



Committee of the Whole Report For the Meeting of February 15, 2018

To: Committee of the Whole
From: Chris Coates, City Clerk
Subject: Parks Regulation Bylaw Amendments

Date: February 5, 2018

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive this report for information.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On September 21, 2017 Council directed staff to make the following changes to the Parks Regulations Bylaw:

1. Amend section 2 by inserting new definitions for "occupy" and "same location";
2. Add new section 5A establishing a permitting system for erection of signs or other structures or holding of protests, demonstrations, or other political expression that occupies same location in a park in excess of six hours in a 24 hour period;
3. Add new section 9A authorizing the Director to temporarily close a park or part of a park when necessary for maintenance, renovation, or other work, or when necessary for the safety of staff or the public due to construction or hazardous conditions;
4. Add new section 14A that authorizes City staff engaged in work in a park to direct a person to move or to move his or her belongings and prohibits interference with staff engaged in work in a park;
5. Amend section 19 by providing clear authority for removal or impoundment of any object, matter or thing that is or remains in a park unlawfully, while providing for its prompt return; and,
6. Consequential amendments to section 20 (offences) and to the *Ticket Bylaw*.

In addition to the Bylaw amendments, Council resolved to direct Police and Bylaw to report publicly at the next quarterly update on the implementation of the new direction. The Bylaw amendments were adopted in Quarter 4 of 2017 on October 26th.

Since the Bylaw amendments were adopted, Bylaw Services and VicPd have not had to utilize them. It was not expected that these provisions would be used frequently, but rather that should there be the need, there would be an enhanced ability to ensure that park space is available for the types of uses they are intended for, and that any issues of concern could be addressed in a timely manner.

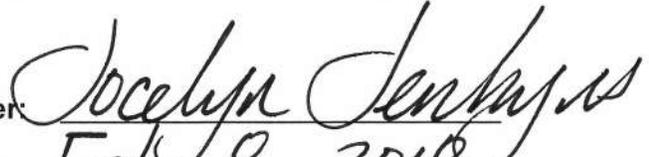
Given that there has been no experience with these new provisions to date, Council may wish to direct staff to report back on this issue on a quarterly basis or alternatively, in the event that there is experience with utilizing any of the new regulations.

Respectfully submitted,



Chris Coates
City Clerk

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:



Date: Feb 8, 2018