

Operations Department



The Operations Department is responsible for the operations and maintenance of the City's water, sanitary sewer, storm drainage, road and dyke infrastructure, as well as the operation and maintenance of the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), over 100 parks and sports fields and the City's recreational trail network.

Third Quarter Report 2020



**CITY OF
CHILLIWACK**

Inclusive Playground at Promontory West Park

Due to increased growth in the surrounding area, Promontory West Park was identified in the City's Greenspace Plan for additional play features. In 2019, the City was approached by the School District about a partnership for the construction of a new accessible, inclusive playground. Council approved a budget of \$130,000 as the City's share of the project costs. City staff managed the design and construction of the playground and with financial contributions from the school PAC, Rotary Club Chilliwack-Fraser, and grants from various organizations. The scope of the project included a two-stage playground. The unique design utilized the natural hillside for many of the play features, allowing a new, unique style of play structure in Chilliwack. The City also placed an asphalt pathway along the edge of the new play area built at a gentle slope to facilitate wheelchair use. The pathway ensures that children of all physical abilities will be able to access the new playgrounds. At the base of the hill, an aging railway tie retaining wall was replaced with a new concrete retaining wall and metal railings to increase safety.



BEFORE



AFTER



Kinsmen Park on Portage Tennis Courts

The tennis courts at Kinsmen Park on Portage received a new asphalt surface, top coat and had the concrete wall removed. The new surface will help prevent puddling and concrete heaving, making it safer and more appealing for play. The concrete wall was removed on the southeast side of the courts and replaced with a new portion of chain link fence. This will increase visibility and general safety of the park while decreasing areas where vandalism may take place.



CSA Replacement Program Completion

The final four parks in the City without playground equipment have now had new equipment installed and the CSA replacement program has been completed. Hill, Laurelwood, Sunset View and Fern Parks were completed in the late summer and early fall, bringing a close to the replacement program that began 20 years ago.



SUNSET VIEW PARK



HILL PARK

Yarrow No. 3 Road Dog Off Leash Park



A new dog off-leash park has been constructed next to the No. 3 Road parking lot. The project is located on the west side of the Vedder canal and is approximately 150m long. Construction of the project included a four foot high fence on all sides, as well as two vehicle gates, one pedestrian gate, and one corral type gate to allow for safe access for dog owners. Finally, the access to the park from the parking lot was improved to allow users to walk directly to the park without having to go on to the dyke. The park is complete with benches and garbage cans and has had grass seed spread throughout for users to enjoy.

Jinkerson Park Playground and Exercise Equipment

As growth in the Jinkerson area of Promontory continues, Jinkerson Park has received a second, large play structure and an outdoor fitness circuit with green gym equipment. This second, larger play structure was planned to accommodate children in the area ages 5-12. This structure includes a roller slide and multiple climbing apparatuses. Six elements of exercise equipment were also added in a circuit formation around the playgrounds in the park. The exercise equipment provides adults with the option to exercise while supervising their children.



Townsend Park West Rotary Services Building



As a final step in the completion of the Rotary Services Building Project, Operations finished the exterior civil works. The tasks consisted of asphalt paving, concrete, irrigation, fencing and landscaping works. This project required significant coordination with not only the contractors but user groups to reduce the inconveniences to the existing CARE Centre and Fire Training Grounds. Since completion of the external works, the Rotary Club has been able to utilize this space since current COVID-19 restrictions have closed many public and private venues.

2020 Open Watercourse Cleaning



The 2020 open watercourse cleaning program was conducted throughout the city from May 4 to October 1. A total of 83,000 lineal metres of ditches/ watercourses were cleaned. Standard boom and 55 foot long boom excavators were used for the maintenance work and Nova Pacific Environmental personnel monitored the in-stream works to ensure best management practices were followed and mitigative measures were applied with respect to critical habitat for endangered Salish Sucker and Oregon Spotted Frogs.

All of the proposed work was approved by federal and provincial regulatory agencies. Total costs for these works is approximately \$435,000.

On-site Operations Training

Amidst the changes brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, crews from Operations have implemented and adjusted to physical distancing measures, wearing masks where distance cannot be maintained and following enhanced disinfection procedures. These safe work protocols allowed the Operations Department to successfully plan and execute training previously postponed.



Management and department supervisors finished a set of four leadership development courses which began back in March. Staff gained skilled in conflict resolution while providing a respectful and inclusive workplace.

The Operations Department Joint Health & Safety Committee was also able to host fundamentals training for seven members who are new to the committee for 2020.



Crews completed renewals of their first aid certification in smaller groups with a local training provider. Over the course of six sessions, 39 participants completed their Occupational First Aid Level 1. This ongoing training is important to ensure adequate care and response is available at each of our many crew work sites throughout the city. A working crew member also achieved their Occupational First Aid Level 2 and was added to the Operations designated first aid attendants list.