

MEMORANDUM

TO: Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee
FROM: Ian Kennedy, Supervisor Major Parks West
DATE: January 9th, 2025

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 Winter Season. Identifying damaged and hazardous Trees is easier now that foliage has left the canopy and stands throughout the area. Trail cutbacks continue to take place throughout the park where necessary – Maintenance of overhang along stonewall barrier parallel with Francklyn Street. Increased focus on road maintenance continues through Winter to remediate wear from snow clearing, and to maintain proper drainage. The roads in Point Pleasant are highly vulnerable this time of Year with freeze and thaw fluctuations, especially so with reoccurring wet periods throughout the season. Keeping water off roads, while also maintaining gravel surface integrity is essential to public safety, and the longevity of the infrastructure.

After updating Halifax Fire on the functioning hydrants in Point Pleasant Park, they have informed Parks staff that their Fire Safety and Forest Fire Response protocol would remain the same. The remaining Hydrant on Francklyn street would serve as their direct water source when responding to a fire emergency within the park. Deadfall and material from forest thinning present within PPP falls within our maintenance guidelines and poses no Fire risk at this time.

Operations projects completed or to be completed in 2025:

- 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