
From: Jackson, Steve
Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 12:43 PM
To: PB Commissioners
Cc: PB SLT (Senior Leadership Team) - DL
Subject: Stanley Park TMP Removal Update
Attachments: Stanley Park - TMP Removed-01.jpg

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this notice is to inform you that the seawall in Stanley Park will be opened to cyclists with full vehicle access in both lanes of Park Drive starting on Saturday, September 26. The park was closed to all vehicle traffic, other than first responders and essential business partners, on April 8 in response to the need for greater physical distancing in high traffic areas such as the seawall and amid public requests for greater access to essential recreational space for cycling and walking during the early phase of the pandemic.

Park Drive reopened to one lane of vehicle traffic on June 22, following the Province's easing of restrictions and after businesses in the park began reopening. The seawall remained closed to cyclists to allow pedestrians greater space during the busy summer months when pedestrian and cyclist traffic in the park reached an all-time high.

Stanley Park will temporarily close overnight at 8 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 25 to facilitate the safe removal of the temporary Traffic Management Plan (TMP): equipment, signage, and traffic cones. Traffic patterns will return to their pre-COVID conditions starting the morning of Saturday, Sept. 26, including full vehicle access to the causeway exits and entries. The only closure that will continue is a small section of Park Drive between North Lagoon Drive and Park Lane, which will remain in place for the foreseeable future, to coordinate with the eastbound lane closure along Beach Avenue (as part of the Room 2 Move program dedicating part of Beach Avenue to cyclists.) Please find attached a map of Stanley Park showing the new traffic patterns.

Staff have connected with several key stakeholders in the park to ensure the temporary overnight closure will not present any major issues for business partners. A communique announcing the removal of the TMP will be sent to key stakeholders later this afternoon. Staff will publicly announce the removal of the TMP this afternoon via a News Release. Please consider this information confidential until it is publicly released.

The TMP was always intended to be temporary during a critical time for the community to access recreation, nature, and green space. Data from previous years shows a consistent decline in visitation to Stanley Park as fall season approaches. With children back in school, and with COVID protocols and behaviors in place, the data is showing that the Park can return to its conventional traffic patterns.

Once full vehicle access resumes and cyclists return to the seawall, all users will be reminded to be cognizant of physical distancing to ensure they have the space they need to recreate safely.

The public survey seeking feedback on the temporary changes in the Park this summer will close on Sunday, Sept. 20 at midnight, and has garnered over 10,500 responses to date. Staff will be reporting back to the Board with results from the survey along with data collected over the summer months, to help guide future planning as it pertains to the June 8 motion to study the potential of reducing vehicle traffic in Stanley Park.

Sincerely,

Acting Deputy General Manager
Steve Jackson



Steve Jackson, CPA CA | Acting Deputy General Manager



My pronoun is: he, him
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I am grateful to live and work on the unceded, ancestral territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations