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Subject: Oppenheimer Park - update

Dear Mayor and Council,

I wanted to provide you an update on the progress at Oppenheimer Park today, following the posting of the Park Board General Manager's order at 9 a.m. this morning.

From an operational perspective, the notice served today went smoothly. The City's Outreach team and BC Housing have been working in the park all day to connect people with housing and shelter offers. We are pleased with the progress so far, and are optimistic with the level of interest in the offers we are currently seeing. However, some people have expressed an intention to remain in the park and we still have significant work ahead in getting everyone we have been actively working with in the park into housing or shelter.

As you know, people sleeping in the park have been given until 6 pm on Wednesday, August 21 to remove their structures. We're expecting people in the park to comply with the GM's order and work with us to find suitable housing and/or shelter. Campers will not be forcibly removed when the order expires. VPD have been on site to keep the peace, not to enforce the order.

The City's Outreach team and BC Housing will continue tomorrow as every effort is made to secure safe housing and shelter for the campers. We also wanted to acknowledge that Wednesday is income assistance cheque distribution day, which means tomorrow is the best opportunity for us to connect with people sleeping in the park before the order expires.

If you have any further questions about today's progress, or the next steps, please get in touch directly.

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.