

From: **"Singh, Sandra"**

To: **"Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"**

Date: 2024-04-19 5:27:16 PM

Subject: Memo to Mayor and Council - Parks Designation Update

Attachments: CMO - DCM Singh - Memo (Council) - Parks Designation Update (2024-04-19).pdf

Good afternoon Mayor and Councillors,

Please find attached a memo providing information on park designation. The memo provides:

- A backgrounder explaining the park designations and application to the parcels/portions of land that make up parks;
- An overview of the current distribution of park designations, as well as a list of all parks and how they are currently designated; and
- Information regarding the accelerated review of parks for designation as requested by Council and timelines for next steps.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email me and I will work with colleagues to respond through the Q&A.

Thank you,

Sandra

Sandra Singh | Deputy City Manager

Pronouns: she/her

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Pronouns: she/her

The City of Vancouver acknowledges the unceded homelands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Sel̓ilwítulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

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MEMORANDUM

April 19, 2024

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager
Karen Levitt, 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, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Ben Pollard, Director, Business Planning & Project Support, CMO
Steve Jackson, General Manager, Park Board
Lon LaClaire, General Manager, Engineering Services
Francie Connell, Legal Services & City Solicitor

FROM: Sandra Singh
Deputy City Manager

SUBJECT: Park Designation Under the Vancouver Charter – Status and Next Steps

RTS #: N/A

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memo is to update Council on the status of the ongoing review of parks to recommend for Permanent Public Park designation under the Vancouver Charter (VC).

BACKGROUND

Previous Council Direction

On March 1, 2022, staff presented a [report to Council](#) recommending seven parks for Permanent Public Park designation and confirming the status of the park inventory.

Following December 2023 direction from Council to report on the status of reviewing parks for designation, and to accelerate this work, staff are preparing a report for after the implementation of the proposed VC transition of governance of parks and recreation services to City Council which will recommend more parks to Council for Permanent Public Park designation.

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Park Designation under the Vancouver Charter

The VC provides for three types of park designations, and there are specific rules for designating and for revoking any designations or changing the future uses of any parks under each category. The category also generally determines how much jurisdiction the Park Board has over the park land and the process for changing its use.

- 1) **Permanent Public Park** (Section 488(1) of the VC): Under the exclusive jurisdiction and control of the Park Board. Change of use requires a 2/3 vote by both Council and Park Board.
- 2) **Temporary Public Park** (Section 488(2) of the VC): Under the exclusive jurisdiction and control of Park Board. Change of use requires a 2/3 vote of Council.
- 3) **Custody, Care and Management** (“CCM”) (Section 488(3) of the VC): Powers prescribed by Council are granted to Park Board. Change of powers granted to Park Board requires a majority vote of Council.

The VC designations noted above do not require that the lands be owned by the City, so parks that are on non-City owned lands can still be designated as Permanent Public Parks.

Composition of Parks

There are 256 parks and golf courses in Vancouver. Parks can be made up of multiple parcels or portions of land (“portions”). There are three types of portions:

- a. titled parcels (e.g. fee-simple property)
- b. non-titled parcels (e.g. Crown parcels); and/or
- c. non-titled, non-parcel portions (e.g., street right of way, foreshore).

There are a total of 765 portions across the 256 parks in Vancouver. Some portions are City-owned, and others are non-City owned (e.g., there is a lease or other agreement). To designate a park under the VC, Council would consider and decide on each portion of the park.

Typically, a whole park is designated with Permanent Public Park status. However, for various reasons some parks have portions which are designated with differing status. For example, a park may have 3 portions: two of which have Permanent Public Park designation, with the third being designated Care, Custody and Management.

Current Status of Parks

The table below shows that of the 256 parks and golf courses in Vancouver, 160 are either Permanent Public Park or partially Permanent Public Park, and 96 are Temporary Public Park, partially Temporary Public Park or Custody, Care and Management.

Number of Parks	Status	Description	Land ownership
115	Permanent Public Park	All portions are designated Permanent Public Park	all City-owned
45	Partially Permanent Public Park	Minimum of one portion is Permanent Public Park, but not all (one or more portion is Temporary Public Park and/or CCM)	36 of these are City-owned, 9 are mixed ownership
1	Temporary Public Park	All portions are Temporary Public Park	City-owned
1	Partially Temporary Public Park	Minimum of one portion is Temporary Public Park, one or more portions are CCM	non-City owned
94	Custody Care and Management (CCM)	All portions are CCM	79 are City-owned, 9 are non-City owned, and 6 are mixed ownership

256 Total parks

For a more detailed breakdown by park, please see **Appendix A**.

Many of the Permanent Public Parks are the largest by area. For example, most of Stanley Park and the three golf courses are designated Permanent Public Park. Therefore, it is important to note that 82% of the total park and golf area in the City is already protected as Permanent Public Park.

Park Area	Status	% of total park area
1106.4 hectares	Permanent Public Park	82.0% of park area
8.6 hectares	Temporary Public Park	0.6% of park area
234.8 hectares	Care, Custody and Management	17.4% of park area

Total: 1349.8 hectares

Land ownership and designation status

All 115 parks where all portions are designated Permanent Public Park and the majority of partially Permanent Public Parks are City-owned land.

There are 9 historical exceptions where a park is not fully City-owned (at least a portion has a long-term lease), but has Permanent Public Park portions (e.g., Stanley Park). However, most of the completely non-City-owned park land is designated as Custody, Care and Management.

Reviewing and recommending parks to Council for Permanent Public Park designation

Under the current governance system, any work on utilities or other infrastructure in Permanent Public Parks requires the express permission of the Park Board. City departments have been reluctant to support the designation of portions of land as Permanent Public Parks because of

the need to ensure the ongoing access, maintenance and upgrade of utilities or other public works that may be contained within lands which are subject to a separate elected body's control.

If implemented, the proposed amendments to the VC to bring parks and recreation services governance under Council should simplify the process to designate lands as Permanent Public Parks while allowing for necessary access for utility upgrades/repairs. Accordingly, some of the reasons for not recommending a park for Permanent Public Park designation could be altered, the staff review process simplified, and more parks may be deemed suitable for Permanent Public Park designation. As per Council's associated direction, staff have accelerated the work to identify additional portions for Council consideration of land as Permanent Public Parks.

It is important to note that not all 256 parks will at some point be recommended for Permanent Public Park designation. For example, in some cases there may be a benefit in being able to amend the park boundary slightly in the future (e.g. to accommodate street widening, to reconfigure the lands while maintaining the same park area, etc.). Some parks are on non-City-owned land – while these have occasionally been designated as Permanent Public Park in the past as above, that is not proposed as an approach moving forward. Others are on street right of way or street ends which require careful consideration before being designated as Permanent Public Park. Finally, there may be parks located adjacent to other City-owned land which present potential strategic opportunities to achieve Council priorities, and which would require Council discussion and direction.

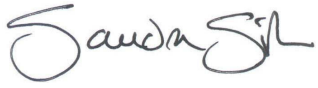
NEXT STEPS

Due to the time intensive review process and limited departmental capacity, staff will continue to review parks incrementally in batches. Council can expect the next batch of parks to be presented with a recommendation to designate at a public meeting of Council after the proposed governance transition is implemented.

FINAL REMARKS

Public parks play a vital role in the social, cultural, economic, and ecological development and life of Vancouver and its residents. At the same time, as with any dense city, land often plays multiple roles in communities. For Vancouver, many of the portions of land that comprise parks serve dual purposes: as parks and as the home to key community-serving infrastructure. While the land itself is never intended to be developed or used for other purposes, this intersection of uses and the uncertainty caused by dual governance systems has often held back the permanent dedication of certain portions as parks. As we look toward the implementation of the proposed governance transition of parks and recreation services from the Park Board to City

Council, the potential to designate more portions of land currently used as parks as Permanent Public Parks only increases.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra Singh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sandra" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Singh".

Sandra Singh
Deputy City Manager

Appendix A: List of Parks by Status and Ownership

	Park Name	Status	Ownership
1	Aberdeen Park	CCM	City
2	Adanac Park	Permanent Public Park	City
3	Alexandra Park	Permanent Public Park	City
4	Alice Townley Park	Permanent Public Park	City
5	Almond Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
6	Andy Livingstone Park	CCM	Non-City
7	Angus Park	Permanent Public Park	City
8	Arbutus Greenway Park	CCM	City
9	Arbutus Park	Permanent Public Park	City
10	Arbutus Village Park	Permanent Public Park	City
11	Art Phillips Park	CCM	City
12	Ash Park	Permanent Public Park	City
13	Balaclava Park	Permanent Public Park	City
14	Barclay Heritage Square	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
15	Bates Park	CCM	City
16	Beaconsfield Park	Permanent Public Park	City
17	Bobolink Park	Permanent Public Park	City
18	Braemar Park	Permanent Public Park	City
19	Brewers Park	Permanent Public Park	City
20	Burrard Slopes	Permanent Public Park	City
21	Burrard View Park	Permanent Public Park	City
22	Callister Park	Permanent Public Park	City
23	Cambie Park	Permanent Public Park	City
24	Cambridge Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
25	Captain Cook Park	Permanent Public Park	City
26	Cardero Park	CCM	City
27	Cariboo Park	Permanent Public Park	City
28	Carleton Park	Permanent Public Park	City
29	Carnarvon Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
30	Carolina Park	CCM	City
31	Cartier Park	Permanent Public Park	City
32	Cathedral Square	CCM	City
33	Cedar Cottage Park	Permanent Public Park	City
34	Chaldecott Park	Permanent Public Park	City
35	Champlain Heights Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
36	Charles Park	CCM	City
37	Charleson Park	CCM	City
38	China Creek North Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
39	China Creek South Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
40	Choklit Park	CCM	City
41	Clark Park	Permanent	City
42	Clinton Park	Permanent Public Park	City
43	Coal Harbour Park	CCM	City
44	Collingwood Park	Permanent Public Park	City

	Park Name	Status	Ownership
45	Columbia Park	Permanent Public Park	City
46	Connaught Park	Permanent Public Park	City
47	Coopers' Park	CCM	Non-City
48	CRAB Park at Portside	CCM	Non-City
49	Creekside Park	CCM	City
50	Creekway Park	CCM	City
51	David Lam Park	CCM	City
52	Deering Island Park	Permanent Public Park	City
53	Delamont Park	CCM	City
54	Devonian Harbour Park	CCM	Mixed
55	Devonshire Park	Permanent Public Park	City
56	Douglas Park	Permanent Public Park	City
57	Downtown Skateboard Plaza	CCM	City
58	Dusty Greenwell Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
59	Earles Park	Permanent Public Park	City
60	East Fraserlands Neighbourhood Park North	CCM	City
61	East Fraserlands Neighbourhood Park South	CCM	City
62	East Park	CCM	City
63	Ebisu Park	CCM	City
64	Eburne Park	Permanent Public Park	City
65	Elm Park	Permanent Public Park	City
66	Emery Barnes Park	CCM	City
67	Empire Fields - Hastings Park	CCM	Mixed
68	English Bay Beach Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	Mixed
69	Everett Crowley Park	Permanent Public Park	City
70	Falaise Park	Permanent Public Park	City
71	Foster Park	Temporary Public Park	City
72	Fraser River Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
73	Fraser River Trail Park	CCM	Mixed
74	Fraserview Golf Course	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
75	Fraserview Park	Permanent Public Park	City
76	Garden Park	Permanent Public Park	City
77	Gaston Park	Permanent Public Park	City
78	General Brock Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
79	George Park	Permanent Public Park	City
80	George Wainborn Park	CCM	Non-City
81	Gibby's Field	CCM	City
82	Gladstone-Riverside Park	CCM	Mixed
83	Glen Park	Permanent Public Park	City
84	Gordon Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
85	Grandview Park	Permanent Public Park	City
86	Granville Island Water Park	CCM	Non-City
87	Granville Loop Park	CCM	City
88	Granville Park	Permanent Public Park	City

	Park Name	Status	Ownership
89	Grays Park	Permanent Public Park	City
90	Grimmett Park	Permanent Public Park	City
91	Guelph Park	Permanent Public Park	City
92	Habitat Island Park	CCM	City
93	Hadden Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
94	Harbour Green Park	CCM	City
95	Hastings Community Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
96	Hastings Mill Park	Permanent Public Park	City
97	Hastings Park - Italian Garden	CCM	City
98	Hastings Park - Sanctuary	CCM	City
99	Heather Park	Permanent Public Park	City
100	Helmcken Park	CCM	City
101	Hillcrest Park	Permanent Public Park	City
102	Humm Park	Permanent Public Park	City
103	Jean Beaty Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
104	Jericho Beach Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	Mixed
105	John Hendry (Trout Lake) Park	Permanent Public Park	City
106	Jonathan Rogers Park	Permanent Public Park	City
107	Jones Park	Permanent Public Park	City
108	Kaslo Park	Permanent Public Park	City
109	Kensington Park	Permanent Public Park	City
110	Kerrisdale Centennial Park	Permanent Public Park	City
111	Kerrisdale Park	Permanent Public Park	City
112	Killarney Park	Permanent Public Park	City
113	Kingcrest Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
114	Kinross Corridor - Middle	CCM	City
115	Kinross Corridor - North	CCM	City
116	Kinross Corridor - South	CCM	City
117	Kinross Ravine Park	Permanent Public Park	City
118	Kitsilano Beach Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	Mixed
119	Langara Golf Course	Permanent Public Park	City
120	Langara Park	CCM	Non-City
121	Laurel Landbridge Park	CCM	City
122	Lilian To	CCM	City
123	Locarno Beach Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	Mixed
124	Locarno Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
125	MacDonald Park	Permanent Public Park	City
126	Maclean Park	Permanent Public Park	City
127	Main & 7th	CCM	City
128	Major Matthews Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
129	Malkin Park	Permanent Public Park	City
130	Maple Grove Park	Permanent Public Park	City
131	Margaret Pigott Park	Permanent Public Park	City
132	Marina Square	CCM	City
133	Marpole Park	Permanent Public Park	City
134	May & Lorne Brown Park	CCM	City

	Park Name	Status	Ownership
135	McAuley Park	CCM	City
136	McBride Park	Permanent Public Park	City
137	McCleery Golf	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
138	McCleery Park	Permanent	City
139	McGill Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
140	McSpadden Park	Permanent Public Park	City
141	Melbourne Park	CCM	City
142	Memorial South Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
143	Memorial West Park	Permanent Public Park	City
144	Milton Wong Plaza	CCM	City
145	Moberly Park	Permanent Public Park	City
146	Mont Royal Square	CCM	City
147	Montgomery Park	Permanent Public Park	City
148	Morton Park	Permanent Public Park	City
149	Mosaic Creek Park	CCM	City
150	Mount Pleasant Park	Permanent Public Park	City
151	Musqueam Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
152	Nanaimo Park	Permanent Public Park	City
153	Nat Bailey Stadium Park	Permanent Public Park	City
154	Nelson Park	CCM	City
155	New Brighton Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	Mixed
156	Norquay Park	Permanent Public Park	City
157	Oak Meadows Park	Permanent Public Park	City
158	Oak Park	Permanent Public Park	City
159	Oppenheimer Park	Permanent Public Park	City
160	Oxford Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
161	Pandora Park	Permanent Public Park	City
162	Park Site On Blenheim	Permanent Public Park	City
163	Park Site on Jervis St. @ Pacific St	CCM	City
164	Park Site on Marine Way	CCM	City
165	Park Site on Point Grey at Stephens	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
166	Park Site on Point Grey at Trafalgar	CCM	City
167	Park Site on Point Grey at Trutch	Permanent Public Park	City
168	Park Site On Puget Drive	Permanent Public Park	City
169	Park Site On Quesnel Drive	Permanent Public Park	City
170	Park Site On Shaughnessy Street	CCM	City
171	Park Site On South East False Creek (Hinge Park)	CCM	City
172	Park Site On Trafalgar Street	Permanent Public Park	City
173	Park Site On Trinity Street	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
174	Pioneer Place (Pigeon Park)	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
175	Pocket Park	CCM	City
176	Portal Park	CCM	City
177	Price Park	Permanent Public Park	City
178	Prince Edward Park	Permanent Public Park	City
179	Prince Of Wales Park	Permanent Public Park	City

	Park Name	Status	Ownership
180	Quadra West Park	Permanent Public Park	City
181	Queen Elizabeth Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
182	Quilchena Park	Permanent Public Park	City
183	Ravine Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
184	Renfrew Community Park	Permanent Public Park	City
185	Renfrew Ravine Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
186	Riley Park	Permanent Public Park	City
187	Riverfront Park	CCM	Mixed
188	Riverview Park	Permanent Public Park	City
189	Robson Park	Permanent Public Park	City
190	Rosemary Brown Park	CCM	City
191	Rosemont Park	CCM	City
192	Ross Park	Permanent Public Park	City
193	Roundhouse Turntable Plaza	CCM	City
194	Rupert Park	CCM	City
195	Sahalli Park	CCM	City
196	Salsbury Park	CCM	City
197	Seaforth Peace Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
198	Shannon Mews Park	CCM	City
199	Shannon Park	Permanent Public Park	City
200	Shaughnessy Park	Permanent Public Park	City
201	Slidey Slides	CCM	City
202	Slocan Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
203	Spanish Banks Beach Park	Partially Temporary Public Park	Non-City
204	Spanish Banks Extension	CCM	Non-City
205	Sparwood Park	CCM	City
206	Stanley Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	Mixed
207	Strathcona Linear Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
208	Strathcona Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
209	Sun Hop Park	CCM	City
210	Sun Yat-sen Gardens Park	Permanent Public Park	City
211	Sunnyside Park	Permanent Public Park	City
212	Sunrise Park	Permanent Public Park	City
213	Sunset Beach Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	Mixed
214	Sunset Park	Permanent Public Park	City
215	Sutcliffe Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	Mixed
216	sθeqəlxenəm ts'exwts'áxwi7 (Rainbow)	CCM	City
217	Tatlow Park	Permanent Public Park	City
218	Tea Swamp Park	CCM	City
219	Tecumseh Park	Permanent Public Park	City
220	Templeton Park	Permanent Public Park	City
221	Thornton Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
222	Thunderbird Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	Mixed
223	Tisdall Park	Permanent Public Park	City
224	Trafalgar Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
225	Triangle Park	CCM	City

	Park Name	Status	Ownership
226	Trillium Park	CCM	City
227	Valdez Park	Permanent Public Park	City
228	Vandusen Botanical Garden	Permanent Public Park	City
229	Vanier Park	CCM	Mixed
230	Vanier Park (Cultural Harmony Grove)	CCM	Non-City
231	Victoria Park	Permanent Public Park	City
232	Victory Square	Permanent Public Park	City
233	Volunteer Park	Permanent Public Park	City
234	W.C. Shelly Park	Permanent Public Park	City
235	Wall Street Ends (Cambridge E)	CCM	City
236	Wall Street Ends (Kamloops)	CCM	City
237	Wall Street Ends (Nanaimo)	CCM	City
238	Wall Street Ends (Penticton)	CCM	City
239	Wall Street Ends (Renfrew)	CCM	City
240	Wall Street Ends (Slocan)	CCM	City
241	Wendy Poole Park	CCM	Non-City
242	West End minipark - BROUGHTON ST @ NELSON ST	CCM	City
243	West End minipark - BUTE ST @ HARO ST	CCM	City
244	West End minipark - CARDERO ST @ BURNABY ST	CCM	City
245	West End minipark - CARDERO ST @ COMOX ST	CCM	City
246	West End minipark - CHILCO ST @ COMOX ST	CCM	City
247	West End minipark - GILFORD ST @ HARO ST	CCM	City
248	West End minipark - JERVIS ST @ BURNABY ST	CCM	City
249	West End minipark - NICOLA ST @ PENDRELL ST	CCM	City
250	West Point Grey Park	Partially Permanent Public Park	City
251	Westmount Park	Permanent Public Park	City
252	William Mackie Park	CCM	City
253	Willow Park	Permanent Public Park	City
254	Winona Park	Permanent Public Park	City
255	Woodland Park	Permanent Public Park	City
256	Yaletown Park	CCM	City