



**2026 Business Planning
Departmental Presentations**

Facilities, Parks & Properties

PRESENTED BY:

Valoree Richmond
Director, Facilities, Parks & Properties

Overview

- The **Facilities, Parks & Properties** department is responsible for:
- Planning, public engagement, design, development, asset renewal and operations for facilities, parks & open space, cemeteries, greenbelts/conservation lands, and stewardship of the urban forest
- Planning, development, renovation, maintenance and asset renewal for municipally owned buildings and facility energy management
- Managing the City's land holdings and property assets including negotiation, acquisition and disposition of City-owned properties

Staff Complement

- The Department is broken into 5 teams: Property Management, Facilities Operations, Parks Planning & Development, Park Services, and Special Projects all led by the Director of Facilities, Parks, and Properties
- There are five managers, 3 supervisors and 35 front line staff with additional Parks operations staff hired seasonally
- In 2025, the Parks Planning & Development team expanded to include:
 - One FTE Urban Forestry Coordinator
 - One FTE Urban Forestry Technician (move from Planning Dept.)
 - One Temporary FTE Tree Bylaw Administrative Clerk



Achievements

Strategy

- Completed the Recreation Feasibility Study
- Completed 8 public engagement processes for park-related projects
- Completed the Arts, Culture, Events and Heritage Service Review

Growth

- New neighbourhood park at Pazarena Place opened
- Design on new neighbourhood park in Silver Valley
- Expanded RCMP space with second floor renovation

Legacy

- Renovated and expanded Spray Park opened at Maple Ridge Park
- 1,000 Trees Initiative focused on east side urban area to bolster canopy
- Completed design for Japanese Memorial Garden

Improvements

- Established a service standard for boulevard maintenance and transitioned service
- Completed Energy study of 12 key city facilities to reduce corporate energy consumption and GHG emissions

Stewardship

- Support of community group stewardship activities in parks
- Led National Tree Day celebration

Continuous Improvements

Park Development

- Using design-build project implementation for faster delivery
- Incorporated Urban Forestry/Tree permitting into the Parks Planning & Development team
- Three successful tree planting grant applications totalling over \$580,000

Operational Efficiency

- Developed an RFP for a Facilities Management and Asset Tracking software
- Updated Strategic Energy Management Plan
- Investment in equipment leading to efficient task completion and reduction in physical strain resulting in decreased WorkSafeBC claims

Information Technology

- Developed a PRC Master Plan scorecard to support prioritization of work plans and annual business plans

Public Engagement

- Completed eight public engagements including the Recreation Feasibility Study, Volker Park Improvements, and the Arts and Culture Service Review

Key Challenges

- Cost increases and construction escalation for capital projects is an issue as tendering occurs after capital budgets approved by Council and fluctuating costs can at times exceed the budget allocated
- Increased ongoing maintenance demands and parking management due to high visitor volumes at signature park locations
- Managing public expectations on project timelines due to considerations such as geotechnical and archeological permitting that can add increased scope and complexity at project sites
- Asset Renewal with several facilities reaching mid-life
- Need for software solution for maintenance and asset management

