

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
Date: 8/21/2019 4:37:35 PM
Subject: RE: Oppenheimer Park Update

Mayor and Council,

My apologies for the succession of messages this afternoon. As a supplement to the information provided previously, I want confirm that I am in regular contact with the Mayor's staff and the Deputy Mayor and that we are taking steps to liaise with the relevant provincial and federal Ministers and their staff. We are working to ensure they are apprised of the situation regarding Oppenheimer Park and attuned to our ongoing requirement for their assistance with the systemic issues that have contributed to this circumstance.

Best,
Paul

From: Mochrie, Paul
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2019 3:01 PM
To: Direct to Mayor and Council - DL
Cc: City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL
Subject: Oppenheimer Park Update

Dear Mayor and Council,

City and Park Board staff continue to work in Oppenheimer Park to support people experiencing homelessness into housing and shelter. Approximately 75 people have accepted offers to move into safe and stable housing since Monday.

As you are aware, the Park Board General Manager's order, which was posted in response to ongoing health and safety risks in the park, expires today at 6 p.m. Following the expiry of the order, the Park Board will be assessing the situation in the park and considering whether further legal action may be required to enforce the GM order.

The City's Carnegie Outreach team remains committed to supporting people as they move out of park into housing and shelter options, and will continue this work throughout the week.

The City continues to work with VPD to ensure the safety of all campers in the park, as well as residents in the surrounding neighbourhood. VPD officers will maintain a presence at the park to keep the peace, ensure public safety, and respond to incidents as needed, but will not remove campers from the park on the basis of the GM order.

The City and Park Board will only dispose of belongings campers confirm they no longer want or that have clearly been abandoned in the park. Any belongings that individuals might wish to retain will be labelled and securely stored for up to 60 days. Given ongoing concerns about the serious health and life safety risks present in the park, Vancouver Fire Rescue Service will continue removing items presenting hazards to health and safety, in compliance with the Fire Chief's order which has been in place in the park since February.

We have shared this updated information with campers today, a copy of what was shared is attached here. We will also be sharing an update with media this afternoon.

Please get in touch if you have any questions.

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.