

File No.: 04-1000-20-2024-114

May 16, 2024

s.22(1)

Dear s.22(1)

Re: **Request for Access to Records under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the "Act")**

I am writing regarding your request of February 16, 2024 under the ***Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*** for:

**Record of correspondence to or from Sandra Singh containing the words "Crab" or "CP." Date range: January 20, 2024 to February 15, 2024.**

All responsive records are attached. Some information in the records has been severed (blacked out) under s.14, s.15(1)(l) and s.22(1) of the Act. You can read or download this section here: [http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws\\_new/document/ID/freeside/96165\\_00](http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/96165_00).

Under section 52 of the Act, and within 30 business days of receipt of this letter, you may ask the Information & Privacy Commissioner to review any matter related to the City's response to your FOI request by writing to: Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner, [info@oipc.bc.ca](mailto:info@oipc.bc.ca) or by phoning 250-387-5629.

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's office with: 1) the request number (#04-1000-20-2024-114); 2) a copy of this letter; 3) a copy of your original request; and 4) detailed reasons why you are seeking the review.

Yours truly,

*[Signed by Cobi Falconer]*

**Cobi Falconer, MAS, MLIS, CIPP/C**  
**Director, Access to Information & Privacy**  
[cobi.falconer@vancouver.ca](mailto:cobi.falconer@vancouver.ca)  
453 W. 12th Avenue Vancouver BC V5Y 1V4

If you have any questions, please email us at [foi@vancouver.ca](mailto:foi@vancouver.ca) and we will respond to you as soon as possible. Alternatively, you can call the FOI Case Manager at 604-871-6584.

Encl. (Response Package)

:ma

From: ["Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca)

To: ["Ford, Trevor" <Trevor.Ford@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Trevor.Ford@vancouver.ca)

["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)

Date: 2/14/2024 11:00:00 AM

Subject: Briefing Note: CRAB Park Background and Next Steps

Attachments: CMO - Briefing Note (MO) - CRAB Park (2024-02-14).pdf

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Hello Trevor and Paul,

Pls find attached a briefing note regarding CRAB Park and the current status. Please note we included the background context for the Province.

There is some content in this briefing note that is confidential at this point and we can advise when it is not. It is highlighted in red.

Paul, I will turn this into a Council update later today.

Sandra

Sandra Singh | Deputy City Manager

[sandra.singh@vancouver.ca](mailto:sandra.singh@vancouver.ca)

Pronouns: she/her

Assistant: Stacey Crawford

Phone: 604-871-6135

E-mail: [stacey.crawford@vancouver.ca](mailto:stacey.crawford@vancouver.ca)

Pronouns: she/her

*The City of Vancouver acknowledges the unceded homelands of the x m k y m (Musqueam), S w x w i 7 mesh (Squamish), and Sel il witulh (Tseil-Waututh) Nations*

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**INCLUDES CONFIDENTIAL CONTENT**  
**BRIEFING NOTE**

February 14, 2024

TO: Trevor Ford, Paul Mochrie  
FROM: Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager  
SUBJECT: CRAB Park Next Steps

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Background

- Following *Bamberger v. Vancouver* (Board of Parks and Recreation), 2022 BCSC 49, the General Manager, pursuant to Section 11 of the Park Control By-law decided to establish a designated area in CRAB Park where structures could stay up during the daytime (“daytime area”).
  - This was not required by the Court and was implemented on a discretionary basis to support people who were physically unable to take down their structures each morning.
- Park Rangers attend the park daily to engage with people who are sheltering in the park, both within the daytime area and in other areas of the park where people can shelter overnight but need to bring down their structures during the day so the whole community can use the park.
  - This work involves general clean-up and debris removal, taking down structures as per the By-Law, and discussion of safety concerns related to certain types of structures and materials.
  - Park Rangers are also regularly accompanied by VFRS who discuss fire safety.
- While in the designated daytime area temporary structures are permitted during the day, these structures must meet the requirements as outlined in the Park Control By-Law and related operational safety guidelines.
  - The By-Law sets forth basic health and safety requirements for temporary shelters to protect human life, maintain the park environment, enable park management, and allow for emergency response access.
  - Operational guidelines provide further safety requirements related to structures in the daytime area.
  - Both sets of requirements have been discussed with people in the daytime area numerous times.
- The City’s Homelessness Outreach team attends CRAB Park regularly to offer assistance and support to those sheltering in the park, including making offers of shelter or housing as it becomes available.
- In December 2023, Park Board staff advised people that there are structures in the daytime area that are not compliant with the By-law and safety guidelines and would need to be brought into compliance.
  - Park Board staff discussed a two-phase plan: (Phase 1) The areas where there was debris and dropped tents would be cleaned up and, when that was completed, (Phase 2) the non-compliant structures would be brought into compliance.
- The Phase I Clean-up was delayed due to the inclement weather over late December; notice was reissued in early January.
- On Jan 25th, Park Rangers & Eng (with VPD support) undertook a planned major cleanup event. Key findings:
  - Significant amounts of debris, garbage, and propane tanks; significant amount of hazardous materials like needles and feces; rat infestation.
  - Slow progress due to volume of materials, hazards, and poor ground conditions.
  - Higher risk of injury associated with manual removal of items (by hand, rakes, shovels, wheeled totes)
  - Vehicle access limited due to poor ground conditions.
  - Larger built-structures will require mobile equipment/machinery to safely disassemble and remove materials.
- Staff’s assessment is that these conditions are not safe for people sheltering in the daytime area, and the cleanup up approach is not safe for staff doing the work.
- Based on this assessment:

- o City and Park Board management agree a different way of doing this work is needed.
- o Park Board staff advised those sheltering in the Park during the week of Feb 5th that a new approach would be needed due to these conditions.
- o The work should happen in a timely manner as the rat infestation and hazardous materials, like feces and needles, are very unhygienic.

Current Situation: As of February 13, 2024

- There are approximately 54 structures onsite in the daytime area, ranging from small tents to large-built structures. Approximately 18-20 of these sites do not comply with the By-law or operational guidelines.
- There are approximately 25 people who regularly sleep overnight in the designated area (i.e., they sleep there more than two times per week):
  - o This number is established by the Homelessness Services team whose Outreach workers visit the encampment regularly. They estimate that 75% of these people would accept a housing offer.

Current Planned Approach: Confidential until shared with people sheltering in CRAB Park

- Park Board will create a new temporary daytime area and relocate everyone in the current area into that new area; all guidelines must be complied with.
  - o The new temporary daytime area will be located approximately 25 meters to the south and will only be in place while the cleanup is underway (estimated 1 week).
- Park Board and Engineering will clear the current daytime area using less hands-on approaches.
  - o This will include some mobile equipment/machinery and will require a secured work area.
  - o Consideration is being given to facilitating media access in advance and during the work.
- Park Board and Engineering will work to address any rat nests, fill in any holes, and then level the ground.
- Park Board will relocate people back into the newly cleared daytime area and will require By-law and operational guidelines compliance moving forward.
- Homelessness Services will work with people sheltering to encourage acceptance of any housing or shelter offers that may be available.

Next Steps: Confidential until shared with people sheltering in CRAB Park

- Park Board and City staff are going to walk through the site with VCH Environmental Health to understand any further environmental health considerations.
- Park Board will share the above planned approach with those sheltering in the area to gather any comments or feedback.
  - o They will make any adjustments arising from these conversations and finalize the plan.
  - o They will communicate with those sheltering the outcome of their considerations.
- Park Board staff will provide people with two weeks' notice of the work. This may happen at the same time as the discussion or after the plan has been finalized.
- Homelessness Services will connect with BC Housing to discuss housing unit access.

Judicial Review: Bamberger v. Vancouver (Board of Parks and Recreation), 2022 BCSC 49

- There has been some commentary from advocates that the B.C. Supreme Court decision in Bamberger v. Vancouver (Board of Parks and Recreation), 2022 BCSC 49 both requires the daytime area and allows for the construction of tiny homes or other such structures in the area. This is unfounded. The decision in Bamberger is a limited one; the Court quashed the decision of the General Manager of the Park Board to close CRAB Park for the purpose of remediating the impact of the encampment on the park. The Court found that the Park Board's General Manager had failed to meet the requirements of procedural fairness and had not considered all alternatives available before closing the park. The Court adjourned the Park Board's application for an injunction to enforce the Park Control By-law to allow for a reconsideration of the decision to close a section of the park for remediation.
- Subsequently, the General Manager, pursuant to Section 11 of the Park Control By-law decided to establish a designated area in CRAB Park where structures could stay up during the daytime ("daytime area"). This was not required by the Court and was done on a discretionary basis to support people who were physically unable to take down their structures each morning.
- In the daytime area, temporary structures are permitted to stay up during the day, but these structures must meet the requirements for temporary structures in parks as outlined in the Park Control By-Law and related operational safety guidelines.

From: ["Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca)  
To: ["Gandha, Amit" <Amit.Gandha@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Amit.Gandha@vancouver.ca)  
["McDermott, Jonathan" <Jonathan.McDermott@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Jonathan.McDermott@vancouver.ca)  
["Lepps, Betty" <Betty.Lepps@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Betty.Lepps@vancouver.ca)  
CC: ["Jackson, Steve" <Steve.Jackson@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Steve.Jackson@vancouver.ca)  
Date: 2/13/2024 10:11:00 AM  
Subject: Draft Operational Plan for CP

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Hi all,

Amit, this is just a reminder to pls send the draft operational plan for the draft CP approach.

Steve, just for context, once this logistical piece is fleshed out enough, all the other pieces wrap around it.

Thanks,

Sandra

Sandra Singh | Deputy City Manager  
[sandra.singh@vancouver.ca](mailto:sandra.singh@vancouver.ca)  
Pronouns: she/her

Assistant: Stacey Crawford  
Phone: 604-871-6135  
E-mail: [stacey.crawford@vancouver.ca](mailto:stacey.crawford@vancouver.ca)  
Pronouns: she/her

*The City of Vancouver acknowledges the unceded homelands of the x m k y m (Musqueam), S wxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Sel il witulh (Tseil-Waututh) Nations*

From: ["Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca)  
To: ["Will, Meghan OHCS:EX" <Meghan.Will@gov.bc.ca>](mailto:Meghan.Will@gov.bc.ca)  
Date: 2/16/2024 2:20:00 PM  
Subject: FW: 320 Alexander& 390 Main - Funding pressures.

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Hi Meghan,

To ensure transparency, our operational staff are also in contact with BC Housing about 320 Alexander and 390 Main St.

They provided some additional info below I thought you might find useful.

Thanks,

Sandra

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Hello Sandra and Margaret

Andrea and I wanted to check in on the status of a response from BC Housing regarding continued funding support for 320 Alexander and 390 Main. We are very conscious of the date as it is only 6 weeks until the end of March and these sites are serving many critical community needs. If it is necessary to wind down services at these sites, we are essentially past the window to provide reasonable notice to the NPOs.

We have asked our BC Housing contact Eliza Li if it would be permissible to continue to use the remaining BC Housing funds to keep programs sustained for an additional 4-6 weeks beyond March 31st should new funding not come through, but we have not received approval yet. We will connect with Eliza on Thursday Feb. 22 and hope to receive approval then.

The program summaries below highlight the scale of operations at these sites which are providing safe, low barrier access to a range of services:

390 Main (Aboriginal Front Door)

- storage with daily access for the belongings of 600+ people (7:00 am – 11:00 pm daily)
- receive and distribute food and clothing donations
- drop in space for hot beverage and respite
- cultural meals when opportunities arise
- outreach and checks on folks outside at Main/Hastings
- support with completing BC Housing forms, and connecting people with Carnegie outreach
- 50+ peers/volunteers
- Extreme Weather Response shelter (to April 15)

320 Alexander (Watari Counselling and Support Services)

Showers & Laundry

- drop in shower program
- drop off laundry program (at capacity by 11:00 am daily)

Wellness and Systems Navigation Supports

- housing navigation supports and community referrals coordinator
- Uya'am Gaak Elders to offer 1:1 support to Indigenous clients
- free, low-barrier counselling support

Food Programming

- 2500 meals per week for homebound SRO residents
- meals for outreach at Crab Park and Oppenheimer Park
- regular meals for 25 homebound Vets Manor residents
- Indigenous Elders grocery program

#### Community Events/ Training

- Indigenous healing and wellness (healing circle, language, medicine, beading, dance)
- training for community peer workers (first aid, overdose response, crisis de-escalation, conflict resolution, gender diversity, trans and two spirit inclusion)
- Extreme Weather Response shelter for transgender people (operated by Atira)

We anticipate that service disruption could have implications/costs for the City as well as a negative impact on the community:

#### 390 Main

- implications for the work of homelessness response
  - sanitation - risk of belongings accumulating in the public realm
  - capacity of Carnegie to respond to demand for services

#### 320 Alexander

- capacity of Evelyn Saller to accommodate additional demand for services (showers, laundry, meals )
- loss of space for the provision Indigenous led healing and wellness supports



From: "Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>  
To: "Jackson, Steve" <Steve.Jackson@vancouver.ca>  
Date: 2/14/2024 7:52:00 PM  
Subject: FW: CRAB Park Update  
Attachments: CMO - Briefing Note (Council and Park Board) - CRAB Park (2024-02-14).pdf

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From: Singh, Sandra <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 7:52 PM  
To: Direct to Mayor and Council - DL s.15(1)(l) [REDACTED]  
Cc: City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL s.15(1)(l) [REDACTED]; Wittgens, Margaret <Margaret.Wittgens@vancouver.ca>; LaClaire, Lon <lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca>; Dixon, Iain <iain.dixon@vancouver.ca>  
Subject: CRAB Park Update

Good evening Mayor and Council,

Pleased find attached a partially confidential joint briefing note on the status of work at CRAB Park.

- The Note provides a brief background on the work at CRAB Park and an update on the status of plans to bring structures in the daytime area into compliance with the Park Control By-law and associated operational safety guidelines.
- The confidential information is found in two sections, identified by red font headings and is related to current planning.
- The discussion regarding Bamberger v. Vancouver (Board of Parks and Recreation), 2022 BCSC 49 was s.14 [REDACTED] s.14 [REDACTED] for media statements when advocates cited this decision as providing the right to build a tiny shelter in the park. We have provided it here as this will likely be raised as the work progresses and we thought it would be useful for Council and the Board to have a succinct reminder of what happened.

If you have any questions, please contact me and I'll either respond through the weekly Q&A or through email as appropriate.

Thank you,

Sandra

Sandra Singh | Deputy City Manager  
[sandra.singh@vancouver.ca](mailto:sandra.singh@vancouver.ca)  
Pronouns: she/her

Assistant: Stacey Crawford  
Phone: 604-871-6135  
E-mail: [stacey.crawford@vancouver.ca](mailto:stacey.crawford@vancouver.ca)  
Pronouns: she/her

*The City of Vancouver acknowledges the unceded homelands of the x'm k'y'm (Musqueam), S'wxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Sel'íl witulh (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.*

**INCLUDES CONFIDENTIAL CONTENT**  
**BRIEFING NOTE**

February 14, 2024

TO: Vancouver City Council and Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
FROM: Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager and Steve Jackson, General Manager, Vancouver Park Board  
SUBJECT: CRAB Park Next Steps

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Background

- Following *Bamberger v. Vancouver (Board of Parks and Recreation)*, 2022 BCSC 49, the General Manager, pursuant to Section 11 of the Park Control By-law decided to establish a designated area in CRAB Park where structures could stay up during the daytime (“daytime area”).
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- In December 2023, Park Board staff advised people that there are structures in the daytime area that are not compliant with the By-law and safety guidelines and would need to be brought into compliance.
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- Based on this assessment:

- o City and Park Board management agree a different way of doing this work is needed.
- o Park Board staff advised those sheltering in the Park during the week of Feb 5th that a new approach would be needed due to these conditions.
- o The work should happen in a timely manner as the rat infestation and hazardous materials, like feces and needles, are very unhygienic.

#### Current Situation: As of February 13, 2024

- There are approximately 54 structures onsite in the daytime area, ranging from small tents to large-built structures. Approximately 18-20 of these sites do not comply with the By-law or operational guidelines.
- There are approximately 25 people who regularly sleep overnight in the designated area (i.e., they sleep there more than two times per week):
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#### Current Planned Approach: Confidential until shared with people sheltering in CRAB Park

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  - o The new temporary daytime area will be located approximately 25 meters to the south and will only be in place while the cleanup is underway (estimated 1 week).
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  - o Consideration is being given to facilitating media access in advance and during the work.
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#### Next Steps: Confidential until shared with people sheltering in CRAB Park

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  - o They will make any adjustments arising from these conversations and finalize the plan.
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#### Judicial Review: Bamberger v. Vancouver (Board of Parks and Recreation), 2022 BCSC 49

- There has been some commentary from advocates that the B.C. Supreme Court decision in Bamberger v. Vancouver (Board of Parks and Recreation), 2022 BCSC 49 both requires the daytime area and allows for the construction of tiny homes or other such structures in the area. This is unfounded. The decision in Bamberger is a limited one; the Court quashed the decision of the General Manager of the Park Board to close CRAB Park for the purpose of remediating the impact of the encampment on the park. The Court found that the Park Board's General Manager had failed to meet the requirements of procedural fairness and had not considered all alternatives available before closing the park. The Court adjourned the Park Board's application for an injunction to enforce the Park Control By-law to allow for a reconsideration of the decision to close a section of the park for remediation.
- Subsequently, the General Manager, pursuant to Section 11 of the Park Control By-law decided to establish a designated area in CRAB Park where structures could stay up during the daytime ("daytime area"). This was not required by the Court and was done on a discretionary basis to support people who were physically unable to take down their structures each morning.
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From: "Jackson, Steve" <Steve.Jackson@vancouver.ca>  
To: "Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>  
Date: 1/30/2024 11:20:56 AM  
Subject: FW: Urgent - re clean up at CRAB Park

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Sandra – FYI this response went to s.22(1) yesterday to some questions s.22(1) had.



Steve Jackson CPA, CA | General Manager – Board of Parks and Recreation  
t. 604.257.8448 c. s.15(1)(l)

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From: Jackson, Steve  
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 4:07 PM  
To: s.22(1)  
Cc: Meghan McDermott <meghan@bccla.org>; Julia Riddle <jriddle@arvayfinlay.ca>; Lepps, Betty <Betty.Lepps@vancouver.ca>; Gandha, Amit <Amit.Gandha@vancouver.ca>  
Subject: RE: Urgent - re clean up at CRAB Park

Hi s.22(1)

Thank you for your email. In regards to the regular clean-ups in CRAB Park that have been occurring since last year, these clean-ups continue to be with those sheltering in the park to have a safe, clean, accessible environment. Park Rangers work with people sheltering in CRAB Park daily to ensure their support while doing the clean up. These clean-ups are essential to maintain health and safety in the park.

We want to acknowledge that Park Rangers are asked to play a very difficult role in maintaining the accessibility and vibrancy of our parks. The Rangers continue to bring sensitivity and discretion to their engagement with folks who are themselves facing immense challenges. Until such time as there is a systemic solution to the homelessness crisis in the region, Park Rangers are ensuring the space is safe and clean for those sheltering at the park.

Please note the next clean-up dates are: January 30, February 1, February 6, and February 8. These dates have been noted in our weekly notice.

Thank you,

Steve



Steve Jackson CPA, CA | General Manager – Board of Parks and Recreation  
t. 604.257.8448 c. s.15(1)(l)

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From: s.22(1)  
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 12:04 PM  
To: Jackson, Steve <Steve.Jackson@vancouver.ca>  
Cc: Meghan McDermott <meghan@bccla.org>; Julia Riddle <jriddle@arvayfinlay.ca>; Lepps, Betty <Betty.Lepps@vancouver.ca>; Gandha, Amit <Amit.Gandha@vancouver.ca>  
Subject: Urgent - re clean up at CRAB Park

**City of Vancouver Warning - This message is from an external sender**

Do not click on links or open attachments unless you were expecting the email and know the content is safe.

Report Suspicious

Hi Steve

Last week there were numerous problems with the “clean up” on Thursday. Inhabited tents were removed and others were kicked and bumped repeatedly. Rangers would not listen or take direction from volunteers or residents themselves and took peoples belongings. They also did not heed my advice that tents had been flattened in the snowstorm the previous week, therefore it’s next to impossible to distinguish what is currently being used and what is not.

There is also the matter of not giving proper notice — park board officials stated that a “clean up” was coming up at weekly meetings and on the January 15th and 22nd Notices — then it was suddenly announced in an media on January 23 at 3:330 pm then it would be on January 25th, with less then 48 hours notice.

This week again, there has been an extreme weather event with the rain over the weekend.

I’d like to request the following:

- Postpone the cleanup
- Always provide two weeks notice, and provide better communication about it
- Residents/volunteers to mark off sites
- Residents/volunteers to guide
- Not after snow or rain event
- Replace the two inhabited tents that were taken
- Apologize for taking the tents and bumping at least two tents, multiple times, and commit to not doing that again

Please let me know.

Thank you

s.22(1)























From: ["Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca)  
To: ["Meiszner, Peter" <Peter.Meiszner@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Peter.Meiszner@vancouver.ca)  
"Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" s.15(1)(l)  
CC:  ["Wittgens, Margaret" <Margaret.Wittgens@vancouver.ca>  
\["LaClaire, Lon" <lon.laclair@vancouver.ca>\]\(mailto:Lon.laclair@vancouver.ca\)  
\["Dixon, Iain" <iain.dixon@vancouver.ca>\]\(mailto:iain.dixon@vancouver.ca\)  
Date: 2/15/2024 5:53:00 PM  
Subject: RE: CRAB Park Update](mailto:City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL)

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Hi Cllr,

We are still working out those timing details. Once we have finalized this information, we will provide an update to Council.

Sandra

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From: Meiszner, Peter <Peter.Meiszner@vancouver.ca>  
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2024 10:10 AM  
To: Singh, Sandra <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>; Direct to Mayor and Council - DL s.15(1)(l)  
Cc: City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL s.15(1)(l); Wittgens, Margaret <Margaret.Wittgens@vancouver.ca>; LaClaire, Lon <lon.laclair@vancouver.ca>; Dixon, Iain <iain.dixon@vancouver.ca>  
Subject: RE: CRAB Park Update

Hi Sandra,

Thanks for this update. Do we have a specific date for the move to the new temporary area?

Park Board will create a new temporary daytime area and relocate everyone in the current area into that new area; all guidelines must be complied with. ○ The new temporary daytime area will be located approximately 25 meters to the south and will only in be in place while the cleanup is underway (estimated 1 week).

Thanks,  
Peter

Councillor Peter Meiszner *(he/him)*  
City of Vancouver  
453 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Ave, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5L 4Y8  
e. [peter.meiszner@vancouver.ca](mailto:peter.meiszner@vancouver.ca)  
Twitter: [@PeterMeiszner](https://twitter.com/PeterMeiszner)  
Links: [Linktree: Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram](#)

Assistant

Davin Fung *(he/him)* | Assistant to Councillors  
Mayor and Council Support | City of Vancouver  
453 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Ave, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5L 4Y8  
Tel: 604-871-6713 | [davin.fung@vancouver.ca](mailto:davin.fung@vancouver.ca)

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



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From: Singh, Sandra <[Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca](mailto:Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca)>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 7:52 PM  
To: Direct to Mayor and Council - DL s.15(1)(l) [REDACTED]  
Cc: City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL s.15(1)(l) [REDACTED]; Wittgens, Margaret <[Margaret.Wittgens@vancouver.ca](mailto:Margaret.Wittgens@vancouver.ca)>; LaClaire, Lon <[lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca](mailto:lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca)>; Dixon, Iain <[iain.dixon@vancouver.ca](mailto:iain.dixon@vancouver.ca)>  
Subject: CRAB Park Update

Good evening Mayor and Council,

Pleased find attached a partially confidential joint briefing note on the status of work at CRAB Park.

- The Note provides a brief background on the work at CRAB Park and an update on the status of plans to bring structures in the daytime area into compliance with the Park Control By-law and associated operational safety guidelines.
- The confidential information is found in two sections, identified by red font headings and is related to current planning.
- The discussion regarding Bamberger v. Vancouver (Board of Parks and Recreation), 2022 BCSC 49 was drafted s.14 [REDACTED] s.14 [REDACTED] for media statements when advocates cited this decision as providing the right to build a tiny shelter in the park. We have provided it here as this will likely be raised as the work progresses and we thought it would be useful for Council and the Board to have a succinct reminder of what happened.

If you have any questions, please contact me and I'll either respond through the weekly Q&A or through email as appropriate.

Thank you,

Sandra

Sandra Singh | Deputy City Manager  
[sandra.singh@vancouver.ca](mailto:sandra.singh@vancouver.ca)  
Pronouns: she/her

Assistant: Stacey Crawford  
Phone: 604-871-6135  
E-mail: [stacey.crawford@vancouver.ca](mailto:stacey.crawford@vancouver.ca)  
Pronouns: she/her

*The City of Vancouver acknowledges the unceded homelands of the x m k y m (Musqueam), S w x w i 7 mesh (Squamish), and Sel il w i t u l h (Tseil-Waututh) Nations*

From: "Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>  
To: "Meiszner, Peter" <Peter.Meiszner@vancouver.ca>  
Date: 2/2/2024 1:42:00 PM  
Subject: RE: CRAB Park Update - New Structure - CONFIDENTIAL

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Thanks so much Clr – I appreciated your follow-up

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From: Meiszner, Peter <Peter.Meiszner@vancouver.ca>  
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:34 PM  
To: Singh, Sandra <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>  
Subject: RE: CRAB Park Update - New Structure - CONFIDENTIAL

Thanks for this language Sandra - helpful

Councillor Peter Meiszner (*he/him*)  
City of Vancouver  
453 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Ave, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5L 4Y8  
e. [peter.meiszner@vancouver.ca](mailto:peter.meiszner@vancouver.ca)  
Twitter: [@PeterMeiszner](https://twitter.com/PeterMeiszner)  
Links: [Linktree](#): [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#)

Assistant

Davin Fung (*he/him*) | Assistant to Councillors  
Mayor and Council Support | City of Vancouver  
453 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Ave, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5L 4Y8  
Tel: 604-871-6713 | [davin.fung@vancouver.ca](mailto:davin.fung@vancouver.ca)

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

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From: Singh, Sandra <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>  
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 1:06 PM  
To: Direct to Mayor and Council - DL [s.15\(1\)\(l\)](#)  
Cc: City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL [s.15\(1\)\(l\)](#); Wittgens, Margaret  
<[Margaret.Wittgens@vancouver.ca](mailto:Margaret.Wittgens@vancouver.ca)>  
Subject: FW: CRAB Park Update - New Structure - CONFIDENTIAL

Good morning Mayor and Council,

Further to the forwarded update from the GM, Park Board below, the information in the email itself is not confidential from my perspective, but the GM's email should be treated as confidential and not forwarded. If you are responding to residents or businesses regarding this structure, the following summary could be information to share:

We received an update from staff regarding this structure. This structure has been placed back in the daytime encampment area and Park Board staff have also communicated to those sheltering in the park that the structure in question exceeds the Park Board size guidelines for health and safety and must be replaced with one that is in compliance. Park Board staff have also been conveying to the residents in the daytime area that all structures in that area must comply with the Park Control By-law and safety guidelines for temporary structures. Daily work on By-law enforcement continues.

I hope that helps.

Thank you,

Sandra

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From: Singh, Sandra  
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 6:31 PM  
To: Direct to Mayor and Council - DL [s.15\(1\)\(l\)](#)  
Cc: City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL [s.15\(1\)\(l\)](#); LaClaire, Lon <[lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca](mailto:lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca)>; Wittgens, Margaret <[Margaret.Wittgens@vancouver.ca](mailto:Margaret.Wittgens@vancouver.ca)>  
Subject: FW: CRAB Park Update - New Structure - CONFIDENTIAL

Good evening Mayor and Council,

Please find below an update GM of the Park Board sent to Commissioners as an update on a large structure recently erected at CRAB Park. Some Cllrs had questions about this structure and I hope this addresses them.

We will provide a fuller update on the work at CRAB Park next week.

Best,

Sandra

---

From: Park Board GM's Office <[pbgmo@vancouver.ca](mailto:pbgmo@vancouver.ca)>  
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 5:07 PM  
To: Park Board Commissioners - DL [s.15\(1\)\(l\)](#)  
Cc: Tait, Godfrey <[Godfrey.Tait@vancouver.ca](mailto:Godfrey.Tait@vancouver.ca)>; Lepps, Betty <[Betty.Lepps@vancouver.ca](mailto:Betty.Lepps@vancouver.ca)>; Gandha, Amit <[Amit.Gandha@vancouver.ca](mailto:Amit.Gandha@vancouver.ca)>; Irving, Stephen <[Stephen.Irving@vancouver.ca](mailto:Stephen.Irving@vancouver.ca)>  
Subject: CRAB Park Update - New Structure - CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Commissioners,

We have received multiple emails regarding a large new structure in the General Manager's designated area in CRAB Park and wanted to provide an update.

This structure has been placed back in the encampment area following a discussion among the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation's Operations team. The conversation focused on the need for individuals to move the structure from its previous location to a spot that does not obstruct the pathway or access for emergency vehicles, sanitation crews and other service providers.

The individuals have successfully relocated the structure that was outside of the designated area to the appropriate place. Park Rangers have verified that the relocation has occurred, while preparing for its eventual removal.

Park Board staff have also communicated to those sheltering in the park that the structure in question exceeds our size guidelines for health and safety and must be replaced with one that is in compliance. As you are aware, the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation is currently developing an operational plan that will address any structures that do not comply with the Park Control By-law and subsequent guidelines. Therefore, the need to create space to safely access and work on the area with equipment is critical for both those sheltering in the park and the team that will be working towards compliance.

Please stay tuned for further updates. As always, given the sensitive nature of this topic, please direct any media inquiries to [pb.communications@vancouver.ca](mailto:pb.communications@vancouver.ca).

Best,

Steve Jackson



**Steve Jackson, CPA, CA** | General Manager – Board of Parks and Recreation

My pronoun is: he, him

t. 604.257.8448 c. **s.15(1)(i)**

*I acknowledge that we are on the unceded territories of the Coast Salish Nation, the x m k y m (Musqueam), s wxwú7mesh (Squamish) and s iliw ta (Tsleil-Waututh)*

**From:** ["Lepps, Betty" <Betty.Lepps@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Betty.Lepps@vancouver.ca)  
**To:** ["Will, Meghan HOUS:EX" <Meghan.Will@gov.bc.ca>](mailto:Meghan.Will@gov.bc.ca)  
["Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca)  
**CC:** ["Mauboules, Celine" <celine.mauboules@vancouver.ca>](mailto:celine.mauboules@vancouver.ca)  
["Oscienny, Erin HOUS:EX" <Erin.Oscienny@gov.bc.ca>](mailto:Erin.Oscienny@gov.bc.ca)  
**Date:** 2/2/2024 10:10:08 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Crab Park Update

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Morning Meghan, as you can imagine, it is the ever changing landscape. The weather played an issue in the extreme cold, we also had a death this week at CRAB, therefore clean up was postponed until next week. The clean-ups are our regular process. The compliance with structures will be coming after the clean up to make some space to move individuals around. The plan is in progress as it will take equipment, and people and will need to ensure safety for everyone. We hope within the next few weeks we will be able to begin the structures. We ensure the people are doing well, been informing them, and want to ensure we have health and safety in place.

If you would like a more thorough update, I can join a meeting, as its difficult to present all the intricate pieces in an email. Always willing to provide an update.

Thank you  
Betty

**From:** Will, Meghan HOUS:EX <Meghan.Will@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2024 9:12 AM  
**To:** Singh, Sandra <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>; Lepps, Betty <Betty.Lepps@vancouver.ca>  
**Cc:** Mauboules, Celine <celine.mauboules@vancouver.ca>; Oscienny, Erin HOUS:EX <Erin.Oscienny@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Crab Park Update

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Morning all – curious if there is an update on the progress to bring down the large structures at Crab? I believe they last information I had referenced a goal to bring all remaining large structures down by end of January?

Thanks and happy Friday all,

M

Meghan Will  
(pronouns she/her/hers)

Assistant Deputy Minister, Homelessness, Partnerships & Housing Supports Division  
Ministry of Housing

*I am grateful to live, learn and work on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking peoples.*

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**From:** "Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Crawford, Stacey" <stacey.crawford@vancouver.ca>  
**Date:** 2/15/2024 2:20:38 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Health Walkthrough

---

Hi Stacey - yes, I'll attend the walkthrough

---

**From:** Crawford, Stacey <stacey.crawford@vancouver.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2024 11:44:43 AM  
**To:** Singh, Sandra <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: RE: Health Walkthrough

Hi Sandra,

Before I accept this, just wanted to confirm that you're ok to miss the Weekly meeting with the Mayor as it's booked through that? Doesn't sound like there were any other options, but wanted to confirm that you knew that?

Thanks!  
Stacey

---

**From:** Lepps, Betty <Betty.Lepps@vancouver.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2024 8:38 AM  
**To:** Singh, Sandra <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>; Crawford, Stacey <stacey.crawford@vancouver.ca>  
**Cc:** Kwan, Janice <Janice.Kwan@vancouver.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Health Walkthrough

Hi Sandra, Janice will be sending a meeting request for onsite health walkthrough of CRAB park for February 20<sup>th</sup> at 10am

This time works well for Olga

If you have any questions please let me know

Betty



Betty Lepps | Director of Urban Relationships  
[Vancouver Park Board](#) | 2099 Beach Avenue  
t. 604-728-8278 | [betty.lepps@vancouver.ca](mailto:betty.lepps@vancouver.ca)  
pronouns: she/her/hers

I am thankful to live, work, and play on the unceded, ancestral territories of the x m k y m ([Musqueam](#)), S wx\u03b1817 \_w\u03b17mesh ([Squamish](#)), and s l ilw ta /sel il wituht ([Tleil-Waututh](#)) nations.

From: "Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>

To: "Kwan, Janice" <Janice.Kwan@vancouver.ca>

"Dixon, Iain" <iain.dixon@vancouver.ca>

Date: 1/23/2024 12:52:00 PM

Subject: RE: Kwan, Janice shared "CONFIDENTIAL - Response - Tiny Homes in Crab Park" with you

Ty!

From: Kwan, Janice <Janice.Kwan@vancouver.ca>

Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2024 4:08 PM

To: Dixon, Iain <iain.dixon@vancouver.ca>; Singh, Sandra <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>

Subject: Kwan, Janice shared "CONFIDENTIAL - Response - Tiny Homes in Crab Park" with you



## Kwan, Janice shared a file with you

As requested by Amit Gandha, sending document for viewing. Thank you.



This link only works for the direct recipients of this message.

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From: ["Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca)  
To: ["Fry, Karen" <Karen.Fry@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Karen.Fry@vancouver.ca)  
["Renning, Rob" <rob.renning@vancouver.ca>](mailto:rob.renning@vancouver.ca)  
CC: ["Meers, Dave" <dave.meers@vancouver.ca>](mailto:dave.meers@vancouver.ca)  
Date: 2/9/2024 8:49:00 AM  
Subject: RE: Minutes from BC Housing meetings

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Oh – and if I could also see the notes re: the Hazelwood, I'd appreciate it

---

From: Fry, Karen <Karen.Fry@vancouver.ca>  
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 8:38 AM  
To: Renning, Rob <rob.renning@vancouver.ca>  
Cc: Meers, Dave <dave.meers@vancouver.ca>; Singh, Sandra <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>  
Subject: Minutes from BC Housing meetings

Hi Rob

After speaking yesterday, we are hoping that you can send meeting minutes every time you meet with BC Housing and send copies to myself and Sandra Singh. Our intention will be to move them up to BC Housing executive and others, similar to Crab Park and Hastings St.

If you have any notes from your previous meetings that you can forward that would be great.

Dave, thanks again for the chat this morning with concerns regarding the Hazelwood. Please forward me a short bullet point summary of major deficiencies and how long for non compliance and I will get an update as well. I agree that if there are safety concerns for our crews and inspectors, this is a priority.

Karen