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Date: 4/12/2021 6:08:05 PM
Subject: Strathcona Park: weekly update

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please find below this week's update regarding the work of the City and Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation in responding to the encampment in Strathcona Park.

GM order

- The latest General Manager's order was successfully issued on Friday, and communicated to people in the park and the wider neighbourhood. Staff from teams across the City, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation and partner organizations are now focused on providing the necessary supports to ensure that people in the park can abide by the order.
- All tents from the northeast corner of the park have moved (as per the March 30th GM Order extension). Operation crews are assessing the vacated area and determining remediation needs.
- The west side of the park continues to remain clear, with only occasional litter pick-up required.
- Work is underway across multiple departments to ensure there is a coordinated response to new or emerging encampments. We will share further details about this work in the coming weeks.

Accommodation options

- City staff continue to work with BC Housing to activate spaces and move people into accommodation, including identifying transportation options for people moving out of the park.
- This week the Outreach team will be in the park engaging with people to understand their needs and working with BC Housing to match people to suitable accommodation.
- Renovation of the new shelters at 875 Terminal and 15-27 West Hastings continues and BC Housing is hopeful that they will open both shelters by mid-May at the latest. Given other housing options identified by BC Housing, we anticipate that sufficient spaces will be available for individuals in the park to transition indoors by the end of April.

Work in the park

- Tomorrow, staff from Vancouver Fire Rescue Service, Park Rangers, Engineering Services, DBL, VPD will be conducting walk-throughs of the encampment to ensure compliance with the Fire Chief's Order. Hazard abatement and clean up efforts will increase from Wednesday onward until the full decampment effort with all partners is underway.
- Sanitation staff will continue to attend the park every day to assist with the removal of non-compliant and abandoned items generated by the decampment.

RV enforcement

- To date, Parking Enforcement Officers have provided warning notices to approximately 30 RV owners who were not compliant with by-laws. Engineering staff will begin ticketing and towing RVs parked on Raymur and Malkin from April 15th-17th.
- Once vehicles have been towed, staff will block off spaces around the park so that they are available for use during the decampment process.
- Outreach staff continue to work with RV owners to help them come into compliance with by-laws ahead of next week when ticketing of vehicles will begin.

We will continue to update you on any new developments related to Strathcona Park.

Regards,

Paul

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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 səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.