

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee  
FROM: Steve Rice, Supervisor Major Parks West  
DATE: January 28, 2021  
**SUBJECT: Point Pleasant Park Operations Update**

The supervisor of Major Parks West is responsible for; 5 parks (Point Pleasant Park, Hemlock Ravine, Sir Sandford Fleming, Shaw Wilderness Park and Mainland Common/Linear Park), 2 cemeteries (Camp Hill and Fairview) as well as providing Civic Event support. In a typical season, seasonal and student staff return in early May bringing the total staff compliment to fourteen (14).

Regular maintenance typically includes daily garbage and litter pick-up, road/drainage maintenance, grass whipping, selected removal of invasive plants, repair and painting of park benches and snow plowing/ sanding in winter months.

During winter operations, sanding for ice control is our primary focus in conjunction with snow plowing. With the constant freeze/thaw cycle, often the park must be sanded several times on repetitive days as it melts during the day and re-freezes overnight. Plowing often result in bare gravel as this causes extensive damage to the road surface. Five (5) staff are exempt from the TPW winter works program to focus on Parks West winter maintenance. The plowing and maintenance of PPP is top priority with the winter maintenance of 30 other park sites.

Due to the impact of COVID-19 on HRM's overall budget in 2020, seasonal staff numbers were reduced. When parks re-opened after the brief initial shut-down, there seemed to be a higher number of people using the park than normal. The focus was primarily on anything Health and Safety related such as garbage collection, tripping hazards and broken benches. As a result of this, some regular maintenance items such as painting and signage repairs, did not get completed in 2020.

Operations projects completed in 2020:

- Phase 2 of the forestry thinning project was completed in fall 2020, and the tender will go out again this summer for the remaining 10 ha. (Phase 3 of 3).
- The three (3) outhouses were removed. There will be seasonal port-a-potties installed at these locations in spring 2021.

Future Capital projects (with anticipated start dates):

- Plans to hire a consultant in 2021 to complete shoreline design with construction to follow in future years.
- Perimeter stone walls 2021 - 2023
- Bandstand rehabilitation 2022
- Greenbank Building design 2023

Stephen Rice

