

- Undertaking Bylaw amendments, one-at-a-time has the potential to introduce enforcement and operational challenges, or other unintentional impacts.
- Further amendments will result in staff time to redesign, reprint, remove and reinstall all of the temporary signs that have been installed since the Bylaw amendments were adopted in September. Staff estimate that replacement costs will be approximately \$15,000.

Staff have assessed the changes and identified that even with the proposed new change, adequate space would still be available for sheltering throughout parks for the approximately 250 individuals believed to be currently experiencing homelessness in Victoria.

For Council's awareness, staff report few complaints specific to this issue received since the beginning of the pandemic and the increase volume of sheltering. When complaints are received by property owners, Bylaw Officers speak to the individual(s) sheltering in the park and encourage them to move to another area of the park where there may be less impact to adjacent property owners or park users. In the majority of situations this approach works well and the issue is resolved.

CONCLUSION

Amending the Parks Regulation Bylaw to include a 4metre or 6 metre set-back from private property boundaries will result in minor changes to most parks where sheltering is prohibited, with the most significant impacts anticipated at Oaklands Park and Vic West Park. Should Council decide to move forward with this adjustment, staff would update and install the necessary signage and communicate the change to individuals sheltering in City parks, as well as agencies providing services to this population.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Soulliere
Director
Parks, Recreation and Facilities

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:



Date: November 10, 2020

List of Attachments

- Attachment A: Maps showing 4m/6m Set-backs in Parks with Washrooms
- Attachment B: Parks Regulation Amendment Bylaw No. 20-102