



VANCOUVER
BOARD OF
PARKS AND
RECREATION

February 10, 2021

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Donnie Rosa - General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT : **GM Order - Strathcona Park Shelter Restrictions – Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

This afternoon I will be issuing a General Manager's Order that, effective immediately, temporary shelters and structures will not be permitted in the west side of Strathcona Park to allow for the remediation of the space in order to return the area to recreational use and programming for all park users. A copy of the GM Order, which includes a map outlining the area where temporary structures are no longer permitted, is attached for your reference.

This GM Order falls under the authority granted through the Parks Control By-law. The Order states that all existing tents, temporary shelters, and structures must be removed from the west side, as indicated on the map, by 10:00am Wednesday, February 17, 2021.

The GM Order will be issued to the individuals who are currently sheltering on the west side today, and signage will be installed in several locations inside the park tomorrow (February 11, 2021). Outreach work will continue with those currently in the west side of the park to connect individuals with housing and other services, should they be interested.

Once the west side of the park has been cleared, staff from the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation will erect a fence barrier to close off portions of the west side temporarily for remediation. While it is expected this work will take approximately 2-3 months to complete, it can be done in a manner that will still allow community access to the park.

We will be notifying the Strathcona community of this activity tomorrow as part of the third bi-weekly community email update, of which more than 170 people are subscribed.

We will continue to update you on any new developments with regard to the current GM Order, as well as any other significant activities related to Strathcona Park and the people experiencing homelessness in the park.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Donnie Rosa', written in a cursive style.

Donnie Rosa (*she/her they/them*)
General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

/cu/clc

Copy to: PB Senior Leadership Team
General Manager, Arts, Culture & Community Services
PB Communications

Order from the General Manager of the Park Board

Pursuant to the Parks Control By-law, the General Manager of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation orders that effective Wednesday, February 10, 2021, temporary shelters and structures will not be permitted in the west side of Strathcona Park, as outlined in the attached map, to allow the Park Board to remediate and return this area to recreational use and programming for all park users.

The Parks Control By-law states:

11. *No person shall erect, construct or build or cause to be erected, constructed or built in or on any park any tent, building, shelter, pavilion or other construction whatsoever without the permission of the General Manager, except that this provision does not apply to a temporary shelter that complies with the provisions of this by-law.*

- 11B. *A temporary shelter:*
 - (a) *must not be erected:*
 - i. *within 25 metres of a playground or school;*
 - ii. *in, on or within a:*
 - A. *beach, pond, lake or dock;*
 - B. *trail, bridge, seawall, roadway or park entrance;*
 - C. *natural area;*
 - D. *garden or horticultural display area;*
 - E. *pool or water park;*
 - F. *sports field, sports court, skate park, fitness amenity or golf course;*
 - G. *community centre or fieldhouse;*
 - H. *bleacher, stage, gazebo, public monument, designated picnic site, picnic shelter or washroom;*
 - I. *designated off-leash dog area; or*
 - J. *designated special event area for which permission has been given in accordance with this by-law;*

All existing tents, temporary shelters, and structures must be removed from the west side of Strathcona Park by 10:00am on Wednesday, February 17, 2021.

Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Address/location: Strathcona Park, 857 Malkin Avenue, Vancouver, BC



General Manager
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

February 10, 2021

Date

STRATHCONA PARK – 857 Malkin Avenue, Vancouver BC



People experiencing homelessness and living on the west side of the park are encouraged to talk to Outreach Staff who are in the park daily and to accept offers of indoor accommodation being provided by BC Housing. By noon on February 17, 2021, all temporary shelters and structures on the west side of the park must be removed.

If you would like information on housing availability or other supports, please contact BC Housing Orange Hall 604-648-4270 or Carnegie Outreach 604-665-3318.