erect a fence barrier to temporarily close off the area, assess the condition of the park and develop remediation plan

Accommodation options

- BC Housing announced the [purchase of six properties](#) last week. These properties will provide approximately 340 units of accommodation, create additional capacity within Vancouver's overall supportive housing stock and support the relocation of people from the Strathcona encampment.
- There are currently a significant number of available spaces that people can begin moving into and City staff continue to work closely with BC Housing to facilitate the activation of additional locations, including the ongoing renovations to create new shelters at 875 Terminal and 15-27 West Hastings.
- The City's Outreach Team will be intensifying work in the park next week, engaging with people to update or renew understanding of their needs and support housing referral recommendations to BC Housing.

Park access

- The west side of the park is open and accessible, and staff are focused on preparations for remediation on the northeast side of the park.

Update on RVs

- Final warning notices were distributed by Parking Enforcement Officers (PEO) last week. Engineering staff will be cleaning and blocking off space as vehicles are vacated from Raymur Street so that the curb lane is available for services to support the decampment.
- Outreach staff continue to work with RV owners to connect them with services or housing options, ahead of next week when ticketing and towing of vehicles will begin.



The City, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, and BC Housing remain committed to updating you regularly regarding our work in the park. Prior to our next update, if you have any questions, or would like to be added to our mailing list, please email homelessness@vancouver.ca.

