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**To:** **"Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"**  
**Date:** 11/24/2023 1:23:52 PM  
**Subject:** Memo - Publicly Accessible Defibrillators - RTS# 14953  
**Attachments:** VFRS - ADM - Memo to Mayor Council - Publicly Accessible Defibrillators  
\_2023-11-21 (003).pdf

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Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Chief Fry regarding an update on the Vancouver Fire and Rescue Service's Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) Program.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Chief Fry at [karen.fry@vancouver.ca](mailto:karen.fry@vancouver.ca)

Best,  
Paul

**Paul Mochrie** (he/him)  
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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

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## MEMORANDUM

November 22, 2023

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager  
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager  
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager  
Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager  
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk  
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC  
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office  
Mellisa Morphy, Director of Policy, Mayor's Office  
Trevor Ford, Interim Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office

FROM: Karen Fry, Fire Chief/General Manager, Fire Rescue Services

SUBJECT: Publicly Accessible Defibrillators

RTS #: 14953

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### Purpose

This status update outlines Vancouver Fire and Rescue Service's Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) Program.

### Background

On Wednesday, November 17, 2021, the Standing Committee of Council on Policy and Strategic Priorities voted unanimously to approve a motion to report on opportunities to install automated Publicly Accessible Defibrillators (PADs) equipped with naloxone and first aid kits, in locations throughout Vancouver.

### Vancouver's PAD Program

Vancouver Fire Rescue Services (VFRS) boasts excellent medical response times and strives to attain a target medical incident response time of 6 minute and 30 seconds. In spite of our ability to respond quickly to medical emergencies with highly trained staff and specialized equipment, research shows that survival rates of people suffering from cardiac arrest falls by 7-

10% for every minute that passes without defibrillation. Given this reality, there is a growing recognition of the need for publicly accessible automatic defibrillators.

As such, Vancouver Fire Rescue Services (VFRS) currently provides public access defibrillators at 121 locations including municipal office buildings, community centres, works yards, libraries and other facilities within the City of Vancouver. The first AEDs were placed in City Properties by the Gianfranco Giammaria Memorial Society (GGMS), a non-profit society formed in 2008 to raise private funds to purchase and install AED's in public places.

Since the motion passed in November of 2021, VFRS has added 14 AED's to its publically accessible defibrillator program at various indoor locations in a variety of CoV facilities. These publically accessible AEDs have been installed under VFRS' PAD program and are managed by VFRS.

Additionally, two units are scheduled to be installed at the following outdoor athletic facilities in partnership between the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation and St. John's Ambulance's *Start Me Up BC* Program:

**A) East Location**

Empire Fields - 2901 East Hastings Ave. - Outside the change rooms.

**B) West Location**

Jericho Fields – 1451 Discovery St. - Outside the public washroom near the Works Yard.

The will be monitoring the usage and costs of these two new devices and will look for future opportunities.



Karen Fry  
Fire Chief/General Manager  
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