

ASSET TARGETS

SPRAY PARKS



There is a need to provide equitable access to new and varied water play experiences in parks and plazas across the city.

A condition assessment in 2011 indicated that the 15 wading pools in the city were all in poor condition and did not conform to health regulations. Wading pools are gradually being phased out in favour of spray parks in Vancouver, as they are in many municipalities across Western Canada. Spray parks provide much higher levels of service, a longer operating season, and provide low-barrier enjoyment for many people.

Our changing climate and water conservation by-laws will require the Park Board to think creatively and prioritise efforts to ensure sustainable provision of these amenities. Integrating creative water features into urban plazas can also offer relief from heat and opportunities for play for all ages.

Detailed recommendations for spray parks are pending the outcomes of *VanSplash*, Vancouver's Aquatic Strategy. For example, there is potential for co-location of spray parks with indoor and outdoor pools to take advantage of mechanical system synergies.

Service and Asset Needs

- Identify potential park sites for new and renewed spray parks, interactive water features and cooling stations. Consider locations of existing wading pools, co-location with outdoor pools and locations that require water conservation upgrades. Review these opportunities with the community through an equity lens (see *Equity Strategic Bold Move*) for distribution and access.
- Consider potential locations for spray features integrated into urban plazas that can also serve as event spaces, create interaction with public art features, and activate hardscape areas in parks.

2040 Asset Targets

- Add one new or renewed spray park per capital plan.

