

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee
FROM: Ian Kennedy, Supervisor Major Parks West
DATE: September 5th, 2024

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 Linear Trail), 2 cemeteries (Camp Hill and Fairview) as well as providing Civic Event support as a member of the Special Events Taskforce. In a typical season, seasonal and student staff return in early May bringing the total staff compliment to fourteen (14). Ongoing regular maintenance typically includes daily garbage and litter pick-up, road/drainage maintenance, grass whipping and mowing, selected removal of invasive plant species, and the repair and painting of park benches and litter bins. During Winter Staff is responsible for plowing and sanding of main roads in the park, along with 30 other locations outside of PPP.

The focused removal of aging, hazardous, and invasive trees on behalf of staff continues into the Fall Season. Identifying invasive species such as Rosa Multiflora, and Japanese Knotweed patches and planning for removal projects over coming months and into the Fall Season. Trail cutbacks continue to take place throughout the Park, as well as crown raising in low canopy areas. Increased focus on road maintenance to remediate wear from plowing during Winter operations continues as well.

Resurfacing of trails and roads throughout PPP, patching persistent wash outs, and adjusting grade for drainage – This maintenance is essential to combat the possibility of a rainy season like the one seen in the 2023 floods. Major Parks has rented a Loader to tackle the level of service. Scale of equipment proving to be essential to completing this work. Sections of Serpentine, Cambridge, Heather, Tower Hill, and Arm Rd have seen material resurfacing, as well as larger culverts installed on Sailor's Memorial and Arm Rd. The installation of these larger plastic culverts throughout the park has proven beneficial. Drainage maintenance, invasive species removal, forest management, and repair of park amenities falls in line with focus outlined in the Comprehensive Plan. Student Staff are now finished for the Season but additional Seasonal staff remain on until November. We have recently hired 2 new full-time staff members, and We will also be receiving a new replacement work vehicle this Fall.

Operations projects completed or to be completed in 2024:

- Targeted Masonry work on exterior stone walls that have degraded or been damaged by vehicles. Work currently in progress (Summer 2024) – Repair of Shakespeare Staircase ****Completed**** (June 2024)
- Replacement of Bollards in Lower and Upper Parking lots to alleviate unauthorized vehicle traffic in PPP
- Forestry Thinning Project Final Phase (Fall 2024) – As per comprehensive plan.
- Culverts replaced on Sailor's Memorial Way & Arm Rd ****Completed**** (June/July/August 2024)
- Working with HRM Contract Supervisor on a Capital Proposal for resurfacing and regrading of major roadways in PPP – Cambridge, Shore, and Sailor's Memorial

Ian Kennedy