

GOAL 2:

PROTECT EXISTING PARKS AND RECREATION SPACES

from Loss, Encroachment & Densification

While Vancouver has more park space today than it did 25 years ago, the significant increase in our population and the city's increasing density has put greater pressure on our parks' system. This is especially true in neighbourhoods like Vancouver's downtown, Mt. Pleasant, False Creek and the Cambie corridor where the majority of new residents are living in condos with little or no access to private outdoor space or to nature.

That means the park space we do have is working harder to meet our collective needs. That's why today it's more important than ever that we preserve our existing parks and recreation spaces not just for now, but for future generations.

With growth comes the necessity for new roads and upgraded infrastructure, but finding space for these is increasingly challenging and can result in encroachment on park uses. Shadows from new buildings adjacent to parks can dramatically change the nature of these green spaces and our enjoyment of them. And while the city has worked hard to balance the need for new buildings while maintaining solar access for

our parks and streets, the building of increasingly taller structures needs to be carefully considered. We believe that sunshine is a fundamental building block of our parks, which is why we're developing clear policy to help preserve it.

To prepare for tomorrow, we must preserve, honour and build upon what we have today. To that end, the Park Board is committed to increasing public awareness and understanding of the importance of Vancouver's existing park land to the city and its residents. By recognizing the value of our green spaces and recreation system, we're helping to safeguard them - not just today, but for many years to come.