



March 6, 2020

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Malcolm Bromley
General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT : **Seaside Greenway at Kitsilano Beach Park Update – Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on the project to improve the Seaside Greenway connection through Kitsilano Beach Park.

Background

Since last updating the Board on this project through a [briefing memo](#) dated October 4, 2019, staff have been in discussions with City of Vancouver Engineering staff, HUB cycling, and the Kitsilano Point Residents Association (KPRIA) on the best path forward to advance improvements to the walking and cycling routes through Kitsilano Beach Park. Through the course of these discussions, it has become apparent that engagement with the broader public and key stakeholders is required to develop a suitable alignment for all park users.

Next Steps

In late spring 2020, staff will initiate engagement with the broader community to determine the optimum solutions for the interface of cyclists, pedestrians, vehicles and park users. Staff are proposing two rounds of public engagement: Round #1 “Exploration”, and Round #2 “Refined Alignment”, with a parallel process with key stakeholder groups.

The goal of the community engagement will be to develop a preferred alignment that meets the overall goals of the broader community, as well as key stakeholders such as HUB, KPRIA, and the Boathouse Restaurant. It is anticipated that the refined alignment will be an interim solution that would address current demands, safety and connectivity, prior to a full park master plan process (described below) that would factor in all park aspects required to implement a finalized solution.

Future Kitsilano Park Master Plan

Kitsilano Beach Park is much loved and is used as a regional destination park and beach. The park has not had any comprehensive master planning or renewal for decades and the most recent improvements, back in 2005, were localized around and included the Boathouse (then Watermark) Restaurant.

Much has changed since these last improvements; beach areas and other park facilities and amenities are in need of renewal, and the significant amount of park use warrants a fulsome review and plan. VanSplash Aquatic Strategy also provides direction on the renewal of the significant number of aquatic elements in the park (pool, spray park and beach). It is anticipated that a master plan for Kitsilano Beach Park would be proposed for the 2023-2026 Capital Plan, pending the outcomes of Board decisions made through the capital planning process.



Seaside Greenway Interim Connection Timeline

It is anticipated that community engagement for the interim Seaside Greenway connection will begin in late spring 2020. Following is an approximate schedule for the project process to construction:

- Q2 2020: Public engagement round #1 “Exploration”, including focus group sessions with key stakeholders;
- Q4 2020: Public engagement round #2 “Refined Alignment” concept;
- Q4 2020: Report back to Park Board for decision on refined interim option;
- Q2 2021: Detailed design
- Q3 2021: Construction (during lower-use fall/winter season)

This interim approach has been taken in many areas of the city to provide safe cycling and pedestrian connections prior to the determination of final park and open space configurations (e.g., east basin of False Creek). An interim solution will also allow the piloting of a functional option to happen in a relatively quick manner.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Malcolm Bromley".

Malcolm Bromley
General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

AG/IS/DH

Copy to: PB Senior Leadership Team
Park Development
PB Communications