

Proposed Amendments to Parks Regulation Bylaw (Section 16A)

January 21, 2021



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Background

- City is experiencing significant volume of sheltering activity, primarily focused in 9 parks
- Managing the health and safety risks associated with use of parks for sheltering is an ongoing challenge
- *Parks Regulation Bylaw* (Section 16) contains conditions for sheltering in City parks
- Two updates are proposed to the *Bylaw*



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Environmental Conditions

- Regional climate projections show more intense and frequent storms, increasing rainfall
- Hazards to individuals living in parks include flooding, tree failure

	Past (mm)	2050s (mm)	2080s (mm)	2050s Change (%)
Winter	680	714	782	5 (-3 to 11)
Spring	328	345	352	5 (-5 to 14)
Summer	125	103	92	-18 (-41 to 4)
Fall	504	558	605	11 (-4 to 26)
Annual	1660	1743	1857	5 (1 to 10)

*Capital Region Annual Precipitation
Projections (CRD 2017)*



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Environmental Conditions

Examples of recent extreme weather and damage in parks where sheltering is occurring



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Central Park

- Large areas at risk of flooding and tree impacts
- Limited space where sheltering is allowed
- No public washrooms
- Temporary infrastructure, services ~\$22,000/month



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Recommendations

THAT Council direct staff to prepare the following amendments to Section 16A of the *Parks Regulation Bylaw*;

- A. Prohibit sheltering within parks in areas with high-risk of flooding or other environmental hazards, and
- B. Add Central Park to the list of parks where sheltering is prohibited.

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