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To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
Date: 7/27/2020 1:41:38 PM
Subject: Hot weather response - update

Good afternoon Mayor and Council,

Now that our summer has finally arrived, I am writing to provide a brief overview of the City's heat response measures.

- We have activated seven temporary drinking water fountains, in addition to over 200 permanent fountains and six bottle-fillers across Vancouver. We have also installed ten handwashing stations and 12 misting stations in high foot-traffic areas and parks to help people cool down when needed. Bottle-fillers are available at handwashing and misting stations. These installations include a misting station and 2 drinking fountains for the use of individuals staying in Strathcona Park.
- The City has increased the number of public spaces where people can keep cool and physically distanced while outdoors by installing 3 parklets in the DTES and one adjacent to the Gathering Place on Helmcken Street. These parklets offer shade under tree canopies or shade tents during the day. Shade is also available under tents at 58 West Hastings Street, with seating and a water mister on site.
- This year, the City is once again offering a free mobile pump-out service for recreational boaters, as part of a suite of efforts to help reduce contamination from various sources in False Creek. The public will be alerted via [VanConnect](#) and online in the event of a beach closure due to water quality issues.
- We are ready to initiate the City's extreme heat response plan should Environment Canada issue a Heat Warning, which occurs when two consecutive daytime temperatures reach 29°C or warmer and 16°C or warmer at night. In the event of a heat warning, the City and Park Board will take additional steps to protect residents facing compounding challenges of COVID-19 and heat, including opening air-conditioned cooling centres in four community centres and one library branch, and funding Atira Women's Resource Society to run a daily drop-in centre for cooling. Of note, the activation of cooling centres is particularly challenging this year given the facility closures and staff layoffs due to COVID. Additional extreme heat measures include implementation of a support plan for tenants in the City's non-market housing buildings and distribution of bottled water to those who need it via community centres and peer networks in the DTES. Our emergency services personnel are also briefed to watch for people who may be at risk of or suffering from heat exposure.
- We will be issuing an information bulletin tomorrow outlining these measures and will provide additional information via [Vancouver.ca](#) to ensure people are aware of heat warnings and can access the information they need. We are also translating our heat-related information into 10 language for residents and organizations to share with their communities.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please let me know.

Best,
Paul

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.