

In Your Neighbourhood

Leaf Pick-Up

Fall is in the air, which means City crews will begin the annual leaf collection service soon. Of course, you can keep your leaves to make mulch or to feed backyard composters! For pick-up, you have three opportunities:

1. Fernwood pickup dates will be November 21 and December 20. Leaves should be placed on the boulevard and be visible and accessible from the street. Residents can place their leaves in loose piles, in wire mesh rings, or in tied, clear, 100% compostable bags. Temporary “No Parking” signs will be placed along streets one day before scheduled collection to ensure crews can quickly and efficiently pick up leaves.
2. From October 16 to December 15, 2017 Victoria residents can also contact the City Parks office at 250.361.0600 to arrange for their bagged leaves to be picked up from the boulevard for free within five working days. Residents are asked to provide their name, address and phone number and the number of bags they have.
3. Victoria residents can also drop off their leaf and garden waste for free, year-round at the City of Victoria Public Works Yards at 417 Garbally Road on Saturdays from 7 a.m. – 2 p.m. Proof of residency is required, in the form of a valid BC driver’s licence or a City of Victoria utility bill that indicates kitchen scraps and garbage service.

Please keep leaves away from storm drains. Blocked storm drain grates should be reported to the City’s 24-hour line at 250.361.0400.

Short-Term Rentals

City Council has approved a zoning bylaw change that (unless grandfathered) removes short-term rentals outside primary residences as a permitted use where they were previously allowed in transient zones.

Council also approved a proposed regulatory framework for short-term rentals, which outlines how and where they will be permitted across the City, proposed short term rental business regulations including changes to fees and other requirements for business licences and an enforcement strategy for how to enforce these changes.

The community is invited to attend an open house at City Hall on October 24 from 5-7 pm to learn more about the changes and to provide feedback on the proposed short term rental business regulations.

New Mural for North Park Village

City of Victoria Artist in Residence, Luke Ramsey, has collaborated with seven local and two out-of-town artists to create a large mural on the WIN building in North Park village. The artist team includes James Kirkpatrick, Tyler Keeton Robbins, Charlie Walker, Kristofer Ray, Ian George, Kay Gallivan, Jesse Campbell, Ali Khan, Sarah Jim and Luke.

Luke worked with the North Park Neighbourhood Association and local businesses to develop the project which will enhance the area. In addition to using North Park's colour palette, the mural features what is known as a gesture line that travels through each of the artist's work to unify the composition.

My Great Neighbourhood Grants

The deadline for this application period is Sunday, October 15, so please discuss your fantastic ideas with your city representative. More information can be found on the City's [website](#).

Neighbourhood Plan

Staff are working hard to get the current plans finished so they can move on to Fernwood, North Park and other scheduled neighbourhoods. The Gonzales and Vic West neighbourhood plans should be complete or nearing completion by the end of this year. More information will be provided this fall on specific start dates for your plans.



Proposed Regulations for Single-Use Checkout Bags

The City of Victoria is considering new regulations to foster a shift towards reusable checkout bags to and keep avoidable waste out of our landfill and off our beaches. Your feedback will help form recommendations that will go to Council on October 26, 2017. Come talk to staff, ask questions and share your thoughts with Council.

Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2017

Time: Open House 6:30 p.m. – 7 p.m., Town Hall 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall, 1 Centennial Square

If you can't make it in person? Send your feedback to engage@victoria.ca

Parks Regulation Bylaw Changes

At their [September 21 meeting](#), Council approved changes to the Parks Regulation Bylaw. The intent is to better regulate the use and operation of parks. The changes include:

1. Ability to temporarily close a park or part of a park
2. Prohibition on interference with City workers engaged in clean-up, maintenance or other work in a park
3. Establishment of a time limit on occupation of a park or part of a park
4. Authority to impound property unlawfully left in a park and waive the fee to return impounded property;
5. Report back with draft bylaw amendments with consequential and housekeeping amendments Ability to apply for permits to carry out protests and other expressive activities in a park;
6. To develop an effective lobbying approach to the province on the issue of tenting in parks and housing and homelessness;

7. Thank TAPS for their letter and ask them, in their experience to offer some solutions on the issues that the park bylaw amendments attempt to address prolonged use and occupation in the absence of sufficient housing;
8. Direct staff to report back in a year to see if other amendments need to be considered; and
9. Direct police and bylaw to report publicly at the next quarterly update on the implementation of the new direction.

Earthquake!

The magnitude 8.0 earthquake simulator that visited Centennial Square last week was an eye opener for the 33% chance of a damaging earthquake in the next 50 years. On October 19, thousands of British Columbians join in a province-wide earthquake drill to practice Drop, cover and Hold:

- **DROP** to the floor (before the earthquake drops you)
- Take **COVER** under a desk or sturdy piece of furniture and protect your head and torso, and
- **HOLD ON** to the piece of furniture until the shaking stops (once the shaking stops count to 60 before you get up to allow things to settle)



Emergency Management Victoria is offering free emergency preparedness workshops this fall. Learn what families and businesses need to have on hand to cope up to seven days without outside assistance. Sign-up for *Vic-Alert*, the City of Victoria's emergency notification service to receive updates by text, phone or email on emergencies and major disasters that may impact you. For more information: VictoriaReady.ca.

Council Meetings

Committee of the Whole meets Oct [5](#), 12, 19 and 26 at 9 a.m. Councils meets October [12](#) and 26th, beginning at 6:30. Residents can attend both meetings or view them [here](#).

Over the summer, the City installed a new hearing loop in Council Chambers. This feature improves accessibility for citizens attending meetings in Council Chambers who have a hearing deficiency. Those with hearing aids will automatically experience the enhanced service when entering the room.